

AGM Foundation for Scottish Fencing
December 2021 - Zoom call

Attendees

David Barbour Marie Steele Fiona Morrison Fiona Hetherington, Kelly and George Cobb, Sheila Anderson, Paul Vaughan, Vincent Bryson, Denise Symons, Paul Byrne, Stan Stoodley, Jennifer Sandcroft, Daniela Bryden,

Apologies - none

David Barbour shared Chairman's report and 2020 AGM minutes and finance reports via email

Meetings from previous year 2020 agreed by Marie Steele and seconded by Fiona Hetherington.

This AGM August 2020 to July 2021 - no fencing due to Covid, this meeting will be detailing what has been done during this timeout with fencing competitions.

David Barbour explained the Foundations role to the wider audience, not for profit charity running 4 youth competitions and one senior fencing competition. All moneys are given back in grants to encourage fencing in Scotland etc

Acknowledgements given to coaches volunteers referees, supporters who support the youth series events.

Review 2021 events - no fencing events for this season. Lost the March event and TRI Weapon competition due to Covid lock down.

August 2021-2022 fun event to get fencers back to competition - FFSF had to learn how to run events with tight conditions due to Covid's restrictions.

Only event staff and referees along with fencers. All had to take lateral flows tests prior to event. Temperature checks, visors masks, one way, cafe and armoury were out door, contactless payments.

Meetings undertaken with British Fencing and Scottish Fencing to understand the protocol's to be put in place in return back to competition.

Contact trace used through sport 80 to provide information for all persons who attended that event.

Sport 80 will be used at future events as they do the admin checking licences etc, this saves time and is automated.

FFSF Purchased 4 wireless boxes prior to August event - in relation to planning for fencing going forward.

We borrowed 6 wireless boxes from Salle Holyrood meaning we had 10 wireless boxes for the August event.

Going forward this means no hiring of vans for transport saving £600/700 a season

Also means less touch points for fencer re omicron/Covid

August Event held at St George's School which has a canopy/terrace area where cafe and armoury were. After poules fencers/refs/coaches were taken outside to see parents and socialise. As there hadn't been a competition in 17 months.

First all weapon even in Scotland at that time. lots of engagement and support given by Scottish Fencing and British Fencing. Lots of work but everyone enjoyed the event. New experience for everyone planning and running events.

Thanks given to Peter Kilpatrick who helped at cafe and donated fresh coffee and filter machines and Martin Buckley ran the at armoury - as fencers had not checked kit in 17 months so the first hour was fixing kit not used in ages.
Thanks

Special Thanks given to Scottish fencing from FFSF for the support in hall fees and score boxes and providing support when needed.

2 events planned 6th FEB 2021 and another in April or May. Awaiting outcome of omicron virus, event to be finalised in new year. Scottish Fencing are in talks with Scottish government re this new variant and possible restrictions in the new year.

1 positive Covid test after event in August - this is only positive test so protocols in place worked

Dec 2020 anticipated a dip in numbers for competitions in 2021/22 due to covid which was true due to fencing clubs being shut and no taster sessions. 28% down on normal YDS events under 11s were the worst hit age group.

There is optimism for the future but it will take time to recover from the lock down. Salle Holyrood/Salle Ossian, West Fife West Lothian, fencing fun have been active during this time and 2 new clubs opened Dunedin and Forth Valley.

Highlights 3 events in last season shared on screen - showing under 11 foil almost half and same in boys sabre and under 15s have increased as the under 13s have moved up.

Developments - community planning and YDS planning. Biggest challenge returning to competitions after 17months - big moral boost for all involved

YDS entry amount remained same early bird entry and lunch box £15.

Thanks to all the people who provide rolls tray bakes and cakes this really helps the cafe.

Contactless payment introduced this year which helped with no cashing up and no touch points

Registered with Amazon smile this year, thank you to all who have registered us as their preferred charity.

Still part of Scottish Fencing events planning forum for the last couple of years. This allows for no clashing of events and sharing good practises.

Partnership grants and SF

2020/21 season we offered all 41 registered clubs in Scotland a £250 grant for repair and restart after Covid. 22 clubs applied and full grant given. All university clubs utilised the grant which was the biggest challenge.

Marie Steele gave thanks to David Barbour for all his hard work.

FINANCES

August to July current submitted 2019/2020, season 2020/21 season will be uploaded by April next year.

Thanks given to Louisa Dawson for reviewing the accounts for this year and she has kindly said she will do this for the coming year its really appreciated

Missing two events this season meant we are down about £2500 from missing from these events. Covid has had a big impact on this years accounts.

2019/2020 - net surpluses not bad having missed two events. Bank balance roughly £11000
Part grant given for Elgin but will be implemented in 2020/21.

Base line of £5000 kept yearly to cover for events for hall hire or any extra expenses.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

David explained we normally would have parents in front of us to gain volunteers.

Stepping down this season are 4 committee members

Thanks to George and Kelly Cobb Cafe coordinators for couple of years their work is appreciated by everyone

Thanks to Fiona Hetherington child protection officer

Thanks to Huge Kelly floor manager and piste set up/ break down.

We will continue to speak to parents/carers to encourage new volunteers.

Committee members is normally zoom or what's app its only busy nearer the events. We need a balance of doers and ideas people to help out at the events.

David Barbour - Purpose change to constitution due to extraordinary circumstances of the last 20 months and second AGM on zoom. Post holders not normally hold post for more than 3 years. They can hold post for 4th year in extraordinary continuity for function

Change to text to constitution to ensure foundation will continue.
Office bearers can continue their role for a further year or until volunteers are obtained

Proposed David Barbour seconded Fiona Hetherington

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

Chair - David Barbour seconded Fiona Hetherington

Secretary - Marie Steele to be confirmed

Treasurer - Fiona Morrison proposed by David BARBOUR seconded Fiona Hetherington

Cafe Coordinator - vacant

Child Protection - David Barbour proposed himself Fiona Morrison seconded (Fiona Hetherington offered to help out in coming year)

First Aid Marie Steele proposed by David Barbour and seconded by Fiona Hetherington

2022/23 season will leave the event run by 3 person David Barbour Marie Steele and Fiona Morrison.

This occurred 5 years previously when we got not volunteers. In a hall in Edinburgh no person volunteered. Eventually Fiona Hetherington then George and Kelly and Hugh joined to support us.

If no one volunteers the foundation will close as as well will be standing down if no volunteers join. Really looking under 11 parents/carers/wider family to step up to assist for a few years.

We will arrange for PVG and BF supporters licence and support for additional courses as needed for committee volunteers

David Barbour will post AGM and links for documents at end of this meeting.

Hope to set up FIE referee training after a 3 year break - we look forward to assisting training them at then future YDS competitions.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Thanks given to all who have attended this AGM.