

# Minutes -AGM September 2019

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<b>Date of Meeting</b>	28/09/2019
<b>Location</b>	BOA
<b>Board</b>	Chair, Janet Campbell, Clare Halsted, John Troiano
<b>Present</b>	Georgina Usher, Kim Robinson, Hilary Philbin, Virginia Bailey, Steve Kemp, Vivien Mills, Lawrence Burr, Rob Bruniges, Sandra Egginton, Pat Casey, Maria Jose Faustino, Peter Jacobs, Jim Philbin, Jon Willis, Emily Jeanes, Michael Belfourd, Dimitri Coutya, David Partridge, Jack Magill, Elviss Zutis, Tom Milner, Piers Gilliver, Sheryl Chiu-Sosnov, Shaine Ryland-Gasher

## 1. Introductions & Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Board Directors as well as the President, Hilary Philbin, CEO Georgina Usher, Kim Robinson, Virginia Bailey, Jon Willis and Steve Kemp. And expressed congratulations to Dimitri Coutya and Piers Gilliver on their recent medals.

## 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

Directors: Caryl Oliver, Paul Abrahams, Tom Cadman, Yashmin Harun, Tommy Curran Jones, Reedah El-Saie, Anne-Catrin Sallaba, Matthias Ossyra.

Members: Teddy Bourne, Raymond Crawford, Charles Henderson, Marilyn Wheelband, Jane Hutchison, Caitlin Maxwell, Jane Brown, Paul Davis, Francine Robb, Brian Speight, Peter Northam, Andrew Nesbit and Karen Paul

## 3. To approve the minutes of the 2018 AGM

Chair asked the members to approve the minutes of the 2018 AGM.

*Lawrence Burr Proposed, Clare Halsted Seconded*

*The minutes of 2018 were approved unanimously.*

## 4. To receive the annual accounts for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

John Troiano presented the accounts as Chair of the AGRC, taking the members through the accounts, giving a summary of the financial results made available to members in advance of the meeting. He made the following points:

- The aim is to run British Fencing on a balanced budget, not running a surplus or deficit.
- Made a small surplus of £3,000
- Nothing really changed in income and expenditure from year to year

- There is an equivalent reduction in the spending line because funding bodies require every penny to be accounted for and spent
- Membership revenues up and above budget. There is an inflationary increase year to year
- Commercial activity shows a surplus of £45,000 which is positive
- Events historically have struggled but is now on a better footing
- Events, income is £116,000 and the cost is £156,000 (including salary costs). Our goal has been to 2018-2019 did not have the sponsorship for the Nationals that it had in 2017-
- For reasons of prudence we want to have 6 months expenditure (excluding grant money), and are currently in the right place
- Value of the Chiswick freehold is estimated at £700,000 which means BF are lucky enough to have a sound footing giving flexibility for the future.

J Philbin asked for a breakdown of membership increase.

CEO reported that there was roughly an increase in Recreational membership by 27%, Compete membership fell slightly, Supporter membership increased by 24%, Starter fell slightly and there was an increase in the free Introductory Membership. We will be looking at it in detail.

Lawrence Burr asked if there was anything the fencing community and Board could do to increase members in line with the figure British Fencing are aiming for.

CEO the issue is if clubs allow people to fence without being a member it has an effect on British Fencing trying to grow the sport.

There then followed a debate on non-members being insured.

Peter Jacobs asked when the budget was set each year.

J Troiano – February each year and not published.

JT concluded that CEO and exec team have done a really good job in getting us to where we are.

Lawrence Burr asked about the BF Charity.

JT Charity has around £16,000 of unallocated funds.

*Resolution proposed by Vivien Mills and Seconded by Pat Casey.*

*The accounts for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 was received.*

## **5. To be informed of changes to Membership Fees**

The CEO took the meeting through the agreed membership fee changes that will become effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Noting that the increase was based on 2% inflation.

*The meeting noted the new membership fees*

## **6. Presentation of British Fencing Awards**

The President made the presentations of awards.

**Tankards:** the award for Dan Kellner (Coach to Marcus Mepstead) will be presented at another date.

**Award of Merit:** the awards were presented to Maria Jose Faustino and Sheryl Chiu-Sosnov

**Bronze Medal:** the awards were presented to Vivien Mills and Shaine Ryland-Gasher. The award for Marilyn Wheelband will be presented at another date.

**Silver Medal:** the awards were presented to Dimitry Coutya and Piers Gilliver, the award for Jon Milner (Posthumously) was presented to his son Tom Milner, the awards for Steven Paul (Posthumously), Francine Robb and Marcus Mepstead will be presented at another date.

**Directors Award** – the award was presented to Rob Bruniges

The award for Caitlin Maxwell will be presented at another date.

## 7. AOB

The Chair mentioned the idea of having a hybrid meeting so more members could be part of it.

Members agreed it could be useful.

The Chair thanked the CEO and staff for their passion and commitment and the Board for their contribution throughout the year. He also thanked the members for their attendance.

*The meeting closed at 12:20*