

EUROPEAN VETERANS FENCING COMMITTEE

Constitution

The EVFC was formed in Loughborough, UK on 7th August 1991
The Constitution was decided in Brighton, UK on 11th April 2000
and after corrections accepted in Antwerp (BEL) on 9th May 2002
Amended in St. Gallen (SUI) on 16th May 2007

1. Main purposes of the Committee

To encourage and facilitate the development and organisation of competitive Veterans Fencing in Europe

To encourage and support enjoyment of and participation in the sport of fencing by a wide range of people in the veterans age groups in Europe

To achieve recognition and respect for the sport of Veterans Fencing both within the fencing community and the wider world, including other veterans sports

2. Officers and Membership

1 President, 1 Vice-President, 1 Chairperson

1 Representative for each European nation that wishes to participate in the work of the Committee

1 Secretary/Treasurer

Other temporary officers may be co-opted for particular projects, for example, publication of publicity material

Membership of the EVFC is voluntary and unpaid. All members are expected to meet their own personal expenses for attendance at meetings and doing the work of the EVFC

3. Election and appointment of Officers

a) No more than one executive to be drawn from one country

b) The President, the Vice-President and the Chairperson to be elected to serve for two years at the annual general meeting. They must belong to different countries. The two years service begins as soon as the election has taken place and ends with the conclusion of the last agenda item before the next election

- c) Election of the President to take place in “even” years and the other two members of the executive in “odd” years, i.e. in alternate years
- d) The Secretary/Treasurer to be co-opted to the Committee. Duties include collection and circulation of agenda items, collection and use of the administrative fees, circulation of minutes, membership lists and other papers received from EVFC members
- e) It is possible to award a Member of Honour of the EVFC (*Job description to be decided*)

4. Language of the Committee

The official languages of the Committee are English and French

5. Meetings

One meeting of the full EVFC per annum, convened on the day before the European Championships begin. Officers and one representative from each country have automatic rights to attend. Other participants may be invited for particular purposes, such as competition organisation matters

6. Voting and Decision Processes

- a) 1 Vote for each country member, the President and the Vice-President. Chairperson to have no voting rights other than a casting vote in the event of equal votes for and against a decision
- b) Secretary and others attending do not have a vote. All those present may participate in the discussions that may lead to a vote
- c) All decisions to be taken by the full EVFC at the annual general meeting, after opportunities for the due democratic process have been organised by the country representatives with their National Membership Association
- d) All resolutions of the full EVFC to be decided by a simple majority of those present
- e) The meetings must contain a quorum before decisions are taken. A quorum will consist of at least two of the three executive officers (President, Vice-President and Chairperson) and at least four country members. A non-quorate Committee may discuss agenda items but not take decisions
- f) All matters affecting the general membership to be decided by the full Committee. Examples may be relationships between EVFC and other bodies (such as the FIE, the EFC and National Fencing Federations), ways to fulfil the stated purposes of the EVFC, etc.
- g) The EVFC may choose to delegate certain executive decisions that need to be taken between annual meetings to an Executive, comprising the President, Vice-President and the Chairperson. An example would be approval of a venue for a Championship competition

h) Extra-ordinary meetings between annual assemblies may be held and may take place remotely (e.g. by e-mail, telephone conferencing, exchange of fax). Records will be produced for circulation to the membership. The same rules for a quorum will apply, i.e. country representatives to outnumber the Executive. Such “meetings” may take decisions to be acted upon by the Executive before the next AGM.

7. Receipt and Use of Funds

a) Each member country will pay an annual subscription to cover the administration costs of the EVFC. This is €15 per year

b) Fencers will only be allowed to participate in European Veterans Championships if subscriptions have been paid by their countries or by themselves

c) No committee member will receive any personal expenses or honoraria from these funds. Any use of funds other than for administration (mailings, maintenance of Internet etc.) will be agreed by the full Committee before any expenditure takes place

d) The Executive (President, Vice-President and Chairperson) are authorised to spend a maximum of €75 annually for special reasons without application to the Committee