



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2020

1. Welcome

The president welcomed the members

2. Present and apologies

Present:

Mike Stafford – President

Gunter Schroder – Vice-president

Louise Lombard – Secretary General

Tony Rademeyer – Treasurer

3. AGM

There have been no negative responses regarding moving the AGM to 14 November 2020, likely to 2pm based on mutual load shedding times experienced at Saturday's selection policy meeting.

4. Women in sport movement

The Women in Sport group has published a statement clearly setting out the issues pertaining to victim shaming/blaming and requesting an apology from Niell Bester, as well as gender issue related policies and education. We shall look at means of meeting these requests regarding policies and education.

We continue to support this important movement in our sport, which mirrors government policies. To this end, the President will record a message of report to post to social media.



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Fencing Federation of South Africa
Affiliated with SRSA <> SASCOC <> FIE <> CAE
Postal Address: P O Box 1510, Ruimsig, 1732, South Africa
Official web site: www.safencer.co.za.

5. National Competitions

We have received a suggestion that we utilise the planned Limpopo Open dates to host a smaller national competition, possibly in Gauteng, under very strict conditions to trial a first return to competitions. The following would need to be taken into account:

- a. To possibly make this a senior event only as the participants are legally free to make their own choices regarding any possible Covid exposure and can sign indemnities and waivers for themselves as may be applicable.
- b. No more than 50 persons can be in the hall at any one time, and a maximum of 350 throughout the day, which should include:
 - i. 4 poules of 7 fencers, total 28 fencers.
 - ii. 4 referees and a referee supervisor.
 - iii. 1 competition supervisor.
 - iv. 2 to 3 other members of the DT.
 - v. 2 medics.
 - vi. 1 or 2 compliance officers.
 - vii. This would then allow for a DSAC or Department of Health official(s) to inspect without affecting numbers.
 - viii. No spectators are permitted in terms of the Gazette.
- c. The limiting of numbers may make it necessary to do away with rankings.
- d. We accept that there may be selection required for a Junior African Championship competition in early 2021, but we need to take a return to competition one step at a time.
- e. The costs of hosting a competition in light of the sanitizing and disinfecting requirements coupled with the reduced numbers may be prohibitive and there is currently no annual DSAC grant in place to assist with competition costs.

The Competition Commission and GFA to analyse costs, competition schedules, availability and suitability of venues and report back.

6. Level 2 Gazette

The notes to the Gazette have been published by DSAC and it would appear that no new application is required in order for all clubs and all levels of training (including beginners) to return, subject to health and safety protocols. Additionally, this Gazette specifically requires that municipalities and other venue owners make every effort to re-open their venues.

Accordingly, it is likely that all clubs will be able to return to training in some form or another. To survey provinces again as to the return of all of their clubs as this has a serious impact on the council decision to continue to support coaches who are/were unable to work due to the pandemic.

It would, however, appear that in order to resume any level of competition, we would need to submit a supplementary application noting the specifics of the competition.

7. Fencing Western Cape

We are still awaiting payment of outstanding licenses and competition levies from FWC after the Cape Open in February for 2020, to request feedback as bank account transfer was a noted issue.

8. Dr Tyshler emails

It would appear that Dr Tyshler misrepresented the Team Management and Coaches commission in sending emails to council ahead of the Selection policy meeting, which was inappropriate. The Chair remains Patrick Collings and all coaches have been made fully aware of the national coaching body and the RPL requirements. Additionally, updates regarding the RPL process have been noted in many council and Exco meeting minutes.

9. Competition structure

Regarding the proposal from Patrick Collings and referred to the Competition Commission for discussion and report:

- a. Tony reports that he, Joann and Patrick have partaken in discussions on the matter primarily via email, but all have differing opinions on the matter. The other member of the Competition Commission, Stuart Gibson, did not participate in the discussions.
- b. Opinion was requested from the Athlete's Commission, which further varied the opinions on the matter.

Agreed to collate the various opinions and forward to council in order that they discuss with their committees prior to scheduling a council meeting for this purpose.

10. FFSA Website

It is disappointing to note that there have been no updates to the website by Stuart Gibson for a while, despite requests and the last Exco minutes posted are from February 2019.

To put it to Stuart that we are concerned that he is unable to maintain the website any longer and Gunter and Blue are willing to take this task off his hands.

11. Close

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Friday 11 September 2020.