



**2009 Council Meeting of the
Commonwealth Fencing Federation held
Grand Hotel et Des Palmes, Palermo, Italy
on Thursday 19th November 2009**

The President opened the Council Meeting at 17:35 hours.

Present:

Helen Smith	CFF President	Australia
Marie-France Dufour	CFF Vice - President	Canada
Andrew Ius	Australia*	
Peter Smith	England*	
Susan Grant-Taylor	New Zealand*	
Ushaan Abeywickrama	Sri Lanka*	
Kasuni Silva	Sri Lanka	
Peter Stewart	Wales	
Bob Turner	Wales*	

*** denotes voting member**

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Arun Kumar Vij	CFF Vice-President	India
Peter Andersen	CFF Secretary/Treasurer	Australia
John Ramsay	Chair, CFF Technical Commission	England
Qamrul Islam	Bangladesh	
Ryan Rodriguez	Barbados	
Roslyn Wilson	Barbados	
Stephen Symonds	Canada	
Ray Stafford	England	
Rakash Gupta	India	
Martha Bernstein	Jersey	
Steve Cooke	Jersey	
Iain Hunter	Scotland	
Chris Hyde	Scotland	
Novak Perovik	South Africa	

5 member countries represented. Apologies received from two officers, 8 member countries and the Chair, CFF Technical Commission.

Welcome & Special Guest

The President welcomed all members present.

The President also welcomed M. Maxim Paramanov, Secretary-General of the F.I.E., as a Special Guest.

M. Paramanov conveyed the best wishes of the new F.I.E. President and acknowledged the importance of bodies such as the Commonwealth Fencing Federation (CFF) in developing the sport of Fencing throughout the world. He drew attention to the F.I.E.'s work on developing a new international calendar and was interested to see the Commonwealth Championships included in this new calendar.

Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

It was moved by Bob Turner (Wales) and seconded by Marie-France Dufour (CFF Vice President) that the Minutes of the December 2008 Council Meeting be adopted - **Carried unanimously.**

President's Report

The President noted that CFF membership had increased to 24 countries.

She congratulated the host federations of the two Commonwealth Championship events held in 2009 for their excellent organisation and the warm welcome extended to all participants – Malaysia for the Juniors and Jersey for the Veterans.

Earlier this year, the President had supplied a draft letter and asked the FIE to send it to the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) seeking re-consideration of Fencing as a Category 2 Sport (i.e. an optional sport eligible for inclusion on the program) for the purposes of future Commonwealth Games. The FIE is still awaiting a response from the CGF and the President will follow up with the CGF.

The members of the Executive are in regular email communication about relevant CFF matters, particularly leading up to and after Council meetings.

A review of the CFF Technical Rules & Handbook is being undertaken by the Technical Commission and should be available for circulation to members early next year.

The President noted that after the FIE Elections held in 2008, there were representatives from CFF member countries on all FIE Commissions.

It was noted that the CFF would write to all member nations to remind them of the extension of applications for exemptions under the new Eligibility Rules to 31st March 2010 for the 2010 Commonwealth Championships.

For those interested, the names of those subject to exemptions would be provided on request.

It was moved by Bob Turner (Wales) and seconded by Susan Grant-Taylor (New Zealand) that the President's Report be adopted - **Carried unanimously.**

It was noted that John Ramsay, VP British & VP England, was recovering from a serious illness.

It was unanimously agreed that the CFF, through the President, convey the best wishes of all members for a speedy recovery.

Financial Report

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

It was noted that the CFF had achieved a modest operating surplus for 2008 and was tracking for a similar result for 2009.

Noted this year was the end of the current four year cycle and that a Chair, CFF Technical Commission new fee schedule would be required for the next quadrennial.

It was moved by Helen Smith (CFF President) and seconded by Peter Smith (England) that the Financial Report be accepted – **Carried unanimously**.

General Business

2009 Commonwealth Junior Fencing Championship - Malaysia

Marie-France Dufour spoke to the written report on these Championships, as previously circulated, congratulating both the Malaysian Fencing Federation and the Penang Fencing Association on the successful staging of these Championships.

2009 Commonwealth Veterans' Fencing Championships – Jersey

It was noted that these Championships, held over 4 days, had attracted the largest number of participants to date for these Championships – about 110 in total.

2010 Commonwealth Open Fencing Championships - Australia

Andrew Ius advised that, thanks to some last minute government support, the Victorian State Association had agreed to organise these Championships in Melbourne, Australia, from 29th September to 5th October.

It was requested that information be circulated as soon as possible, particularly on key matters such as entry fees, to assist with budgeting for team participation costs.

It was agreed to accept the offer from Australia to concurrently host a Commonwealth Veteran Championships and that a limit of five entries per weapon per age group be placed on entries from any one nation.

It was noted that this limit need not necessarily apply to Veteran Championships when held as a stand-alone event in the years between when these Championships would be held concurrently with a Commonwealth Championships.

It was agreed that:

- the minimum FIE equipment standard would apply to CFF Veteran Championships
- there would be no fence off for age group medals, except when more than one fencer had progressed to the same stage of the direct elimination table. Otherwise, medals would be

awarded for each fencer in each age group that had progressed to the furthest stage of the direct elimination table.

- fencers would be required to provide a medical certificate, on a CFF designed form, using wording similar to that used by the FIE for the Veteran World Championships.

Commonwealth Fencing Federation – Calendar of Events

It was noted that

- some interest had been indicated from Scotland (possibly Glasgow) to host the 2014 Commonwealth Open Championships
- indicative interest had been expressed in hosting the Commonwealth Junior Championships from a couple of 'Home' countries, possibly for either 2012 or 2013, and there was also interest again from India.

It was agreed to formally call for a bid for the Commonwealth Junior Championships for either 2012 or 2013 and that a four year cycle be confirmed once a bid had been formally accepted for either of these years.

Other Business

Membership Certificates

It was agreed that the Secretary-General provide all member countries with at least an electronic membership certificate, such that each member country could then arrange the printing of such.

New Contact Details

New Zealand advised that the CFF's contact details be updated to include both Susan Grant-Taylor as President and Laura Harvey as Secretary-General.

Refereeing Proposals

It was noted that proposals from Scotland for refereeing at Commonwealth Championships would be considered through the Technical Commission and the current referring requirements would not be changed for the 2010 Commonwealth Open Championships in Melbourne, Australia.

Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting in 2010 would be an elective Congress which would be held in Melbourne alongside the Commonwealth Open Championships.

There being no further business the President invited those present to join the Executive members for dinner at a local restaurant.

The Meeting finished at 19:35.