



## **British Veterans Fencing**

### **2021 Annual General Meeting- Zoom**

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2022 18.00**

**Hosted by Secretary – Nicola Hull (NH)**

**And co-hosted by Carl Morris (CM) President, Paul Baillache (PB), Treasurer and Luce Wright (LW) Committee member**

**Attendees: 38**

**Apologies:** Mark Richardson, William Berkley, Lawrence Burr, Clare Halsted, Robert Dobson, Erika Cserny, Sam McCarlie, Sue Uff, Mark Barton, Mike Belfour, Valerie Young, Pat Shepherd-Foster, Jane Hutchison

### **Introduction & Welcome**

CM opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explaining how the meeting would run. He explained that attendees would be asked to mute but could use the text chat to raise questions relevant to the reports being read. Members had been invited to raise any questions prior to the meeting but none did so.

### **Approval of the minutes of 2020 AGM**

CM asked members to approve these by a poll vote. NH launched the poll. One member had difficulty viewing the poll, and two members who were sharing a screen raised a concern that they were only able to have one vote. Unfortunately Zoom only allows one vote for each log-in, but Caryl Oliver suggested they could log their vote over chat.

**The Vote was as follows: Yes 94% No 0% Abstain 6%**

### **Approval of the minutes of the 2021 EGM**

CM asked members to approve these by a poll vote. NH launched the poll. One attendee failed to see the poll.

**The Vote was as follows: Yes 84% No 0% Abstain 16%**

### **President's Report**

CM said that his 2021 report had been published on the BVF website and as such he would not be reading it out in its entirety but would like to point out some highlights, which he shared with the attendees on screen.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS 2021**

### **SLIDE 1 - THE NEW CONSTITUTION**

- Extensive re-writing
- New Rules & Regulations
- 3 year tenure for committee members
- A Vice President

CM thanked Graham Paul and Lucy Wright for their help in putting the Constitution together.

### **SLIDE 2 – THE NEW WEBSITE**

- Modernised/Dynamic
- Easily updated
- Search engine – so that people can easily find BVF online.
- News pages with archived posts

CM thanked John Mason for his website which served us brilliantly for years and his help in transferring some of its features on to the new site. Also thanked Lucy Wright for driving the project through.

### **SLIDE 3 – WEAPON SELECTORS**

CM stated that Graham Paul had taken over from himself as Chair of Selectors and increased the team of selectors to 6

- Foil - Gillian Worman & Nick Mort
- Epee - Neal Mallett & Jenny Morris
- Sabre - Jane Hutchison & Chris Prevett

### **SLIDE 4 – EVENTS HELD**

- Guildford 2021
- The Vets Winton Cup
- The BVF Championships
- The Guildford International 2022

CM thanked all who had been involved in ensuring these events took place in what had been a very difficult year due to the pandemic.

## **Secretary's Report**

NH's read out her report which was also on the BVF website. She mentioned the number of committee meetings held, how BVF communicates with members, the documentation they receive and how new members are welcomed. A membership report compiled by LW was published on the website and showed a small increase of 14 members in 2021.

## **Treasurer Report**

PB had published the accounts and his report on the BVF website. PB explained that the accounts for 2020 and 2021 are currently being audited by Jean Luc Janet, and whilst a number of presentational changes have been suggested, they were suitable for discussion at this meeting, and the level of bank balance were correct. The final audited accounts along with an explanation of the changes made will be circulated to the members in due course.

PB shared his screen so members could read through the main figures pertaining to the 2020 and 2021 accounts and his summary. He made special mention of membership fees, reduced committee costs, and how the competitions had performed financially.

A question was raised by Peter Baron who asked why the membership fees included pence when the actual fee is a flat £15 per person. PB answered that this was due to members using PayPal.

Caryl Oliver asked what BVF would use the reserves for. Paul answered that they would supplement any competitions that run a loss and that reserves were built in the event that BVF were to host another large event such as the European Teams.

PB asked members to approve the accounts by a poll vote. NH launched the poll.

**The Vote was as follows: Yes 100% No 0% Abstain 0%**

## **Elections**

CM explained that under the new constitution all committee members would hold a 3-year tenure, however in order for that to be achievable three committee members needed to stand for re-election each year. The two members of the committee who volunteered to stand for re-election this year were CM and Nick Fihosy. Lindsay Watkiss stood down from his committee position and CM thanked him for his contribution.

CM's position as President was unopposed, and he will serve a three year term.

Lyn Robinson and Gillian Aghajan joined Nick Fihosy to stand for two positions.

NH ran the voting poll. The attendees of the meeting were asked to vote for their preferred committee member from the 3 people standing:

**The Vote Results: Gillian Aghajan 30% Nick Fihosy 18% Lyn Robinson 52%**

Attendees were then asked to vote for their preferred committee member from the 2 people standing:

**Results: Gillian Aghajan 63% Nick Fihosy 37%**

Lyn Robinson and Gillian Aghajan were duly elected on to the BVF Committee and will serve a 3 year term. CM welcomed the new committee members and thanked NF for contribution on the committee over the past year.

## **Questions**

No questions had been raised by members prior to the meeting. CM thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was closed.