



**2008 Council Meeting of the
Commonwealth Fencing Federation held
at Salon Milner, Hotel Le Méridien,
Montparnasse, Paris FRANCE on
Thursday 4th December 2008**

The Council Meeting commenced at 1700 hours

Present:

Helen Smith	President	Australia*
Peter Andersen	Secretary/Treasurer	Australia
Marie-France Dufour	Vice-President	Canada
Arun Kumar Vij	Vice-President	India
Bob Kiss	Barbados*	
Stephen Symonds	Canada*	
Yiannis Hadjarapis	Cyprus*	
John Ramsay	Chairperson of Technical Commission – England*	
Ainaa Farik	Malaysia	
Rusni Abu Hassan	Malaysia*	
Michael Dietrich	Namibia*	
Donald Odeleye	Nigeria*	
Gennardy Tyshler	South Africa*	
Roy Clarke	Scotland*	
Joseph Kaneka Kanu	Sierra Leone*	
Peter Stewart	Wales	
Bob Turner	Wales*	
Peter Jacobs	Great Britain	

*** denotes voting member**

The president opened the Council Meeting at 1700 hours.

Special Guest

The President welcomed M. René Roch, President of the F.I.E., as a Special Guest. M. Roch thanked the President and acknowledged the importance of the Commonwealth Fencing Federation ("CFF") in developing the sport of fencing. He spoke of the importance of making every effort to propagate the sport and noted the CFF's recent achievements. In conclusion M. Roch thanked the members of the CFF for the support and wished the CFF well for the future. M. Roch then left the meeting.

Welcome

The President welcomed Donald Odeleye (Nigeria) and Joseph Kaneka Kanu (Sierra Leone) (and after his arrival later in the meeting, Michael Dietrich of Namibia) to their first CFF Meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Qamrul Islam	Bangladesh
Daniel Youssef	Brunei
Johannes Vollebregt	Botswana
Laura Harvey	New Zealand
Ian Sneddon	Northern Ireland

Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

With regard to the Minutes of the previous Council Meeting, Roy Clarke (Scotland) requested that under "**Eligibility**" page 2 the words "*however, this was mainly aimed at "home country" fencers who often changed allegiances between Championships*" be deleted as they did not add value to the minutes.

He further requested that the words "*by the working party*" be inserted in paragraph 3 as follows – "*It was further agreed that a new, joint, draft proposal would be formulated **by the working party** by 31 March 2008*"

Moved: Roy Clarke

Seconded: Helen Smith

The Amendments were passed.

President's Report

The President noted the increase in the number of members of the CFF and the recent application of Sri Lanka for membership. On receipt of the required documentation she saw no problem with the admission of this country to membership bringing the total of official members to 23. Interested countries still included Malta, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe (however, the latter could not be admitted until its political problems were settled and it was readmitted to the Commonwealth of Nations).

The President noted the new Eligibility Rules and advised that 4 appeals from Wales and one from New Zealand had been received and approved by the CFF Executive. She advised that she was looking towards a more formal appeals process with independent arbitrators to make the process completely transparent.

She then spoke of the great help M. René Roch had been to the CFF and wished him well in his stand for another term as President.

The President also thanked Gennardy Tyshler for his work in developing Fencing in the Commonwealth countries of South Africa and invited him to give a brief verbal report on progress.

It was moved by Stephen Symonds (Canada) and seconded by John Ramsay (England) that the President's Report be adopted - **Carried unanimously**.

Financial Report

The Treasurer spoke to the Balance Sheet & Operating Statement of the Federation noting that all amounts shown were in Australian dollars. He further advised that the Federation was solvent and that memberships paid were attributed to the periods for which they covered.

It was moved by Peter Andersen (CFF Secretary-Treasurer) and seconded by John Ramsay (England) that the Financial Reports be accepted – **Carried unanimously**.

General Business

Admission of Sri Lanka – noted in the President's Report.

2008 FIE Elections

The President noted a listing of candidates from CFF countries who were standing for positions at the forthcoming FIE Elective Congress and suggested that voting for these worthy candidates would be good for fencing globally and good for the CFF members, as they would have people from CFF countries on FIE commissions that they could feel confident in contacting for assistance and information.

Changes to Statutes regarding Eligibility & Development of an Appeals Process – both noted in the President's Report.

2009 Commonwealth Junior Fencing Championship

Rusni Abu Hassan (Secretary General – Malaysian Fencing Federation) advised that all was proceeding smoothly for this event. She apologised for some communication problems noting that the Penang Fencing Association was responsible for organising the event under the auspices of the Malaysian Fencing Federation.

2009 Commonwealth Veterans' Fencing Championships – Jersey.

The 2009 CVFC have been scheduled for 9-12 July 2009 and information is available on the event website.

2010 Commonwealth Fencing Championships

The President reported that so far no country had submitted an Expression of Interest in holding the 2010 Commonwealth Fencing Championship. Given anticipated government support, she felt there was a possibility that a venue might be available in Melbourne, Australia in the second half of 2010.

There being no further business the President invited those present to join the Executive for dinner at a local brasserie.

The Meeting finished at 1900.