

Training Policies

Rev. 2/27/2019

1. No one may fight unsupervised in any weapon (including unarmed combat) until they have graduated/tested out in that weapon category. This applies to all participants in a fight.
2. An actor/fighter may use a technique from any level if they are trained and/or demonstrated they can perform the technique properly and have permission from a trainer in that weapon
 - Fighters must pass a level one in a weapon style to be allowed a chance to prove competency of using techniques at any higher level. A fighter cannot use any technique from a weapon they have not passed level 1.
 - Successful completion of all techniques in a level does not constitute passing that level; a student must still perform and pass a graduation fight.
 - Actors may learn one or two technique that will be used at specified individual times in a show, regardless if they have passed level 1 in a weapon. The techniques cannot be linked together in any type of fight sequence (ie: Emperor Fabulous slap)
3. Graduation fights must be performed for a minimum of two trainers per test fight. Actor-combatants must be approved by an agreement of all trainers grading/assisting in order to graduate.
 - Graduation test information will be made available. This includes either the test fight and/or list of required techniques. Additional demonstration of techniques may be requested at testing.
6. Every actor-combatant must re-qualify every three years from their last test date in the weapon style they wish to use. Trainers may require some class time as a refresher or a demonstration of the individual's skill.
 1. Trainer may accept a board fight as a test refresh fight if accepted by the trainer in that weapon.
 2. A refresh class may be accepted without the student performing a test fight.
 3. A refresh test fight performed for two trainers may be accepted without the fighter taking a refresh class if approved by the trainer in that weapon.
7. All weapon/level prerequisites must be met before a student may begin training in that weapon/level.
8. A member interested in testing out of level 1 of any basic weapon may attempt to do so upon approval of the Training Coordinator and the lead trainer in that weapon. That/those individuals must show proficiency in the techniques of that level before being given the test fight and allowed to attempt the fight.
9. Anyone who has passed a credible association proficiency test may attempt to test-out of that particular weapon at levels 1 and 2. Their standing with the association must be verified either through direct contact or a copy of their proficiency certificate. If an appropriate partner is not available and they have passed the proficiency test within the past 2 years, a recording of their fight can be accepted as a test fight for level 1.

10. Trainers must have successfully passed level one of the weapon to be able to grade a student test fight.
11. Injury and/or safety issue due to gross negligence on the part of either fighter will result in an automatic failure of the fighter responsible. A redo will not be accepted. If the non-responsible partner is able to continue, arrangements for testing will be made.
12. When alternative systems/techniques are presented that are not listed in the training curriculum, the safety team will inspect and review to either approve or reject. A trainer versed in a similar style would be needed to work with the individual(s). If there is no trainer skilled in the area in question, then the team would determine the best person to work with the fighter.
 - Is it safe?
 1. Weapons do not cross the “resume photo” of the body
 2. Fighters are in control of their bodies and weapons (including disarms)
 3. Move can be done with consistency
 4. Established communication between fighters
 5. Weapon attacks (that are not intentional strikes) are offline or out of distance
13. Private lessons are arranged by and with individual trainers. All private lessons must be reported and approved by the Training Coordinator. A private lesson is defined as a lesson that is given anytime other than the officially designated time and location.
 1. Assistant trainers can provide private lessons with approval from the trainer.
13. Trainers are responsible for minors who are taking their class. If a class has ended for the day, the trainer must see that any minors (in his/her class) are supervised until their ride arrives. If an individual trainer cannot wait on any given day, that trainer must make prior arrangements for someone else to stay after with any minors.
14. Mats or spring floor must be used when students begin learning rolls and falls. Once a student has demonstrated the proficiency of a roll or fall, he/she will be allowed to practice that roll without a mat.
15. Trainer hiatus –
 - Trainers on hiatus will have no voting privileges on the team. The said trainer may attend all meetings and participate in discussion, but simply will not have a vote. This will prevent decisions being made by those who are not actively working with classes. A trainer may voluntarily go on hiatus or will be assumed on hiatus after not training a class for 2 sessions. At any time a trainer may resume active status, by teaching a class during a session (private lessons excluded). If a trainer is on hiatus for longer than 1 year, they will be up for a vote of removal by the training team.
 - Assistant trainers will attain voting privileges after completing one training session. The said assistant trainer may attend all meetings and participate in discussion during their first session, but simply will not have a vote. Same hiatus rules apply for assistant trainers.

16. When a trainer has fallen off of the team due to inactivity/lack of time and wishes to return to the team, they must prove that they are up to date on all the current knowledge of the weapon style. This may require time with the lead trainer in that style and an interview with the coordinator.
17. When a trainer wants to teach a new weapon style, they must present their technique list via email and then meet with the coordinator (and other team members) to present their curriculum. Ideally, the trainer will present their material in a class-style format with other trainers serving as students to both understand the techniques and generate questions necessary to ensure safety and quality in the weapon/style.
18. New techniques must be reviewed and approved by a Trainer or the Coordinator of Training and Safety. Techniques developed by trainers must be approved by the Coordinator.
19. The training staff is in charge of all theatre combat training.

Incident Procedure

When a trainer sees any injury, safety infraction, etc.

1. Complete incident report form
 - a. If an asst trainer is available, trainer can appoint them to complete the form for the trainer to review/approve and sign
 - b. If the incident warrants team discussion, report the incident to the Training Coordinator who will schedule a team meeting to discuss the course of action.
2. Coordinator reviews all incidents and generates board reports

Training Rules of Conduct

1. Everybody is responsible for safety. If anyone finds an activity unsafe, that activity is to stop until cleared by a trainer, safety coordinator, or training coordinator after they have explained to all present what safety measures are in place and all present understand them. It is everyone's responsibility to be aware and to let others know if something is unsafe.
2. No one is to take or use any form of non-prescription drug, alcohol, or other substance that affects judgment or ability during training. If you are taking any kind of prescription (or non-prescription) drug let a trainer know if you feel it may affect your ability to train. If you have been drinking the night before a training day, feel exhausted or ill and do not feel 100% at the start of training – let a trainer know – you may not be allowed to fight that day but your maturity, dedication to safety, and responsibility will be noted.
3. All weapons are to be inspected before use. All personal weapons must have a trainer's approval or the approval of any individual designated by the training coordinator/safety coordinator as being able to inspect and approve of weapons.
4. All members and non-members are to be shown respect and courtesy at all times. This includes language, physical harassment, implied threats, and sexual harassment.
 1. No one is to touch, strike, or manhandle anyone in even a mildly aggressive manner outside of a performance – this means no horse play of any kind.
5. No one is to touch anything that does not belong to him or her without owner's permission.
7. Weapons are to be transported outside of the training area in an approved and safe manner.
8. Everyone must meet all Thieves Guild insurance requirements, as well as have a signed waiver and fully filled out contact sheet. In addition all members will receive a copy of the rules.