

## Minutes of Meeting

Date	15 Jul 201
Location	Angel Inn,
Time	10:30:00
End Time	16:00:00
Present	FM, JM, PB, GA, DS, MS

## Outstanding Actions

#	Action	Who	Status	View
351	Changes to BVF Constitution: FM to circulate draft changes to the Constitution regarding relationship with BF to the Committee for approval. Changes will then be presented to membership at the AGM.		Done	
379	European Individual Championships: Committee has asked GA to inform EVF Congress of our interest to host the event in 2015.		GA	Done

## New Actions and Decisions

#	Action	A/D	Who
381	Communications: JM suggested that a link be established for fencers to register interest in overseas events. JM to provide access to DS of the database. This information regarding this link will be published in the Newsletter.	A	JS, DS
382	International Events: DS will select an event in 2013 for which arrangements will be organised.	A	DS
383	BVF Survey: Ongoing	A	DS, , GA, JRM, JS, LB, MS, PB

384	World Championships Budget: The budget put forward by DS was accepted. Proposed: DS, 2nd. FM, 1 abstain	D	
385	Winton Cup: FM providing Team Captains with all details shortly. Other arrangements in hand. Once confirmation of hotel and menu received, details will be published in the Newsletter. Lilleshall booked as fencing venue.	A	GA,
386	Age Group Qualifiers: FM booked same venue and hotel as last year. All progress satisfactory. JRM to pay deposit for hotel dinner.	A	, JRM
387	Winton Cup: GA and MS to organise Raffle at the dinner.	A	GA, MS
388	BVF 25th Anniversary: FM to liaise with Henry de Silva re the fencing arrangements. DS to investigate alternative fencing venue based on health and safety grounds.	A	, DS, DS,
389	New Tracksuit: The Committee has reviewed comments received on the new tracksuit design, the large majority of which have been most complimentary. It is noted that sales of this item and accessories are growing.	D	
390	EVFC Report: GA report approved. GA would like to commend Duncan Rowlands for his excellent refereeing particularly in the mens sabre final.	D	
391	EVFC: It was proposed that the submission for a 190 age team be made to be re-submitted in a more detailed formula for May 2013.	A	, JS
392	Dates of next meetings: Sunday 26 August Sunday 18 November	D	

## AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) Action Items from minutes (will be projected on large screen)
- 3) Matters arising
- 4) Reports:
  - a) Chairman
  - b) Secretary

- c) Treasurer
  - d) Membership secretary
  - e) Domestic fencing
  - f) International fencing
- 5) The BVF Survey  
To discuss BVF Selection policy in light of 1st Survey and draft of 2nd Survey
- 7) Forthcoming Events, including
- a) Veterans World Championships
  - b) Veterans Winton Cup 2012
  - c) Age Group Qualifiers 2013
- 8) AOB
- a) Track Suits
  - b) EVFC meeting – BVF report
- 9) BVF next International event
- 9) Dates of next meetings

**Secretary's Report – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

Nothing to report other than sending out the Newsletter. This was slightly delayed owing to major problems with the new printer – these have now been sorted out.

## **World Championships**

I have now handed over to David Sweeney who has taken over as Team Captain as a result of his recovery from his illness. We are continuing to liaise on all matters as I shall be acting as Deputy Team Manager in Krems to provide back-up.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The accounts for the BVF Championships are closed. The event made a loss of £ 914.

The accounts for the WMO are closed. The event made a profit of £ 137.

The accounts for the European Team Championships are closed. The event made a loss of £ 1,852.

The only account in progress is for the World Championships.

*John*

## **Membership Report**

535 members (533 members at the end of last year).

44 new members. 49 not renewed from last year.

*John*

## **Communications**

I have been mass emailing the membership about events overseas such as the 2 training camps in Italy and the Commonwealth Vets.

I have put an obits page on the website for Carol Wengraf.

*John*

NVA domestic Fencing Officer report - committee meeting 15th July 2012

#### 1. Crystal Open & White Horse Team events

Note that in my previous report, I referred, mistakenly, to the latter as the Wellesbourne.

We had two teams in the former. Unfortunately, there were organisational failures at the event, for which I, wearing my Stourbridge Fencing Club hat, must apologise to those who took part. The committee has accepted the responsibility and now understands the steps that need to be taken to avoid a repetition.

The results in the end became rather meaningless.

As to the White Horse, again we had two teams although the épéist in one team failed to get the message that he had been selected and didn't turn up. Those who fenced appear to have enjoyed it. A report has been published in the BVF Newsletter.

#### 2. Other events

I seem to have been distracted by work and other matters of late and have not yet sorted out with Aladdin Sadiq about attaching a Vets Open to one of his Academy Youth Cup events The next being scheduled for November 3rd - 4th, it clashes with the Leeds Open.

I shall have find out when the next after that is and see if it clashes with anything else that might affect Vets significantly.

International Fencing Report to BVF Committee

July 2012

European Team Championships

The GBR teams for the 2012 European Veterans Team Championships was well organised thanks to Gillian Aghajan. The choice of hotel was excellent. Gillian's general management of the squads was good and I heard many positive comments on the prior arrangements and of her management skills during the event from the squad members.

2012 World Veterans Championships – Krems

As reported elsewhere several fencers have, since publication of initial selection list, dropped out of GBR Squad.

Jane Hutchison declined her selection at Category A Women's Epee to concentrate on Sabre. Sue Hanney accepted the selection declined by Jane.

Hilary and Jim Philbin pulled out of the Women's Category B Foil and the Men's Category B Sabre respectively. The selection left by Hilary was declined in turn by Lynda Norrie, Silvia Earl and Kate Harris consequently there will only be 3 GBR fencers in Category B Women's Foil. The selection left by Jim was declined by John Norrie and Steve Fox in turn. The selection was accepted by Geoff Silverman.

Following the death of Carol Wengraf, Connie Adam accepted the vacant selection in Category C Women's Epee. There was no qualified replacement for Carol in the Women's Category C Sabre therefore there are only 2 GBR fencers at this weapon.

The total number of weapon entries is now 70.

The modified squad list is now on the BVF website. As team manager I am unhappy with this. It allows other nations to look at our entries, months before the event, and possibly to plan/train specifically to defeat our potential medal contenders.

Thanks are due to Marcia Stretch for securing early the Hotel Klinghuber and the Seminar Inn just a short walk from the fencing venue. This has proved to be a godsend allowing all of the squad who requested accommodation to be together. The rates for the Hotel and Inn have proved to be very competitive. As expected, accommodation in Krems is scarce.

A budget has been prepared and circulated to the members of the committee.

The closing date for receipt of Formal Acceptance & Accommodation Request Forms and payment is 2nd August 2012. I hope that once we have paid our bills for accommodation, entry fees and transfers in euros, we will be able to refund most of the surplus income, resulting from the favourable exchange rates, to the participants in proportion to their payment for expenditure in euros.

Other overseas events.

There has been some interest in some of the training camps being offered abroad. The enquires that I have received seem to expect that I will do the organising for these trips. The numbers involved do not warrant such activity on my part. I have been putting interested members in touch with each

other to see if they can work something out between them. A different approach is required on this subject.

D.Sweeney

BVF International

Fencing Officer

## **Annual Congress of the European Veterans Fencing Committee held on 17th May, Kalmar 2012**

### **Report to BVF Committee**

This report is a summary of the decisions made at the meeting.

#### **Election of president**

I am pleased to report that at the end of the meeting David Sweeney was unanimously re-elected as president of the EVFC and will serve in office for the next 2 years.

#### **European Team Championships**

**2014:** (Ascension date 29 May) Porec, Croatia

It was agreed in 2010 that Croatia should organize the team championships in 2012. However, because Croatia hosted the World championships in 2010 and 2011, Croatia agreed to exchange 2012 for 2014 and allow Sweden to host 2012, to give more variety of country.

**2016:** (Ascension date 5 May)

I registered an interest from Great Britain (see individual European Championships)

#### **European Individual Championships**

**2013:** (Ascension date 9 May)

In 2010 David Sweeney received a bid document from Croatia for 2012 and 2013. At the annual congress in 2010 it was agreed to award the 2012 championships to Porec, Croatia. This was later exchanged for 2014 to enable Sweden to organise 2012 to give more variety of host countries.

At the annual congress in 2011, there was no representative from Croatia present, and no decision was made for the 2013 championships.

Reno Marolt, Croatian Fencing Federation, pointed out that they were committed to the 2 championships and would incur heavy financial penalties.

Pippo Cafiero made a presentation from Italy to hold the 2013 championships on 9-12 May in Terni, Umbria, central Italy.

After negotiations between Italy and Croatia, Croatia is prepared to organise the 2015 championships to enable Italy to organise 2013.

It was voted that:

**2013:** Italy will host the European Individual Championships

**2015:** Croatia will host the European Individual Championships

As the dates for both Team and Individual Championships have been agreed from 2013 - 2015 inclusive, the first available chance for GB to host an event is the Team Championships in 2016 for which our interest has been registered. However the committee may wish to consider hosting the 2017 Individual Championships and if this is the case we would need to register our interest at the EVFC Congress meeting in Italy in 2013.

### **FIE Veterans World Championships**

**2012:** Krems, Austria 17-21 October

**2013:** Bulgaria

**2014:** United States?

### **Organisation of Team Championships in the event of 5 teams or less**

Proposal from David Sweeney (previously circulated)

After discussion it was agreed to follow the FIE format for an incomplete tableau of 8, and fence for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place. The rule was enforced at Kalmar.

If there is only 1 team entry, the organisers must inform all nations that there will be no competition at that weapon.

### **Changing the total age of women's teams from 140 to 150 years**

Finland presented the proposal. Sweden and Italy spoke against the proposal, but Macedonia strongly agreed and suggested 2 separate team events, and they have organised the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ohrid Lake Cup to include teams of 190+ total ages.

It was proposed and agreed to wait one more year to make statistics available.

The proposal has not been rejected, and a decision will be made in 2013.

### **Formula for the supply of referees at Individual Championships**

Proposal from Amis.

Pippo Cafiero presented the proposal. The correct proportion of referees to fencers is needed. A referee fee should be added to the registration fee. This would transfer the responsibility of referees to the organisers, and not the Federations. Countries could put forward names of potential referees for consideration to ensure a spread of referees of the appropriate standard across participating countries.

The proposal was agreed and also that the maximum referee fee per fencer will be €30. If there is a profit on the supply of referees, this money would go to the EVFC to cover any future loss.

### **Limitation of participation in Individual Championships**

Proposal from Belgium (previously circulated)

Laki Dobridis emphasised that veterans have always been open to all. The large entry in Hénin-Beaumont was perfectly organised and the finals were on time every day. The



veterans aim is inclusive, not exclusive. The proposal to limit the entries was rejected with 4 in favour and 11 against.

### **Transgender fencers**

The issue was discussed but it was agreed that no action should be taken.

### **National colours**

After discussion, it was agreed that for Team championships it will be mandatory to wear national colours on clothing.

For Individual championships it will only be strongly recommended and not mandatory.

### **Co-operation between EFC and EVFC**

The EFC cannot make any funds available, so at this time there is no advantage for veterans.

### **Members of honour**

József Mészáros, the national representative for Hungary for 20 years, has now retired from international fencing. He has led the organisation of 2 European Veterans Championships (Keszthely and Balatonfüred) and 2 World Veterans Championships (Gödöllő and Siófok). He was unanimously elected as a member of honour.

Max Geuter commented that EVFC Members of Honour have no vote. Laki Dobridis said that he is a Member of Honour of the National Federation, the Regional Federation and his Club, and always has a vote.

This item will be put on the agenda for 2013.

### ***Gillian Aghajan***

#### ***GB EVFC representative 2012***

#### **European Team Championships, Kalmar 2012 - Team Manager's report**

Being team manager for Great Britain was an honour and a new and exciting prospect for me and after weeks of planning and preparation the time had finally arrived to travel to Sweden.

Kalmar, in south eastern Sweden is not the easiest of places to get to, with no direct flights from the UK. There were a few options and most people flew to Copenhagen then took the train to Kalmar, with some driving from there and a few flying via Stockholm. However, despite the chaos of the Ascension holiday period with works on part of the rail line and bus detours involved for some, all the team members got there on time.

I had a day in hand to check out the venue and attend the EVF meeting. The facilities were good and the Swedish organisers extremely helpful, opening weapon control early and doing everything they could to help. The team hotel provided good accommodation and one of comfiest beds I have ever slept in. The manager and staff were exceptionally courteous and nothing was too much trouble.

Day one, Friday, started with the men's epee and the women's sabre. Fifteen men's epee teams had entered and fenced in 5 poules of 3. The team of Ralph Johnson (captain), Robert Flatt, Anton Pollard and John Morris drew Ukraine and Hungary in the first poule and fought hard in both matches. Flatt won 2 of his fights in the first against Ukraine and the others all scored 3 points in each of theirs to finish 2-7. In the second match Flatt fought extremely well again and won all of his fights but the final score was 4-5 with Hungary winning on the last fight.

After the poules, GB were in 12th place and then had to fight direct elimination format (first to 5) for 9-16 position. The first match for 9-12 was against Poland and in a tense finish Poland won on the last fight 5-4. This then gave our team a bye to vie for 13-16 to fight the winners of Belgium versus Denmark. Belgium won 5-2 so Belgium it was. Flatt having fought extremely well all day subbed out and Morris took his place. The team dominated to win 5-2. This gave our team a final position of 13th.

In the meantime the women's sabre team were drawn in a poule against Russia and France. There were six teams in total. Beth Davidson, team captain, was suffering from an ongoing injury which she exacerbated during the warm up and with the help of a sports therapist and doctor was able to manage her injury (a suspected soleus tear) with incredible determination and courage. The first match saw the team of Davidson, Hutchison and Narey face France. At a score of 4 matches to 2 up Davidson's injury got worse at 4-4 all. She had to take some injury time but bravely went back on to take the last point. Hutchison went on to win the next fight with Narey on last narrowly losing, but the match was in hand with a 6-3 victory with Davidson and Hutchison winning all their fights. The second match saw Russia with the team of Beth Davidson, Jane Hutchison, Vanessa Hendra and Michele Narey dominating to win 6-3. This gave our girls a bye to the semi final and with Davidson nursing her injury with ice between fights the team made it look easy against a strong Italian team winning 5-0. This took them into the final against Germany. The final was incredibly exciting with our team looking confident and with Davidson despite her injury winning the last fight to score a decisive victory 5-3. A fantastic achievement with two of the team, Narey and Hendra in their first team international. A fantastic moment for me too as team manager and something I will never forget.

Next day, Saturday was the turn of the men's foil and women's epee teams. The men's foil team of John Troiano (captain), Brian Causton, Robert Kiss and Richard Sage drew Italy and France in the first poule and fought extremely well but were unlucky to lose both matches 4-5 and after the poules were ranked 8th out of 10. Kiss was suffering from a painful hamstring problem but continued to fence. In the DEs they faced Russia for a place to stay in the last eight and in a tense match won 5-4. This gave them a place in the quarter finals against Sweden. They fought a match of mixed fortunes and were unlucky to lose 3-5. They then had to fight for 5th - 8th places and came up against France again. They dominated dropping only one fight and Kiss, although suffering from his injury won the 6th fight 5-0 to take the match 5-1. That then gave them the opportunity to fence off for 5th or 6th place against Hungary and again they dominated to win easily 5-1 pulling themselves from 8th place to 5th. They were disappointed to lose in the quarter final against Sweden which denied them a stab at the medals.

With an entry of nine teams the women's epee team of Moya McNamara, Jane Clayton, Jane Hutchison and Nicola Hull drew a very strong Italy and Hungary in the first poule. Jane Clayton was unwell and therefore was not able to fence as many fights as she would have liked to. In the first match against Italy the team lost 1-8 and then lost 3-6 to Hungary. This unfortunately placed them in 9th position after the poules having to face Sweden for a place in the quarter finals. The match was very keenly fought and could have gone either way but Sweden won the last fight 5-4 to take the match 5-4 which meant our team finished in 9th place with no more matches.

Saturday night was a chance for most fencers and officials to relax and enjoy the Gala dinner in Kalmar castle. A beautiful venue with a tasty dinner, and entertainment including outdoor fire juggling in the courtyard, followed by dancing to a live jazz band in another part of the building. However it was a fairly early night for me and those who were fencing the next day.

Sunday, the last day of the competition saw the men's sabre and women's foil. With seven teams entered the men's team of Richard Bonehill (captain), Peter Baron, Rob Penton, and Chris Prett drew Italy and France in a poule of 3 with the other teams in a poule of 4. In the first match against Italy they lost 3-6 and then 1-8 to France to be ranked 6th after the poules. This meant that they faced Germany in the DE for a place in the semi finals. Although the individual fights were close our team lost 1-5 putting them in the fight off for 5th - 8th place. First came Hungary and in a tough battle Hungary were the first to 5 with a final score of 3-5. This left the fight off for 6th and 7th place against the Czech Republic with Penton winning all his fights and Baron and Prett one each to make a victory of 5-2 to finish in 6th place.

The women's foil team of Jane Clayton (captain), Caron Hale, Nicola Hull and Gillian Worman drew Russia and France in a poule of 3 and like the men's sabre, with seven teams entered that left 4 teams in the other poule. Jane Clayton was feeling worse than the day before and made the decision not to fence in the first few matches. In the first match against Russia each of the team members won one fight to make the match score 3-5. The next match against France was much closer with our team narrowly losing the last fight on time 3-4 hence losing the match 4-5. This placed them 6th after the poules to meet Germany for a place in the semi-finals. This was a tough call with some close scores to give a final loss of 2-5. With a fight off for 5th -7th places the team fenced extremely well to win 5-3. Clayton decided to fence in the last match against the Netherlands with Worman as substitute and won two of her three fights with a score in the last one of 5-4 to take the match 5-2 giving the team a final position of 6th.