



The Vets



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The National Veterans Association
is an Associated Body of the
British Fencing Association (BFA)

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Leon Paul

New Veterans Forum on the Leon Paul site!

Barry Paul, at John Mason's request, has now included a veterans forum on his popular forum site. Take a look, express your views and help us run Veterans Fencing just that little bit better....

Nothing to lose

Everything to gain...

Get involved!! See page 2

[See](#) the Link from the NVA website



Most of the 3 teams: White Horse Team Trophy July 2007

See article on page 2



Photo: Nick Stokes

Some of the Winton Cup Vets 2007. Several not pictured as they were fencing, presiding, running the armoury etc etc etc ...

Would the Winton have run this year without the Vets...doubt it!!!
Let's ask if we can field a full team next year????

The White Horse Team Trophy

On Sunday 1st July, 16 teams gathered to do battle at the White Horse Leisure Centre in Abingdon for a well established and popular team competition.

The competition required a Foilist, an Epéeist and a Sabreur in each team and these could be men or women.

The Vets fielded 3 teams and although I had initially used my creative flair in calling them A, B and C, the organisers quite rightly insisted that each team be given a name.

Old, Older and Oldest got immediate thumbs down, particularly from the ladies, so I finally decided to reflect the more mature nature of our competitors by calling us Friends, Romans and Countrymen.

Friends comprised Tony Conyard at Foil, Mike Bradbury, Epée and Gillian Aghajan, Sabre.

Romans included that formidable pairing of Lynda and John Norrie at Foil and Sabre with the third member being Rob Brooks at Epée.

The Countrymen were myself at Foil, Dorinda Balchin, Epée and Michael Compton, Sabre.

A full day's fencing was promised in that there were two rounds of poules fencing at each weapon to decide rankings, followed by DE Italian Relay where it was team versus team to 30 hits.

The Vets did very well in the first rounds of poules with the Romans highest seeded vets' team at 5th and the Friends team close behind. Unfortunately, in the Countrymen team, Michael suffered a leg injury forcing him to retire from the competition with the result that Countrymen had no victories from Sabre, and would also start the DE with the other team 10 points up.

We expected the Countrymen to be placed last after the poules, but to our surprise we managed to be seeded 12th. Countrymen put up a good fight against the team "Wrekin of Quality" (the other Wrekin teams being "Wrekin of Spirit" and "Wrekin Havoc", you get the idea) who eventually finished equal 3rd, but went out 20-13.

The other Vets teams did better with Romans finishing 6th and Friends 7th.

It must be said that the organisers, including our own Newsletter Editor, Linda Lawes, did extremely well to give everyone an excellent days fencing which went very smoothly to the end of the day at 6.00pm. Well done teams, and we look forward to next year at this highly enjoyable event.

Frank Mills
Match Secretary

From the Veterans Forum, a Question

"Within the veterans there is a vast pool of knowledge, experience, money(?) and even spare time. How can veterans help double British Fencing membership by 2012?

If there was a scheme to introduce mini-fence UK wide could the veterans organise regional schemes to train fencing supervisors?

How else can fencing harness the talents of all the veteran fencers?"

If you want more details please contact Barry Paul.

Bath Unisex Sabre and Foil

This year we saw some great foil and sabre fencing. Two new names took the men's prizes: Steve Potter at sabre, and Gerry Gajadharsingh at foil. Women's prizes went to Jane Hutchison at sabre, repeating her victory of last year, and to Caron Hale at foil.

Jonathan Katz also ran a sports psychology and 2 personal performance courses especially for us.

As always everyone enjoyed a good day's fencing, and there was a large turnout for a meal at a local Chinese restaurant. Whilst this event attracted several fencers it was not enough to continue at this venue. This year saw the last staging of this event in Bath.

John Mason has run these competitions for the last 14 years and feels that it is time for someone else to take over. Linda Lawes has volunteered (well everyone else took a step back!) and ran the competition this year as a practice.

So what is to become of this event?

We have our thinking caps on again and any views you have would be welcome.

We want to run competitions that you want to fence in and enjoy. So we will put together some ideas and get back to you,

In the meantime here are the winners and all the results,

Bath Unisex Sabre

- 1st Steve Potter
- 2nd Carl Morris
- 3rd Alex Winchester
- 4th Chris Prevett
- 5th Jane Hutchison
- 6th Peter Baron
- 7th John Norrie
- 8th Michael Compton
- 9th Gordon Coombs
- 10th Sue Benney
- 11th Ron Tjoa
- 12th Wendy Thomas
- 13th Paul Brenda
- 14th Caron Hale
- 15th Jon Dawkins
- 16th Gillian Aghajan
- 17th Silvia Earl
- 18th Pat Shepherd-Foster



Steve and Jane



Gerry and Caron

Bath Unisex Foil

- 1st Gerry Gajadharsingh
- 2nd Malcolm Fare
- 3rd Dave Sweeney
- 4th Jim Whelan
- 5th Fred Sheppard
- 6th Jon Dawkins
- 7th Caron Hale
- 8th Frank Mills
- 9th Mike Bradbury
- 10th John Mason
- 11th Sue Benney
- 12th Dorinda Balchin
- 13th Carole Dixon
- 14th Hilary Philbin (retired injured)



Fencers at rest!

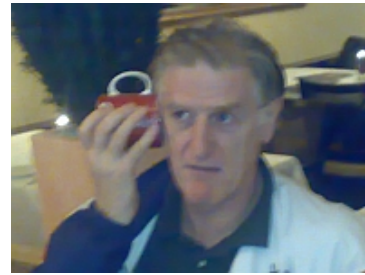


Fred: nice lunge, shame about the distance!!



Jonathan's Sabre Course

Caption competition from St Gallen



“Mug Shots!”

“Meet the Veterans' cup winners.”

Darwinism v Intelligent Design: the debate continues.

Not all Star Trek fans are prepared to pay inflated prices for replica equipment.

Missing string thwarts fencers' communication attempts.

Ed's favourite:

Royal Doulton Cellphones-R-U are pleased to announce their sponsorship of British Fencing.

Paul Brenda.....

SUNDAY OCTOBER 7TH VETERANS TEAM CHALLENGE

This is an OPEN event.

Last year we had 4 teams, put together by the organisers.

Mixed teams of 3 fencers at each weapon. Full teams of 9.

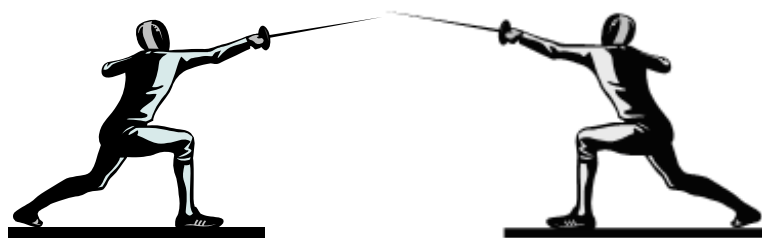
PLEASE SEND US YOUR ENTRIES EARLY.

*This year we will not be ringing round. If you want to be in a team, send in an **individual entry** and we will put you in a team. If you can put together a full team of nine please do.*

*Great fun was had by all last year. Dinner the evening before at the hotel.
Entry forms in the next Newsletter and on the web soon.*

If you have been selected to fence for your country this year you cannot fence the weapon for which you were selected.

RUN BY LINDA LAWES AND FRANK MILLS



Well Done - Well Done - Well Done

Top Half or Last 32!!

To ensure that YOUR result is in the newsletter please email Linda.lawes1@btinternet.com or phone 01235 530090.

Belated Congratulations to our Members.

Duncan Rowlands, who is fast becoming a regular at the vets' competitions:

Men's Sabre: L16 in the Edinburgh FIE Satellite.

Men's Sabre: 28th in the Gateshead-Northumbria Coup du Nord

Jim Harris: Wrexham open Men's Foil 22nd (62) and Men's Epée 13th (65)

SHEFFIELD OPEN	Foil	Epée	Sabre
Women's	(15)		
	Jo Bowyer FIRST!!		
Men's	(61)	(43)	(32)
	Jim Harris 20	Evert van Gemeren 11	Evert van Gemeren 16
		Ian Briggs 19	
		Rick Kent 21	

COLE CUP	Sabre	BILL HOSKYNS OPEN	Epée
Women's	(20)	Women's	(26)
	Jane Hutchison 10		Mariette Mason 12
Men's		Men's	(115)
			Howard West 12

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July 13-15
Commonwealth Veterans
Championships, Toronto,
Canada
Individual OPEN.
Teams selected by Home
Countries.

Saturday 21 July
Sheffield
BRITISH NATIONALS
Dave Sweeney will be presented
with his gold medal.
The NVA will be presented with
ours! BE THERE!!!

Germany/France/GB
Triangular match. Teams
selected using NVA
Selection Criteria.
Bonn: August 16 to 19

SEPTEMBER 14 TO 16
World Championships
AUSTRALIA

Squad selected using NVA
selection criteria

September 30

Middlesex Veterans Unisex Epée
Individual OPEN

Sunday OCTOBER 7
Veterans Team Challenge,
Loughborough
NO selection required, OPEN.
Enter as a full team of 9,
or enter as an individual
and the organisers
will assemble teams.
Entry form in a later newsletter.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AND
FENCING

WREXHAM

Saturday DECEMBER 1
Entry forms in a later newsletter

Overheard at the White Horse
Team Trophy, from one of
Abingdon's young fencers:

"Quite good these vets aren't they??!!!"

Just what we always knew.

Ed