

## FENCING CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

*Time:* 8:30pm-9:30pm  
*Date:* Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
*Location:* online google meets

### MINUTES

<i>No.</i>	<i>Item</i>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Present (Quorum is at least half, i.e. at least 4):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will Bishop (Chair)</li> <li>- Liam James</li> <li>- Russell Johnson</li> <li>- Robert Clement</li> <li>- Una Johnson</li> <li>- Nathan McKnight</li> <li>- Becks Witteman</li> <li>- Stephen Peterson</li> <li>- Nicole Martin</li> </ul> <p><b>Apologies:</b></p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Moved true and correct – LJ, seconded BW.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Matters Arising – Action List</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fencing Central Constitution: SGM date set for the 9<sup>th</sup> November in conjunction with Central Vets Competition at Brooklyn. As the committee has no objections to our proposed constitution document, the SGM date and constitution will be published on the website, by email, and social media for Fen Cen members to read before SGM.</li> <li>● Regional Development squad: EOI for coaches in epee will be opened to the region via the website. If anyone from outside the region wishes to apply they can. The committee will make their decision on coaches, after closing date. If an out of region candidate is successful in their application the committee can look at budgeting travel costs for them on top of the coaching fees that they are to be paid. Closing date for applications is the 17<sup>th</sup> October. The projected profit per camp is around \$200 to \$250. Any profits that Central has will go towards sending a development coach/manager for the region to national competitions as suggested by Nathan.</li> <li>● Referee Course: this has gone up on the website and social media. Registrations are open. The course will be focussing on the priority weapons foil and some sabre. There is no limit on numbers to attend this course both parents and fencers.</li> <li>● Gear fixing workshop: to be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, after nationals. Nathan will write up a notice for the website.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Financial &amp; Membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Presented by Robert.</li> <li>● Not much has changed from last month.</li> </ul>

	<p>There was an over payment of affiliation fees to us from FeNZ. Around \$1,500.00 to go back to FeNZ.</p> <p>To discuss with Baz the profit share from the Central Open.</p> <p>We need to double check whether there are any new insurance costs with the new FeNZ policy. Wil is going to go through the new insurance policy with Robert. No invoice from fencing time live yet, Website costs covered for the year.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>FeNZ Matters/Central Matters.</b></p> <p>FeNZ monthly report.</p> <p>The board has proposed that one if not more Safeguarding and wellbeing officers are to be brought in for competitions. The safeguarding committee insists that these not be referees or DTs. WB pointed out that this will mean extra volunteers at competitions, and as we have difficulty finding volunteers to help out as it is, this will add a strain to competitions. These volunteers will require training in this area before taking on the role.</p> <p>SP gave a run down on what a Safeguarding officer would be required to do in their role, and the reasoning behind the need for the proposed role. The welfare committee feel that having these people at competitions, issues can be delt with both informally and effectively/ immediately at regional level, negating the need to escalate to a national level.</p> <p>LJ asked why people could not approach the DT/head Ref. WB said that FeNZ Board decided that the DT was not the appropriate person to do this. SP added that people felt that they were not able to approach these people as they were already very busy running the competition. LJ added that this is a very noble idea but given the difficulty in finding volunteers as it is, this will be an extra person/people to take on the role and training in an already difficult volunteer climate that we already face.</p> <p>SP asked that instead of looking at this as an extra burden, that this position be looked upon as an opportunity to bring more people into the fold in a clearly defined role to help within the community.</p> <p>The committee will put out a call for safeguarding officers.</p> <p>Will feels that as a region we are doing a good job at defusing issues by putting on things like the referring course, and running time efficient competitions to avoid people waiting for long periods of time increasing frustration.</p> <p>FeNZ is looking to optimise Sporty. SP is helping out with this cost which is greatly appreciated. The optimisation is to look at membership and competition set up with immediate uploading to fencing time live and into rankings at competition end. This will be very helpful.</p> <p>Annual constitution review will be ongoing. The FeNZ policies are up for review. This will be headed by Will with help from Kate and is ongoing.</p> <p>There is a FeNZ planning meeting in two weeks time in Auckland. Key people have been invited.</p>

	<p>Nationals/ Oceanics is the next event on the calendar. Will is going to check on Centrals entry numbers in view of setting up regional teams for each weapon.</p> <p>The FeNZ secretary is putting out a nomination form for NZ Teams for the Oceanic events. There is not going to be a nomination fee for this.</p> <p>A new ranking system is being looked at is hoped to be implemented in 2027.</p> <p>Central need to update the contact person for our region to the FeNZ secretary after the AGM for the Incorporated Societies register. This just need to be a home address for either the president or secretary.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Competition Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recently completed: Central Open in Hawkes Bay. A well attended event with several fencers from North attending. No issues arose.</li> <li>● The U11 and U15's Sabre competition was also well attended.</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Club Matters</b></p> <p>Hutt Valley have managed to secure a venue to hold the camp prior to the National Juniors competition. The camp will fit into the National development plan. A call for coaches to help with a shortfall of coaches in our region will go out closer to the time.</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Health &amp; Safety</b></p> <p>No issues</p>
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>Nothing new. Nathan has been talking to someone about acquiring second hand videoing systems.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Other Business</b></p> <p>Una has requested that the Under 11 and 13 competitions be held closer to the end of term to help encourage young fencers to attend and have a go with their new skills. This has been amended by Will.</p> <p>The competition calendar has been put out for us to look at, and will be put onto the website when consultation period end at the end of October. Please contact Will with any amendments. It will be put up on the website at the beginning of November.</p> <p>New Zealand selectors have requested that any fencer that wishes to compete for New Zealand in any international competition, must have</p>

	<p>competed in at a National level, in their appropriate age group or Open divisions, before international selection will be considered. This comes into being on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.</p> <p>In the continuation of the meeting, Will has said that all nominated individuals for Fencing Central committee positions, must sign a form confirming that they wish to accept these positions. This stops people putting forward joke nominations going forward to the AGM.</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>Date of the Next Meeting</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025. Meeting invite pending</i>