Location:

South Wigston High School

Present:

Steve Smith, Kaitlyn Peberdy, Ewan Cawey, Andi Ge, Fayha Omar, Wiktoria Kunz, Julie Guy, Mick Guy, Craig Bustin, Craig Anderson, Leigh Gonchakov, Daivd Liew, Theo Caira, Adnan Chokhandiwala, Anna Ismalilova, Arthur Brennan, Alex DK, Daniel Ptak, Arnan Agarwal, Michail Gonchakov

Apologies:

Lee Garner, Barbara Whitcombe

Minutes of Previous AGM: Approved

Matters Arising from previous AGM: None

Chairpersons Report

State of the Club

Club is performing well, with membership growing and multiple classes running grades from grade 1 onwards. We have also found a new venue here at South Wigston, the move being voted on by the club membership with an overwhelming majority. It has also been good to see members have been taking part in the training days being run by the county.

Competitions

We have a few competitions recently, with multiple members take part in the in the East Midlands Senior Championship, with Steve taking silver at the men’s Senior Sabre. We also had a junior Sabre at the BYC finals, as well as an appearance at the team competition in Northampton where we came 8th.

Social

We managed to get the Christmas meal in, having to split it between both the Sabre group and the Tuesday group due to an unprecedented turn out that was too much for Pizza Express to take, but went well despite of that.

Thank you to all the coaches for your hard work, and specific thanks to Leigh for helping and bringing this new venue and its opportunities to our attention

And thanks all our members.

Treasurers Report

It’s been a very busy year for the Club. I’m pleased to report that we have a healthy bank balance of £9894.78. We have maintained a balance just above £9k throughout most of the past year. This has been assisted by ensuring we collect payments promptly and the card reader makes this much easier. The shift to online banking has also made it much easier to administer the account.

The charges we make for grades and for regular membership seem to be at a level to keep our finances steady, so there isn’t a strong argument for revising them at present. We are assisted by the good numbers regularly attending Club which helps keeps our finances in a good position.

Our recent shift to South Wigston is still bedding in but is going well so far. We are in the process of moving onto their online booking and payments system which is currently not fully in place for us at present, but Scott from CEL is aware and is working with us to get it implemented. Once this is working as expected it should be very straightforward to book and change sessions, and to make payments on a monthly basis. This will be very welcome since the invoicing regime at ALC was erratic and meant we had long periods of not being invoiced, followed by large bills.

With our move to South Wigston we have the potential to run further sessions or events in the future; we are not a ‘for profit’ organisation, but if any extra income is generated it puts us in a good position to be able to invest in kit and equipment for the Club, which in turn makes us more attractive to new members and help retain existing ones.

Secretaries Report

We have no committee meets since the last AMG. However, the group WhatsApp group have enabled communications and some decision to be made.

We held an EMG in March 2024 to agree on the move venue from Aylestone Leisure Centre to South Wigston High School.

We have recently held two taster events at Wooladen Hill Primary School and South Wigston High School.

We need to ensure that everyone is a member of British Fencing.

LFC’s Junior Sabre Group

The junior sabre group meets on Friday evenings at the South Wigston High School between 7 to 9pm. Steve Smith and John Willows provide the coaching. The group caters for kids from 9yrs to 21yrs but this year, we also allow parents of the juniors to join in making it a family session.

We average 10 to 15 attendance per session.

Recently we have had the following passed their British Fencing’s Achievement awards

* 2nr Grade 1
* 1nr Grade 2
* 4nr Grade 3
* 6nr Grade 5

Six members went to the British Youth Championship finals in May 2024 at Sheffield.

Members have also attended the Manchester Leon Paul Junior Series competition and took away a bronze medal.

Welfare Officers Report

Nothing to report.

AOB

Kit audit set for 9th July 2024

Election of Officers

Chairperson: Current: Craig Bustin: Elected: Craig Bustin

Vice Chairperson: Current: Lee Garner: Elected: Lee Garner

Treasurer: Current: Julie Guy Elected: Julie Guy

Secretary: Current: Steve Smith Elected: Craig Anderson

Welfare Officer: Current: Barbara Whitcombe Elected: Barbara Whitcombe / Steve Smith\* / Kaitlyn Peberdy\*

COVID-19 Officer: Current: Barbara Whitcombe Elected: No longer required

East Midlands Representative: Current: Steve Smith Elected: David Liew

Armourer: Current: Mick Guy Elected: Mick Guy

Youth Representative: Current: Fayha Omar. Elected: Fayha Omar & Andi Ge,

Social Media officer: Elected: Ewan Cawey

New position: Continuity officer: Leigh Gonchakov

\*Once passed the BF Welfare Officer Training.