



# European Veterans Fencing

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**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019,  
Cognac**

## **Congress Minutes**

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### **1. Present**

Caryl Oliver	President		Gillian Aghajan	GREAT BRITIAN
Karen Grant	Secretary/Treasurer		Dominique Elin	FRANCE
Benoit Pincemaille	Board member		Jacques Betout	FRANCE
John Mason	Board Member		Lena Tallroth-Kock	FINLAND
Leonardo Patti	Board member		Kerstin Warvsten	SWEDEN
Jørgen Kock	Board Member		Paul Van Agtmael	BELGIUM
Henry de Silva	Member of Honour		Nady Bilani	Invited (BEL)
David Sweeney	Member of Honour		Michel Deschamps	BELGIUM
Laki Dobridis	Member of Honour		Thoman Schubert	AUSTRIA
Sue Church	Member of Honour		Harald Lueders	GERMANY
Anton Ven der Grunten	Netherlands		Frederico-Fonseca- Santos	PORTUGAL
Nando Cappelli	Member of Honour		Matt Thierry	Invited (FRA)

Jeoffret Bous	Invited (FRA)		Stephane Mockels	Invited (FRA)
Aleksandar Anastasov	NORTH MACEDONIA		Judit Gyiurkan	HUNGARY
Attila Czak	HUNGARY		Thomasz Konczylo	POLAND
Daniel Praystazko	POLAND		Belinda Gonzales Fernandez	SPAIN
Thomas Schubert	AUSTRIA			

## **2. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

All members introduced themselves to the meeting.

## **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Anton Krieger

Angela de Rioja

## **4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes had been available on the website.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES**

No comments were made on the minutes.

Voted unanimously nem.com

## **6. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Caryl explained she had been busy creating two folios. She was trying to make things more efficient by changing the constitution and the manual, separating policy and procedure. These would be discussed later in the meeting.

Caryl also discussed she was delighted with the work of Leonardo and his team in the creation of a European Circuit of fencing competitions. To be discussed in more detail later.

Caryl also mentioned the ever growing numbers of fencers and the issues this is causing regarding getting venues of a size to accommodate them. The debate needs to be opened regarding this.

Adoption proposed by David Sweeney, seconded by Leonardo Patti, nem.con.

## **7. SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT**

The report was distributed at the meeting. The transactions were explained. There were no questions.

Adoption proposed by Gillian Aghajan, seconded by John Mason, nem.con

### **REPORTS FROM COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES**

These are available on the website [Reports](#)

## **8. REPORT ON ALKMAAR Presentation**

- i. In summary there were more nations entering teams in the veteran category. The numbers within the Grand Veterans remains stable.
- ii. This was the first time we had used the 45 hit relay. Feedback and comments were
  - “exciting”
  - “More fair”
  - “Having one good fencer did not necessarily help the team win”
  - “fencers were tired but not exhausted”Overall the 45 hit relay for the team event was a success.

## **9. PREVIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- a) Benoit reported that the 2020 European Championships will be held in Audergham, Brussels from 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

Hosts for future European Championships:

2020	Brussels (T)
2021	see 9 d)
2022	Hamburg (T)
2023	Bids invited

b) Overview of Cognac [Presentation](#)

Due to the increasing numbers as predicted last year, which is likely to continue we may have to consider running the event slightly differently.

Things to consider are:

- Poules one day, tableau the next day
- Limiting numbers
- Increasing the number of days the event runs
- 2021 will still be open entry but we may need to make these decisions for 2023
- Update handbook to increase the number of volunteers to help those running the competition.

These are things that we need to discuss and get everyone's opinions on in the near future.

c) Brussels 2020 [presentation](#)

The Belgians are keen to promote Veteran sports in general and increase the visibility of Fencing.

They have not contributed to European Veteran Fencing for 15 years but have experience of running world cup events.

They have a well located large sports hall where they will have 14 pistes in one hall and the finals will be held in a separate hall.

Locally there is a youth hostel with 140 rooms and many hotels and easy links with the TGV and airport.

d) Report on Thionville who were bidding for 2021. [presentation](#)

In summary Thionville is well placed geographically and has easy access with the TGV. It borders Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg. They have space for 40 pistes. Benoit has visited the venue and is happy with everything.

Until two days ago the only application we had for 2021 was from Thionville. However the secretary received an application from Macedonia two days before the Congress which was sent to all committee members but there has been no time to circulate or discuss this before Congress. Aleksandar Anastasov from Macedonia was in attendance and did a short [presentation](#).

Macedonia were keen to put in a bid for 2021 to have the event held in southern Europe, pointing out that it has been in North Western Europe predominantly. They presented proposed piste layouts and have adequate accommodation.

Caryl Oliver asked for guidance regarding this unprecedented situation. Discussion points were:

- Normally Benoit visits prospective applications and checks the venue for size and suitability and this has obviously not happened. Benoit commented that ideally, we need 2 years warning to allow time to visit the venue and check suitability.
- JM asked if Macedonia would consider bidding for 2023 instead
- Aleksandar was not able to answer this as he was representing Macedonia's bid that was based on 2021 only.

Following some discussion from the floor it was felt that a vote was needed today on 2021. Congress were unanimous on voting for Thionville in 2021. Macedonia have been asked to bid for 2023.

## **10 CONSTITUTION AND ADMINISTRATION HANDBOOK**

- i)* Caryl Oliver discussed her thoughts behind separating the constitution and the administrative handbook. Things have been taken out of the constitution and put in the handbook trying to separate policy and procedure. Constitution – this is policy and will not change without bringing to congress. Handbook – this is procedure and can change as a living document.

Comments that had been received prior to the meeting were

- a) We should state we are running events to the FIE rules. This is in the constitution
- b) Succession planning – this needs to be in the manual. It was identified that we have nothing in place as yet so this will be discussed.

No other concerns were raised. It was discussed that any changes to the manual would be circulated to everyone.

Both documents were voted in unanimously.

## **11 RANKING SYSTEM** [presentation](#) [ranking method](#)

In summary there are now 4 competitions on a circuit for each weapon, distributed about Europe and spread through the season. All fencers will get points and you will get more points for a podium placing. The best 2 of 5 results will count the first year. Over two years there will be 9 possible results to look at (the 4 on the circuit each year and the European Championships).

Caryl congratulated Leonardo and his team on the huge amount of work they have put in to creating this circuit which will give us a Veteran European Ranking system for the first time. It was discussed that events can be added in as we go along.

Caryl was keen for congress to support this so we can start this experiment. We need to define a minimum set of requirements for competition organisers. It was also noted there is nothing in place for the 75+ age group. The medical set up would be organised by the host country.

This was voted in unanimously nem.com

## **12 ELECTIONS**

There were three elections. President, Data and Technology (annual) and Medical.

President	Only one nomination. Caryl Oliver. Voted unanimously nem.com
Data and Technology	Only one nomination John Mason Voted unanimously nem.com
Medical	Two nominations Jorgen Kock and Michel Deschamps

Both candidates did a short presentation to the Congress and a vote was taken. Michel Deschamps won by a majority.

Caryl Oliver thanked Jorgen Kock for his contribution to European Veteran Fencing and proposed Jorgen as a Member of Honour. This was seconded by Gillian Aghajan.

It was pointed out by Dave Sweeney that this requires a change to the Administrative Handbook. Caryl Oliver agreed to make the change.

### **13 AOB**

Henry de Silva was interested in starting a European Veteran Club Championship. He would be looking at hosting this in July/August in 2020 in the Isle of Man.

Belinda Gonzales Fernandez (Spain) wanted clarification on the Association versus the National Federation. They were informed that it is the Federation that pay European Veteran Fencing. Each country tells EVF who is representing the country.

Nady Bilani (Belgium) asked if there was potentially interest in any countries for a Veteran Wheelchair Championships that included mixed teams. The question was put to congress and they were looking for feedback by mid July.

Meeting closed at 7.00pm