

Minutes of Meeting

Date	26 Jan 20
Location	Holiday In
Time	10:30:00
End Time	00:00:00
Present	GA/LCW/LEW/CM/MS/GP/JRM/CC

Outstanding Actions

#	Action	Who	Status	View
761	DATA CONTROLLER: JRM and MJS to liaise .	JRM, MJS	Done	
810	BVF Confidentiality Agreement Every committee member to print and sign a copy of the agreement and send to Marcia by 14/11/19 (Hard copy only)	MS, MJS, LEW, LCW, JRM, GP, GA, CM, CC, BD	Ongoing	
811	BVF Award GA to send LEW contacts and info regarding this award. LEW to take on as a project (budget £150 per award)	GA, LEW	Done	
813	Treasurer's report GA to ask CC to send a treasurer's report to everyone including an estimate of the financial position at YE 2019	GA	Done	
814	Access to bank AC for Membership secretary CC to arrange either access to bank account or submission of bank statement to Membership Secretary on a monthly basis	CC	Done	
816	Insurance for BVF international Open GP to liaise with Georgina Usher re requirements for international fencers at the International open in Guildford. To be completed by 5.12.19	GP	Done	
818	Register BVF International Open GP to register International Open ASAP and contact LEW once done	GP, LEW	Done	
819	Event Managers' Job Description Add in checking BF membership and registration on Sport80 to Event Managers' job description.	JRM	Done	
821	Entry for BVF Championships LEW to send the entry form to JRM to upload onto website by 1.11.19. Closing date to be 21.2.19	JRM, LEW	Done	

823	Defibrillator the Committee discussed buying a defibrillator. Proposal to be reconsidered in consultation with the treasurer	BD, CC, CM, GA, GP, JRM, LCW, LEW, MJS, MS	Done
825	JRM to buy branded BVF signage for use at BVF competitions.	JRM	Done
826	Winton Cup dates LEW to inform MS of Winton date	LEW	Done
828	JRM to change the rules of the BVF Championships according to the committee's decision 827	JRM	Done
831	CM to send GA two documents regarding European team selection. GA to send out for committee to discuss and vote. (Two weeks to discuss, then a vote)	CM, GA	Done
833	Ranking sub-committee JRM, GP, LEW and Hugh Kernohan to reconvene as a sub-committee to refine the ranking system with JRM as chairman.	GP, JRM, LEW	Done

New Actions and Decisions

#	Action	A/D	Who
838	Selection for World Championships - 2020 It was proposed by GP that there should be a discretionary place in case of injury. The committee discussed this and felt that there should be further opportunity to look at the options and that those committee members who were not at the meeting could then have an opportunity to take part. It was agreed that GP would send proposed selection rules to GA for circulation to the whole committee. GA to set a deadline for email discussion and then call for a vote (depending on outcome of email discussion.)	A	GA, GP
839	BVF AWARD: LEW to order two trophies to be presented at the BVF Championships.	A	
840	CC proposed to purchase defib total package (includes first aid and small fridge. 2nd GA 6 for 1 abstain. The total package to be held by DFO to co-ordinate with Event Managers as necessary. LEW to circulate information to committee then order package. It will be provided for use at the Age Groups. Closed.	A	LEW
841	GA to write to a member regarding numerous complaints on social media.	A	GA
842	AGE GROUPS ELIGIBILITY: LCW proposed to change the eligibility rule for this event to be the same as the BVF Championships eligibility. The Age Groups are open only open to paid up members of BVF who also hold a BF licence. 2nd GP: 6 for 1 abstain	D	

843	WMO: MS to search for alternative venue for 4/5 April if possible.	A	MS
844	PUBLICITY: LEW to write publicity for BVF to send to BF for circulation.	A	LEW
845	REFERENCE SYSTEM FOR PAYMENTS: A system will be used to identify bank payments e.g. for Age Groups - AG XX SURNAME	D	
846	FINANCE REPORT: The committee thanked CC for all her work on the accounts.	D	
847	PROPOSED BVF Ranking Scheme: The committee felt that this proposal was not appropriate when applied to veteran category selection.	D	
848	BVF RANKING SCHEME: The committee has passed this to the ranking sub-committee to review.	D	
849	DATA CONTROL: implement a back-up to the Cloud.	A	JRM
850	COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE: The committee has noted that a number of members have a poor attendance record and this causes difficulties for the rest of the committee. If this situation continues the committee reserve the right to replace these members.	D	

BVF Ranking system proposal – Beth Davidson

To use a system which is similar to England Fencing's youth events

4.1 The ranking list co-ordinators will assign points according to the final position achieved in the competition. (See point 5)

4.2 Points are only awarded to fencers finishing in the top 50% of the competition and only if they finish in the L32. This will be rounded down of the 50% calculation. ***(This could be taken out for Veterans due to low numbers)***

4.3 The BEST 5 results count for your England Ranking.

5) HOW POINTS WILL BE CALCULATED

The points for a competition are calculated by multiplying

(Number of fencers in competition) x (Age group multiplier) x (Position multiplier) -

The Number of fencers in the competition speaks for itself but for the elimination of doubt this will include any starter who has to abandon or is removed from the competition for disciplinary reasons.

The Age group multipliers will be 1 for U12+U13 competitions; 2 for U14 and U15 competitions; 3 for U16 competitions and 4.5 for U17 competitions. ***(Age group multipliers could be an interesting concept if we have a mixed age group competitions such as the Nationals and higher categories could get a slightly higher multipliers in a combined age ranking?)***

N.B. A further multiplier of 1.2 will be applied to those competing at the 2019 EYCs (*Extra multipliers could be used for selected international events to indicate a potential greater strength of international events- EVF and European individuals*)

Position Multipliers

Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.
1	20.00	9	5.00	16	3.60	23	1.76	30	1.48
2	17.00	10	4.80	17	2.00	24	1.72	31	1.44
3=	14.00	11	4.60	18	1.96	25	1.68	32	1.40
5	11.00	12	4.40	19	1.92	26	1.64		
6	10.00	13	4.20	20	1.88	27	1.60		
7	9.00	14	4.00	21	1.84	28	1.56		
8	8.00	15	3.80	22	1.80	29	1.52		

Position Multipliers (for competitions with repechage from the last 32)

We have used a different multiplier as follows:

Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.	Place	Mult.
1	20.00	9	5.80	16	3.60	23	2.26	30	1.48
2	17.00	10	5.60	17	2.50	24	2.22	31	1.44
3=	14.00	11	5.40	18	2.46	25	1.68	32	1.40
5	11.00	12	5.20	19	2.42	26	1.64		
6	10.00	13	4.20	20	2.38	27	1.60		
7	9.00	14	4.00	21	2.34	28	1.56		
8	8.00	15	3.80	22	2.30	29	1.52		

The conventional position multipliers that we use at Senior comps are designed to spread over 64 places and are not ideal for a system that only gives points for a L32, or for comps with only 15 or 20 entries. We have used a different multiplier as follows:

Note that there are steps in the position multiplier table at 3rd/5th, 8th/9th and 16th/17th rewarding the fencer who succeeds in winning more DE fights. The effect of this is that a fencer might earn more points for a 12th place in a large competition like the BYC U14 than they would by coming 3rd in a relatively small LPJS.

The issue for me is the current veteran ranking system is awarding equal or similar points for a podium at the European Championships and getting a podium at a BVF event of 4 people. Awarding 50 points for winning the European Championships as top British and awarding 43 points for finishing in the 128 of the European Championships but 2nd British is disproportionate to the performances.

As this document says <http://www.veterans-fencing.co.uk/documents/ranking%20system%20-%20jrm-vn16.pdf> there is an aspiration to use the ranking scheme for selection of teams but it is biasing those who can afford to attend lots of weaker competitions over those who perform well at harder competitions. This is not the basis to select the strongest team to challenge for medals in the European and World Championships.

IFO Report 26/1/20

GRP

The major event during the period was the International 6 weapon event held at Guildford. This was a very successful event that is reported elsewhere.

The venue has been booked for next year 9th -10th January 2021 and for 8th 9th in 2022.

Next year Cambridge will be on 2nd-3rd so there will not be a clash, and probably we will coincide with Aldershott, so will make sure that the weapons are on opposite days of the weekend.

For the foil and sabre I would like to consider running the competitions as a 60 and over, and a 40 to 59 competition. The poules and DE would be handicapped on an age group basis.

The selection scheme for the Worlds and Europeans has been agreed and published by the committee.

BVF International Guildford

GRP

The Event

The competition was held at the Guildford sports centre, where we had a large stadium with ample room for 16 pistes including tiered seats for the finals.

The venue was very good with a good atmosphere and a very friendly staff, in particular Jen, the manager could not have been more helpful.

We had over 100 foreign entries, nearly all at epee. The epee event on Saturday was very full and only finished at 8pm, with little room for warm up. There were significantly more foreign fencers in the Cat1 epee than British fencers, an indication that we are not attracting our younger fencers.

On the Sunday the foil and sabre events had plenty of space, with some of the categories having very small entries

I emailed all the foreign entries after the event and the feedback was very positive. With particular comments on the high standard of refereeing and organisation. There was a small preference for holding the competition on the 3rd January next season.

Collecting entry fees on the day was somewhat problematic, and some confusion was caused by the total for 2 weapons (£70) was the same as the late entry fee for 1 weapon. The late entry fee system brought in a considerable increase in entry income.

Accounts for the event have not been finalised, but we made a very significant profit.

Next Season

For next year we will hire the second hall which will give 3-4 more pistes and a warmup area.

Entry to the hall will be restricted so that the entry doors do not open immediately on to the pistes.

Entries for foil and sabre from Europe should be encouraged, perhaps offering prize money?

The competition will be held on the 2nd weekend in January.

I propose to ask Alex Savin and Mavis Thornton to run the competition again.

There are ways of transferring money from abroad with little or no extra cost. I would suggest that we use a system such as is available on facebook. If we do take cash on the day there should be a surcharge.

Domestic Fencing Officer. Report

LEW

A European team selection season means that we have to pack in all three selection competitions into the first quarter of that year. This brings its own pressures to the calendar and event managers. I'm pleased to report that the first of the three, the international organised by Graham Paul was a great success, well organised with a good team of referees/ DT personnel and Armourer team. All members that competed had a great day fencing. That was both value for money and competitive. The next competition in Feb is the Nationals at Nottingham. I'm hopeful that this will also be a good valued competitive experience for our members that have entered.

So far we have 100 entry's over all sexes and weapons. We then have an age group competition in Manchester, my focus will swing that way, once the nationals have been completed. I will help the organisers as much as I can to make it a successful competition.

The members seem happy that we are trying as a committee to deliver a quality and well managed set of competitions this season but I would like to add that the social fencing side is also important to our membership.

I'd like to thank all 2020 event managers for there continued effort in delivering a quality product to our membership. The ranking selection system seems to be receiving some criticism. We however must hold firm on our commitment to our membership. In that, if you participate and do well, you could qualify for representation.

Lindsay Watkiss
Domestic Fencing Officer

Ranking and Selection

Propose that the subcommittee be renamed the Ranking Subcommittee and leave selection as the responsibility of the Selectors.

Ranking is happening; the BVF International and Cambridge Open results have been added to the ranking tables.

The ranking algorithms should be reviewed. There are now several proposals:

- a) EVF (system also up and running): gives points for place, bonus for rounds of DE, bonus for podium, boost for EVF Championships.
- b) GP (3 nominated events) aka the Selection Ranking system
- c) JRM (BVF + international + Open events)
- d) HK (based on Scottish experience)
- e) BD (based on England Fencing Youth ranking)

The issues to revisit are:

- List of events
- Extraction of BVF results from results (eg in an international event)
- Allocation of points (table or algorithm, bonuses and boosts)
- Number of results to make a ranking score
- Whether the ranking system will ever be accepted by the Selectors as a prime source of information
- WHO WILL RUN THE SYSTEM?

No action has taken place since the last committee meeting.

JRM

Notes for meeting – Data Controller

JRM

Data Controller

I have discussed with MS (by email) the role of Data Controller. We agreed on the current document Data Controller Jrm 15/7/2019.

MS suggested backing up also to the Cloud with a service such as DropBox. This should be actioned.

We should add the key elements of this document to the Job Descriptions.

The outstanding question is who the committee can appoint as Data Controller.

Data Controller

JRM

The DC should ensure that:

- BVF follow the GDPR
- Data is secure and can survive a disaster such as fire at a committee members house
- Data can survive the loss of the Web host
- Data can survive damage by malicious hackers
- Data is distributed under control

GDPR

We should hold minimum data.

We should consider whether parts of the data should be encrypted.

For compliance with the GDPR, data should be deleted when a member dies/resigns/fails to renew – this is not so easy, it would be easy to destroy the integrity of the database if we were to simply delete records. I suggest that we amend the member's record to delete contact details (address, telnums)

Action: **JRM** to add functionality to the Membership program to “delete” old records without compromising data integrity.

Security

Regular scheduled backups of databases to another site or location: A scheduled task backs up the BVF database to my laptop every day. The backup file is then compressed and saved to a network storage device in a different room at home.

Regular backups of web pages to another site or location: This is done infrequently about once a year. The web pages are copied to my laptop and the network storage device.

Control of Distribution

Data is shared with a small number of people eg Winton Team Captains (ca 4 people) and Event Managers (ca 2 people).

All recipients have signed a non-disclosure agreement – the agreements are held by the Secretary in paper form.

The minimum of data is distributed in the form of an Excel spreadsheet and the data is password protected. The password is sent in a separate email.

Chairman’s Report to Committee – January 2020

The BVF International in Guildford was an excellent event and there has been some very good feedback. Thank you to Event Manager, Graham Paul and his team – Marcia Stretch, Alex Savin, Mavis Thornton and Peter Huggins.

It was good to see so many foreign fencers there.

Some important issues for the committee are to consider the way forward with the BVF website, reconsider the eligibility rules for the Age Groups, and decide if the WMO is viable.

Gillian Aghajan
BVF Chairman

Membership Report

LCW

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2019

Membership summary

	Men	Women	Total
This year	458	192	650
New Members	50	17	67
Not Renewed	59	20	79

By Category

	Men	Women	Total	%
Cat 1 (40-49)	103	41	144	22
Cat 2 (50-59)	159	73	232	36
Cat 3 (60-69)	112	51	163	25
Cat 4 (70-74)	44	15	59	9
Cat 4A (75-79)	16	8	24	4
Cat 5 (80+)	23	3	26	4

By Home Country

	Total	%
	4	1
	2	0
ENG	477	73
WAL	51	8
SCO	58	9
NI	12	2
CI	12	2
IOM	1	0
None	33	5

By Resources

	Total	%
Email Address	635	98
Standing Order	298	46

By BF Membership

	Total	%
BF Members	647	100
NOT BF Members	3	0
Total	650	