



# European Veterans Fencing 2024 Congress, Ciney, Belgium

*Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024*

## *Minutes*

### **1. Present**

Caryl Oliver	President		Paul Van Agtmael	BELGIUM
Karen Grant	Secretary/Treasurer		Marja-Liisa Someroja	FINLAND
Benoit Pincemaille	Board member		Isabelle Leveque	FRANCE
Leonardo Patti	Board member ITALY		Gillian Aghajan	GREAT BRITIAN
Michiel Uitdehaag	Board member		Emile Colling	LUXEMBOURG
Atila Csak	Board member HUNGARY		Michal Zablocki	POLAND
Anne Cerboni-Bousquet	EVF Officer		Tomas Ginzery	SLOVAKIA
David Sweeney	Member of Honour		Clyne Grant	Observer
Sue Church	Member of Honour			

## **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

All members introduced themselves to the meeting.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Jorgen Kock (MOH)

Jozsef Meszaros (MOH)

Nando Capelli (MOH)

Hynek Koutny (Czech Republic)

Jorgen Kock (Denmark)

Peter Boros (Hungary)

Michael Ryan (Ireland)

Frederico Fonseca-Santos (Portugal)

Angela de Rioja (Spain)

Kerstin Warvsten (Sweden)

Anton Kreiger (Switzerland)

## **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2023 CONGRESS**

The minutes were approved.

## **4. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

This was e mailed out in advance of the meeting and is available on the website

## **5. CHANGES TO TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION**

This included

- a. Responsibilities of EVF in Championships and Circuits (shall be clearly defined)
- b. The areas of application of the FIE rules (shall be clearly defined).
- c. Official commitment from the organisers to comply with EVF rules

It was pointed out that all these topics would be covered in the upcoming presentations from Benoit and Leonardo.

## 6. SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

These were sent out in advance by e mail.

The main difference this year is the payment of EVF circuit event observers. This was agreed at Congress last year. There were no questions.

This is available on the web site.

## 7. EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. The presentation is now up on the website. Benoit presented a comprehensive report looking at numbers and predicting the requirements for next years individual event. We now have V1 and V2 men's Epee over two days which was well received last year, and we will add MEV3 to this list too. Plovdiv will need 29 pistes to run the event
- b.
  - i. The 2025 Individual European Championships will now be held in Plovdiv, who have replaced Klagenfurt.
  - ii. In 2026 the Team event will be held in Madrid.
  - iii. In 2027 the individual event will be held in Skopje, Macedonia.
  - iv. In 2028 bids are invited to host the teams' event.
  - v. Entry fees – suggested increases, see below were discussed and voted in unanimously.

Description	Current	From Plovdiv...
Registration	€50	€55
One Weapon	€35	€40
Two Weapons	€70	€80
Three Weapons	€105	€120
For EVF (per fencer)	€3	€4

- c. Changes to handbook of Regulations.
  - i. Minimum age of referees: 20 years old in line with FIE. This is for both Championships and Circuits. British Veteran Fencing questioned this and would prefer the age to be reduced to 18 however the decision was made to keep the minimum age at 20. There is however no upper limit for our referees. Caryl noted that we will consider feedback from host countries and if there are issues, we can then reconsider.
  - ii. Video refereeing mandatory from the semi-final onwards.

- iii. Procedure in case of Black card. This was discussed at length following the issue of a Black card at Guildford. We are not bound by the FIE on this and we will make all decisions within EVF.
  - We need to make sure it is deserved first
  - DT must be immediately consulted
  - They will then listen to everyone involved including witnesses
  - DT will make the final decision
  - The fencer will have the right to appeal to the EVF board
  - 3 people from the board will be selected by blind vote and will make the final decision
  - The penalty if upheld is exclusion from EVF circuit events for 60 days and *exclusion from the next championships. See updated Handbook §3.1.3. in the library.*
- iv. Follow up with smart phone via QR code must be mandatory
- v. Walkie – talkies required for DT members and medical people

## **8. CIRCUIT COMPETITIONS**

- a. Leonardo delivered his Circuit report which included the 2024 Fencers of the year and the proposed Circuit Calendar for 2024/25. (Report in Library)  
There have been 12 events plus Paris Criterium in the last 12 months.
- b. Observation responses – see page 11 of the report. Overall, very positive feedback.
- c. Changes to circuit guidelines. These are now mandatory.
  - i. Minimum age for referees is now 20 (see above)
  - ii. Procedure in case of black card (see above)
  - iii. DE matches shall be by separating categories, whatever their number.
  - iv. Follow up with smartphone via QR code
  - v. The current banning of Russians and Belarusians is to continue.

British Veteran Fencing asked if those host cities that had previously agreed to host Circuit events were able to revert to the previous guidelines or whether they were bound by these new regulations. Following a short discussion, it was confirmed that all events are now to abide by these new regulations.

## **9. REFEREE NETWORK**

Angela was unable to attend, and Benoit delivered the presentation on her behalf. Presentation is contained in the library.

## **10. COACH NETWORK**

Peter Brigola was not present. There was a discussion around coaches' knowledge of veterans needs which are different to younger fencers.

## ***11. FENCING DEVELOPMENT***

Presented by Atilla and Anne. Presentation is contained in the library.  
There was discussion including having mixed team events (mixed weapon and gender), bringing fencing out from the inside to the public.  
Also, the countries using EVF events for ranking and selection.  
Encouragement of non-competitive fencers.

## ***12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

Caryl discussed voting by Proxy.  
Each member may hold one proxy vote for another member from the same country if it is confirmed in writing prior to the congress.  
The President may hold multiple proxies confirmed in writing prior to the congress.

Meeting was closed.