



MINUTES
of the BVF Committee Meeting,
Saturday 18 June 2011 11a.m.
Angel Hotel, Chippenham

Members present: Peter Baron (PB), Frank Mills (FM), Jonathon Stanbury (JS), Marcia Stretch (MS), Lawrence Burr (LB)

- 1. Apologies: John Mason, David Sweeney, Gillian Aghajan**
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting 2 April, 2011 agreed and signed.**
- 3 Action items from previous meetings:**

ACTION	BY
<p>193 [Re membership drive based on Leon Paul vouchers] Dave will circulate a proposal for progressing this. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	DS
<p>225b Peter will look into resuming friendly matches with universities once term starts. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	PB
<p>233 A number of comments were made on the draft business plan produced by Frank and David, and an updated document will be produced and circulated to committee. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	FM
<p>234 John and Peter will cooperate in progressing a London based veterans event, starting by expressing to Paul Abrahams that we are interested in knowing more about his proposal. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	JM, PB
<p>235a John had run a postcode analysis of the Unisex Foil & Sabre event and determined that most were local to the venue or within the 2 hour travel boundary identified in the previous survey Peter asked John to do a postcode comparison of event entrants for the West Midlands Open. PB to supply list of entrants to JM <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	JM, PB
<p>Re Winton (238-242):</p> <p>JM proposed that online entry be set up so that organisers can view the entry, team captains can view their own team entry and that all others will be unable to see any entries Seconded by DS Passed Unan. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	
<p>251 Online archive: JM to proceed along the lines of his simulation shown to the committee. Almost done, some still to be uploaded. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	JM
<p>258</p> <p>1) That JM review files held on the server and remove those containing personal information. 3) JM to address question of additional web security including asking BF for advice. FM to receive Instruction on the maintenance of the website from JM. <i>ONGOING</i> Action</p>	JM/FM
<p>263 GA has spoken to the Wheelchair Fencing Association to arrange a match but very busy. All ages to compete in a match or tournament at either Stoke Mandeville or Worcester. GA has arranged for a</p>	

few fencers to attend Stoke Mandeville on Friday prior to AGQ competition. Will look to arrange other events. ONGOING	GA
265 A generic risk assessment to be produced to cover all BVF events to be sent to FM ONGOING	JM

Action

Reports:

a. Chairman: FM reported that the German match and Individual European Championships have been successfully undertaken. Reports on these events have been given to Committee and published.

b. Secretary: none .

c. Treasurer: An entry fee from one member is still outstanding for the National Championships and this has been repeatedly chased by email. It was suggested that The Treasurer check that communications from him had been received before taking Further action. **JM**

Sponsorship payments have not yet been received from Salago, Nomura and Morocco. DS to follow up. **DS**

German match: a number of items outstanding. **FM**

European Championships: a number of items outstanding **FM**

FM to ask JM for information on current funds. **FM**

JM to look into an independent organisation for the server. Proposed FM, seconded JS.

Unani. FM to write to JM.

d. Membership Secretary:

489 members including 28 new members.

e. Domestic fencing:

Crystal Open.: only 1 Vets team entered – placed 3rd.

White Horse Team: no entries received for this.

Oxford Unisex: Hilary Arnold is no longer prepared to run the Oxford Unisex competition. It was, therefore, decided not to run this competition this year. PB and FM to liaise to establish programme of local competitions in addition to international competitions.

West Midlands Vets Open: Leon Paul not available therefore equipment to be obtained elsewhere. All other arrangements in hand.

Carl & Jenny Morris have offered to run a ladies and mens epee event in February 2012 to be included in the Hampshire County event.

PB and FM are contacting other organisers of competitions to propose they run a separate veterans event. The fencers in Durham have suggested an event in their new premises at the University when it is complete.

f. International fencing:

World Championships: now to be held in Porec, Croatia. 27 September – 2 October. DS is Team Manager. DS has sent information to squad members and reserves re accommodation and costings. Suggested referees – Lynne Melia (foil), Duncan Rowlands (epee). Selection to be approved by Committee. JS proposed, seconded LB. Unan.

Two further union flags purchased to take to world championships.

European Championships: The largest number of individual entries to date at 1300. GB

squad 106 fencers. Our most successful championships to date topping the medal table – 6 gold, 3 silver, 7 bronze. Transport arrangements worked well. Usual small hiccups but overall the organisation was good. Our referees were excellent. Final account will be issued in due course. Full report in the Newsletter.

German match: Event was a great success and excellent organisation. Full report in the Newsletter.

g. EVFC:

Congress chaired by DS.

Individual European Championships, 2013: – no applications yet received. Committee to consider..

European Team Championships 2012: Croatia has made a submission for this.

2014: Netherlands and Sweden are considering hosting this event.

Individual European Championships: Belgian proposed a limit on entries but this was not agreed.

Proposal from GB for a Team Championship competition aimed at older age groups. After clearing up some initial confusion as to whether this was an additional competition replacing the current age championships and that it should be ideally held during the current team championships, the proposal was accepted with the rider that only 60+ aged fencers take part.

Election of Officers: Marje Liisa Someroja, Finland – elected Vice -President 2001/12.

Tom Rafter, Ireland – elected Chair 2011/12.

Meeting with British Fencing:

A joint initiative to attract new fencers 40+ as well as lapsed fencers in the ‘rising 40’ group has been discussed. The ‘Go Fence’ initiative had met with success particularly in schools. Details of training courses and flyers will be sent to FM/DS. FM/DS to prepare an action plan/strategy for approval by BVF Committee and BF prior to operating a scheme.

FM/DS

Discussion about fears of incorporation into BF. P. Martin made it clear that BF was not putting this suggestion forward and it would be entirely the decision of BVF. Should BVF decide on incorporation, there could be a break clause allowing BVF to sever incorporation if desired in the future. This matter to be fully discussed with full Committee and the views of the membership will be required.

The BVF was offered space in The Sword for recruitment advertising for the association..

Resignation of Selectors: Further to the letter of resignation by Selectors, they have asked that there is no further discussion on this matter. The letter will be published in the Newsletter. LB to write up a request for volunteers as Selectors be published. PB proposed, JS seconded, Unan.

LB

Selection Review:

:JS proposed that we publish the draft selection procedure for all age groups on the website. It would also be necessary to re-write guidelines for Selectors. Committee members to re-review JS original proposals with any further suggestions regarding points for the world and European championships. JS to re-send proposal to all committee members. The work which DS is undertaking on the point variants to continue.

JS/ALL

Event Reports:

Reports already covered. Full reports to be published in Newsletter.

Forthcoming Events:

a. Veterans Winton Cup: all arrangements now in hand. 8 teams have entered.

FM

b. World Championships: see ‘International Fencing’.

c. West Midlands Open – see ‘Domestic Fencing’.

d. Wheelchair Fencers Team Match: deferred to next meeting.

e. Christmas Dinner: FM to put notice in Newsletter should anyone wish to organise this., **FM**

FM to write to Henry de Silva re his individual proposals for a 25th anniversary dinner. This is to celebrate an NVA event and not BVF. **FM**

Any Other Business:

a. Duncan Rowlands requested there be more transparency and that Committee Minutes be published earlier on the website. It was noted that this has been actioned.

b. Re Duncan's suggestions relating to a BF expenses policy, FM detailed DR's suggestions and the current system. This will be discussed further when all committee members are present. **ALL**

c. Hardship Fund: JS suggested a Hardship Fund. After discussion, Committee felt that funds should be for the benefit of all BVF members and, therefore, no special fund it to be set up.

d. Publicity: LB suggested that all fencers should publicise their results in local media . FM informed the committee that Malcolm Fare circulates all local media in all areas of results BVF members.

e. Track Suits: BF track suits should be available to purchase in July. BVF members would be able to use these, suitably badged. FM will chase BF. **FM**

f. Maraging Blades: The Committee agreed that the BVF rule requiring the use of maraging blades for foil and epee at all BVF organised events is to be rescinded with immediate effect but that the FIE rules on equipment will still remain in force including the use of sabre blades stamped '2000' and the banning of Visimasks at foil and epee. It was agreed that members would be notified using the BVF communication channels.

Date of next meeting: Saturday 13 August. Venue to be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 15.45.