



2010 Congress of the Commonwealth
Fencing Federation held
in the Theatrette, State Fencing Centre
204-206 Arden Street, North Melbourne
Victoria, Australia
on Wednesday 29th September 2010

The President opened the Council Meeting at 17:08 hours.

Present:

Helen Smith	CFF President	Australia
Marie-France Dufour	CFF Vice - President	Canada
Arun Kumar Vij	CFF Vice -President	India
Peter Andersen	CFF Secretary/Treasurer	Australia

Andrew Ius	Australia*
Huzaima Kassim	Brunei
Rocky Poerawinata	Brunei
Stephen Symons	Canada*
Eli Turk	Canada
Tristan Hale	England*
Ross Martel	Guernsey*
Rupert Swards	Guernsey
David Baker	Jersey*
Elaine Ley	Jersey
Ken Claridge	New Zealand*
Stephen Clarke	New Zealand
Victoria Lamb	New Zealand
Yinka Faniyan	Nigeria*
Richard Cohen	Northern Ireland*
Lars Olen	South Africa*
Don McKenzie	Scotland*
Ian Hunter	Scotland
Bob Turner	Wales*
Mark Robertson	Wales

*** denotes voting member**

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

John Ramsay	Chair, CFF Technical Commission	England
Qamrul Islam	Bangladesh	
Ryan Rodriguez	Barbados	
Ray Stafford	England	
Donald Odeleye	Nigeria	
Martha Bernstein	Jersey	
Steve Cooke	Jersey	

Susan Grant-Taylor	New Zealand
Novak Perovik	South Africa
Kasuni Silva	Sri Lanka

12 member countries represented (with Brunei not eligible to vote). Apologies were received from 3 additional member countries and the Chair, CFF Technical Commission.

Welcome

The President welcomed all members and interested parties present.

Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

It was moved by Bob Turner (Wales) and seconded by Stephen Symons (Canada) that the Minutes of the November 2009 Council Meeting be adopted - **Carried unanimously.**

President's Report

The President noted major events since the last Congress held in Belfast in 2006 – Junior & Veterans Championships and Council Meetings held in conjunction with the FIE Congresses (Madrid 2007, Paris 2008 & Palermo 2009). These Council Meetings provided worthwhile opportunities for face to face communications between members and the Executive.

It was noted that the main focus of the Executive during the period was to lobby the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) for the re-categorisation of Fencing as being eligible for inclusion in the program of the Commonwealth Games. Currently the CGF classifies sports into 3 categories:

Category 1 – Permanently included in the program of the Commonwealth Games

Category 2 – Eligible for inclusion in the program of the Commonwealth Games

Category 3 – Not sufficiently developed for inclusion in the program of the Commonwealth Games.

The FIE recently presented a submission to the CGA on the CFF's behalf seeking reclassification as a Category 2 sport.

Unfortunately, our submission was declined.

In their response the CGF said that their Committee 'was concerned at the overall strength of fencing across Commonwealth Countries within CGF's 6 regions and in particular within the Americas, the Caribbean and Oceania; felt further work was need in relation to the overall depth of the sport across Commonwealth Countries e.g. the submissions referred to 26 Commonwealth nations having National Federations affiliated to the FIE of which 22 were 'active' and it would be helpful to better understand the level of activity within each of these countries: and was not convinced by the submissions made from a broadcast and marketability point of view and further work was required.'

Members were requested to continue to lobby their own branches of the Commonwealth Games Association to push for their support. The CFF would provide any assistance required.

It was moved by Don McKenzie (Scotland) and Arun Vij (India) that the President's Report be adopted - **Carried unanimously.**

Stephen Symons (Canada) asked just what criteria we needed to satisfy to obtain CGF. The President advised that she would approach the CGA for further clarification.

Ian Hunter (Scotland) asked if the spread of countries represented at CFF Championships would assist and the feeling was that it would.

Financial Report

The Treasurer spoke to the Balance Sheet & Operating Statement of the Federation as at August 2009 noting that all amounts shown were in Australian dollars.

It was noted that the CFF had achieved a modest operating surplus for 2009 and was tracking for a similar result for 2010.

It was moved by Arun Vij (India) and seconded by Tristan Hale (England) that the Financial Report be accepted – **Carried unanimously**.

Updated Fees

The Treasurer advised the updated schedule of fees for the forthcoming quadrennial. Again, discounts would be applicable if the full fees for the 4 years were to be paid up front. It was noted that, according to the CFF Statutes, fees are due on the 1st January each year. It was also advised that for the 2011/14 quadrennial, ALL current CFF member countries would be liable for fees.

It was moved by Stephen Symons (Canada) and seconded by Andrew Ius (Australia) that the revised fees be approved – **Carried unanimously**.

Election of Office Bearers

Executive

As there were no additional nominations for the Executive positions, the current Executive was re-elected unopposed.

Commissions

Nominations for the **Commission for Re-entry to the Commonwealth Games** were called. Stephen Symons (Canada) and Yinka Fanyian (Nigeria) nominated themselves and were duly endorsed – with the President (Helen Smith) being the Executive Chair.

Nominations for the **Technical Commission** were called – due to an excess of nominations a vote was held and the successful candidates were:

Denise Dapre (Australia), Ian Hunter (Scotland), Sanjay Pradhan (India), Martha Bernstein (Jersey) and Marie-France Dufour (Canada).

Nominations for the **Veterans Commission** were called.

Marie France Dufour (Canada) and Julie Seggie (Australia) were elected unopposed. John Crouch (President CVFC) was co-opted onto the Committee.

The President is also an ex-officio member of all commissions.

Commonwealth Junior Fencing Championships (CJFC)

David Baker (Jersey) provided a presentation on the suitability of Jersey to host the next Junior Fencing Championships. In particular he noted the successful Veterans Championships held in 2009 and the support promised from other Home Countries.

The President queried the month in which the event would be held and this was yet to be confirmed.

The bid by Jersey was **endorsed unanimously**.

Commonwealth Fencing Championships – 2014

No bid was received for the hosting of the CFC in 2014.

Having previously shown interest in hosting this event, Scotland was requested to advise the President as soon as practicable as to its intent in this regard.

General Business

Number of Members in a Team

Clarification was requested as to the maximum number of members that would comprise a Weapon Team. After some general discussion it was agreed to maintain the status quo of at least 3 and up to five members.

Refereeing Proposal

Steven Clark (New Zealand) put forward a proposal as a follow-up to an earlier idea raised and agreed to in principle at the meeting in Palermo. It has to do with the appointment by the CFF of a pool of rated referees to be used at formal CFF events. The Technical Committee has been tasked with studying the proposal and making a recommendation for adoption (or not) to the Executive within a timeframe of six months. It was further agreed that this review by the Committee would be contingent upon it receiving a costing of the venture prepared by David Baker (Australia).

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 1835.