



Montclair Invitational Frosh-Soph Tournament **February 2, 2020 (Super Bowl Sunday)** **Hosted at Montclair High School in the Main Gym.**

All Fencers must check in at official check in table before 8:00 am.

What is the Montclair Invitational Frosh-Soph tournament?

The MHS Fencing team and booster club sponsor this annual event for New Jersey high school freshmen and sophomore fencers. The tournament includes more than a dozen schools and attracts 150+ high school fencers. The tournament is for all 3 weapons and both boys and girls.

Why Freshmen and Sophomores only?

Montclair started sponsoring the tournament in order to give underclassmen a chance to have a competitive day of fencing. Unlike sports such as soccer, football or basketball, fencing does not have a freshman or JV division. On a large, competitive team, most underclassmen are not regularly fencing at Varsity bouts. The Frosh-Soph is also an opportunity for new fencing families to watch their students compete on the fencing strip.

It's a fun event. Upperclassmen and the team managers will be strip coaching new fencers, keeping score, and helping new fencers navigate the tournament. Each bout will have a director to provide a proper tournament experience for the fencers.

If they are a new fencer, this is the tournament that they have been working toward! **Fencers need to register individually** for the tournament on askFRED.

Boys Registration: https://askfred.net/Events/moreInfo.php?tournament_id=45968

Girls Registration: https://askfred.net/Events/moreInfo.php?tournament_id=45969

Registrations need to be completed online by Feb 1, 2020. There is no cost to the fencers for this event, participation is paid for by the schools.

How is the tournament set up?

The tournament structure is as follows: The professional Tournament Organizer and the Bout Committee divide students by weapon, gender and year. Students are then grouped randomly into pools. Each pool will have 5, 6 or 7 fencers. If there are rated fencers in the tournament, they are spread out across the pools so that no single pool is significantly harder than the other. Fencers first fence everyone in their pool. These are 5 touch bouts.

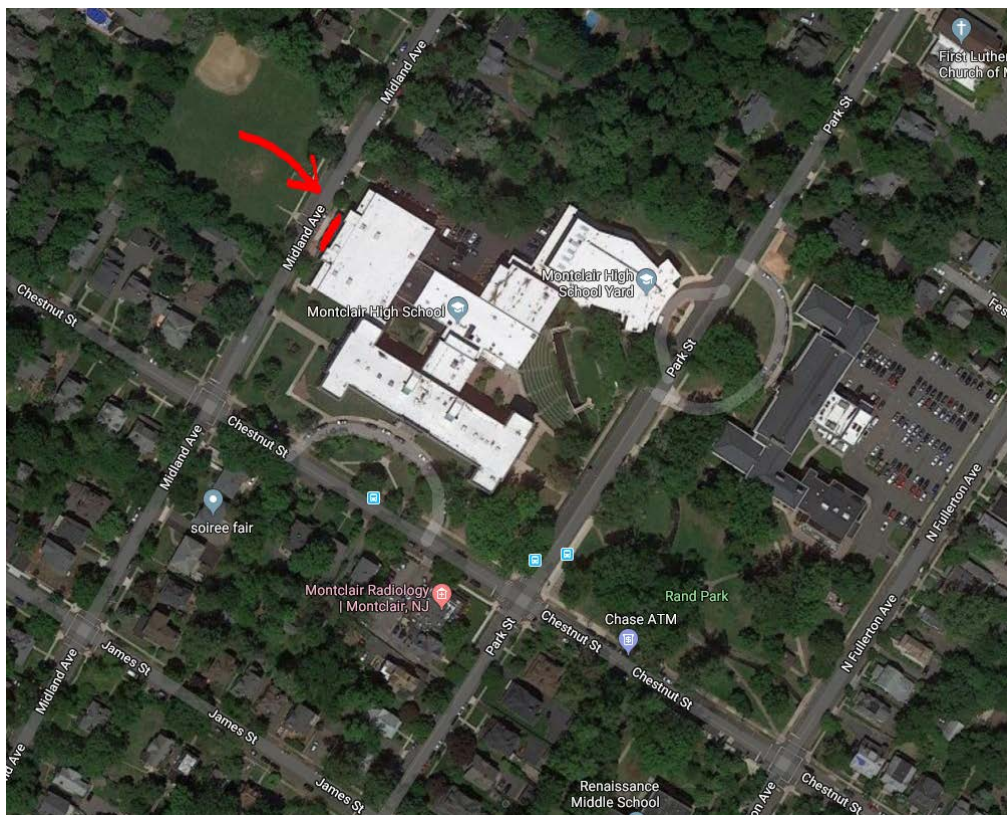
There is a break (when everyone gets to eat lunch) while all of the pool results are tabulated (wins, losses, touches made/touches received) and then fencers are ranked. ALL fencers advance. Fencers then fence direct elimination bouts (“called DE’s) with the post-pool ranking determining the first bout order. These are 10 point bouts. When you lose, you are done fencing for the day. If you win, fencers continue to fence through the bracket (think of a post season college basketball bracket...if you start with a group of 32, you then go to 16, then 8, then 4, then 2) until we wind up with a final winner in each event.

Medals are awarded to first place, second place, and the two students who finish third (the students who lose at the semi-final round of 4).

We do not expect to know the starting time of each event until Sunday. Even then, event times can and do change. Our tournament director will have a starting plan on the event order, but even then event times can and do change. If you feel like you need to know a more specific time, you can ask your fencer to send you a quick text before the tournament starts. But again, times can and do change. This is not because of a lack of planning or organization; it is the nature of fencing tournaments.

Logistics

The event takes place at Montclair High School, 100 Chestnut Street, Montclair, NJ, 07042, in the Main Gym. The entrance to the gym is on Midland Avenue by the corner of Midland and Chestnut. If you are facing the front of MHS, the gym entrance will be to your left. On street parking is available at no cost.



The MHS Fencing Booster Club sells refreshments as a fundraiser for the team's activities. There will be drinks, granola bars, fruit, pizza, hot dogs, cup noodles, desserts, and more, available for purchase. There are water fountains for the kids as well. Each team will have their own designated table/area in the cafeteria to keep their stuff, to relax between bouts (if they are not cheering their teammates on) and to eat lunch.

There will be an armorer on site for the tournament if you have any last minute equipment issues. Always check your equipment before a tournament, but if something happens, there will be help available.

Anything else?

Spectators are encouraged to attend the event. There is no charge to watch and to cheer on your fencers. Bleacher seating is available (upstairs) in the main gym overlooking the strips. Spectators are also allowed (and encouraged) in the second gym, though that is standing room only.

When is it over?

If morning check-in closes on time, fencing should wrap up between 3:00 and 4:00pm – in time to get to your Super Bowl parties. There will be a short awards ceremony at the conclusion of the fencing. Final results will be posted online.

Hope all of this helps! See you at Montclair High School!

More questions?

If you still have more questions, you can reach out to fencingmontclair@gmail.com