



BVF COMMITTEE MEETING

VIA ZOOM

5 NOVEMBER 2023

MINUTES

Present: Carl Morris (President) CM, Gillian Aghajan GA, Jane Hutchison JH, Kola Ayanwale KA, Paul Baillache PB, Graham Paul GP, Lucy Wright LW,

23/23 Apologies

Beth Davidson, Naomi Donaldson

23/24 Actions from previous meetings

The following actions and their status were noted:

Action	Member	Status
Produce Expenses Policy for adoption	PB	On agenda
Confirm venues and dates for Age Groups and Nationals and publish	LW/CM	Complete
Plug Winton Dinner	LW	Complete
Inform Marcia that KA is WO for Winton	CM	Complete
Identify and invite WE and WF to German Match	GP	Complete
Pay World Championship entry fees	PB	Complete
Discuss black card rules with BF	GA	Complete
Clarify psychology course session expenses	CM	Complete
Psychology course and team training arrangements	CM	Complete
Finalise arrangements with GU and epee team training	KA	Complete
Publish selection policy	LW	Complete

23/25 Treasurer's Report

The Winton Cup made a small profit. Last year it made a loss because two teams did not pay in full, but this year everyone paid in full.

World Championships – The team manager's costs remain to be settled, but overall the event will need a BVF subsidy of about £700, similar to last year.

World Championships' psychology and refereeing seminars are yet to be calculated.

The Bards Bash was cost neutral to BVF.

German match - as agreed we paid £50 to everyone who attended.

Entries are rolling in for Guildford. Medals have been ordered and paid for.

Expenses policy yet to be finalised.

Deposit paid to the Manchester Fencing Centre for the Nationals 2024.

Harvey Haddon Centre booked for the Age Groups 2024.

23/26 Competitions

23/26.1 World Championships

GA had circulated a report to the Committee (see Appendix).

There were initial problems with weapons control, but these were quickly ironed out.

GA and the committee congratulated CM and JH on their double medals.

The next WC have been awarded to Dubai, but might be elsewhere in the Emirates. No dates have been set yet.

23/26.2 Winton Cup

No venue or date has been agreed. Lilleshall can only do 30 Aug/1 September which is the weekend students go to university which might affect participation or 5/6 October which is too close to the WC.

Marcia (MS) has approached RAF Cosford but this is a big risk as they have the right to cancel.

LW suggested the National Sports Centre in Cardiff. LW to follow up with Lyn Robinson. Post meeting note: this venue is not available.

Edgbaston University was suggested for one of the last two weekends in September. LW to contact them. **LW**

23/26.3 Royal Navy Match

CM has been contacted regarding a match between BVF, Royal Holloway and the Royal Navy at HMS President on 26 November.

CM and GP to liaise on this matter once further information has been obtained. **GP/CM**

23/26.4 Guildford International

GP is responsible for the organisation of this competition.

More will need to be spent this year on equipment as last year was supplied free of charge by Welsh Fencing and this kit is no longer available. Pete Huggins is providing boxes, but roll out pistes are required. KA to check whether Sussex has any. **KA**

GP was concerned about getting people to help set up and take down. It was suggested that pizza could be offered to helpers. GP to contact fencers directly who have helped in the past. **GP**

Entries close on 1 December. LW to arrange with John Mason a method of collecting late entries at an increased price of an additional £20.

Joe Pearce is organising referees.

CM suggested drawing up a checklist for competition organisers to help keep track of tasks. **CM**

23/26.5 Nationals

KA is responsible for the organisation of this competition.

KA to liaise with Joe Pearce regarding referees. **KA**

KA to contact Lyn and Mike Robinson to ask them to run DT. **KA**

LW asked KA to produce an information sheet to be uploaded onto the website. **LW/KA**

It was decided to open Nationals entries once the Guildford International has taken place.

23/26.6 Age Groups

There was a brief discussion about which format to use for this competition. CM thought this was such an important issue that a special meeting should be held to discuss just this point and to make a final decision about it. LW to arrange a date for a meeting. **LW**

ND had sent an update on progress:

Venue is booked; Mike Robinson running DT; Pete and Janet Huggins can provide 16 pistes worth of equipment and armoury services; remainder of equipment to be hired from Leon Paul. ND to contact Dave Sweeney re medical cover and PB re budget. Referees, entry form and accommodation remain outstanding.

MS/WS Grand Veteran event scheduled for the Friday afternoon and rest of events over the weekend.

23/26.7 Summer Nationals veteran event

CM had been contacted by Georgina Usher regarding a proposal to run a veteran competition at the BF Nationals and for this to be an EVF Circuit competition.

Various reservations were expressed, such as the complications of running it in Age Group format to comply with EVF requirements, potential future pressure for it to replace the BVF Nationals and the possibility that, as an EVF circuit event it might impact upon Guildford participation. Although CM did state that Georgina had reassured him that the EVF President had told her if it did run next year it would only be as a one off. The Committee hoped it would be well supported but wondered whether there would be enough interest to make the competition successful and thought possibly it might work better as an epee event, due to the larger numbers.

After a long discussion the Committee decided that they certainly had no objections to British Fencing running the event.

23/26.8 European Teams

This competition will take place on the week beginning Thursday 9 May in Cigney Belgium. The Selection Policy for this event has been published and will use the Nationals 2023 as part of the selection process.

23/26.9 Bard's Bash

A date needs to be fixed but will depend on availability of Chris Buxton and the venue. JH to contact Chris to find out availability. 20/21 July a favoured date.

JH

23/26.10 German Match

This event takes place every two years, so is next due to take place in the UK in 2025.

The Committee had considered including a third team, but it was felt that a smaller competition allowed for a friendlier atmosphere and kept costs down. This year in Germany there was a poule match in the afternoon and other local fencers were invited. This could be a consideration for 2025.

23/27 Selection

A mistake had been made in the selection of a replacement fencer in Mens Foil Cat 3 for the World Championships. This was due to an error by the Chair of Selectors who has apologised to the fencer who should have been offered the place. This fencer has asked for a confirmation of the procedure for replacement fencers. It was confirmed that the procedure is that the relevant weapon selector makes his selection and notifies the Chair of Selectors of his selection in writing. This is ratified and the relevant fencer contacted and offered the place. It was agreed that CM write to confirm this procedure with the affected fencer and for GP to contact another fencer who felt aggrieved.

CM/GP

23/28 Communication

There was a discussion about the Veteran Fencers Chat Facebook group, which was set up by GA as an informal discussion group. This group has become very large and successful attracting veteran fencers from all over the world. Unfortunately, this now makes it an unsuitable platform for BVF members to discuss contentious topics concerning BVF, as their comments are now open to a huge audience. It was decided to set up a BVF Facebook group just for BVF members to provide a platform where BVF business can be discussed amongst its members. LW was asked to set up a group with CM also having access.

LW/CM

23/29 Initiatives

JH thought that we should be offering more to our members in return for their annual membership fee. She suggested setting up Zoom webinars on topics such as armoury, refereeing, strength and conditioning, nutrition, running competitions etc. It was agreed to investigate this further.

JH**23/30 British Fencing Advanced Development Programme**

KA explained that British Fencing has a whole programme set up to develop elite fencers and that maybe veteran fencers could also be supported by this programme.

KA was asked to liaise with Steve Kemp to find out whether there was a way for veteran fencers to tap into the programme.

KA**23/31 Henry de Silva's birthday**

The Committee decided to mark Henry's 90th birthday by sending him a card and present and to ask Malcolm Fare to produce an article on Henry to be published on BVF website and social media and to pass on to BF for their news.

LW

CM reported that Henry had offered to run the Veteran Commonwealth Championships in the Isle of Man next year as no country has stepped up to run them. CM to pass this offer on to the Commonwealth Championships Committee.

23/32 AOB

LW asked whether the Hampshire Open could use the BVF entry system for Hampshire Veteran Open entries in 2024. This was agreed.

Action	Member
Produce Expenses Policy for adoption	PB
Contact Edgbaston University re Winton Cup	LW
Liaise re RN Match	CM/GP
Find out whether Sussex has rollout pistes for Guildford	KA
Contact fencers directly to help Guildford set up / take down	GP
Draw up competition organisation check list	CM
Contact Joe Pearce re referees for Nationals	KA
Contact Mike Robinson re DT for Nationals	KA
Produce and publish information sheet for Nationals	KA/LW
Arrange date for Age Groups format meeting	LW
Contact Chris Buxton re date for Bards Bash	JH
Contact fencers re selection error	CM/GP
Set up BVF Facebook group	LW
Investigate possible initiatives	JH
Contact Steve Kemp re tapping into BF ADP	KA
Organise Henry's birthday celebration	LW

The meeting closed at 12.40.

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

Lucy Wright
 BVF Secretary
 19 November 2023
 APPENDIX

Veterans Fencing World Championships 2023

Daytona Beach, Florida

GBR Summary

The Veterans Fencing World Championship were held at Daytona Beach, Florida, USA from 11th – 16th October. It was a good venue and location, efficiently run, and the friendliness was excellent. The schedule was different from previous Championships – 2 weapons per day (all categories) with the corresponding team events the following day, and for individual events, two waves of finals and medal presentations. The standard of refereeing was excellent with live stream and video refereeing from the L8 onwards. The GBR squad comprised of 59 fencers, with a total of 72 individual weapon entries and 6 team entries, plus 3 privately funded coaches, 16 supporters and the Team Manager.

DAY 1

MS 50

Emmanuel Therond ranked 25th after the poules fenced brilliantly to reach the L8 meeting Esquerre (FRA) missing out on a medal 6-10, finishing 7th. Edward Simpson, ranked 5th, narrowly went out by one hit, 9-10, to Kaczmarek (POL) in L32.

Gold	Moretta (ITA)
Silver	Berger (GER)
Bronze	Wrase (GER)
Bronze	Esquerre (FRA)

Emmanuel Therond	7
Edward Simpson	17
Nick Fletcher	31
Shafik Saba	35
(Total 42)	

WF 50

Gold	Seal (USA)
Silver	Carter (USA)
Bronze	Salamandra (AIN)
Bronze	Zurlo (ITA)

Kate O'Connell	11
Helen Thouless	33
Lisa Drage	35
Nicola Hull	37
(Total 37)	

WF 60

Gillian Worman ranked 2nd after the poules defeated Jane Clayton to reach the L8 meeting Aubailly (FRA). A 10-5 victory put her in L4 to meet Kercheis (GER). Kercheis took the win with Gillian achieving Bronze.

Gold	Starks-Faulkner (USA)
Silver	Kircheis (GER)
Bronze	Worman (GBR)
Bronze	Walters (USA)

Gillian Worman	Bronze
Sheila Anderson	10
Jane Clayton	15
Jenny Morris	19
(Total 24)	

MS 60

Gold	Lundborg (USA)
Silver	Kas (FRA)
Bronze	Heck (USA)
Bronze	Feira Chios (ITA)
Roger Nickless	12
Julian Ghosh	13
Chris Prevett	22
Joanathan Dawkins	26
(Total 31)	

MS 70

Richard Beath ranked 7th after the poules made the L8 to fence ranked Carl Morris 2nd. Carl's experience gave him the upper hand to take a 10-2 victory to then meet Carmina (ITA). At 9-9, the referee checked the video and awarded a hit to Carmina, which gave Carl Bronze.

Gold	Streb (USA)
Silver	Carmina (ITA)
Bronze	Morris (GBR)
Bronze	Gutman (USA)

Carl Morris	Bronze
Richard Beath	7
Richard Cohen	9
Peter Baron	21
(Total 24)	

WF 70

Susan Uff reached the L8 to meet Someroja (FIN). In a valiant match, a 4-10 loss put her out of the medal zone.

Gold	Gardini (ITA)
Silver	Delacour (FRA)
Bronze	Offerle (USA)
Bronze	Someroja (FIN)
Susan Uff	6
Janet Perkins	18
Moira Punt	21
(Total 21)	

DAY 2

MS TEAM

Placed 4th after the poules our team defeated Japan 30-21 to meet Italy in the semi-finals. Italy took the victory 30-24 leaving the team to fence in the Bronze medal match against France. In an exciting match, a 30-27 victory gave the team well deserved Bronze.

Gold	USA
Silver	Italy
Bronze	Great Britain
(Total 7)	

Team

Richard Cohen
Nicholas Fletcher
Julian Ghosh
Carl Morris
Roger Nickless (contd)

Edward Simpson
Captain – Emmanuel Therond

WF TEAM

Placed 5th after the poules the team fenced brilliantly to defeat France 28-27 placing them in the semi-finals against first ranked Italy. A strong Italian team took victory 23-14 with our team then having to face Germany for Bronze. Germany edged their way ahead finishing 30-15, leaving our team in 4th place.

Gold	Italy
Silver	USA
Bronze	Germany
GBR	4 th
(Total 6)	

Team

Sheila Anderson
Lisa Drage
Kate O'Connell
Janet Perkins
Susan Uff
Gillian Worman
Captain – Jane Clayton

DAY 3

ME 50

Gold	Normille (USA)
Silver	Peyret Lacombe (FRA)
Bronze	Katashima (JPN)
Bronze	Pirani (ITA)

Alex Ellison	15
Greg Allen	26
Leslie MacDonald	34
Tim Buzwell	45
(Total 71)	

WS 50

Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath ranked 6th after the poules reached the L8 to meet Hori (FRA). In a tight match Hori took the win 10-8, with Jacqueline finishing 6th.

Gold	Seal (USA)
Silver	Graudins (GER)
Bronze	Hori (FRA)
Bronze	Thome (GER)

Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath	6
Caroline Martin	17
Michele Narey	19
Claudia Baxter	27
(Total 28)	

WS 60

Ranked 2nd after the poules, Jane Hutchison steadily made her way into the L8 to meet Camerin (ITA). A 10-4 win took her into the semi-finals to fence Pernice (USA). The American took the victory 10-4 with Jane achieving a well-earned Bronze.

Gold	Fabry (USA)
Silver	Pernice (USA)
Bronze	Zini (FRA)
Bronze	Hutchison (GBR)

Jane Hutchison	Bronze
Jenny Morris	17
Angela Findlay	18
Vanessa Hendra	22T
(Total 24)	

WS 70

Silvia Brown was ranked 4th after the poules and reached the L8 to meet Lepeltier (FRA). An exciting 10-9 victory put her into the semi-finals to fence against Eyre (USA). Eyre took the match 10-6 with Silvia taking a well-deserved Bronze.

Gold	Eyre (USA)
Silver	Bender (USA)
Bronze	Brown (GBR)
Bronze	Dunn (USA)

Silvia Brown	Bronze
Susan Uff	12
(Total 17)	

ME 60

Neal Mallett ranked 9th after the poules worked his way into the L8 to meet 1st ranked Le Barbier (FRA). In a valiant match, Le Barbier took the victory 10-6, with Neal finishing 7th.

Gold	Tivenius (SWE)
Silver	Birkenmaier (GER)
Bronze	Dragonetti (USA)
Bronze	Le Barbier (FRA)

Neal Mallett	7
Hugh Kernohan	12
Andrew Luckman	26
Philip Jordan	28
(Total 55)	

ME 70

Ranked 4th after the poules, Brian Causton fought his way into the L8 to meet Osvath (AUS). In a tense match, Brian missed out on a medal 8-10, finishing 5th.

Gold	Osvath (AUS)
Silver	Imreh (HUN)
Bronze	Noel (FRA)
Bronze	Gaudry (FRA)

Brian Causton	5
William Osbaldeston	21
Paul Harden	33
Graham Paul	40
(Total 45)	

DAY 4

ME TEAM

Our team, ranked 11th after the poules defeated 5th ranked Germany 30-22 to meet France in the L8. France took the upper hand with a 30-10 victory, with GBR finishing 8th.

Gold	USA
Silver	HUN
Bronze	FRA

Great Britain 8
(Total 13)

Team

Greg Allen
Brian Causton
Hugh Kernohan
Leslie MacDonald
Neal Mallett
William Osbaldeston
Captain – Graham Paul

WS TEAM

The team ranked 2nd after the poules in a field of 7 teams, because of the rules could not fence a team in the first DE who they had fenced in the poules (AUS). USA ranked 1st decided to fence in the first DE (L8) and GBR were thus given a bye into the semi-finals. A good victory of 30-23 over AUT gave them a place in the final against USA. A sterling performance against a very strong team, 22-30, gave them well-deserved Silver.

Gold	USA
Silver	GBR
Bronze	ITA

(Total 8)

Team

Silvia Brown
Jacqueline Esimaje-Heath
Vanessa Hendra
Jane Hutchison
Michelle Narey
Susan Uff
Captain – Caroline Martin

DAY 5

WE 50

Georgina Usher was focussed and determined, and ranked 1st after the poules, continued in her master class of epee making her way into the L8. Victories against Marheineke (USA) 10-2 and Nutt (AUS) 10-3 took her into the final against De Groote (SWE). A well-earned 10-7 victory gave her a very well deserved Gold medal.

Gold	Usher (GBR)
Silver	De Groote (SWE)
Bronze	Nutt (AUS)
Bronze	Charroy (FRA)

Georgina Usher	Gold
Nicola Hull	32
Marg Oniye	34
Sarah Budden	40
(Total 48)	

WE 60

Gold	Hohlbein (GER)
Silver	Osvath (AUS)
Bronze	Hoyne (CAN)
Bronze	Cirillo (ITA)

Jenny Morris	12
Fiona Turnbull	16
Maggie Tait	20
Jane Clayton	29
(Total 34)	

WE 70

Susan Uff was ranked 4th after the poules and reached the L8 but missed out on a medal in a close match of 8-10 to Bowie (USA), finishing in 6th place.

Gold	Kocab (USA)
Silver	Someroja (FIN)
Bronze	Hoffman (HUN)
Bronze	Bowie (USA)

Susan Uff	6
Janet Baron	22
Silvia Brown	25
Marilyn Hardy	27
(Total 28)	

MF 50

Nick Payne, tied 11th ranking after the poules, went from strength to strength defeating Cambon (USA), in the L16 10-6, then Anderson (USA), 10-6 to reach the semi-finals. A 10-7 victory against Bearenault (FRA) saw him in the final against Lacroix (FRA). Lacroix took the win 10-5 with Nick achieving a brilliant silver medal finish.

Gold	Lacroix (FRA)
Silver	Payne (GBR)
Bronze	Limov (CRO)
Bronze	Bearenault (FRA)

Nick Payne	Silver
Mike McKay	26T
Alex Ellison	26T
Nick Mort	38T
(Total 45)	

MF 60

John Troiano was ranked 2nd after the poules and stormed his way to the L8 to defeat Akerberg (SWE) 10-5 for a place in the semi-finals. A tense 9-10 loss to Reynolds (AUS) placed him with a well-earned Bronze.

Gold	Huerto (FRA)
Silver	Reynolds (AUS)
Bronze	Umezawa (JPN)
Bronze	Troiano (GBR)

John Troiano	Bronze
Greerson McMullen	13
Paul Wedge	16
Nick Fihosy	22
(Total 42)	

MF 70

Gold	Lutton (USA)
Silver	Yamazaki (JPN)
Bronze	Imreh (HUN)
Bronze	Ide (JPN)

Brian Causton	10
Graham Paul	23
Paul Harden	27
Steve Fox	28
(Total 33)	

DAY 6

MF TEAM

Ranked as 2nd seeding but finishing 8th after the poules the team was in a difficult and disappointing situation. Because they had already fenced Australia the team was drawn against 2nd ranked Japan but lost 17-30, finishing in 8th place.

(Total 8)

Gold	FRA
Silver	ITA
Bronze	JPN

Team

Brian Causton
 Mike McKay
 Graham Paul
 Nick Payne
 John Troiano
 Paul Wedge
 Captain – Nick Mort

WE TEAM

Ranked 3rd after the poules with victories against Italy and Switzerland, the team was drawn against Germany but were narrowly defeated by 25-28. The final position was 5th.

(Total 8)

Gold	GER
Silver	HUN
Bronze	FRA

Team

Janet Baron
 Jenny Morris
 Marg Oniye
 Fiona Turnbull
 Susan Uff
 Georgina Usher
 Captain – Nicola Hull

Our overall medal position on the final table was 5th.

Medal Table

Place	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	USA	13	4	7	24
2	FRA	3	3	10	16
3	ITA	3	3	5	11
4	GER	2	4	3	9
5	GBR	1	2	6	9
6	AUS	1	2	1	4
7	SWE	1	1	0	2
8	HUN	0	3	2	5
9	JPN	0	1	4	5
10	FIN	0	1	1	2
11	CAN	0	0	1	1
11	CRO	0	0	1	1
11	AIN	0	0	1	1

GBR Medallists

Gold Georgina Usher WE 50

Silver Nick Payne MF 50
WS Team

Bronze Gillian Worman WF 60
Carl Morris MS 70
MS Team
Jane Hutchison WS 60
Silvia Brown WS 70
John Troiano MF 60

Full results are on the event website: [Daytona Beach 2023](#) (Live results)

Gillian Aghajan
GBR Team Manager