

## **New Trier Boys' and Girls Fencing: Philosophy**

New Trier's Fencing program seeks to provide a balance between inclusion and excellence. While we have created programs to accommodate as many New Trier students as possible, we are a varsity sport, with a commitment to training young fencers to compete at the local and national level. In most years, our program has not been able to provide opportunities for every student who tries out.

## **Tryouts**

New Fencers and returning Fencers will each attend two days of tryouts. At the end of this period, an initial cut will be made. Fencers who are kept with the team will be placed on one of the teams below.

## **Varsity**

Fencers experienced in high school competition. No rookie fencers will be on this team. 13-15 boys, 13-15 girls. Must be committed to compete in all meets (see competition schedule) and attend daily practices.

## **Junior Varsity A**

First or second year fencers building skills towards varsity-level competition. Few, if any, juniors and no seniors will be included. Approximately 10 boys, 10 girls. Practice 4 days a week.

## **Junior Varsity B**

Fencers of all experience levels who are not among the top Varsity or beginning fencers. Practice 2-3 times a week. Limited competitive opportunities.

## **Attendance Policies**

Fencers missing the day of practice before a meet, when not prearranged with the coach, will not fence in the meet.

Fencers missing two days of practice during a week, for any reason, will be held from competition that weekend.

An unauthorized absence from practice results in suspension from the next competition. A second unauthorized absence will result in a two-week suspension.

### **Sportsmanship Policy**

Fencers showing poor sportsmanship in their actions or words towards officials, competitors, teammates, or coaches will be subject to suspension for the next competition.

Fencers receiving red or black cards from tournament officials for unsportsmanlike behavior will automatically be suspended from competition for not less than one week.

### **High School Team/Club Policy**

While attendance at area fencing clubs is encouraged, fencers may not represent these clubs at high school meets during the high school season. Fencers are not allowed to skip team practices to attend outside fencing club practices or functions.

### **Leadership Philosophy**

Seniors are all invited to be part of the Senior Leaders program in fencing. Leaders are expected to attend weekly meetings, be present for all competitions, and adhere to the New Trier Extracurricular Code.