

KNIGHTSBRIDGE FENCING CLUB — ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Adopted: 9 July 2026 Reviewed: annually Based on the British Fencing Anti-Bullying Policy (approved 2 Oct 2025)

Our Statement

Knightsbridge Fencing Club is committed to a caring, friendly and safe environment for every member, so that everyone can take part in a relaxed, secure and welcoming atmosphere.

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all members and parents/guardians should feel able to tell someone, and know it will be dealt with promptly and fairly.

What Counts as Bullying

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behaviour, intended to hurt someone physically or emotionally, that involves a real or perceived imbalance of power, and is repeated over time. It can take many forms:

- Emotional — excluding someone, tormenting, threatening gestures
- Physical — pushing, hitting, or any use of violence
- Verbal — name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Discriminatory — targeting someone because of race, religion, gender, sexuality or disability
- Cyber — via messages, social media, or group chats

How to Report It

If you experience or witness bullying, tell:

- Your coach, or
- A Club Welfare Officer — Jean Lelion or Judit Homola, or
- British Fencing directly, for serious matters: britishfencing.com/welfare-zone/report-a-concern

You do not need to be certain it counts as "bullying" to raise a concern — if something feels wrong, please tell us.

What Happens Next

A Welfare Officer will look into any report promptly and fairly. Depending on what's involved, this may mean:

- Speaking separately with everyone involved to understand what happened
- For under-18s, involving parents/guardians in serious cases
- Agreeing steps to stop the behaviour and prevent it happening again
- In serious or repeated cases, referring the matter to British Fencing's Lead Safeguarding Officer, and/or taking disciplinary action including suspension from the club

Anyone who raises a genuine concern in good faith will be supported, not penalised, regardless of the outcome of any investigation.

Prevention

All members and parents/guardians agree to our Code of Conduct on joining, which includes expected standards of behaviour towards others. Our Welfare Officers raise awareness of this policy with members at least once a year, and all coaches are responsible for addressing any bullying behaviour they see, as soon as they see it.

Further Support

- Childline — 0800 1111 — childline.org.uk
- Anti-Bullying Alliance — anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
- NSPCC — 0808 800 5000 — nspcc.org.uk