



**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON FRIDAY 6
AUGUST 2021**

1. Welcome

The president welcomed the members.

2. Present and apologies

Present:

Mike Stafford – President

Rhea Morar – Deputy-president

Louise Lombard – Secretary General

Tony Rademeyer – Treasurer

3. GFA matters

We are advised by the administrator, Novak Perovic, that he is in contact with all parties in an attempt to bring about an AGM. Most are insisting on an in person meeting, which would likely have to wait until Level 2, due to the number restrictions of 50 pax. We are concerned that this is an unknown time frame, which could easily go the other way with a move to Level 4 or 5 if case numbers don't start coming down soon, as well as the notice required for an AGM. To re-offer our electronic platforms and indicate that we would prefer that this AGM take place sooner rather than later.

4. Commonwealth 2022

We have received a request from the Team Management & Coaches Commission that the cut-off competition for selection to this multi-age group event be no later



than the end of April 2022 due the combination of the anticipated larger size of the team and the potentially more complicated logistics due to Covid, which will still likely have effects come 2022. We agree that this is a reasonable request and will take it into account when planning the calendar for 2022.

5. Competitions 2021

We are informed that FWC will be able to host a national competition in December 2021, likely the weekend of 11/12th, but are awaiting the final venue confirmation. We do not recommend booking any travel until this is confirmed.

The KZN Open confirmed and work has begun on preparation. Penny Thompson has agreed to run the competition on Ophardt, with assistance from Mariet Schroder. Louise to contact Ophardt directly to ensure that the necessary permissions are enabled for Penny and Mariet.

We have heard rumours that the Eastern Cape might be able to host in early 2022, Mike to liaise with Jessica in this regard.

6. CAE Congress

We have just this week received noticed of the CAE Congress, which is to take place in Dakar Senegal on Monday 27 September 2021. This is an elective congress, with nominations due in by 14 August 2021, so very little time.

There have been a multitude of phone calls within South Africa, Africa and the rest of the world concerning both the CAE and the FIE elections and how best to place African candidates. Taking into account these recommendations and requests; and the acceptances of some of the parties recommend, the following nominations will be made for the CAE elections:

Mike Stafford – Vice President (one of 5)

Novak Perovic – Secretary General

Louise Lombard – Deputy Secretary General & Arbitration Commission

7. FIE Congress

The Congress is due to be held in Switzerland on 27 November 2021. We are still considering our attendees.

Taking into account the various conversations and recommendations mentioned in 6 above, the following persons will be nominated as described:

Novak Perovic – Executive Committee, re-election, has served us and fencing well in this capacity.

Mike Stafford – Women and Fencing Council, 30% men are required on this council, as well as representation from all 5 zones. It is important that Africa be positively represented here. This particular recommendation comes from a current serving commission member. The President wishes to note his appreciation to the South African Women's group for making it possible for him show his support for such a critical issue.

Louise Lombard – Promotion, communication & Marketing Commission, based on involvement in social media and related issues and having offered suggestions to both the CAE and FIE in this regard in the past.

Irina Knysch – Referee Commission, re-election, has served us and fencing well in this capacity.

Andrei Kovrijnykh – Rules Commission, a good position for a referee to ensure that the rules match the experience and possible step before Referee Commission.

8. DSAC Business plan

We have received very little input from the provinces however taking into account what was received and that there is not a lot of variation from 2020/1, Tony to prepare a summary and be ready when we are either asked for same and/or receive the grant letter.

9. World Fencing Day

This is on 12 September. Decided to spotlight development clubs and coaches. Louise and Rhea to ask coaches if they wish to be involved and produce a short video possibly of group training for social media.

10. Cathseta Webinars

Both Louise and Rhea attended various Cathseta webinars during the week. It was hoped that this would be an alternative funding avenue for training of coaching, especially in the new ancillary requirements in terms of the new coaching legislation. However, this is a very underfunded SETA and not adequately set up for sports training. This SETA is also combined with the entire hospitality and arts sectors. We do not feel that this is a feasible avenue at this point.

11. Athlete's Commission

The new Deputy Chair advises that she has met with the Athlete's Commission who have requested that we assist with ensuring that more athletes' voices are heard. We accordingly suggest that the provinces hold elections and appoint their own Athletes' Commissions that may liaise with the national commission. We will also request a social media promotion of this commission with contact details so that athletes can approach the commission directly.

12. Competition Commission

The Deputy Chair has also met with the current members of this commission and advises that they are off to a good start in understanding many of the issues currently affecting competitions.

13. POPI

Rhea questioned our current status on this. Louise to forward newly drafted SASCOC policy as well as prep work regarding the FFSA elements. Agreed to appoint Louise as Secretary General as the Information Officer via the registrar. We note that a website update will also be required in this regard. Louise and Rhea to work on this.

14. Equipment

Mike left the meeting at this point.

Mike has expressed that he is no longer able to fence foil and sabre, but wishes to continue with epee and should thus sell his equipment, but doesn't want the trouble of selling it piecemeal nor or figuring out pricing. Tony and Louise did some maths and offered Mike R12 500 for this equipment which he has accepted. We anticipate at least doubling this money on sales. This is considered a once-off equipment sales, based on anticipated profit for FFSA when funding has otherwise been limited recently. Louise to assist with pricing, advertising and distribution of the equipment.

15. Close

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for 21 August 2021.