



Fencing New Zealand

(Fencing New Zealand Incorporated)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Fencing New Zealand Incorporated	
DATE	Sunday 7 April 2019
START/FINISH	7.00 pm until 9.17 pm
LOCATION	Skype
CHAIR	Mark Rance
ATTENDEES	Mark Rance (Chairman), Amanda Hopkins (Sec.General), Richard Johnstone, Vicci Lamb, Kyle Macdonald, Vanda Symon, Steve Martin, David Elder, Alice Boyd, Steve Clarke, Nicola Shackleton, Dave Barson
APOLOGIES	Neil Young

	ITEM	ACTION	OWNER	DU E
1.	Quorum	Confirmed.		
2	Previous Minutes	<p>3 March 2019</p> <p>MOVED as a true and accurate record</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Richard/Vicci Carried</p> <p>Actions reviewed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website – Hullabaloo has been appointed to assist with redesigning the site with Joomla CMS – up to \$5,000. Working with subcommittee for look and structure of site. Membership categories – Back up on site - spreadsheet entry to be finalised for clubs and schools National Development Programme – progress delayed by 2 weeks Commissions’ call for expressions of interest wording by end of week. Combine with work on terms of reference Head knock protocol – WIP 		
3	Financial Report	<p>Financial Report received.</p> <p>Strategy Session came in just above budget due to underestimated travel costs. Payments during month for World Junior Championships and Strategy Session. Waiting for confirmation from OFC about the athlete travel subsidies for the Asian and World Championships.</p> <p>Insurance – update on the potential for clubs to tag on to the FeNZ policy. Richard has spoken with Marsh who is approaching underwriters for terms in advance of the renewals on 30 June 2019. Richard will prepare some guidance for clubs, once available terms are in place, for circulation.</p>	Richard	
4	Health & Safety	<p>Incident Reports -</p> <p>Report received. Concerning incident with a mask flying off during a DE bout at the U17 North Championships.</p> <p>Reiterated the need for masks to fit properly with the tongue bent correctly and the</p>		

		elastic to be in good condition. DTs to remind referees and fencers of the importance of the mask fitting. Mask Protocol to be recirculated with message to clubs and fencers.	Neil	
5	Membership categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above Richard noted that Mid South has resolved at its AGM to waive the regional levy as from 1.01.20 for the 3 introductory classes of FeNZ membership	Dave E/Oliver	
6	Competitions	<p>6.1 Feedback on National U20s – 90 entries achieved with about half received under late entry conditions. Mid-South hopes to break even or be close. The new venue, Ara Rec Centre was favourably received by athletes, officials and supporters.</p> <p>As to format, feedback from fencers was mixed, with some saying the repechage format was confusing, the breaks were too long, fencers lost interest, beating a fencer and then they are ranked higher, not enjoyable. Other fencers had favourable feedback. Understanding of format not helped by late introduction</p> <p>Objective of the format was to provide more fencing to encourage greater participation and improve the experience. It was agreed the this was not the case for fencers who won their first two DE bouts and the format did not suit events with very small entries such as Woman’s Epee. Overall need to consider options to address the concerns. Feedback for non-participation included being too busy at school and prefer end of year – contradicting feedback from 2018.</p> <p>Board members confirmed the FeNZ Selection policy should reflect the need to support the national events.</p> <p>6.2 Women fencing in Men’s national events – Discussed this issue at length with long debate on all sides. The Panel considered the feedback received from the fencing community, which was mixed. A significant number of fencing coaches remained opposed to women fencing in men’s events. Both the World Head of Women in Fencing and the head of Women in Sport NZ did not support the idea and felt it was not the right approach to increase participation and improve women’s fencing. There are resources available to women in fencing in NZ, which should be investigated.</p> <p>Panel were split 4 to 1 against allowing women to fence in the men’s National events. The recommendation was to retain the Men’s and Women’s National events unless numbers are insufficient in which case the event could be Mixed.</p> <p>Motion – Fencing NZ should not reintroduce the trial to allow women to participate in men’s National Fencing NZ competitions</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Mark/Richard</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carried by majority – 6 for, 2 against (Vicci and David E)</p> <p>It was noted that this ruling is only for National events.</p> <p>6.3 World Championships – FeNZ received late notification from the OFC that the FIE would fund one male epeeist from Oceania to the camp before the World Championships. No epeeists had nominated from NZ. Three fencers from NZ would qualify for the World Championships under selection criteria. Only one fencer will be selected from Oceania for the camp.</p> <p>Motions:</p> <p>1) Given the late notice of possible FIE funding for the camp preceding the World Championships for one male epee fencer, Fencing NZ to forgo the normal process for late selection to the World Championships</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Moved Mark/Amanda, Carried (Vicci abstained);</p> <p>2) Selectors to nominate the fencers who would qualify for the World Championships to be put forward by Fencing NZ to the OFC.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Moved Mark/Amanda, Carried (Vicci abstained);</p>	Selectors	

		<p>6.4 Tokyo 2020 Olympics – consideration of Long List – Carried over.</p> <p>6.5 World University Games – Carried over.</p> <p>6.6 Australian National U15/Cadet update on management – carried over</p> <p>6.7 Referee Per Diem – National policy is for \$50 for full day and \$25 for half day. Regions are free to adjust these rates.</p>		
7	National Development Programme	Delay of two weeks as above.	Steve C	
8	Commissions	Reports received from Coaching and Officiating		
9	Regional reports	Reports received from Mid-South, North and South Mid South referral of complaint against a Christchurch based coach to Disciplinary committee (Mark, Dave B, Alice and Neil) noted	Mark	
10	Website	As above	Steve M/Richard/ Mark/Amanda/ Dave/Vanda	
11	Strategic Priorities	<p>Agenda listed by due date for end March and end April</p> <p>Agreed to organise a Strategic Planning catch up on Friday evening 13th September for planning session Saturday 14th September.</p>	All	
10	Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIE Equipment distribution – 2019 New order – requests received from Vanda. Other regions to provide requests by Friday 12th. Order to be done by 15th. 	Mark/Amanda	

Meeting concluded 9.17 pm. Next Meeting: 5th May