

FENCING CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Time: 8:30pm-9:30pm
Date: Monday, 15 th September 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 - Nathan McKnight - Becks Witteman - Stephen Peterson - Nicole Martin <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 – Proposed BW, seconded LJ
	<p>Matters Arising – Action List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Constitution Review: Robert had some questions about the proposed constitution which Stephen answered thoroughly. ● It has been suggested that the committee should have a conflict-of-interest register. Will is going to get back with the updated regional constitution for us to discuss and agree upon within the next 2 weeks before setting a date for a regional SGM around November. ● FeNZ is holding their SGM for the national constitution at the end of September. It has been asked if as many Central committee be present as possible. ● Regional High-performance squad- Starting dates have changes. Everyone on the committee has agreed that this is a good idea. Expressions of interest for coaches for the squads will go out shortly. ● Gear fixing workshop- still in progress ● Referring Course update- A one day intensive course with Michael on the 19th October 2025. The focus on developing referees and senior fencers. After discussion the committee have agreed to cover costs for this course.
4	<p>Financial & Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly Financial Report – presented by Robert

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A very quiet month .Central Champs profit has been banked. Central Affiliation fees from FeNZ have arrived (\$3700) been banked. Proposed by SP seconded by LJ
5	<p>FeNZ Matters/Central Matters.</p> <p>The SGM is coming up on the 28th September. Central committee members have been asked to attend and to encourage other central members to attend and to vote. SP brought up that a lot of our members will not have read the document and won't know what it is about. Will and Grant are planning on holding an information session at a Wellington Swords night to answer any questions. If any other clubs wish Will and Grant to come and explain they will be happy to do that. If people want to see the constitution please share with them, both the regional and FeNZ document as we have nothing to hide.</p> <p>Referee pay rates are going to be increased to \$100 a day in 2026.</p>
6	<p>Competition Matters</p> <p>Central Champs- one matter arising from this competition (to be discussed later in meeting) Central Open coming up hosted by Hawkes Bay Blades.</p> <p>National secondary schools happened. Several issues were experienced at this competition</p>
7	<p>Club Matters</p> <p>Nil</p>
8	<p>Health & Safety</p> <p>A Fencer has had a concussion from another sport. On going monitoring for this person to continue at club.</p>
9	<p>Grants</p> <p>Presented by Nathan. Nathan is still working on the requirements for the videoing/refereeing system. We will need to apply for grants to go towards National Juniors (June 26) and the training camp hosted by Hutt Valley , and Presidents Cup in 13th - 15th Nov 2026.</p>
10	<p>Other Business.</p> <p>A Regional draft competition calendar will be out soon. Central will be hosting National Juniors at Kings birthday weekend 2026 with a training camp held around the same time. We also hosting President Cup next year.</p> <p>Baz Clark had asked Becks to read out a prepared statement from him in regard to the Central camp and Competition.</p>

"Two incidents have come to his attention

- 1) An alleged assault on a fencer at NZSS in Christchurch
- 2) An alleged serious threat made towards a person at the Central Senior Champs.

While no member of HBB/BCF was directly or indirectly involved in these alleged incidents, it has caused me serious concern for the safety of our collective members/volunteers and spectators. At the camp and Central Open BC Fencing will take a zero tolerance to such behaviours from anyone. In the event that anything like this happens, BC Fencing will

- Card as appropriate according to FIE rules
- Provide a full and written report to FeNZ and Central committee. Report anything deemed serious enough to the NZ Police directly"

This is felt to be a relevant way to run our competitions. One incident cannot be discussed as it is in front of FeNZ now.

In the second incident, the person the threat was directed at has decided not to file an official complaint. Will has spoken with Liz Stewart about how best to deal with this. The best course of action is for Will to contact the person who caused the incident and to let them know the proposed course of action that we want to follow, then with their knowledge and hopefully their consent, Will would put forward a formal complaint from Fencing Central about this person. Once the official complaint is lodged, WB would ask for it to be passed down to a regional level for us to deal with it. Will is the best person to talk with this individual and to outline our concerns around their behaviour. As we currently do not have any prior formal complaints about this person a formal warning should be issued to this individual. If anything, else was to happen at any other competition with this person, then a formal complaint is sent through to FeNZ to deal with.

Liam suggested that there should be more than one committee member present for this conversation, to denote its seriousness and to avoid he - said/she - said recollections of the meeting. Stephen has offered to be a second person present in this conversation to attempt informal resolution.

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Date of the Next Meeting

6th October 2025. 8:30 to 9:30 pm. Meeting invite pending