



CFF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2024, 11AM EST

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Board of Directors:

Yann Bernard (President)

John French (Vice President)

Chris Kalantzis (Secretary)

Luc Theriault (Treasurer)

Alexanne Verret

Monique Kavelaars

Judit Blasko (regrets)

CFF:

David Howes (Executive Director)

Kelleigh Ryan (Athlete Rep)

Provinces:

Yuriy Rubin (BC)

Richard Bezemer (Alberta)

John Shurniak (Saskatchewan)

Sean Rathwell (Manitoba)

Francesco Sabatini (Ontario)

Peter McLaughlin (Quebec)

Kathryn Howe (New Brunswick)

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Luc Theriault, seconded by Chris Kalantzis, to approve the Agenda. Motion approved.



3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict of interest.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes: January 2024

It was moved by John French, seconded by Luc Theriault, to approve the January 2024 Minutes. Motion approved.

The meeting was originally scheduled for April 17, 2024, but was ultimately rescheduled to April 28, 2024.

5. Update from President

Yann Bernard reported that the Pan American Confederation Congress was held in Costa Rica. Canada was invited to attend the International Fencing Academy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The event appears to be a political event organized by supporters of Alisher Usmanov without European countries being invited.

Yann Bernard also reported that the staff is doing an excellent job.

6. E-votes

6.1. 2024-2025 Budget Approval

Yann Bernard reported that the 2024-2025 Budget was approved by e-vote on March 25, 2024.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1. Veteran Age Categories

David Howes reported that there was a proposal to change how the Veteran age groups are calculated. The Veteran's Committee is in support of the proposal.

It was moved by Yann Bernard, seconded by Monique Kavelaars, to align the CFF's age categories and criteria with the FIE age categories and criteria. Motion approved.

Note: This means that fencers who are 39 years old in 2024 will be able to compete in the Veterans age groups next season.

8. New Business

8.1. Executive Director Report



David Howes reported that membership is at record numbers. We will exceed our revenue projections for competitions. This is mainly due to increased fees due to increased costs.

Details regarding the competitions next season have been sent out. There will be four competitions instead of three.

Peter McLaughlin asked a question about club hosting fees. David Howes reported that the issue will be discussed in camera but that competitions are the CFF's biggest sources of revenue and are necessary for the organization.

8.2. High Performance Director Report

David Howes reported that it has been a historic year so far for the High Performance Program. We had our highest medal count at a cadet/junior world championships ever. The largest team since the Seoul Olympics is being sent to Paris 2024.

8.3. Finance Report

Luc Theriault reported that the 2024-2025 Budget is the first non-conservative budget since 2020.

Yann Bernard spoke about the need to maintain surpluses for future use in Olympic years. He also discussed the plan for a Protection Fund for the organization.

8.4. AGM date and location

Yann Bernard reported that a hybrid in-person AGM was passed at the last AGM.

Yann Bernard polled the PSOs to ask if they would attend in-person or virtually. Most PSOs responded that they would likely be attending virtually.

It was agreed that the next AGM would be hybrid in-person in Toronto, Ontario on September 22, 2024.

8.5. Committee Updates

Updates on some of the committees were given.

9. Update from Provinces



British Columbia: Yuriy Rubin provided an update on the PSO.

Alberta: Richard Bezemer provided an update on the PSO.

Saskatchewan: John Shurniak provided an update on the PSO.

Manitoba: Sean Rathwell provided an update on the PSO.

Ontario: Francesco Sabatini provided an update on the PSO.

Quebec: Peter McLaughlin provided an update on the PSO.

New Brunswick: Kathryn Howe provided an update on the PSO.

Next meeting dates

June 23, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.