

University of Warwick Fencing Club
Meeting Minutes
17/02/2022, 11:38-12:59

Attendees: John, Anne, Evan, Campbell, Ben, Sophie
Absent: Tomasz, Amira

1. Competitions

- We can't afford to run the Open next year; it is too much of a financial risk. (Unless WS changes its discount for facility hire of the halls)
 - Evan did investigate other facilities, sadly they are basically the same price.
 - Keep the plan of an Open in the long-term plan for when the club is more financially stable.
- Novices – will have to be only foil and 1 zone. Will try to increase the capacity from the last one. There again is too much of a financial risk to try to run sabre novices as well.
 - Some disagreements in the exec whether we should put money above the fact that we identify as a sabre mainly club for novices.
 - Campbell suggested starting on foil, if the competition only in foil, however we do not have the needed number of foils -> therefore current plan is to start on sabre but switch to foil as quickly as possible (latest week 4 ideally).
 - We need to keep the competition, since it improves retention both for us and other university clubs.
 - There must be an official training plan created in the summer, so in case one of the coaches is absent we can continue realising it.
 - Include sabre novices in long-term plan, hopefully be able to run them starting 2023, when most Universities have stable 2 years of novices (as a lot of them teach sabre in the 2nd year).
 - To compensate the absence of sabre novices, actively search for other competitions/opens/friendlies etc.

2. Exec roles

- There was no discussion about keeping the exec roles: President, Treasurer, Vice-President (everyone agreed on keeping this name over Secretary), Men's and Women's 1st Team Captains, Novice Representative (need to assure the definition of this role is made clear).
- Everyone agreed on adding Armourer as a new exec role as well as Competitions Officer – responsible for organising trips to non-BUCS competitions.
 - Varsity and BUCS still responsibility of Captains, possibly together with the Novices Representative.
- After a long discussion about the change of the name of Equipment officer to Quartermaster, majority agreed on keeping the existing name, as it sounds less posh and describes the role better (specially to people who don't have English as their first language).
- A lot of versions were offered for Social Secretary & Welfare officer as well as Publicity Officer, in the end 5/6 exec members voted for:
 - 2 Social secretaries (choose who does what when elected), responsible for the Social Media part that announces Socials and posts pictures for them.
 - No Publicity Officer.
 - As a result of this, Vice-President regains the responsibilities of announcing BUCS scores, creating overall brand of social media.
 - Welfare officer as a separate role, now also responsible for Diversity and Outreach.
- Anne will write up the definitions and send out an email for nominations.

3. Elections

- If there are 2 (or 1) people running for a role, the person with majority of votes wins.
- If 3 or more people running for the same role – STV.
- We will send out a private link to people who can't attend in-person elections, so that they can vote as well.
- Elections will run in a priority order – first elect those roles that people have chosen as their first choice, so that they don't have to run for their 2nd, 3rd choice in case of being elected.

- Elections must happen outside session time – agreed on Monday, 17:00 – 19:00