



European Veterans Fencing 2018 Congress, Alkmaar

Wednesday 9th May 2018,

Minutes

1. Present

Caryl Oliver	President		Henk Uijting	NETHERLANDS
Karen Grant	Secretary/Treasurer		Alexander Kapustin	RUSSIA
Benoit Pincemaille	Board member		Paul Van Agtmael	BELGIUM
Leonardo Patti	Board member		Nady Bilani	Invited (BEL)
Jørgen Kock	Board Member		Lena Tallroth-Kock	FINLAND
John Mason	Board Member		Kerstin Warvsten	SWEDEN
Laki Dobridis	Member of Honour		Nikoloz Andriadze	GEORGIA
Sue Church	Member of Honour		Harald Lueders	GERMANY
David Sweeney	Member of Honour		Gillian Aghajan	GREAT BRITAIN
Attila Csak	HUNGARY		Dominique Elin	FRANCE

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Max Geuter

Jozsef Meszaros

Anton Krieger
Frederico Santos
Henry De Silva
Nando Cappelli

3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

All members introduced themselves to the meeting.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes had been available on the website. Adoption proposed by Gillian Aghajan and seconded by John Mason – passed.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

- a. Appointing a board member with fund raising/sponsorship skills.
Following discussion, it was felt that there were other priorities that are taking precedence at the moment so it would be kept on the agenda for a later date.
- b. Develop a mechanism for dealing with competing hosting bids.
Following discussion it was decided that we were not going to put in place a scoring system for competing bids at this stage as Congress would decide based on analysis from Benoit Pincemaille.
- c. Amendment to the handbook on issues of substitutes in team events.
To be discussed.
- d. A medal for Members of Honour
On the agenda
- e. European Club Championship
There was not much enthusiasm for this from the clubs that were approached. Other ideas were welcomed.

6. PRESIDENTS REPORT

The report had been circulated and there were no comments.
Adoption proposed by David Sweeney, seconded by Leonardo Patti, nem.con.

7. SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

The report had been circulated. There were no questions.

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

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES

These are available on the website

9. REPORT ON CHIAVARI

i. In summary there were 1416 participants from 35 nations in Chiavari which was much more than in previous individual championships. Mens epee V2 and V3 were the biggest entry and were both on the same day (Sunday). This is a consideration for the next individual championships in Cognac where it is predicted the numbers could increase again. The options are to limit numbers, keep the event over 4 days and increase pistes to 40, or increasing the event to 5 days and keeping the 32 pistes. The costs for referees etc are roughly the same. No one wanted to limit the entries and following discussion there was a unanimous vote that the event should take place over 5 days.

Note: Poules of 8, poules of 7 in two batches or the day before have been considered irrelevant.

ii. Experiment 75+. The ages fenced together then were split after the poules. There was no evidence that splitting the category up increased the entry as the percentage increase was the same as other age categories. Discussion revealed there was a lot of positive feedback for this though and it was felt that it needed to be done more than once to allow the category to grow and be promoted within countries. At least 6 fencers are required in each category and following in discussion it was decided that ability to split the event would be based on the number of entries at registration, not those who turn up at the event.

iii. Fencing to 15 hits, this was discussed in AOB

iv. EVF ranking system and circuit of potential ranking competitions. Currently there is no circuit of Veteran events and no motivation for fencers to travel abroad to fence. Having this would help with the seeding of the European Championships. It was decided to create a working group to discuss the creation of a European Veteran Circuit.

Chair: Leonardo Patti (ITA); Gillian Aghajan (GBR), John Mason (GBR) Attila Csak (HUN), Harald Lueder(GER), Paul Van Agtmael (BEL). President will be ex-officio member of working group as required.

10. PREVIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Benoit reported that Cognac are already preparing for the event in 2019.

Entry fees were discussed, and it was unanimously voted that the registration fee should be €50 with the entry fee being €35 for each weapon.

Following discussion, it was decided that there should be a single date set for the deadline for payment and registration. This should be 1 month before the event on 30th April. (this will now be 29th April following the vote to move the event to a 5 day format).

Hosts for future European Championships:

2019 Cognac

2020 Copenhagen (T)

2021 Thionville (TBC)

2022 Hamburg (T)

2023 Bids invited

Regarding the 2021 offer for Thionville, it was noted that the individual championships will have been in France two times in a row and other countries were encouraged to consider nominating.

Note: Thionville has already sent to EVF a filled-in questionnaire. BP will make a visit of their facilities these next few months

John Mason has created EVF registration software for the specific use of hosts running European Championships. Its use will be embedded into the Competition Handbook.

EVF Registration Software

The software

- a) Takes entries for Team and Individual events
- b) Provides information to the organisers on entries

The software is integrated with the EVF database of nearly 3,000 fencers.

We use this integration to make the entry process easy for Heads of Delegation.

The amount due to the organisers is calculated and the Head of Delegation makes a payment using bank details taken from the database.

At the close of Registration information is passed to DT to prepare the competition software eg Fencing Time. Accreditation cards are printed from standard templates.

When the event opens the software is used again at Accreditation to check in participants. No-shows are passed to DT at 5pm so that poules can be drawn.

Finally, after the competition is over, results are imported into the Ranking System.

The software was developed for Medway 2016 and has been used for Alkmaar 2018. I would like it to be adopted for Copenhagen 2019. We can then say we have a standard piece of software hosted by EVF. This saves the organisers a lot of development effort.

This is a paperless system (apart from Accreditation cards).

11. Handbook Updates

Handbook Updates that were voted on.

- Increase the length and width of the finals pistes. Width of the podium is to be increased to 3M
Vote was unanimous, nem.com
- In team events using FIE rules, “teams which have already fenced each other in the poules should not meet again immediately in the direct elimination”.
Vote was unanimous, nem.com
- Substitutions. There are 5 fencers with 2 possible substitutions. Once a substitution has been made, only if the substitute is injured can the original fencer go back in to fence.
Vote was unanimous, nem.com
- Change the length of the individual event from 4 days to 5 days
Vote was unanimous, nem.com

12. Members of Honour

Caryl Oliver presented the members of Honour that were present with personalised plaques and thanked them for their ongoing contribution to EVF.

13. Elections

John Mason was nominated for the position of Board Director responsible for website. This position is one year only duration due to Nationality clash. There being no other nomination John was duly re-elected.

14. AOB

- Raising the number of hits in a direct elimination fight from 10 to 15 hits. This was discussed with no clear appetite for change.
Vote to keep the DE fights to 10 hits was unanimous, nem.com
- Changes to the Constitution, David Sweeney.
Caryl Oliver has been in conversation with Mr Sweeney regarding this and it is felt that these changes will be better accommodated within an

administration handbook that is currently in production. Mr Sweeney was happy with this suggestion.

- Hungary brought in a discussion regarding the use of the relay method in teams. There was concern that the younger fencers were at an advantage, particularly if the team were many hits behind. It was acknowledged that there is no ideal solution but that fencers, on the whole, were enjoying the relay system. It was agreed to observe this year and obtain feedback for further discussion.

The fair play award prize was awarded to Estonia this year.

Meeting closed at 6.40pm