



# Fencing New Zealand

(Fencing New Zealand Incorporated)

## Fencing NZ Squad Coach Policy

### 1. Purpose of Document

This document outlines the Fencing NZ policy for coaches of NZ athletes selected to compete at nominated events.

### 2. Application

This policy applies to all international events where coaches are permitted to travel as part of the squad, either in the capacity of a squad, team or accredited personal coach role.

All coaches who have permission from Fencing NZ to travel and/or coach an athlete who is part of the NZ Squad must read and accept the following Terms & Conditions, which will be applied and enforced at all times.

All personal coaches travelling to major championships competitions must have, in advance, authorisation from Fencing NZ to travel with and/or coach an athlete selected as part of the NZ Squad.

Any coach not prepared to accept and sign and accept these Terms and Conditions (which includes the Fencing NZ Code of Conduct and Fencing NZ Code of Conduct for Coaches) will not be allowed to travel with and/or coach an athlete that has been selected as part of the NZ Squad.

### 3. Terms and Conditions

#### All coaches

- MUST be on the Fencing NZ Coaching Register or in the case of coaches based abroad, the equivalent National Federation Register.
- MUST follow the Fencing NZ Code of Conduct and the Fencing NZ Coaches Code of Conduct and are expected to be ambassadors for the sport and for Fencing NZ, setting a positive example to the athletes.
- MUST be a member of Fencing NZ (Associate member is sufficient).
- MUST NOT coach against a NZ fencer (whether the NZ fencer is fencing another NZ fencer, or a fencer from another nation).
- Are expected to cooperate in a positive, productive and supportive manner with

any NZ Team Manager or Leader and any official NZ Squad/Team/Accredited (including personal) coaches.

- Are considered to be a part of the NZ Squad, and as such are subject to the authority of any appointed Team Manager/Leader and/or FeNZ appointed Coach of the NZ Squad during the relevant event.
- All coaches who intend to provide individual warmup lessons as part of their activities MUST be qualified to Oceania Fencing Masters Academy (OFMA) Level 1 standard or equivalent.

**Commented [GT1]:** OFMA Level 1 would be the appropriate minimum standard for delivering individual lessons. OFMA levels appear to differ from those used in the UK> A coach certified at OFMA Level 1 has demonstrated competence at delivering group and individual lessons.

### Personal Coaches

- If personal coaches wish to attend and be treated as part of the NZ Squad (e.g. stay in the squad hotel, included in squad meals/meetings etc.), written consent MUST be obtained from Fencing NZ via the NZ Team Manager in advance of the competition. Fencing NZ retains the right to refuse approval for personal coaches to join the squad on the basis of disciplinary record, safeguarding and ability to work constructively with appointed officials (including any appointed Squad Coach and other personal coaches) within the Fencing NZ Codes of Conduct.
- If the attendance of a personal coach exceeds the limit of accredited support personnel allowed to NZ by the competition organisers, the personal coach is responsible for paying any fees required to arrange extra accreditation places arranged through FeNZ.
- Must ensure that they have appropriate travel insurance which covers them for acting in a professional capacity even if they receive no re-numeration. (NB past claims have been refused where coaches have bought 'holiday' cover).
- Fencing NZ will not be liable for any costs incurred by a personal coach, including costs committed to on the assumption that approval to accompany a squad or athlete will be granted.

## 4. Expectations, Roles and Responsibilities

### All coaches (National, Squad and Accredited personal coaches):

- Are expected to display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance
- Should always uphold the core values of Fencing NZ
- Will attend briefings, debriefings and other meetings as reasonably requested by the FeNZ appointed Coach/Team Leader/Team Manager
- Will attend team activities (e.g. team meals, training sessions at championships etc.) as reasonably requested by the FeNZ appointed Coach/Team Leader/Team Manager

- Should support and coach their fencers in an appropriate manner and should not act in any way detrimental or distracting to any other member of the NZL Squad
- Should wear appropriate NZ kit:
  - a. **Major Championship** - coaches will be expected to wear designated squad NZL tracksuits which should be worn whilst acting as part of the NZL Squad.
  - b. **Other Events** - if they own one, wear a NZL tracksuit, otherwise wear appropriately neutral kit (ie no other nationality or sponsors logos). Coaches are welcome to purchase the appropriate Squad NZL tracksuits/kit
- Should remain neutral in the event that two NZL fencers are drawn against each-other at any stage of any representative event (World Cup, Grand Prix or Major Championship). Specifically no team coaches or personal coaches will give advice or support to either party, and all coaches will maintain neutrality.

#### Personal Coaches

- Are welcome to stay in the team hotel and join in any group activities as may be arranged e.g. squad meals (at own personal cost) etc.
- May choose to travel on the same flights as other officials and athletes, taking advantage of any organised group transport where that exists, based on availability.

#### In addition:

- If there is no officially appointed Fencing NZ Squad/Team Coach, an accredited personal coach may volunteer to act as the team coach for any team competition. This offer should be made in advance via the TM/TL who will liaise with Fencing NZ and the athletes.
- Where a coach has been appointed by Fencing NZ or the TM/TL to support fencers' competing in a team event, other coaches, including private coaches, will not coach or advise team members during their team bouts, unless invited to do so by the designated team coach for that event.
- In the event that an **athlete** invites their personal coach to attend a **nominated event** with them in the role as a personal coach, the FeNZ appointed Coach and the personal coach will collaborate on the performance of that athlete in relation to any individual events they are competing in to ensure the fencer receives the support they require to optimize their performance..
- An accredited personal coach should not coach in support of another athlete from another country, except in the case where a joint team has been entered and the coach is assisting the athlete from another country as part of the joint NZ / other country team.

**Commented [GT2]:** At this stage I don't think we need to refer to the NDP. As we do not formally have a funded programme with individual performance targets for our athletes.