

FENCING CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Time: 8:30pm-9:30pm
Date: Monday, 11th August 2025
Location: online google meets

MINUTES

<i>No.</i>	<i>Item</i>
1	<p>Present (Quorum is at least half, i.e. at least 4):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will Bishop (Chair) - Liam James - Russell Johnson - Robert Clement - Nicole Martin - Nathan McKnight - Becks Witteman - Stephen Peterson <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Una Johnson
2	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Moved true and correct – SP, seconded NM.
	<p>Matters Arising – Action List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fen. Cen Website - Jonathan now has access and is updating the website. He has suggested that we start an email list. SP suggested that we should use Sparty instead to message Central members. He asked for BW to have access to Sparty from FeNZ. Access has been granted in the last week. ● Online Ref Course – Michael Nelson is not able to do an online ref course due to too many commitments. WB will speak to Michael Claydon about doing a 2 day course in Wellington. NM has suggested a portion dedicated to reviewing the rules, how competitions work poules, DE's etc. The need for wider education in Fencing is needed. Working on a weekend in September. ● Gear Allocation – 4 clubs from our region have applied and are in the process of receiving their gear.
4	<p>Financial & Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly Financial Report – presented by Robert. ● Central secondary schools went well. ● Money is coming in for Central Champs. Robert is away for this competition so will sort out payments when he gets back. ● Jules is in the process of getting Central its Affiliation fees as soon as he can. ● Accepted by WB seconded by LJ.
5	<p>FeNZ Matters/Central Matters.</p> <p>FeNZ meeting held the night before.</p>

Jules presented the club attendance data from around the country. 2000 fencing in NZ and only 650 people affiliated with FeNZ. The vast majority of these numbers are children. The numbers are only club attendance and do not take into account people who fence at multiple clubs, so these numbers could potentially take a reduction. The push is to get more of these people to affiliate. When the numbers look better the ability to apply for grants is easier.

FeNZ's insurance cover is changing at the end of this month. The new cover will only cover FeNZ and the regions, no longer covering clubs, coaches. Once this has been ratified FeNZ will let everyone know so that Clubs can sort out their insurance cover.

Constitution. WB sent BW out the most recent FeNZ documents around the constitution, which were also sent out to the committee members prior to the meeting. These documents are more or less the documents that will be presented at the FeNZ SGM around accepting the new constitution. WB has asked all committee members to read these documents before the September's meeting. Once we know that FeNZ is accepting their constitution then we can adopt the regional version of the constitution at a regional SGM. SP gave a brief update on the newer aspects of the proposed documents.

- Major changes at a national level are
- -The implementation of a complaints and disputes process
- In the event of a wind up of a region their assets will be divided to another regional body that is a part of FeNZ.
- The voting structure at a regional level will follow Central's format of general executives instead of club representatives. This will help to avoid the challenge that rival clubs controlling what happens at a regional level.

This will have FeNZ complying with the Incorporated Societies act.

SP and WB feel that Central has no concerns with these documents and the implementation of a regional constitution. This is not going to effect Central as there will not be any changes to the way we run at present.

Once FeNZ has held their SGM regarding the constitution Central will do the same. We will discuss dates at next meeting.

Please read these documents before the next meeting!!

There is going to be a FeNZ strategic planning meeting to be held before Nationals in October. WB is attending. SP asked who the invitees are, WB thinks it is the FeNZ board but thinks the invites will be sent out soon. But thinks the attendance is potentially small.

The selection Policy Has been officially adopted. There will be information sessions held at National secondary schools with a FeNZ board member, a selector and someone from the athletes commission to answer questions. There is a plan to have a second session at National in October. LJ asked if there would be a

	<p>simplified email version available for people not attending these competitions. The policy will be published on the website and on facebook.</p>
6	<p>Competition Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently completed: <p>Central Secondary Schools went well. We had the largest number of entrants this year compared to the last 6 years. Foil had the highest number of entrants. The committee are looking at later start times for the smaller days of competition at regional level or to stagger start times by gender, but this does lead to long days for volunteers. All our regional competitions are getting more entrants, approximately 33-50% more entrants than last year. We need to start looking at venues that are able to hold 5 pistes. However larger venues bring extra costs. It has been suggested that we should look at raising per diems to compensate the volunteers and their time.</p> <p>The recent growth has continued to rise for the last 5 years and does not seem to be plateauing which is great for growing the sport, especially in Foil.</p> <p>The question we need to consider is... do we look at Larger venues, shorter days and bigger costs vs smaller venues, longer days but lower costs? NM said that as a referee he would prefer the larger venue option.</p> <p>WB will have a discussion with UJ and RJ as Hutt Valley and Wellington Swords are hosting most of the regional events this year.</p> <p>The Central Champs is at the Gym at Rongotai for the weekend of the 16/17 August.</p> <p>Mid South still have our pistes from South Island Champs. North have asked for our pistes after NZ Secondary schools to be shipped up to Auckland for NZ National.</p> <p>U13, U11 and U9 is being held at Brooklyn over the weekend of the 23/24 August by Wellington Fencing Club. It is great to see them hosting a competition.</p>
7	<p>Club Matters</p> <p>Nil this month. SP suggested that we extend a formal invite to Wellington Fencing Club to attend meetings.</p>
8	<p>Health & Safety</p> <p>No issues this month.</p> <p>Liam offered to take up the Health and Safety officer role on the. His offer was accepted.</p>
9	<p>Grants</p> <p>Fencing Central Grant Funding update provided by Nathan</p>

	No updates this month
10	<p>Other Business.</p> <p>Constitution – Covered earlier in meeting.</p> <p>Gear Fixing Workshop- Daniel does not think he would be able to committee. NM and LJ will discuss potential dates in September.</p> <p>Regional Squad proposal- Sent out prior to meeting. Please have a read of it and give WB their thoughts. The squad would be invite only based on rankings. Starting with epee. The cost is looking at \$40 per weekend.</p> <p>The committee was asked if they were happy with the idea. RJ,BW and RC were happy with the idea. Nicole needs to read before committing. Coaches will need to be appointed by the committee.</p> <p>Central end of year Prize giving. Ongoing discussion about venues. Robert will propose a budget.</p> <p>SP asked if Central will promote the Hawkes Bay Blades camp prior to the Central Open competition. WB explained that as Hawkes Bay is not an affiliated club with FeNZ or Central, we will not be formally advertise the Camp but will advertise the competition as we can not be seen to be indorsing a non-affiliated club.</p>
11	<p>Date of the Next Meeting</p> <p><i>15th September 2025. Meeting invite pending</i></p>