

World Championships Selection!

England retain the Justin Smith Trophy in Wrexham!



Richard Sage (England) scores a hit against Mike McEwan (Scotland)

Photo by Editor

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Chairman's Letter

Dear Members,

The next few months see a lot of activity for Veteran Fencers with the German Match on 14th May in Durham fast approaching and the European Championships in Hénin-Beaumont, France at the beginning of June.

With 110 BVF fencers taking part over all weapons and at all age categories, this is a new record number of participants for the European Individual Championships, and shows the in-depth strength and enthusiasm of members and I am looking forward to being a part of the GBR Squad as Team Manager.

I will be writing to every participant very shortly with further details for the event and to confirm accommodation and travel.

We have just received notification from the FIE that with the Moroccan Fencing Federation having renounced organising the 2011 Veteran World Championships, the FIE has attributed the organisation of the event to the Croatian Fencing Federation and the Championships will take place in Porec, Croatia from 27th September to 2nd October 2011.

I am also able to confirm that the Veteran's Winton Cup will be held at RAF Cosford, near Telford, on 10th & 11th September and that our hotel for the event will be the Park Inn, Telford.

I am sure that you will join me in wishing our GBR Team every success against a strong German team when they meet in Durham next month, and we will keep you posted on the results in the Newsletter.

Sincerely

Frank Mills
Chairman BVF

BVF CALENDAR 2011	
June 2-5	European Individual Championships, Hénin-Beaumont, France
Jul 2-3	Veterans West Midlands Open
July tbc	Oxford Unisex Foil and Sabre
Sep 10-11	Veterans Winton Cup, RAF Cosford, Telford
Sep 27 - Oct 2	World Championships, Pereč, Croatia
Oct 8-9	Welsh Veterans Championships, Wrexham Contact Gillian Aghajan g.aghajan@virgin.net for details
Oct 30	Middlesex Epée
Nov 26	BVF Christmas dinners

World Championship Selection

Poreč, Croatia 27th September - 2nd October 2011

Men's Squad

MF 50-59

John Troiano
Richard Sage
Paul Lowen
Nick Fihosy
R1 Tony Conyard
R2 Graham Thornton

MF 60-69

Graham Paul
Steve Fox
Jim Philbin
Brian Causton
R1 Mike Bradbury
R2 Brian Millo

MF 70+

Alan Ault
Henry de Silva
Jim Pilkington
Austen Moore
R1 Dennis Ward
R2 Dennis Willcock

ME 50-59

Neal Mallett
Anton Pollard
John Morris
Rob Brooks
R1 Stephen Steinberg
R2 Niall Campbell

ME 60-69

Robin Davenport
Ralph Johnson
Graham Paul
Lawrence Burr
R1 Jonathan Stanbury
R2 Chris Green

ME 70+

Bill Osbaldeston
Robert Phelps
Bob Turner
Nigel Hinchliff
R1 Jim Pilkington
R2 Stephen Higginson

MS 50-59

Carl Morris
Chris Prevett
Anthony Silver
Barry Coulter
R1 Mark Hall
R2 Nick Hawksworth

MS 60-69

Richard Cohen
Jim Philbin
Richard Bonehill
Steve Fox
R1 Mike Compton
R2 John Norrie

MS 70+

Alan Ault
Bill Osbaldeston
Jim Pilkington
Dennis Hunt
R1 Mark Cwynarski
R2 Bob Perry

Women's Squad

WF 50-59

Caron Hale
Debbie Taverner
Jane Clayton
Jenny Morris
R1 Kati Archer
R2 Gillian Worman

WF 60-69

Lynda Norrie
Clare Halsted
Maggie Myers
Kate Harris
R1 Silvia Earl
R2 Pressie Madrangca

WF 70+

Ann Cornwall
Janet Cooksey
Sylvia Brown
Diane Austin
R1 Maureen Hillier

WE 50-59

Kate Smith
Jenny Morris
Jane Hutchison
Jane Clayton
R1 Sue Hanney
R2 Alice Lawrence

WE 60-69

Kate Elvin
Fiona Haldane
Maggie Myers
Silvia Earl
R1 Carole Seheult
R2 Pat Shepherd-Foster

WE 70+

Carol Wengraf
Janet Cooksey
Sylvia Brown
Connie Adam
R1 Ann Cornwall

WS 50-59

Jane Hutchison
Jenny Morris
Yvonne Walls
Jane Clayton
R1 Caron Hale
R2 Gillian Aghajan

WS 60-69

Silvia Earl
Clare Halsted
Vivien Frith
Pat Shepherd-Foster
R1 Maggie Myers
R2 Jeanne Brooks

WS 70+

Carol Wengraf
Janet Cooksey
Sylvia Brown
Connie Adam
R1 Diane Austin

Appeals

The Appeals procedure is to be found on the BVF website

www.veterans-fencing.co.uk under Rules.

The deadline for any appeals to be submitted is Thursday 12th May 2011

German Match Selection Durham 14th May 2011

MF

Graham Paul
Paul Abrahams
Richard Hopkins

Non-travelling reserves

Austen Rose
(for RH or PA)
Steve Fox (for GP)

Emergency reserve

Steve Fox

ME

Leslie MacDonald
Andrew Brown
Jonathan Stanbury

Non-travelling reserves

Chris Heaps (for LM)
Rob Brooks
(for AB or JS)

Emergency reserve

Graham Paul

MS

Rob Penton
Barry Coulter
Steve Fox

Non-travelling reserves

Duncan Rowlands
for RP)
Mike Compton
(for BC or SF)

Emergency reserve

Jonathan Stanbury

WF

Caron Hale
Maggie Myers
Debbie Taverner

Non-travelling reserve

Jane Clayton

Emergency reserve

Jane Clayton

WE

Jane Clayton
Sue Hanney
Kate Elvin

Non-travelling reserve

Fiona Haldane

Emergency reserve

Jane Hutchison

WS

Beth Davidson
Jane Hutchison
Michele Narey

Non-travelling reserve

Grace Coulter

Emergency reserve

Caron Hale

Fencers were selected by the BVF Selectors from those who expressed an interest in taking part in the Match.



Letter from BVF Committee

The BVF committee's response to the letter from Hilary Arnold, which was published in the March letter, follows (Editor):

Dear Hilary,

In your letter published last month, which I respond to on behalf of the BVF committee, you wrote that the committee is actively seeking to make the British Veterans Championships more important for selection.

There is an ongoing discussion in committee on selection and this includes the possibility of increasing the number of events to be taken into consideration. No conclusions have been reached and, importantly, the committee has agreed to publish proposals to the membership before any decisions are taken to change the rules.

In respect of your comments on the dropping of a "dummy fencer" from the Veterans British Championships, you are correct in that the rules were published with the entry form in early January. The committee met later in the month and made the decision to drop the use of the "dummy fencer" to bring the event into line with other fencing competitions and to assist in the smooth running of the competition.

The committee considered, and still considers, that it has the authority to do this.

The change of rule was announced to the fencers at the start of each competition.

The committee therefore refutes the claim that the event was run to an incorrect format.

The committee is delighted that you are still taking a close interest in the BVF and therefore looks forward to seeing you further engaged in our future competitions calendar and events.

Regards

Frank Mills
Chairman BVF committee



2011 Home Nations Match

Justin Smith Trophy

A report by the England Team Manager

The 2011 Home Nations Veterans Match was hosted by the Welsh Veterans Fencing Association and held in Wrexham during the weekend of 16th & 17th April. This year in addition to the usual nations of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, the Isle of Man fielded a Men's Foil Team.

In the first session on the Saturday, Men's Sabre and Women's Foil England's Men's Sabre team suffered a defeat at the hands of a strong Scottish team but were victorious over Wales and Ireland. Our Women's Foil Team were also victorious by defeating not only Scotland but Ireland and Wales.

At the end of the first session England and Scotland were equal at 5 victories each while Wales and Ireland had 1 victory apiece.

In the second session, Men's Foil and Women's Sabre, our Women Sabreurs beat both Scotland and Wales. After defeating the Isle of Man foil team our foilists lost the last hit in the match with Ireland. Putting the defeat aside they went on to sweep aside Scotland and Ireland.

By the end of the second session England had pulled out a two point lead over Scotland with 11 points. Scotland had 9 victories and Ireland had 5 and Wales had 3.

On the Saturday evening, with the Deputy Mayor of Wrexham and his wife in attendance the competitors, officials, armourers and volunteers enjoyed dinner and conversation in the pleasant surroundings of the Ramada Plaza Hotel.

In the third session on the Sunday morning England's Men Epéeists swept all before them. Our Women Epéeists after defeating Wales suffered a wobble and lost to Ireland but then went on to beat Scotland.

The Final result was:

- 1st England - 16 victories
- 2nd Scotland - 11 victories
- 3rd Ireland - 8 victories
- 4th Wales - 5 victories
- 5th Isle of Man - 0 victories



The 2011 Home Nations Match was, as usual, hotly contested and enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike. Thanks go to the WVFA and to Mike Norfolk and his team of volunteers who helped to make the event a success.

The 2012 Home Countries Match will be hosted by England.

*Team
England
Photo
courtesy of
Sue Hanney*

England Team

Men's Foil

Paul Baillache
Jon Dawkins
Richard Sage (C)

Men's Epée

Andrew Brown
Lawrence Burr
Leslie MacDonald
Anton Pollard (C)

Men's Sabre

Peter Baron
Michel Compton
Keith Rogerson (C)
Evert van Gemeren

Women's Foil

Jane Clayton (C)
Angela Findlay
Caron Hale
Marilyn Wheelband

Women's Epée

Janet Baron
Sue Hanney (C)
Moya McNamara
Kate Morwell-Neave

Women's Sabre

Nikola Beck
Silvia Earl
Jenny Morris (C)
Yvonne Walls



**David Sweeney
England Team Manager**

**David
Sweeney and
John Crouch
proudly
display the
Justin Smith
Trophy**

Competition Results (top half)

Invicta - 19/3/2011

MF (60)	10	Paul Lowen
	18	Brian Causton
	20	Paul Baillache
	28	John Hyde
ME (86)	10	John Prime
	12	Howard West
	14	Ralph Johnson
	25	Jeremy Raj
	26	David Karlin
	39	John Hyde
	40	Jim Pilkington
WF (36)	13	Jane Clayton
WE (35)	5	Jane Clayton
	8	Amanda Webster
WS (16)	2	Joanne Reynolds

Edinburgh Open - 26/3/2011

ME (43)	7	George Liston
MS (18)	8	Julian Ghosh
WF (29)	8	Caron Hale

Glasgow Open - 9/4/2011

ME (67)	19	Brian McMiken
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Chelmsford Marathon Epée 10/4/2011

42	1	Jeremy Raj
	11	Dale Broadbent
	14	Paul Willmott
	19	Paul Drake

**Photo by
Editor**

**Thanks to
John Crouch
from the
WVFA for his
valued help
and hard work**



5 Nations 2011 at Wrexham



*Photos by
Editor*

Annual General Meeting of the England Veterans Fencing Association

**held on Friday 4th March 2011, 21:16 hours at the Holiday Inn
Gloucester**

Present:

Vanessa Hendra	Diane Austin	Kate Morwell-Neave
Jonathon Stanbury	Hilary Arnold	Andrew Brown
Bob Perry	Henry de Silva	John Crouch
Richard Bonehill	David Sweeney	Sue Church
Jane Hutchison	Alan Ault	Jenny Morris
Peter Baron	Duncan Rowlands	Rosemarie Perry
Dennis Ward	Silvia Earl	John Mason
Frank Mills	Jane Clayton	Anthony Rossiter
Moya McNamara	Michael Compton	Lawrence Burr
Dennis Willcock	Mark Cwynarski	Tony Bardell
Presentation Madrangca		

1) Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2) Minutes of the AGM held on 5th March 2010

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Richard Bonehill and seconded by Bob Perry.

3) Matters Arising

None.

4) Report of Officers

a) Chairman's Report

A copy of the report had previously been circulated and he had nothing further to report. The report was accepted.

b) Secretary's Report

The membership as of 31st December 2010 stood at 408 (391 in 2009). At that date there were 121 (107) women and 287 (284) men. The age distribution as of 31st December 2010 is:

Women: Category 1 = 43, Category 2 = 46, Category 3 = 19,
Category 4 = 13

Men: Category 1 = 100, Category 2 = 90, Category 3 = 71, Category 4 = 26

Thanks go to John Mason for providing the information to help the compilation of this report, to Hilary Arnold for assistance with the mailings up to her resignation and subsequently John Mason and Gillian Aghajan for including England items in the British Veterans Fencing (BVF) Newsletter.

c) Treasurer's Report

A copy of the report had previously been circulated. The Treasurer acknowledged the £408 contribution from BVF. In the past we had been unable to pay officials' expenses but in 2010 we had contributed £140 towards hotel expenses in Edinburgh. It was anticipated that in 2012 the Commonwealths would be in Singapore and we would have to look at subsidies for officials. At this point John Crouch wished to thank the Board of English Fencing for their generosity in paying entry fees for the Veterans squad at the Commonwealths in Australia and making England tracksuits available. This was proposed by Peter Baron and seconded by Richard Bonehill and carried unanimously. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

5) Election of Officers and Committee members

The Chairman reported that all current committee members were willing to stand for re-election. No other nominations had been received. Those willing to stand were John Crouch (Chairman), Moya McNamara (Secretary), Diane Austin (Treasurer), David Sweeney (Chair of Selectors), Peter Baron and Frank Mills (Committee members). It was proposed by John Crouch and seconded by R Bonehill they be elected en bloc. This was carried nem con.

6) Any Other Business

Although no items had been received the Chairman offered to take items from the floor.

- a) Duncan Rowlands raised a query about the expansion of the Home International event in Wrexham April from 4 to 7 Nations. Whist Jersey and Guernsey were nations in their own right the Isle of Man is part of the North West region and therefore he thought shouldn't be included. Henry de Silva pointed out that the Isle of Man was a country in the Commonwealth championships and table tennis has a 7 Nations event to include the Isle of Man. John Crouch felt this issue was outside England Veterans remit and indicated that Mike Norfolk was organiser this year and wanted to encourage more fencing.
- b) John Crouch informed the meeting that the Commonwealths in 2012 would almost certainly be held in Singapore but a date had yet to be fixed which didn't clash with the Olympics and the Veteran World championships – possibly late August/early September. In 2012 it would be just Veterans but in 2014 it was likely to be combined with the Seniors. A survey of Veteran participants in 2010 had indicated they were in favour of a combined event every 4 years.

The meeting closed at 21.35 hours



Thoughts from Sue Benney - U20 World Champion Epée Coach

Philip Marsh, age 16, from Bath Sword Club recently won the U20 Epée Junior World Championships in Jordan and is coached by BVF member Sue Benney. I spoke to her at Bath Sword Club (Editor):

"I have coached Philip since he was 11. He'd just done the beginners' group at Bath Sword Club and I saw him standing around - yeah, tall and left handed and asked him if he would like to try epée. He joined the epée group and always looked like he had potential. He used a pistol grip when he was fencing with a size 2 weapon but always found his hand was cramped so changed to a pommel grip. Barry Paul at Leon Paul suggested he tried the tennis grip which he has used to good effect ever since.

He's always enjoyed his lessons and listens well to advice whilst fencing. He really showed his true potential when he was 14, coming 6th in the Senior Nationals and winning the Keele Open. This season started rather frustratingly for him as he was injured and had to take time off in both September and six weeks November to December. He got a L32 at the Junior Europeans, which was where he qualified for the Worlds. He was disappointed with his qualifying events this season as he was never fully fit but we decided to concentrate on the Cadet Worlds and use the other events as training. He was slightly disappointed with his L8 in the Cadets when he cramped, but we couldn't have been more delighted with his Junior result!! Throughout the competition he went from strength to strength to eventually become the youngest winner ever of the U20 epée World Championships.

Philip is a very unassuming young man and dislikes the publicity he has brought upon himself, his least favourite part of winning, but I and GB fencing are extremely proud of him."



***Philip, Sue and
the other
medallists on
the podium***



***Philip and
Sue raise
the flag!***

***Photos
courtesy of
Sue Benney***

Willing women looking for men

Women seeking men for partnership. Woman foilist and woman sabreur seek men with suitable weapons willing to use them in the Crystal Open on 15th May. Minimum of 1 foilist, 2 épéists & 1 sabreur required.

Please contact matchmaker Peter Baron (contact details on page 14).

Crystal Open 2011



Mixed Teams 15th May

This competition is for teams of 3 consisting of

1 Foilist (m/f) 1 Epéeist (m/f) 1 Sabreur (m/f)

TIME: Check in by 9:30 Fencing STARTS 10.00 a.m.

VENUE: Castle High School & Visual Arts College
St. James's Road Dudley West Midland DY1 3JE

Map/Directions see <http://www.stourbridgefencingclub.co.uk>

ENTRIES TO: *Please contact Peter Baron*

Enquires Phil Palmer,
E-mail: crystalopen@stourbridgefencingclub.co.uk
Tel. 01384 411309

ENTRY FEE: £30.00 PER TEAM – *prices held!*

CLOSING DATE: Monday 9th May

MISCELLANEOUS: *Please Note: Clothing and equipment must conform to BF regulations.*

This is a MIXED competition. The first round will be run as poules for each weapon, providing the maximum fencing for all competitors. The DE stage will be by team relay. There will be prizes for the best individuals as well as for the first, second & third placed teams.



Editor's Note:

The BVF newsletter is your voice: a chance for you to put forward your views, send reports, letters, photos or articles.

Please speak up!

Send to me:

g.aghajan@virgin.net

Caption Competition

April

send your entry to Editor

g.aghajan@virgin.net



Photo by Editor

Caption Competition March

Some great entries this month so here is a selection! - Editor

"Silverbacks of the sub-species sabruer vulgaris compete for territory at the start of the mating season."
and "Leon Paul find a market for their prescription lens vision masks."

Paul Brenda

"Next time we play 'Pass the Orange,' please can we do it before the fencing starts?"

Richard Cohen

"Darling, I am all for safe sex, but this is ridiculous!!"

Anthony Silver



Photo courtesy of Rob Kirby

BVF contacts

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PLEASE NOTE
Any articles or letters for the May BVF Newsletter should be sent to:-

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by 8th May 2011

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