



# The Sword in the Scroll Fencing Academy

Home of Western Swordsmanship Technique and Research (WSTR)  
90 South Park Street, Willimantic, CT

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## Our German Longsword Program:

Our **basic/beginner** longsword session (Wed, from 6:30-7:30) concentrates on the basic elements of German unarmored longsword. The focus is on guards and stances, cutting, fundamental techniques, and five specialized cuts. Students learn the techniques and practice them in drills.

The session rotates through techniques weekly so someone attending 6 straight weeks would get an introduction to all the basic techniques (note this is introduction only, not mastery of these skills). Those who skip a few will usually get some one-to-one attention from senior students to catch up and get everything needed. Students will test into advanced classes in 7-10 weeks depending on attendance and skill. **Advanced class** takes place immediately after basic (7:30-9:00). Advanced study allows members to train toward mastery of the basic techniques, explore more complex techniques, and study more intensive concepts of combat such as initiative, tactics, distance and timing. This group consists of members who have passed a safety and basic technique test in order to ensure the safety of other members. Most of this group voluntarily attends basic class in order to reinforce their technique.



## How WSTR Longsword Began

Drew Page and Ken Johnson, founders of WSTR, began training in unarmored longsword combat in 1997. After several years of training, they chose to teach a couple of introductory classes for Mansfield Parks & Recreation. Their students asked them repeatedly to find a way to continue training beyond the twelve-week course. Eventually, Drew and Ken found a way to start teaching classes on their own. WSTR (read as “wah-ster”) officially began in November of 2004. In 2007, WSTR longsword and WSTR Fencing were finally joined at their new home in Willimantic – now called Sword in the Scroll Fencing Academy.

## Equipment

Training longswords (known as wasters) are provided for beginners. As members advance in their training, they will obtain their own training equipment, including waster, sparring gloves and mask. Practices are active, so it's important to wear comfortable workout clothes and sneakers.

## Costs

The first class is free. We want you to try our class as it is quite unique. If you like what we did, WSTR Longsword has a basic cost of \$20 per class until student reach advanced class. Advanced class is \$45 per month and allows members to train on Mondays as well as Wednesday.

Contact Us – [www.wstr.info](http://www.wstr.info) or email [swordinthescroll@gmail.com](mailto:swordinthescroll@gmail.com)