

## British Veterans Fencing

### Report to EVF Congress - May 2020

#### EVF Individual Championships, Cognac 2019

The GBR squad of 121 fencers (149 weapon entries) returned from the European Championships in Cognac, held in May 2019, with a good medal haul of 15, a placing of 8<sup>th</sup> on the medal table, some L8s and some very good and encouraging results from our younger fencers. This was the largest Veterans European Championships ever, with nearly 1800 weapon entries. Congratulations to the whole squad. The Championships were well organised and run. Thanks and congratulations to Bruno Royer, Walter Leveque. our French hosts and all who were involved in making this an excellent event.



GBR medallists - Cognac

#### GBR v GER - August 2019, Bath

BVF was delighted to welcome Harald Lüders and the German squad for the 16<sup>th</sup> GBR v GER team match and to enjoy social events in Bath. Congratulations to overall winners, Germany! This was a very friendly and sociable event which included a boat trip on the River Avon and dinner at a riverside restaurant. Old friendships were renewed and new ones made in the true spirit of Veterans fencing.



**GBR v GER, Bath**

## **Veterans Winton Cup - September 2019**

The Winton Cup was held at RAF Cosford and we were thrilled to welcome Carole Winton, the daughter of Bobby Winton and niece of Sir Nicholas Winton, to present the medals and Winton Cup to the winning team, South East. Team trophies were awarded as follows:

|                        |              |            |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Frank Mills Trophy     | Mens Foil    | South East |
| John Mason Trophy      | Mens Epee    | South West |
| Cary Zitcer Trophy     | Mens Sabre   | North West |
| Frank Mills Trophy     | Womens Foil  | South East |
| Gillian Aghajan Trophy | Womens Epee  | South East |
| Les Jones Trophy       | Womens Sabre | South West |

BVF held its annual AGM and elections.

## **Veterans World Championships, Cairo - October 2019**

Great Britain had superb results with 4 Gold, 4 Silver and 2 Bronze medals finishing second on the medal table and with a string of L8s as well this was a very successful Championships for us. Our Egyptian hosts made us very welcome and put on a professional, slick and friendly event. Thanks to Egyptian Fencing Federation, Organising Committee and the FIE for a fantastic Championships. I was honoured to accept an award on behalf of BVF from the Egyptian Fencing Federation for the second highest number of weapon entries, 70. An unexpected but very thoughtful and appreciated gesture. For the first time at a Veterans World Championships, the FIE provided live stream commentary, very able carried out by Karim Bashir, working with Tristan Mueller. An excellent and much appreciated job.



**GBR medallists - Cairo**

## **EVF Circuit Events**

### **BVF Open International - January 2020**

The new circuit of 12 EVF ranking events started at the end of August 2019 but unfortunately some of these events have now had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 situation. However, some GBR fencers were able to take part in some of the events that took place gaining some excellent results.

BVF was proud to host Epee at the BVF International in Guildford, 4-5 January. This event was held as an international open for all weapons with international fencers invited to fence in foil and sabre. For the Epee there were 105 foreigners out of a total of 208 entries.

BVF congratulates all host countries and medal winners with a special mention to GBR European Veteran Fencers of the Year:

Beth Davidson - V2 WS  
 Hugh Kernohan - V3 ME  
 Vivien Frith - V4 WS

## **BVF Championships - March 2020**

The BVF Championships were held in Nottingham in March. The event returned to its original format with gala finals. There was a total of 297 weapon entries. The event was sponsored by Micro-Mesh and we were very pleased to welcome Managing Director, James Underwood, to present medals and attend the gala dinner. It was very encouraging to have such a large number of entries for this event. There were some concerns about the evolving Covid-19 with many fencers bumping elbows instead of shaking hands.

## **Other events**

Other Veteran events included:  
West Midlands Open  
Hampshire Veterans Open  
Celtic Challenge

## **Covid-19**

The Covid-19 situation is one which none of us could have foreseen but the BVF committee, after careful consideration and discussion, decided to cancel the March 2020 Age Groups. (We have also cancelled all other BVF events for 2020.)

These are troubling times for everyone and BVF looks forward to a fencing future in which we can all share and make happy memories, as Veterans have always done. The most important issues, of course, are the health and safety of all Veterans and their families wherever they are in the world.

Keep safe and keep well.

## **Gillian Aghajan**

**BVF Chairman**  
**EVF Representative GBR**