

ALBERTA FENCING ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE MEETING – May 8, 2005 AGENDA

In attendance: Norm, Marie, Elizabeth, Spencer, Brad, Barry, and Chris
Regrets: Ian

Norm opened meeting at 7:24pm

1. Acceptance of last meeting minutes:

Brad moved to accept the last meeting's minutes, seconded by Barry.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. Program Directors Report - Marie

Online system registration is labor intensive but getting easier.

Marie met with Barry and finalized with Brad regarding the funds allocated to the Provincial team.

- Only one complaint regarding funding reimbursement but unfortunately the funding request was made for only one of a few trips outside province rather than all incurred.

We need volunteers for Casino

Marie only responsible for equipment and during Nationals she is responsible for posting and notification of events

Equipment issues

- short of test gauges - 7 more ordered
- Marie picked up test weights in Calgary from Elya
- we will borrow a few more weights from other provinces as well as pistes from Saskatchewan and 2 scoring boxes from BC and 4 from Manitoba

Provincial Championship results and Westerns results are now finally in to Brad.

- Marie has solution for delay obtaining results.

Regarding Nationals table setup and items for sale - Gabriella will not to charge us for setup, as we are partially responsible for event.

Leadership Summit was awesome: boldest issue - security check on coaches and volunteers (who have one to one contact with athletes (ie: Jill and Randy not security checked)) needs to be conducted. Currently, Marie is ultimately responsible, even in the unlikely event that the clubs do not conduct security checks on their coaches and volunteer staff and something should happen. Therefore, Marie would like to be absolved by AFA executive of all responsibility. Checks can be done by RCMP. Calgary police check usually free for volunteers.

Kerry Wood Nature Center meeting room booked (AGM)

3. Budgets – 2004/2005 & 2005/2006

Because of late expenses received in April rather than March (ie: tournament expenses, \$14K outstanding for provincial team, and the bus to Westerns) we should be in the black or close to it in the 05-06 budget year.

05-06 budget to be looked at closely for correctness and desirability.

4. Changes to the Policy Manual

Membership registration

- online passport registration not being fully utilized.
- Norm - club's registration of new members currently conducted.
- National Passports
 - Any athlete attending an Open event must have National passport – even at Red Deer 4 athletes got through without Nat'l passport.
 - The reason we (AFA) encouraged CFF passports was so Saskatchewan athletes would come and participate to earn points towards their National ranking.
 - If we decide to opt out of CFF ranking system then there is no need for National passport
 - Brad indicated Brian Zulkosky proposed BC/AB/SASK crossborder championships which means we could forget CFF
 - Currently \$52 of \$75 goes to CFF for passports
 - Agreed upon to **not change** this policy until after AGM

Tournament Officiating Fees

- Officiating fees – the minimum AFA will pay is ½ of what tournament organizers pay up to a maximum of \$50 or \$100/day

Tournament Officiating Qualifications

- “Open” events to be officiated by “P” level referees
- Barry suggested the funds left over for sabre be used to increase level of sabre coaching or used for a sabre officiating clinic.
- Brad indicated that if we go our own way regarding the National Passport fee the CFF officiating rules would be bypassed.

Volunteer/Admin travel expenses

- Marie proposes to increase travel expenses \$0.25 to \$0.32/Km (average rate is \$0.35)
- 2 or more travelers gets better rate

Coach of the Year

- Marie would like to add a category for Coach of year awards? Nice to recognize coach but choosing would be difficult. Considerable debate resulted in a VOTE: Barry motioned to create a Coach of the Year Award and Elizabeth seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. New Policies

Security checks on coaches/volunteers

- this AGM, checks are to be enforced (mandated)

Equipment (fencers) for tournaments

- Marie to notify entrants upon registration for tournaments that “this equipment” is needed (ie: report to piste w/2 weapons, wires, breeches and mask check) for tournament entry.
- clubs will be asked to provide information sheet as such.

Referees at tournaments

- policy does not indicate duties – inconsistency in referee duties.
- referees must be organized, delegated and in suitable attire to maintain professionalism.
- reporting of cards (ie: black) stated in rules
- Rules and Regs state business dress
 - currently loosely enforced across CFF

- Suggestion was made to the possibility of referee vest
- Barry suggested tournaments could be used as clinics utilizing a Referee in Chief (overseer) to observe and grade

Tournament registration, fencer responsibilities

- to ensure fencer preparation at tournaments
 - indicate upon registration and membership all equipment requirements (weapons, body wires, breeches, mask check)
 - sign at tournaments indicating mask check being conducted today
 - continue carding mistakes – fencers will learn

Rules of competition

- arrive with validated passport
- D.O.B. written in (ie: competing outside age group)
 - online registration will be configured to ensure correct registration
- solution is to have sheet at registration indicating corresponding D.O.B. and age group

Recommendations from EFC

*** tournament deadlines**

- deadlines for tournament information (30 days prior to event) and results to carry penalty for violation.
- Possible solutions
 - results to be received within set time or no money paid out
 - policy to indicate no money paid until results are in
 - AFA could non-sanction event as penalty but that is not desirable
 - the simplest and most effective penalty would be a cash penalty (ie: \$100-\$200 or possibly 5% of registration fees)
 - suggestion to be brought up at next AGM

*** casino profit sharing**

- in the past 2%-3% profits were allocated to the club
- Marie ensured each volunteer would receive \$200/shift
- EFC recommends \$300/shift
 - Marie concerned that AFA money goes back to club
 - casino is expected to make \$75K
 - EFC looking for something written to indicate amount of money to be received?
- AFA feels that \$200 is fair and will be adhered to
- if necessary, casino funds can be used to pay for costs incurred to attend casino (ie: cab), but not encouraged

*** athlete support**

- U17 and Nat'l team has void of funds
- Norm suggested that a fencer's ranking/points = amount of funds received
- Brad suggested determining percentage of split between U13/U15 development and U17/U20 high-performance funding
- determination needs to be made what constitutes the Provincial team?
 - top 3 or top 1?
- funds are dedicated by president of AGM @ AGM
 - Marie to meet with Brad and Norm at subcommittee meeting to formalize proposal to board
- Brad, Norm, Barry to have meeting by telephone or SCYPE before the 16th
 - set for next Sun May 15 at 8pm

6. Positions up for re-election this AGM

- **President** – Norm to stand unless someone wants the position

- **V.P. Admin** - Elizabeth – questions effectiveness of position
 - Marie indicated position is essentially is a sounding board for her.
 - position may later be redefined and even merged with Secretary
 - Elizabeth will stand but position is open for anyone wishing to challenge
 - Ian now online
- **V.P. Technical** – Ian to stand down
- **V.P. Marketing** – Spencer to stand
- **V.P. Elite** – Brad Goldie to stand
- **Treasurer** - Barry Edgar to stand
- **Secretary** – Chris to stand

7. Summer Camp information/questions

- Proposal for 2 day camp (Fri/Sat) prior to regular camp for HP adults only (18+ years)
 - Marie to post notice to determine interest in H.P. camp and feasibility
- Olds College could be utilized next year for a larger camp (ie: 100 fencers).
- Camrose has limited space – 1 week camp 35-40 fencers
 - Spencer discussed possibility of celebrity coaches or athletes to appear at camp to make camp attractive to out-of-province athletes
 - possibility of a Foil/Epee coach – or more so a Sabre coach
 - Barry suggested paying top fencers to attend camps as opponents
 - Norm suggests 2x/year but budget for camps is not huge.
 - in order to avoid discrepancies, Marie is head of camp – no head coach
 - all coaches report to Marie
 - discussed possibility of an exchange program for out-of-province kids to attend camp at no cost other than the travel in order to create a variety of fencers. But feasibly, our goal will be to do our own thing and attract more fencers to boost our camp numbers.
 - coaches to be paid for travel to Camrose

8. Other items

- Norm proposes to raise membership fees
 - \$5 club (100% to AFA) current
 - \$35 Provincial membership to \$40 (100% to AFA)
 - \$75 CFF to \$85 (\$52 to CFF, increase from \$23 to \$33 to AFA)
 - tournament costs are significant
 - 3% of tournament fees plus \$0.25/transaction
 - costs for online registration to be borne by tournament whether by registration online or not and the extra admin fee (about \$2) should be built in
 - Marie indicated that Monaris fees are already worked into budget and she would like to work this additional cost into the budget, at least for the next year, until the system is ironed out
 - Spencer is for minimal increase across board
 - Brad opposed to any fee increases that are not necessary
 - Chris opposed to any increase until budget evident and CFF passport issue resolved, at least later in year
 - Agreed upon that **only the proposed increase of the CFF passport from \$75 to \$85** be on AGM agenda
- Marie recalled item regarding camp
 - Nora and Jill have indicated that this is their last year they will be doing the off-piste activities
 - Randy (maybe yes) and Brita (yes) would possibly take on the positions of camp leaders
 - Alberta Camping Association has one-day training seminar for camp leaders at a cost of \$40 each (including transportation), which would be a good investment
 - Jenny may also be a potential candidate?

Norm verified with Marie that the \$1700 Monaris expense is realistic.

Brad motioned to adjourn meeting and seconded by Spencer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 pm

Next meeting - TBA

Minutes prepared by Chris Seabrook