

Coach's Notes: 12/6/2008 Novice Meets @UMass

This is the first intercollegiate fencing tournament hosted by UMass since the 1996 Women's New England Championships. The venue was even the same: Ruth J. Totman gymnasium. The format for this tournament was team dual meets, but we disregarded gender lines, even creating mixed-gender teams in order to have full teams. Fencers from UMass, URI, Smith, and Hampshire College participated. The team names reflect the majority population of the team: UMass Men, UMass Women, URI Men, URI Women, and Smith.

A terrific day full of good energy and enthusiasm, Saturday's meets gave many UMass fencers their first taste of competition. I'm proud to say that everyone fenced well, and everyone won at least 1 bout! Unfortunately, we failed to capture every novice fencer on video. Those bouts that we did capture can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/umassfencingcoach>.

This tournament was such a success that all are hoping to have something like this again next year.

Results: UMass Men

UMass Men's team carried no epee fencers. By giving our epee fencers to Smith, this allowed the individuals to fence more bouts and gave everyone else more bouts to fence.

UMass Men's team	vs. URI Men	vs. URI Women (includes 4 men)	vs. Smith (includes 4 men)
Foil (Jack Fitzpatrick, Santo Memmone, & Chris Ye)	Win: 5-4	Loss: 3-6	Win: 5-4
Sabre (Kenny Thompson, Brian Delanese, Ryan O'Connor)	Loss: 4-5	Win: 8-1	Win: 6-3

UMass men who fenced for Smith: Simon Wechsler, Justin Young, Lumin Zhang, and Louis Heimann.

UMass men who fenced for UMass women: Jimmy Taber.

Results: UMass Women

UMass Women's team	vs. URI Men	vs. URI Women (includes 4 men)	vs. Smith (includes 4 men)
Foil (Alexandra Sprague, Kayly Tillman, Rose Zheng)	Loss: 3-6	Loss: 2-7	Loss: 3-6
Epée (Carolyn Billmers, Melissa Goczalk, Heather Maes, Paola Arango)	Loss: 4-5	Loss: 4-5	Loss: 4-5
Sabre (Junelle Shepard, Chelsea Macary, Jimmy Taber (borrowed from men's sabre))	Loss: 4-5	Loss: 3-6	Win: 5-4