



**Annual General Meeting
of Scottish Fencing Ltd**

**Held at the Edinburgh Marriott Hotel,
111 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh EH12 8NF,
on Saturday 18 March 2017.**

Welcome:

Attending:

Andy Alderman
Shaun Alderman
Liz Anderson, Executive Administrator and minute taker
Sheila Anderson, Director
Dave Carson, Director
Phil Carson, Coach Education Manager
Roy Clarke
Bruce Crawford
Keith Davidson
Naomi Farmer
Martyn Foley
Clyne Grant
Chris Hyde, President (CH)
Laura Jamieson
Hugh Kernohan
George Liston
Alan Loveland
Paul Neil-McLachlan
Lesley O'Donnell, Director (LOD)
Michael O'Donnell, Director and Acting CEO (MOD)
Alexander Pearson
Thomas Sorbie
Bill Steele, Director
Stan Stoodley
Paul Thomson

Attending via Facebook live:

Alexander Jones

Apologies received from:

Peter Drummond
Jennifer Griffin, sportscotland partnership manager
Sam McCarlie
Ross Morriosn
Patricia (Patsy) Nicholls
Paul Vaughan

1 Minute of Scottish Fencing AGM, 9 March 2016

The minutes of the 2016 meeting are to record that those joining by Skype could only hear the meeting. Subject to this change the minutes of the Scottish Fencing AGM held on the 9 March 2016 were agreed.

2 Presentation of Accounts for period 01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016

DWC summarised the accounts. Scottish Fencing has a surplus of £24K and there is no tax due because of brought forward losses. The 2016 income is split 50/50 between sportScotland and self-generated income.

3. Election of president

The Board welcomed George Liston as President. George's nomination was the only one received so he is duly elected.

4. Election of directors

There were three vacancies and three nominations. The Board welcomes Ross Morrison, Martyn Foley and Hugh Kernohan.

There is a single vacancy for an independent director and Scottish Fencing has received two nominations. Once the new Board is inducted they will look at the submissions and invite the person who has the most relevant skill set to join.

5. President report

The President reported that there are currently two part-time National Development Officers supporting clubs with the roll out of the club accreditation scheme – Swordmark.

The President ran through some of the fencing highlights from the year; Challenge Wratislavia, plastic fencing festivals, youth performance training days and the summer camp and noted some great results from junior, senior and veteran competitions.

MOD reported that KMPG had recently undertaken an audit of Scottish Fencing which resulted in no major comments; adding that Scottish Fencing has already addressed the five minor ones raised by the auditors.

5.1 Coach Education

MOD highlighted the camaraderie and flexibility of the new coach education system. Currently there are three levels; level four is under development.

5.2 Equality

SA highlighted that Scottish Funding has met the Preliminary Equality Standard for sport. This standard links to sportScotland's governance framework and it is a great achievement for the Scottish Fencing Board. Moving forward it is essential that Scottish Fencing's funders see the organisation develop and work towards the Equality Action plan in the coming years.

5.3 Safeguarding.

LOD highlighted the new safeguarding toolkit which Scottish Fencing piloted.

In response to a question LOD asked for anyone who sees bad practice to use their club's disciplinary policies to report it.

In response to a question MOD confirmed that Scottish Fencing is currently compiling a database of coaches so that Scottish Fencing can ensure that everyone coaching fencing in Scotland is on the British Fencing register. Swordmark accreditation will support this. The PVG process was also discussed. LOD asked anyone with questions to email her out with the meeting as she is happy to support anyone requiring help with the PVG process or joining the British Fencing coaches register.

There was a good response from the members on the consultation regarding Scottish Fencing's strategy. The focus is now on raising the profile of the sport, measuring participation and retaining members. The strategy will also focus on making clubs stronger and Swordmark accreditation is a key part of this.

It was added that sportScotland have given the new leadership team the opportunity to tailor this strategy at a later date so that they can then work toward a three year strategy.

sportScotland have supported Scottish Fencing's effective organisation and development budget, however the performance funding has been cut. If Scottish Fencing wish a CEO the organisation needs to fund this position using self-generated money.

The meeting discussed the impact and consequences of the cut in performance funding.

6. Awards

The following awards were presented:

Crosnier Quaich – Jess Corby

In recognition of her Junior World Cup medal.

Crosnier Coaching Award – Chloe Dickson

The board wished to recognise a young coach.

Sword of merit – Roy Clarke

The board wished to recognise the contribution of Roy to the organising of the Commonwealths and his work as CEO.

The President recognised the loss to the sport of Dr David Mends, Elizabeth Wright and Jean McLardy.

7. AOB

CH thanked all who have worked with him whilst he has been President, including the Board and staff. He gave his best wishes to the new Board members and President.

In response to a question the referee mentor scheme was discussed. The scheme uses mentors (newly qualified referees) to help junior fencers who wish to become referees develop their skills through gaining experience. It was suggested that Sworkmark could have a referee component to support referee training in clubs.

The Board thanked Lesley O'Donnell and Roy Clarke for their work as directors.

The meeting closed at 11am.