



PRESS RELEASE

Record Turnout for Alfred Knappe Fencing Tournament in Fredericton

Thirty-one teams of fencers from six New Brunswick fencing clubs made this a record turnout for the annual Alfred Knappe Team Fencing Tournament held at the Currie Centre of UNB in Fredericton on the weekend of February 1 & 2.

In the open category, fifteen teams comprised of one foilist, one epeeist and one sabreur took part. The winning team of Jeffrey Probert, Eric Foucault and Nigel Sood from Damocles Fencing Club of Fredericton defeated the more experienced silver medal team of Evan Schriver from UNB, Justin LeClair of Damocles and Aidan Matchett of Nova Scotia with an exciting “come from behind” 45-41 victory. Third place went to the team of Fundy-Saint John fencers Cedric Richard and Will Dobson and Moncton fencer Ryan Downey which won over Damocles fencers Wendy Yano and Willow Wilson and Fundy fencer Matthew Cole.

In the under fifteen three weapon event, eight teams took part. The gold medal team of Calum Skidmore, Nigel Sood and Jesse Maher-Watson from the Damocles club of Fredericton won over the silver medal team of Matthew Cole and Jane MacGregor of Fundy and Cailum Stienstra of Damocles. The bronze medal team of Calum MacDonald, Cameron Haigh and Liam Kidman from Damocles defeated the team of Willow Wilson, Will Marshall and Caleb Stairs also from Damocles.

A new event for under thirteen foil fencers attracted eight teams including two “all girls” teams. The winning team of Gregor Harrison, Dino Tremblay and Allison Doucet from the Renforth club won by one touch (27-26) in an exciting match over the Damocles team of Pierre Arseneau, Wesley Clark and Nicholas Richard. Third place went to the Renforth team of Magnus Labillois, Jackson Dennis and Connor Campbell over the team of Nicole Beuk, Sophie Poitras and Aurora Howlett from Damocles.

This annual event honours a great contributor to the sport of fencing in this province. Alfred Knappe was an active competitor in Germany before coming to Canada in 1955. He began coaching at the UNB fencing club in 1966, was founder of and served as first President of the New Brunswick Fencing Association from 1969 to 1972. Alfred was known to several generations of fencers as a dedicated, hard-working builder of the sport of fencing before he passed away in 2010.

The next fencing competition in New Brunswick, the Fundy Open, will take place at Harbour View High School in Saint John on the weekend of February 15-16.

For further information, contact FENB Executive Director, Barbara Daniel at 454-7886.