



FENCERS CLUB
EST. 1883

Pan-American Athlete Training Session March 20 - April 3, 2016

To broaden the base and elevate the level of fencing worldwide.



COMMUNITY OLYMPIC
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
FENCERS CLUB

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With gratitude to Mr. Alisher Usmanov, President of the FIE,
for his vision for fencing worldwide
and the support for the FIE CMI programs.



Thank you to the International Charity Fund for the Future of Fencing
for its generous support of Fencers Club and the FIE CMI programs.



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Special thank you to James Melcher, active Fencers Club member,
former Chairman of the Board, 1972 Olympian,
for his vision, leadership, support, and mentorship.

Participating Countries – Pan-American Athlete Training Session March 20 – April 3, 2016





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Fencers Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the pursuit of excellence through the sport of fencing. We actively support a culture of sharing by performing community services that extend beyond fencing.

Fencers Club, Our Perspective

Fencers Club is a vibrant and diverse community of members and friends united by a passion for fencing, guided by core values of respect, community service and outreach, maximizing opportunities, and inclusion. In keeping with our long tradition of pursuing excellence through fencing, we work with a broad cross-section of the population: training thousands of individuals in the sport of fencing, instilling in each of them the importance of focus, determination, and strategic thinking that are integral to the sport, while actively supporting strong academic and character development.



Our members include Olympic Medalists, World Champions, National Champions, and NCAA Champions. Our graduating members have earned prestigious scholarships and attend some of the finest universities and professional schools across the nation. Our programs serve students in schools and community centers across New York City, active duty military personnel and military Veterans, as well as the general public.

As a member of the USOC Community Olympic Development Program, in partnership with the USOC, we work to cultivate scholar-athletes to encourage them to maximize their potential through fencing.

In recognition for our effective and sustainable infrastructure and a diverse and supportive community, Fencers Club was selected by the FIE to represent the United States in the FIE Clubs Movement Initiative (CMI). The mission of the FIE CMI is to broaden the base and raise the level of fencing worldwide. Working closely with the FIE, FIE CMI Directors, and the Pan-American Fencing Federations, we aim to make a significant contribution to the FIE CMI goals. The Pan-American goals are more extensive since many of the regions in the Pan-American countries are starting or developing their fencing programs. As such, we must do more than teach fencing skills to the participating Pan-American athletes.

Our goals and approach are to:

- Provide a state-of-the-art and comprehensive training programs in which international athletes will further their technical and tactical knowledge
- Promote active learning and adaptation to each country and region's fencing needs
- Provide tools and skills to raise competitive athlete results
- Implement a comprehensive physical and psychological training program to optimize performance and prevent injury
- Impart strategies on how to build a strong student base for a long-term sustainable fencing program

Liz Cross, Executive Director



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Fencers Club Lead Coaches

Buckie Leach, Foil



Buckie Leach is considered one of the most successful foil coaches in U.S. fencing history. His students have won more international medals in women's foil than any American coach or club combined. In addition to coaching at Fencers Club, Leach was also a U.S. Olympic Coach in 1996, 2000 and 2004. He has placed six athletes on U.S. Olympic Teams, including 2012 Olympian Nzingha Prescod. In 2012, Buckie was elected to the US Fencing Hall of Fame. He is currently the US National Women's Foil Coach. As the Head Foil Coach for the FIE CMI Athlete Training Program, Leach brings his extensive knowledge and experience to the sessions. Leach's goal for the program is to teach integrated skills. He feels that if he can get the participating athletes to take the initiative for their own learning, using the skills being taught in the class, he would have made a meaningful contribution to the FIE CMI goals.

Kornel Udvarhelyi, Epee



Kornel Udvarhelyi graduated with high honors from the Masters program at the Hungarian Institute of Physical Education. As the Hungarian National Junior Epee Coach, his top student won a Cadet World Championship, a Junior World Cup, and a silver medal at the Junior World Championships. His American students have had similar success at the Cadet and Junior World Championships, as well as US National and NCAA Championships. He is a former US Women's Epee National Team coach. In addition to coaching at Fencers Club, he helped develop the curriculum for our Schools Partnership Program while also coaching at New York University. Kornel started his fencing career at the age of 9 in Hungary. He was taught by his uncle, the famous Hungarian Coach Gabor Udvarhelyi, who is now the Hungarian National Fencing Program Director. Kornel's goal for the FIE CMI Athlete Training Program is to help the Pan-American athletes develop their own fencing training that they can take back to their countries to make them more competitive globally. He believes that through training all levels of coaches, athletes and referees, impactful fencing programs can take root and grow to produce internationally competitive athletes.

Alexey Cheremsky, Epee and Video Analysis

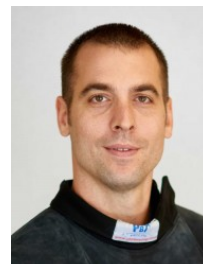


Alexey Cheremsky was born in Ukraine and received his degree from the Ukrainian State University of Physical Education and Sport. After coaching in Kiev, Alexey moved to Israel where he worked as the National Team coach from 2000 to 2005, developing some of the top epee fencers for Israel. After Israel, Alexey moved to the United States and developed a number of top students. In 2011 he was named the US Cadet and Junior National Team coach. His students have achieved exceptional results nationally and internationally. Some of his students reached top-4 junior world ranking, made the US National Cadet and Junior teams, and won numerous individual NCAA medals. Alexey is a committed and strategic coach who inspires his students and the Pan-American athletes to think quickly and critically both on and off the fencing strip.

Fencers Club Coaches

Mihaly Csikany (Sabre)

Originally from Tapolca, Hungary, Coach Mihaly (pronounced “Me-hi”) Csikany was on the Hungarian Junior National Team and fenced competitively at the Cadet and Junior World Cup levels. Upon moving to the U.S., he began a successful sabre coaching career in California training students who have earned World Cup medals, NCAA Championships, and National titles. Coach Csikany works with our sabre coaches to ensure that students of all ages pursue their goals both on and off the fencing strip.



Eduard Elterman (Foil)

Eduard Elterman was born in Minsk, Belarus, and fenced on both the Cadet and Junior National Teams. Elterman came to the United States in 1989. From 1989 to 1991 he was a foil coach at Blade Fencing Club in New York. The following year Elterman became the foil and epee coach for New York University, where he developed 12 NCAA All-Americans. Elterman joined the Fencers Club as a foil and epee coach in 1991.



Irene Gershon, Foil

Irene Gershon is a former Regional and Collegiate Coach in Ukraine and assistant coach at St. John's University. She received her degree in fencing with high honors from the Kiev Institute of Physical Education. Working closely with her husband Coach Simon Gershon, she focuses on building a strong developmental program. Many of her students have gone on to win national and international events at various categories. In addition to training many top foilists at Fencers Club, she coaches the 2013 World Champion and 2012 Olympian Miles Chamley-Watson, and 2012 Olympian Nicole Ross.



Simon Gershon, Foil – US Olympic Coach, Atlanta 1996, Athens 2004, and London 2012

Simon Gershon earned a Masters degree in fencing from the Kiev Institute of Physical Education. He was a coach of the Ukrainian Men and Women Foil Teams and the Soviet Union Women's Foil Team (1986 World Champions). Working closely with his wife, Coach Irene Gershon, he continues to develop fencers who achieve at the highest levels, including winning the 2013 Senior World Championship. In 2012, two of his students, Miles Chamley-Watson and Nicole Ross represented the US at the London Olympics. Every four years, at least one of Coach Simon Gershon's students has gone to the Olympics to represent the United States. In 2004, all of the US Men's foil team members were Coach Simon Gershon's students. In 2015, Coach Simon Gershon will be inducted to the US Fencing Hall of Fame for his accomplishments and contributions he has made to USA fencing.



Archil Lortkipanidze, Sabre

Archil "Achiko" Lortkipanidze is a talented sabre coach from the Republic of Georgia. He received his degree from the Tbilisi State University and had a successful athletic career, including being an Olympian (1996 Atlanta Games), Soviet Union Champion and World Cup finalist. His students have also achieved significant results at both the national and international level, including a silver medal at the 2012 Cadet World Cup, and multiple medals at North American Cups (NACs) and Junior Olympics.



Fencers Club Coaches, Continued

Mikhail Petin, Foil – US Olympic Coach, Beijing 2008

Mikhail earned his Masters degree in both Physical Education and fencing at the Institute of Physical Education, Lvov/Ukraine. Since arriving in the United States, his top students have won a Silver Medal in Olympic Games (Beijing, 2008), 4 Gold and 4 Bronze Medals at the Junior and Cadet World Championships, as well as numerous international, national and NCAA Titles. Mikhail is a former US National Women's Foil Coach, and he was also awarded 2003 Fencing Developmental Coach of the Year by the United States Olympic Committee.



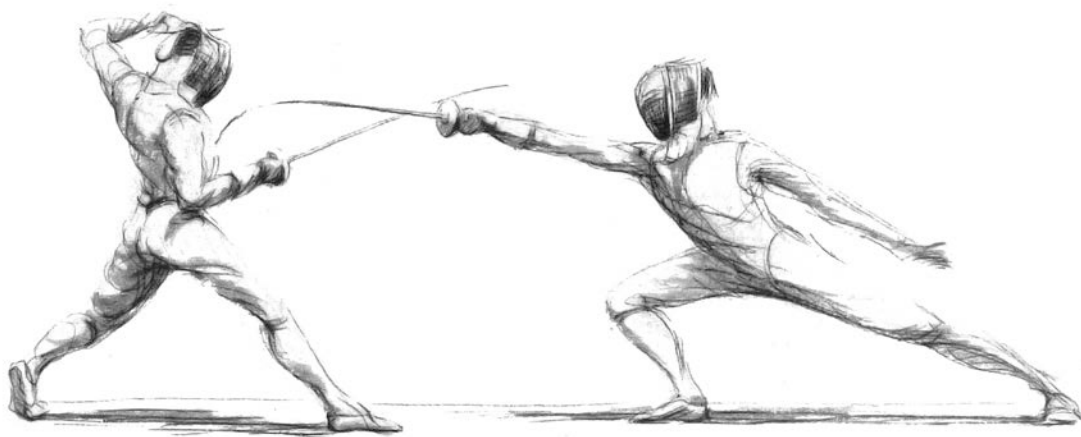
Akhnaten Spencer-El, Sabre

Akhnaten Spencer-El is a 2009 graduate of Semmelweis University in Budapest, Hungary where he completed his Maestro's degree. A native of Harlem, Akhnaten started fencing at the Peter Westbrook Foundation at the age of 13. Akhnaten is a three-time U.S. Junior Sabre National Champion, a two-time Senior National Sabre Champion (1999, 2000), and in 1998 was ranked as the No. 1 Junior Sabre fencer in the world. He was also a member of the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team. In addition to coaching for Fencers Club, Akhnaten is involved with helping Peter Westbrook Foundation athletes achieve their highest potential in fencing.



Boris Vaksman, Epee

Boris Vaksman began his fencing career in Odessa, Ukraine at the age of 14. At 17 he was awarded the title Master of Sport, and by 18 he had won both his first Ukrainian National Championship and his first Soviet Union Championship. In total, Vaksman earned an impressive 56 medals in International and Soviet competitions between 1978 and 1983. Vaksman moved to the U.S. in 1989 and began coaching in New York. For the past 3 years Vaksman has been an Assistant Coach at St. John's University. In 2007, the Red Storm placed 2nd in the NCAA Championships. Coach Vaksman's students are some of the most competitive women's epee fencers in the country.



Participating Athletes

Isabel DiTella – Argentina (Epee)

13 years fencing



Isabel was born in Argentina and lived in Boston, MA as a child. The family moved back to Argentina when she was 12. Her father, who used to fence, introduced Isabel to fencing. She took to various aspects of fencing very quickly. She finds fencing challenging in that there are so many variations and circumstances that can alter the outcomes no matter how much she is prepared for the completion. As a person who is motivated to excel, she finds it hard to turn that drive off at times. Isabel is thankful to her family and the Argentinean Federation for their support while she pursues both academics and fencing at the highest levels. As a student at Harvard University, Isabel has been an active member of the fencing team and is pursuing a degree in Economics.

She is taking the current academic year off from her studies to qualify for the Olympic Games in Rio.

Katherine Miller – Brazil (Epee)

11 years fencing, Coach Kornel Udvarhelyi



Katherine Miller began fencing shortly after her older brother took up the sport. Although she is left-handed, Katherine followed her brother's motions and started fencing with her right hand. Katherine was born in New York but has Brazilian citizenship, along with cultural and families ties, through her father. She spends her time training at Fencers Club and attending Yale University and, as she pointed out, fencing and studying at the same time can be challenging. Katherine often has to travel to New York City from school to train during the week, and then she travels the world for competitions on the weekends. She believes that the Brazilian Federation's efforts to create fencing awareness in schools is good for the growth of the sport. She

also believes camps like the FIE CMI camp will foster the growth of the sport in Pan-American countries. She has enjoyed the opportunity to meet other fencers from the region and the enthusiasm they bring to the training and overall camp experience.

Guilherme Melaragno – Brazil (Epee)

11 years fencing, Coach Gennady Miakotnykh



Guilherme fences at at Esporte Clube Pinheiros in Sao Paulo, Brazil. His father, who used to fence, introduced him to the sport. He is currently number two on the Brazilian national team and is training and competing to qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games. Guilherme finds fencing psychologically and emotionally challenging, but empowering at the same time. He finds the need to stay totally focused, consider many possibilities, and to act fast when ready, make for an extremely interesting and intense experience. Areas he feels that need improvement in order for Brazil to break into the more competitive international fencing circuit is to have more highly experienced coaches, more clubs with youth development

programs, and top athletes as role models in the community. Guilherme is grateful to the FIE for this opportunity to train with top coaches and athletes from all over Pan-American countries at Fencers Club.

Ana Beatriz Di Rienzo Bulcão – Brazil (Foil)

13 years fencing, Coach Gennady Miakotnykh



Beatriz fences at Esporte Clube Pinheiros and her fencing goal is to make the 2020 Brazilian Olympic Team. She started to fence at her local international school because fencing was the only sport that fit her schedule. From the beginning, she found fencing captivating and challenging at the same time. She particularly likes that in fencing she has to think about many possibilities and it is an interactive sport. Beatriz likes the movements and she finds the tactical aspects of fencing challenging. She feels that fencing in Brazil is on the cusp of breaking through as more popular sport. She feels that it will take just one or two top international results and these athletes being advocates for the sport. In addition, she feels that in order for fencing to become a more mainstream sport in Brazil, like soccer, there should be more community outreach and experienced and inspiring coaches to develop youth fencers. Beatriz is grateful to the FIE for the opportunity to train at Fencers Club. She particularly finds the depth of the program at Fencers Club highly instructional and exemplary. In particular, Beatriz would like to thank Coach Buckie for his awesome video analysis sessions, among all the other training techniques and tips.

Shannon Comerford – Canada (Foil)

20 years fencing, Coach Claude Seguin



Shannon began fencing when she was 8 years old after spending several years watching her older brother. She quickly rose to the top of the rankings, and is now a member Canadian National Women's Foil Team. She aspires to qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Fencing is an integral part of Shannon's life and has taught her that progress happens in small steps and that it takes a lot to learn who you are and develop self-confidence. She believes that the sport receives little recognition in certain Pan-American countries because of tradition and history. Shannon believes that Canadian sponsored international camps and competitive events would help the development of fencing in her country. For example, she would like to see a North American Cup held in Canada to help increase the level of fencing. Shannon is currently a student at University of Saskatchewan, and will go into her family's honey farming business when she is done with school and fencing. She has thoroughly enjoyed her the FIE CMI camp experience, her fellow fencers and the accommodations. Shannon is already looking forward to another trip to NYC!

Kelleigh Ryan – Canada (Foil)

19 years fencing, Coached by Alex Martin, Sean McClain, Paul Ap Simon



Kelleigh began fencing at the age of 10. Growing up she played a lot of sports but her dream was to be on the Canadian National Soccer Team. Her mother told her that she had to pick one sport and commit to it, and she chose fencing. Kelleigh enjoys fencing because it presents both a physical and mental challenge—every practice is different and it is a very tactical game. She believes her Federation can provide more support to the Canadian fencing clubs in the different regions to help grow the sport further. In the future, Kelleigh hopes to pursue a career in physical therapy. Kelleigh is grateful for her experience at Fencers Club during this FIE CMI camp. Kelleigh hopes that some day, Team Canada's women's foil squad will qualify for the Olympics. She also aspires to be a top-16 women's foilist in the world.

Bárbara Constanza Ahumada Atables – Chile (Foil)

7 years fencing, Coach Samuel Moreno



Bárbara saw her first fencing competition when she was 11 years old with a friend of hers. With the encouragement of her parents, she quickly took to and excelled in the sport. She likes the fact that she has to be focused and concentrated at all times to make sure her body and mind work in harmony to execute each action. She is currently pursuing her degree in engineering and has a strict training regimen, both before and after class each day. She is so excited to participate in this FIE CMI training program (even if she has to do some homework in the hotel) because of the many skilled fencers from whom she can learn and improve. This being her first time in New York, she is also excited to explore the Big Apple.

Felipe León Alvear Zamora – Chile (Foil)

17 years fencing, Coach Patricio Moreno



Felipe is very excited to participate in the FIE CMI Pan-American athlete training camp at Fencers Club. He sees fencing as a uniting sport for the world. Whenever he travels internationally for competitions or camps, he automatically has something in common with the other athletes—a love of fencing. This international aspect always attracted him to the sport because, as he puts it, his home country can sometimes feel like the “end of the world” when it comes to fencing. Felipe recommends Pan-American countries try to adopt the U.S. model of collegiate fencing, where fencers compete for scholarships and are recruited by top universities. Implementing a system like this—in addition to the CMI programs—could help to grow the image of fencing and elevate its competitiveness in the Pan-American region.

Alejandra Flores – Chile (Foil)

12 years fencing, Coach Samuel Moreno



Alejandra has been fencing since age 6, when her mother—also a foil fencer—took her along with her older brother to try the sport. Fencing caught her attention because of its individual nature—fencers must rely on their self-determination and drive to succeed. Although Chile’s geography can sometimes limit the sport, she recommends the federation and the FIE support Pan-American athletes by hosting training sessions for athletes, coaches and referees in country to further develop fencing. International exposure, such as the FIE CMI camp at Fencers Club, is also a great idea because it is important to train with fencers from many different countries with different styles. She looks forward to coming back to Fencers Club and New York after she finishes her studies in Chile.

Saskia Loretta Van Erven Garcia – Colombia (Foil)

19 years fencing



Saskia began fencing at the age of 6, learning from her mother who also fenced foil. Saskia continued to take lessons from her mother until she was 14. She believes that the sport incites passion and a mental challenge. The most challenging part about fencing for her is being alone on the strip when her coach can’t be there to watch her fence. Although very international, Saskia believes that the sport of fencing is not portrayed as a global sport. For example, in the Pan-American zone, there is a need for more camps at different locations in preparation for significant competitions. While participating in the FIE CMI camp at Fencers Club, she has realized how far her country must go to develop a comprehensive training program. Currently

residing in France, Saskia graduated from Journalism school in Holland. After fencing, she hopes to stay involved in fencing to share her passion for the sport. Saskia will participate in the 2016 Olympic Games representing her home country of Colombia.

Santiago Pachon Niño – Colombia (Foil)

20 years fencing, Coach Bernardo Cisterna



Santiago began fencing when he was 6 years old. Although he was encouraged to try many sports by his father, a basketball player, Santiago fell in love with fencing through movies like “Zorro” and never looked back. For him, fencing is an amazing combination of physical and mental skill, as fencers seek to out-strategize each other. Even though soccer gets all the media attention in Colombia, he is excited to take what he has learned at Fencers Club and combine it with his studies as a graphic designer to increase the awareness of the sport in his country. The Fencers Club coaches have given him inside access to their knowledge and opened his eyes to new cross-training techniques with yoga (for example) that he wants to integrate into his own training

back home. It would be great, he says, if the FIE would host training camps of this kind in South and Central America as well.

Bradley Johnston – Costa Rica (Epee)

8 years, Coach Jersey Konczalski

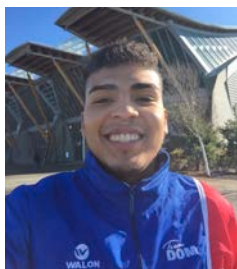


Bradley started to fence at University of Costa Rica where he graduated with a degree in Political Science and Diplomacy. He has been a member of the university’s fencing club for 8 years and continues to train, compete and helps younger students. The fencing program is funded by the university and therefore it is affordable. Bradley’s fencing goal is to make the 2020 Olympic Games representing Costa Rica. He feels he needs to further develop his technical skills and fine-tune his timing and execution to be competitive internationally. One of the difficulties that impede his and other Costa Rican fencers’ fencing progress is due to not having critical mass of clubs and competitive fencers in Costa Rica. In his opinion, there should be more effort to raise fencing awareness and do community

outreach because in Costa Rica, the general public still perceives fencing as a sport for the elite few.

Julio Felipe Benjamin Peguero – Dominican Republic (Epee)

6 years fencing, Coach Cristian Rivera



Julio came to fencing when he was a teenager training for modern pentathlon and has fenced epee ever since. He enjoys the individual pressure of the sport—that the game is his to win or lose and he can put all his effort, power and concentration into making a touch. Although fencing is not well known in the Dominican Republic, the state-sponsored institutes of sport get students of all ages involved. While politics can sometimes play a part in athlete support, Julio recommends that his Federation and the FIE invest as much as they can into developing athletes at all levels through hosting camps, tournaments and training opportunities. Even participating in this two-week FIE Pan-American training camp, Julio has felt a significant improvement in his game.

José Samora – Dominican Republic (Foil)
13 years fencing, Coach Dan Kellner



José lives in New York and fences for his country, Dominican Republic. José started to fence in high school. He graduated from Hunter College and has worked in various part-time capacities so that he can continue to train and make progress as a competitive fencer. He is currently working as an assistant coach and training as much as he can. He believes that through hard work and effort, he can make top results and ultimately reach his goal of medaling in the Pan-American Championships. José says that he needs to have a better tactical understanding of the game to break through to the top international levels. He has positioned himself, in work and in training, to reach his fencing goals. He is thankful to the FIE for the opportunity to be part of the FIE CMI Athlete Training Program at Fencers Club.

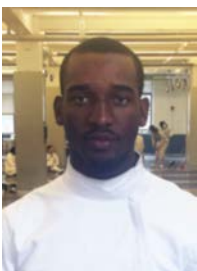
Brittany Greenfield – Jamaica (Epee)
7 months fencing, Coach Robert Shaw



Brittany started to fence at Caribbean Maritime Institute where she is a full-time student studying Maritime Logistics. She commented that her university is also known as “CMI.” She is thrilled to be at Fencers Club and be part of the FIE CMI training program. She is working extremely hard to learn as much as she can while she is at Fencers Club. In addition to the regular training sessions, Brittany and Donavan Porter, her teammate, participate in extra evening sessions and take private lessons. She wants to be the best competitive fencer in Jamaica and beyond. In addition to learning the basic technical skills, she wants to acquire as much tactical understanding as possible. She finds video analysis very important in this aspect. In

addition to the blade skills, she wants to improve her footwork and physical conditioning to the extent she could almost feel weightless on the fencing strip. She says that fencing is a beautiful sport that should be shared with children, and by doing so the children will have the opportunity to benefit from all that fencing has to offer. Brittany extends her gratitude to the FIE and Fencers Club for including her in this training session. She agreed that the best way to show her gratitude to the FIE and to Fencers Club is to share the joy of fencing and inspire the youth of Jamaica through the sport.

Donavan Porter – Jamaica (Epee)
7 months fencing, Coach Robert Shaw



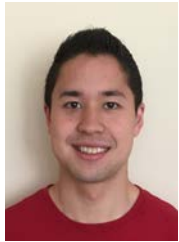
Donavan started to fence at his university, Caribbean Maritime Institute in Kingston where he is a full-time engineering student. He has seen fencing on television and thought the sport looked really interesting. He jumped at the chance of learning to fence at his university club. Although he is an athlete—a former cricket player—he finds fencing movements difficult sometimes. He appreciates that fencing requires total self-control, focus, physical fitness, keeping calm and being ready to seize the opportunity. Donavan says the perfect touch is like catching a bird. Donavan’s goal at this training session is to learn as much as possible and to secure strong foundational knowledge. He plans to return to Kingston to further develop and share his skills, and

to become more competitive. His future goal is to share his fencing knowledge and all that fencing can provide with the Jamaican youth. He would like to thank the FIE for this amazing opportunity, Fencers Club for putting together an excellent program in a warm community that helps him learn as much as possible. He would also like to thank the Jamaican Fencing Federation for all their work and support.

Note: Brittany Greenfield and Donavan Porter’s coach, Robert Shaw, came to Fencers Club in 2015 as a participant of the FIE CMI Coaching Advancement program. Mr. Shaw, a cricket player, had never fenced before coming to Fencer Club. After 4 weeks of intensive training, he returned to Kingston and started a club within the Caribbean Maritime Institute with the support from the Jamaican Fencing Federation. In the 7 months since his return, there are now about 30 students actively participating in the fencing program.

Daniel Gómez Tanamachi – Mexico (Foil)

13 years fencing, Coach Rolando Soler



Daniel fences at Centro de Alto Rendimiento in Mexico City. Daniel has qualified for the 2016 Olympics and will be representing Mexico. Daniel started to fence when he was 12 at a local club and graduated from Penn State where he fenced on the varsity team with some of the top US men's foil fencers. In fencing, he is motivated by the fight, determination and creativity that are crucial in reaching the highest levels. He likes that the game changes constantly and how a successful fencer must remain focused and flexible in mind and in actions. One of the best things about fencing for Daniel is that through fencing, he was able to travel around the world and make friends who have totally different experiences and upbringings. Daniel's long-term goal is to start his own

business that will broaden the base of fencing, especially in the Pan-American countries. Daniel is grateful to his parents for their support. Daniel expresses his gratitude to the FIE for the opportunity to train at Fencers Club with the other Pan-American athletes and to learn from Fencers Club coaches and instructors.

Maria Luisa Doig Calderon – Peru (Epee)

20 years fencing, Coach Andrei Sladkov



The only fencer in her family, Maria Luisa started when she was only 5 years old. She enjoyed the fact that fencing can be a year-round sport with cool uniforms and equipment. For her, the most interesting part of the sport is its movements. Even though the sport has changed its timing to become a faster, more physical contest, the explosiveness and quick critical thinking are what keep her engaged in training. Communication—between the Federation, clubs, coaches and athletes—can sometimes be lacking but she hopes to take back the knowledge she gains from the FIE CMI course at Fencers Club to increase collaboration in Peru. So far, her favorite things about New York have been visiting the Statue of Liberty and having a hi-tech washer/dryer in the hotel room!

Daniel Boylan – Peru (Epee)

5 years fencing, Coach Kornel Udvarhelyi



Daniel, known as Danny, wanted to fence after seeing the sport on TV for the first time. Although still developing his fencing skills and abilities, Danny sees himself as a future Junior World Championship finalist. Danny wants to bring honor in fencing to his country and wants to work with and teach young children in Peru. Danny suffers from a genetic disease called Neurofibromatosis Type 1. In the future, he wants to be able to research cures for genetic disorders. Danny also aspires to become a motivational speaker to inspire children to find their dream, never let anything get in their way and to never give up. He is grateful for the opportunity to participate in this

FIE camp and says it will help prepare him for Junior World Championships.

Liz Rivero – Venezuela (Foil)

16 years fencing, Coach Enrique Da Silva and Carlos Rodriguez



An athlete from an early age, Liz began fencing by process of elimination. She tried Karate first with her younger sister but it was not intense enough for her. Then she tried gymnastics but was too old to pursue a competitive gymnastics career. However, fencing and gymnastics shared gym space and she fell in love with fencing with its fast actions and mental strategies. Although it can be difficult to maintain the competitive rhythm and intensity to perform on the international circuit, Liz loves that fencing has both individual and team aspects. It requires a lot of focus and discipline—both things at which she excels. Although sport is a human right in Venezuela, fencing is not well known. It can also be cost prohibitive, especially when buying equipment and travelling.

While in NYC, Liz is learning a lot from each training session and would like to thank the FIE for this opportunity. Perhaps one day, she can help facilitate a similar camp to be held in Venezuela too.

FIE CMI Pan-American Athlete Training Camp March 20 – April 3





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FENCERS CLUB

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A grayscale photograph of two fencers in a sparring stance. They are wearing white jackets, white breeches, and masks with an American flag design. They are holding epees. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

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EST. 1883