

Millburn High School Boys Fencing Attendance Policy

Regular attendance at practice is vital for individual improvement and, therefore, team success. With this in mind, the following policies shall be in effect:

1. Practice begins the Monday after Thanksgiving. No one will be permitted to join the team after the first week of practice.
2. Attendance will be taken at all team practices and meets.
3. You must arrive and be ready to fence on time.
4. You must notify the coaches, *in advance*, if you will be absent from practice or a meet. Notice must be given in person or via e-mail.
5. By their nature, absences due to illness are unanticipated. That said, you need to alert the coaches as soon as practicable.
6. Acceptable excuses for an absence include: a private fencing lesson, an exam given during practice time, a college visit/interview, and a musical/theater performance.
7. Regarding the arts and other extracurricular activities—Fencing must be your primary responsibility. While an occasional, excused absence may be granted for a special event, regular, ongoing absences will not be tolerated. You may not be part of the fencing squad on a “part-time” basis.
8. In most cases, excused absences will not be granted for academic purposes. Millburn fencers are expected to handle the demands of class work and athletics simultaneously. If you are struggling academically, the coaches advise you to not come out for the team this year and to devote this winter season to your studies.
9. Team members support one another during competition. Therefore, attendance at home meets is mandatory, whether you are scheduled to fence or not. We strongly encourage attendance at away meets and tournaments, although the number of team members that we can bring may be limited by bus capacity.
10. Fencing practices and competitions are scheduled during the February mid-winter break (usually the week following Presidents Day). You are expected to be present during this time. Excused absences will not be granted for travel/vacation activities. Do not let down the team.
11. Per NJSIAA rules, **no** fencer may compete in a dual meet or other event until they have practiced with the team at least **6** times.

Violations policies:

1. Unexcused late arrivals may count as unexcused absences at coaches’ discretion.
2. Those with an unexcused absence will not be permitted to compete in the next scheduled meet.
3. Those with five unexcused absences face dismissal from the team.

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