



Boston Fencing Club

The nation's oldest club, tracing our roots back to 1858

Michael Marx

Director of Fencing Operations

Brief biography of Michael Marx:

Michael earned his Master of Arms degree in Poland in 1992. He is a five time Olympian and the only fencer in the last 50 years to make the US Olympic team in two weapons; foil and epee. He is a five time USOC Athlete of the Year and earned a record eight US National Championships in Foil for a total of 17 National Titles.

Michael has been inducted into both the USFA and Oregon Sports Hall of Fame. He was instrumental in the development of the United States Fencing Association's Coaches College held during the summer at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO.

Before coming to Boston, Michael worked 10 years in Portland, OR, 7 years at the US National Training Center in Rochester, NY, and for 7 years coached at the University of Notre Dame. In each area, Portland, New York and Indiana, Michael created World class athletes. Michael recently moved to the Boston area to work as Director of the Boston Fencing Club.

Michael is married with a 3 year old (Isabella), a son (Robert) attending Duke University and lives in Weston with his wife Lisa.

Michael's Coaching Achievements:

Michael has produced numerous top fencers who have been admitted by the elite universities in the nation. His coaching achievements include:

- Students on the last five US Olympic Teams
- Students ranked as high as #1 in the World
- Students winning numerous Gold, Silver, or Bronze at World Championships.
- Numerous World Cup medalist
- At least one member on a US world team for nearly 20 straight years. Often several members on the US world team
- At least one National Champion for nearly 20 straight years. Average 4 National titles each year.
- His students have won well over 20 team Nation Championships.
- Michael was named the Developmental Coach of the Year from the USOC in 2007.

This March Michaels' students won Gold at the NCAA Championships. Representing the University of Notre Dame Rachel Beck clinched the victory for Notre Dame to win the coveted NCAA overall championships and Ariel DeSmet earned double gold by adding the Men's Foil individual title. Michael had other students who qualified to compete in the event representing Princeton, Brown, Temple, and Duke. Fencing does open doors for students to be selected to the elite Universities.



Boston Fencing Club

The nation's oldest club, tracing our roots back to 1858

Michael Marx

Director of Fencing Operations

An Olympic Training Center for Fencing:

An amazing confluence of events has led to the possibility of creating an Olympic Training Center at the Old Weston Library and Josiah Tavern.

Jim Page, the Director of High Performance Committee of U. S Fencing Association (USFA), contacted Michael a few months earlier and asked Michael to consider revitalizing the USFA coaching programs. Michael, a former Vice President of the USFA, had spearheaded the USFA Coaches College and has been a program director and teacher at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Michael has also been asked by current national coach to head up the coaching development for the national team as we move toward London and future Olympiads.

Michael served four years as the Vice President of the United States Fencing Association (USFA). His responsibility was Coach and Cadre Selection. During that time Michael saw an insurgence of former athletes and coaches move to the US to began or continue their coaching career. With this said he offers this advice. "Before you choose a coach check what they have done in their years of coaching here in the US. I have seen top coaches and world class athletes come to the US only to fall right in with the rest of the crowd." Michael offers the same advice regarding Zhao, Kai and Meng, Shuang. Kai and Shuang who are professional fencers from China joined the BFC recently. Although they are wonderful athletes and coached successfully in China, they must work their trade in US successfully. Fortunately, they have great potential and are gifted in their ability to teach. "I have been working with them for 4 months now and am confident they will become elite coaches within the next two quadrennials. They are the two best prospects I have ever seen."

BFC Open House Info:

The Boston Fencing Club is hosting an Open House for the Chinese Community at 12:30 PM on Saturday April 2nd. You are also invited to observe our Saturday classes. The classes began at 9:00am on Saturday.

The BFC is located at:

110 Clematis Ave
Waltham, MA 02453
781-891-0119
Bostonfencingclub.org