

British Columbia Fencing Association Annual General Meeting



AGM Meeting Minutes

Location & Date

Via Google Meet on September 8, 2024

Present:

Yuriy Rubin, Brendan Robertson, Dylan French, Lynn Seguin, Alicia Winter, Brad Kelly, Isaac Robinson, Elana Lancit, Ellis Martiskainen, Martin Zhang, Orkhon Erdenebaatar, Maia Rathwell, Matt Clarke, Ali C Ulker

Quorum:

Confirmed to proceed with AGM.

Registration of Proxy Forms:

Yuriy Rubin carried 156 proxy votes.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am

Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes:

Motioned by Lynn Seguin and seconded by Dylan French to approve the 2023 AGM minutes. Discussion followed. Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of 2024 Agenda:

Motioned by Dylan French and seconded by Lynn Seguin to approve the 2024 Agenda.

Nominations and Election of Board of Directors:

Special acknowledgment of departing board members: Brendan and Matt. Both Brendan and Matt have been instrumental in advancing the goals of the BC Fencing Association through their dedication and hard work. We extend our heartfelt thanks for their years of service and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Maia and Orkhon were introduced as the two new applicants for the board of directors. All new nominations were voted upon and approved.

Report and Approval of 2023-2024 Financial Statements:

The 2024-2025 budget was reviewed and approved. Motioned by Martin Zhang and seconded by Orkhon Erdenebaatar. Discussion followed. Motion approved unanimously.

Presentation of 2024-2025 Budget:

The 2024-2025 budget was reviewed and approved. It was motioned by Martin Zhang, seconded by Orkhon Erdenebaatar. Discussion and Motion approved unanimously.

Presentation of BCFA Annual Report:

Yuriy presented the highlights and the significant high-performance achievements, coach development, and the Paris olympics highlight. HP Program, Developmental Policy, and Carding is discussed.

Review of policies / Safe Sport requirements:

Over the last year, we have updated the following policies to comply with the latest Safe Sport requirements: Bullying & Harassment, Discipline & Dispute, Conflict of Interest, Drug-Free, Fair Play, Code of Conduct, Privacy, and Safe Sport Policy.

Referee Certification Program:

We are introducing a new referee certification program to streamline obtaining provincial-level certification. Coaches with national-level certification (COMP DEV-3) will automatically receive provincial-level certification, recognizing their advanced rule knowledge and refereeing experience. Similarly, athletes who have been on the Canadian National Team in the past four years will also receive provincial-level certification, ensuring our referees have recent competitive experience. We will also support those seeking national-level certification, either to advance their provincial credentials or start from scratch. This policy aims to enhance the quality of refereeing by incorporating individuals with proven expertise and experience.

World Cup 2024:

Yuriy informed that The Vancouver World Cup 2024 preparations are progressing well. We've secured the Richmond Olympic Oval and hotel bookings and sent out invitations to the FIE. Instead of a separate website, we'll add a dedicated tab on the BCFA website to streamline our digital presence. We're considering offering free event access with wristbands to track visitor numbers and showcase the event's economic impact. Hotel bookings will also be tracked through an affiliate link. To address last year's cash handling issues, we'll use credit card payments via Square, with a trial at the BC Provincials next week. We're waiting for the FIE list of referees and dignitaries for flight bookings, though some referees have already booked their flights. There's a slight delay with the prize medals, but we're working to resolve it. Thanks to everyone for their continued hard work.

Appointment of Auditors:

Auditors are appointed for a two-year period, and we appointed Bouchard & Company last year. As such, we are retaining them for another year. Motioned to appoint Bouchard & Company as auditors for the second year term. Our goal this year is to find a volunteer controller to add to our organization. This will help with proper governance and provide an extra set of eyes on our budget and financial books.

Administrative role update and clarification:

Elana has resigned from BCFA, and Alicia Winter has joined as the new administrator. We've clarified the administrator's role, now including support for BCFA-hosted tournaments in Alicia's job description. We're working on various tasks, including grant reporting, future grant submissions, and organizing events like the Provincials, World Cup, and Canada Cup, and making progress. Maia has been helping Alicia to improve our grant applications, aiming for higher approval amounts in the future.

Other Business and Adjournment:

There being no further business, it was motioned by Lynn Seguin and seconded by Maia Rathwell to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am.