

Baltimore MidAtlantic Fencing Academy

USA Fencing Member #100256907

Policies

USA Fencing Membership:

1. Baltimore MidAtlantic Fencing Academy ("BMFA") is a member of USA Fencing, Maryland Division.
2. All BMFA Members and participants are encouraged to be individual members of USA Fencing.

Resource: <https://www.usafencing.org/membership>

3. All USA Fencing rules and codes of conduct apply and are hereby integrated by reference as if fully stated herein.

Resource: <https://www.usafencing.org/codes-of-conduct>

House Rules

1. BMFA classes are meeting on the grounds of Loyola-Blakefield, 500 Chestnut Ave. Towson, MD 21204. All pertinent house rules and policies apply.

Resource: <https://www.loyolablakefield.org>

Coaches:

1. Coaches must comply with all applicable USA Fencing and Loyola-Blakefield policies.
2. All coaches are to maintain Professional Membership status with USA Fencing and be SafeSports certified.
3. Coaches may exclude Members from continued participation in classes, private lessons, and/or bouts if their conduct is subjectively unsafe, disruptive, or otherwise inappropriate.
4. Members may privately contract with coaches for strip-coaching at non-BMFA fencing tournaments.
5. The coaches' instructions are final.

Membership:

1. Members of all ages are expected to conduct themselves respectfully and considerate of coaches, parents, and fellow-fencers at all times.
2. Members are expected to be wearing clean, safe, and appropriate athletic and fencing gear at all times.
3. The annual Membership Fee is \$360.00 (as of January 1, 2019) and can be paid in bi-monthly installments.
4. Continuous year-round Membership and payment of Membership Fee is required.
5. A \$60 re-registration fee is due after permitting the student's active Membership status to lapse.
6. Membership in good standing is required to participate in group classes and individual private lessons.

7. Prepay for Priority: Scheduling priority for private lessons is given to paid-up Members. Students who let their Membership lapse may forfeit their prior scheduled time slot for private lessons.
8. Members listing BMFA as their secondary club still must pay the regular Membership fees.
9. Membership fees are payable bi-monthly in conjunction with any class and private lesson fees. Class fees and private lesson fees are also due on a bi-monthly basis.
For current fees, click here: <https://baltimore-midatlantic-fencing-academy.com/membership-and-class-fees/>
10. Classes and private Lessons must be taken within the contract period. Approved rescheduling must be completed within the contract period. All fees are earned at the beginning of the first session of the contract period. No refunds/credits are given after the first class/lesson.
11. Members may cancel their memberships, classes, and lessons with thirty (30) days advance written notice.
12. Violation of BMFA policies may result in cancellation of membership after discussion with parents/guardians or adult members.

Fees

1. Payment is due 7 days before the first of the month. Late or incomplete payment may result in loss of fencing privileges and loss of priority for private lesson scheduling.
2. Fees are subject to modification with reasonable notice.
3. Payments may be made by credit card online via the Loyola-Blakefield Experience portal.
Resource: <https://www.loyolablakefield.org/campus-life/blakefield-experience>

Group Classes and Private Lessons:

1. Membership in good standing and enrollment in at least one group class are prerequisite to participate in private lessons.
2. All classes/private lessons start on time and end on scheduled time.
3. BMFA has limited time slots available for group classes and private lessons. Signing up for either event means committing to the reserved time slot.
4. Private lessons are scheduled in 20-minute blocks of time.
5. Students are expected to arrive 10-15 minutes prior to the scheduled event and be properly attired and prepared.
6. Students who arrive late for their private lesson will lose the increment of lesson time that they are late.
7. No private lessons are available for Non-Members and Members listing BMFA as their secondary club.

Cancellations:

1. Weather-related cancellations:
 - a. BMFA follows the inclement weather cancellation policies of the Baltimore County Public Schools <https://www.bcps.org/status/> and Loyola-Blakefield.
 - b. Class cancellations will be posted on the BMFA website and Facebook group to the best of BMFA staff's ability.
 - c. Classes and private lessons cancelled due to inclement weather may be rescheduled at BMFA's discretion, contingent on the availability of staff and venue.
2. Cancellations by BMFA:

- a. Class or lesson cancellations by BMFA staff will be announced on the BMFA website and Facebook Members group.
 - b. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide make-up opportunities for classes and/or lessons cancelled due to unavailability of BMFA staff.
3. Cancellations by Member:
 - a. Failure by a Member to attend scheduled group classes, with or without notice, does not entitle the Member to make-up classes or lessons.
 - b. Members who miss a scheduled private lesson may attend a group class
 - c. There will be no make-ups for private lessons cancelled by Members.
4. Public Holidays:
 - a. BMFA observes the same public holidays as the Baltimore County Public Schools.
 - b. There are no make-up classes or lessons for events missed due to public holidays.
 - c. In the case of public holidays that fall on a Monday, there will be no classes or lessons unless BMFA advises otherwise. (Please check our website or Facebook Members Group for current information.)

Non-Members:

1. Non-Members are welcome to join Open Bouting during designated periods.
2. BMFA may refuse to admit a Non-Member at Open Bouting events.
3. Prior to participating, Non-Members must
 - a. sign a waiver and
 - b. pay a floor fee of \$15.00 per Open Bouting event. (Cash or check only).
4. Non-members are expected to observe all relevant BMFA, USA Fencing, and Loyola-Blakefield policies.
5. BMFA and Loyola-Blakefield are not liable for any damages or injuries arising from participation in BMFA events.

Strip-Coaching:

1. Coaching at external events is not covered by Membership, class, and lesson fees, but BMFA coaches can be privately contracted to coach Members in competitions.
3. No BMFA coach will strip-coach against a BMFA Member.

Miscellaneous:

1. Equipment repairs and sales may be privately contracted with the Armorer.
2. BMFA is not responsible or liable for loss of or damage to Members' private property while on the premises.
3. Youth fencers are expressly discouraged from bringing electronic devices into the venue.