

## **ALBERTA FENCING ASSOCIATION**

Annual General Meeting

Red Deer Fencing Club, 107, 33 Mckenzie Cres, Red Deer, AB T4S 2H4

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 10:00am

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Roll Call/Introductions**

#### **2. Election of Meeting Chair**

- Andrew Rusheleau elected as meeting chair. Colin Longhurst seconds. Carried. Meeting called to order at 10:19.

#### **3. Reading and Adoption of Minutes of November 25, 2018 Annual General Meeting**

- Andrew Rusheleau moves to accept minutes as presented. Reyes Bertolin seconds. Carried.

#### **4. Review and Acceptance of Agenda**

- Richard Bezemer moves to accept agenda as presented. Colin Longhurst seconds. Carried.

#### **5. President's Report**

**Andrew Rusheleau**

- See attached report.
- Andrew moves to direct the policy committee to draft a policy regarding the requirement of a Sterling Background check for all P level and above referees in the Province of Alberta. Reyes Seconds. Carried.
- **Action Item:** Executive Director to follow up on AFA disciplinary committee policy and clarify CFF issue

#### **6. Executive Director's Report**

**Taras Feculak**

- See attached report.
- Andrew moves to have the policy and coaching committee to draft a policy regarding a structure for development and training for coaches. Denis seconds. Carried.
- **Action Items:** Executive Director to follow up on CFF on coaching equivalency contact
  - Post Referee practice Exam resources
  - Evaluate and look into creating structures of tournaments where individuals will be evaluated directly for referees. Book the referees into the tournaments immediately.

- Create some sort of identification card of certification of referee (talk with referee committee)

## 7. Committee Reports

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| a. Armoury Report                      | Orlin Bojanov     |
| ○ No report sent.                      |                   |
| b. Athlete Development Report          | Andrew Rusheleau  |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| c. By-Laws Report                      | Andrew Rusheleau  |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| d. Coaching Report                     | Yue Ming          |
| ○ No Report sent.                      |                   |
| e. Finance Report                      | Nathanial Johnson |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| f. Marketing Report                    | Denis Fournier    |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| g. Officials Report                    | Yue Ming          |
| ○ No Report sent.                      |                   |
| h. Policy Report                       | David Cymbaluk    |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| i. Tournament Report                   | Andrew Rusheleau  |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |
| j. Veterans Report ( <i>Attached</i> ) | Svetoslav Marinov |
| ○ See attached report.                 |                   |

## 8. Confirmation of new club members

- Currently in discussion for Nova Fencing and Pentathlon Club registering as a club in Edmonton. Paperwork sent to AFA and registry offices to be made official.
- Andrew moves to accept the new application of Nova Fencing and Pentathlon Club pending paperwork. Louise Zanussi seconds. Carried.

## 9. Financial Reports

- a. Financial Statement 2018/2019

## 10. Acceptance of Financial Reports

- Richard Bezemer moves to accept financial reports as presented. Reyes Bertolin seconds. Carried.

### 11. Bylaws Review and Discussion

- Andrew Rusheleau moves to accept bylaw changes as presented. Richard Bezemer seconds. Carried.

### 12. Policy Manual Review and Discussion

- Andrew Rusheleau moves to accept policy manual changes as presented. Reyes Bertolin seconds. Carried.
- A note in the future not to include monetary values for wage descriptions in policies
- 5.5.2.3.1 no longer NCCP Level 1, should be Comp Dev in the future.
- Reyes Bertolin moves that the new policy committee drafts a policy regarding safe sport adoption. Louise Zanussi seconds. Carried.

### 13. Other Business

#### a. Club Round Table and Final Questions

- Denis Fournier asks that the CCFA funding be looked at from several months ago
- **Action Item:** Add meeting of the new board to agenda for the future.

### 14. Election of Board of Directors

- Andrew Rusheleau moves to dissolve current committees. Elya Perritt seconds. Carried.
- Andrew Rusheleau self nominates as President. Louise Zanussi seconds. 1 abstention. Carried.
- Andrew Rusheleau nominates David Cymbaluk. Orlin Bojanov seconds. 1 Opposed, 1 abstention. Carried.
- Andrew Rusheleau nominates Svetoslav Marinov. Vadim Demendeev seconds. Carried.
- Colin Longhurst self nominates. Louise Zanussi seconds. Carried
- Richard Bezemer self nominates. Elya seconds.
- Zac self nominates. Elya seconds.
- Andrew nominates Elya. Zac seconds.
- Andrew nominates Orlin. Colin seconds.
- Colin nominates Cameron Mann. Zac seconds. 1 Abstention.

### 15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Andrew moves. Zac seconds. 1:25pm.

## Executive Director's Report

### Strategic Plan Updates on Goals

1. Support local clubs to be strong, efficient and effective.
2. Improve communication tools for effective information provision.
3. Remove obstacles to programs in school systems.
4. Improve tournaments system.
5. Continue to work with CFF on technical development.
6. Increase public understanding and awareness of the sport.
7. Increase Membership.

### AFA Office/Administration

- Office documents moved to storage cage and archived. Trying to move all documents to digital cloud services for easier organization.
- AFA Casino was held October 6/7, 2019 in Edmonton. Next Casino to be held in Edmonton 2021, dates TBD.

### Membership- Goal 7

- 554 members for 2018-2019 season, slightly up from 546 the previous year.
- Since September 1, 2019 to November 24, 2019 it sits at 389, last year was 353 at the November 24<sup>th</sup> mark.

### CFF Nationals- Goal 5

- Alberta awarded 2020 CFF National Championships after successful application. To be held on May 8-11, 2020.

### Alberta Winter Games- Goal 6

- AWG Alberta Winter Games- February 14-17, 2020 Airdrie.
- Orlin Bojanov has agreed to be our Sport Chair.
- Currently awaiting zone playoffs to complete and start compiling zone teams.

### Website/Social Media Outreach- Goal 2

- Mailchimp newsletters have been sent out monthly to send information to the AFA membership with up to date information. New form of communication provides clear value of information.
- Facebook/Instagram outreach campaigns has helped increase communication between PSO and membership.

### Summer Camp- Goal 1

- Summer Camp 2019 was restructured to a decentralized model which allowed them to apply for AFA subsidies based on a new policy structure

- Included 10 EOIs from 5 different clubs
- 7 camps out of 10 applied for funding
- 1 camp was profitable, 3 were Net neutral, 2 were in a loss, 1 camp cancelled after payouts

### Coaching Armoury and Referee Clinics- Goal 5

- One referee clinics was held on September 22-23, 2018 with Mark Stasinos
  - Attendance of 4: 2 took theory and 2 did their practical
- Zero coaching clinics were held
  - Elya Perritt is a certified Coaching Learning Facilitator in AB, need to utilize him to put on several coaching clinics throughout the year.
- Zero armoury clinics were held

### Equipment- Goal 1

- AFA Equipment Order Initiative went well for a second year, clear benefit of discounted equipment to clubs.
- CFF provided PSOs with free sets of equipment, although we did not receive the exact equipment that we asked for, we are thankful nonetheless for this kind gesture.
- Video replay systems need to be used and train individuals to use properly, currently Elya and Orlin looking at using it at more tournaments.

### Grants - Goal 1

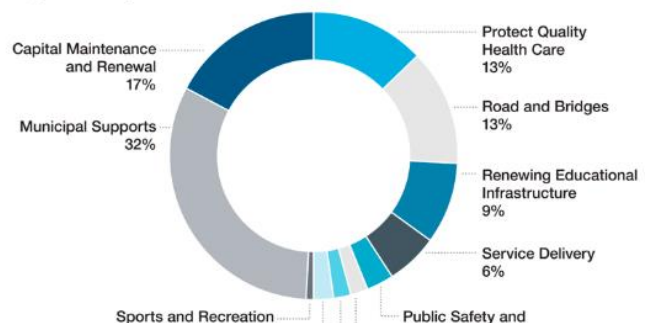
- Received \$5000 from ASC Coaches and Officials Education Grant and Evaluation Grant for coaching development.
- CFF was to give a donation of \$20,000 to all PSO's, still awaiting this payment.
- NO MORE ALBERTA SPORT CONNECTION - 3 panel decision from Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
  - A drop from 26 million to 23 million (2019/2020) to 20 million (2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023)
  - 11.5% drop in 1<sup>st</sup> year with 11.5% drop in 2<sup>nd</sup> Year = 23% drop in 4 year

The ministry will reduce contributions to the Community Initiatives Program and Other Initiatives Program, by \$56.8 million over four years. Reductions in support for major fairs in Edmonton and Calgary will save \$23 million over four years. Responsibility for all of the **Alberta Sport Connection** programs will be transferred to the department, saving \$2.7 million over four years. Responsibility for all of the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation and Historic Resources Fund programs will also be transferred to the department, saving \$800,000 over four years.

#### Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women – Operating Expense

(millions of dollars)	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Estimate	2020-21 Target	2021-22 Target	2022-23 Target
<b>Operating Expense</b>					
Ministry Support Services	8	8	8	8	8
Community and Voluntary Support Services	60	45	39	40	39
Arts and Creative Industries	83	84	73	55	39
Francophone Secretariat	1	1	1	1	1
Heritage	54	52	46	46	46
Recreation and Physical Activity	26	23	20	20	20
Status of Women and Multiculturalism	4	5	5	5	5
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>158</b>

#### Budget 2019 - Capital Plan



- **From Alberta Sport Connection:**
  - Coach and Official Development: \$5,000
  - Operating Grant: \$69,465.00
  - Total: \$74,465
    - Projected Cuts (11.5%) - 2019/2020: \$8,563.48
    - Projected Cuts (11.5%) - 2020/2021 and beyond: \$8,563.48
    - Projected Cuts total: (23%): \$17,126.95
  - **Projected Program Cuts:**
    - Coach and Official Grants

### **Membership- Goal 7**

- Goalline has been replaced by Interpodia
  - First impressions are very positive and much more user friendly
- Testing out clubs to create their club in the new system and run registration through this
  - Helps capture members as part of AFA and easier for reporting

### **Tournament dates- Goal 4**

- Tournament schedule is set with Provincials to be held in Red Deer May 2-3, 2020
- Several clubs are incorporating tournaments through Interpodia
  - Easy to track and report numbers on events, although events are still a bit tough to incorporate with specific needs for fencing
- Plan is set at using this new system to incorporate Interpodia to Membership and tournament registration
  - Streamlining is key for tournament hosts and clubs

## **Future Projects and Programs**

- **Referee, Armoury and Coaching Mentorship Program- Goal 5**
  - Coaching and Referee Pathways have been developed and put online
  - Armoury pathway currently being finalized
  - Brad Goldie agreed to come back and start implementing new referee pathway
  - More clinics need to be held and tracked through pathway system
  - Encourage clubs to express interest in wanting to host/certify their athletes
- **AFA run Weapon specific training camps and 1 major summer camp yearly**
  - Do we look at hiring a provincial coach part time to handle an AFA provincial team or create a provincial team with 3 team managers to work with a budget overseen by the Executive Director?
  - Training camps would be 1-2 days at most and weapon specific
  - AFA Summer Camp would include referee/armoury/coaching facilitators

- **Find ways to increase Membership Revenue- Goal 7**
  - Membership is the single most-easiest way to drive revenue, we need full compliance from clubs to be accountable that their members are registering
  - Centralize club and tournament registration through Interpodia as much as possible to encourage easier registration for club members (not mandatory, but highly recommended)
- **Tournament Ranking and Provincial Team Model- Goal 4**
  - Pyramid structure allows benefit at each stage to develop athletes, coaches, referees, etc...based on LTAD model
  - AFA runs registration of several tournaments while allowing clubs to host developmental clinics (also overseen by the AFA)
  - Categorize tournaments into 1,2,3 or level of development
- Asset management tracking system being looked at to track repairs and inventory between both seacans

## Recommendations for future

- Occasional board meetings over video or in person meetings
  - Increases engagement of the board
- Board to send in reports to ED 1 week prior to board meetings
  - Helps efficiency of meetings and focus on outstanding and concerning tasks

## Financial Committee Report

On November 5th, I contacted Taras regarding the AFA Finances. Our current status of the AFA books are in good order and up to date.

### 2018/2019 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

Our actual income through 2019 was better than expected, but this was due to equipment sales, a higher than expected membership for the year, and more ASC Funding then budgeted for. Our casinos are budgeted to allow for the amount of a casino to be divided amongst the time between casinos.

Due to changes in how our Summer camps were being run our budgeting for the Camp fees and Camp Expenses were vastly changed and due to a number of transactions not being completed until past our year end date, we will see more of the numbers on the 2019/2020 statement.

### 2019/2020 Budget

Due to changes in provincial government the ASC is no longer and is being brought internally into the Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women. The ACMaSoW will now be managing the programs previously managed by the ASC. Our funding could be cut upwards of 25% but we have not received any further information. Our budgeted grant will continue at the amount that was determined for last year.

### Recommendations:

I would recommend to the board that the committees become more efficient and have a purpose for the 2019/2020 year. This is due to us needing to make full use of the funding that is available, especially in regards to equipment maintenance, and marketing & promotion.

Furthermore I would recommend that the board look further into the results of the changes to the AFA summer camps and look to previous outcomes to determine what would be best for our 2020 Summer Camp. However, it is important that the AFA continue to look for other income sources outside of our main grant funding.

-Nathaniel Johnson, Chair





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## Marketing Committee Report

I don't have much to report other than saying that through the Sport Hub of The City of Calgary and the Calgary Board Of Education having met with Stuart Rose- City of Calgary Sport Consultant/Hub Manager-last Friday. Also in attendance was myself Denis, Jeremy Hill, Zac Morris and Taras Feculak. I will allow Taras to educate the board members on the content of that meeting and how we are moving forward with FencingCalgary.com, the Calgary Community Fencing Association (CCFA), Priori Epee Fencing Club and Gladiators Fencing Club. The CCFA is currently operating in 6 communities with 50 fencers of ages 7-15 and with new members joining in daily.

We will also be having after school programs staying in the new year. Our sport has finally been removed from the list of being a "prohibited sport on school properties". BIG WIN ! It only took 3 decades and 3 years of intense work. We now need to train and certify coaches. Some of them are already coaching/teaching and doing a fantastic job with pay. We will also need more equipment as theses programs grow and IT WILL. We hope the CCFA as a model will be influencing other jurisdictions in the future such as Edmonton and other cities.

-Denis Fournier, Chair



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## Policy Committee Report

A policy governing how the AFA responds to member requests for support for third non fencing awards was composed and adopted by the Board.

A policy in regard to travel grants for elite AFA athletes was composed and is awaiting Board discussion.

A policy in regard to privacy was composed and is awaiting Board discussion.

-David Cymabluk, Chair



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## Veterans Committee Report

If evaluated on the grounds of participation in Alberta competitions, the participation in Veterans events is stable manifesting the “usual” pattern of Epee being the best attended event while Sabre the worst (and more frequently cancelled than running). In terms of gender - in Epee both genders are nearly equally present, while in Foil and Sabre men fencers prevails in numbers. In terms of age - majority of veteran fencers are in the 40+ category (which makes them qualify for CFF ranking), yet still there is a number of younger fencers (30-39), which makes paramount to still maintain in Alberta the lower 30+ limit for veterans. In terms of geography and even club level - there are “pockets” of “dedicated veteran fencers” in Edmonton (epee and sabre - WRFC; foil - EFC), Calgary (Gladiator, FAC, EPIC, ARES, Priori - epee & foil), and Red Deer (epee). Such “pockets” are essentially the core of veteran events. Traditionally, the Edmonton Veteran Cup is the best attended multi-weapon veterans event in Alberta, and probably in Western Canada too (apart from regional/national events).

-Svetoslav Marinov, Chair