

DEVON COUNTY FENCING UNION AGM 2016

Date 11.6.2016

Minutes

Attendees:

Name	Club	Name	Club
Ralph Mills (RM)	Barnstaple	Val Morrish (VM)	Sidmouth
Jim Pilkington (JP)	Newton Abbot	Thomas Gillmore (TG)	Kingswear (BRNC)
Lucy Williams (LW)	Sidmouth	Satish Haran (SH)	Kingswear
Alex Scott (AS)	Tiverton	Sofie Emmens (SE)	Tiverton
Dave Atkins (DA)	Newton Abbot	Angela Findlay (AF)	Sidmouth
Emily Mills (EM)	Barnstaple	Grace Williams (GW)	Sidmouth/Exeter
Greg Beacock (GB)	Kingswear	Izabela Sosnowska (IS)	Exeter
Jason Ball (JB)	Tiverton	Andy Lines (AL)	Exeter
John Evers (JE)	Newton Abbot	Emily Orazzo (EO)	Exeter
Nigel Manning (NM)	Sidmouth	Silvia Orazzo (SO)	Exeter
Phillip Westley (PW)	North Tamar	Antonella Orazzo (AO)	Exeter
Katie Little (KL)	Salle Lawrence		

Item	Notes and Actions
1	<p>Apologies: Alan Payne, Andy Bornemisza, Lynne Bornemisza, Seb Lee, Rebecca Westley, Susan Westley, Nick Clapham, Katie Pinkerton, Brian Waterfield, Michael Gillibrand and Rhiannon Lawrence.</p>
	<p>Meeting opened at 7.15pm Chairperson's welcome</p> <p>Ralph welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked Jim and Nigel for arranging the new venue.</p> <p>He thanked everyone for attending and said how nice it was to have such good representation from right across the county.</p>

2

Minutes of the last AGM and matters arising from minutes of last AGM

The last DCFU AGM was held in Feb 2015: minutes of the 2015 AGM were posted on the Devon Facebook page. The minutes were proposed as accurate by Phillip Westley and seconded by Jim Pilkington

Actions from last AGM (2015)

Jim to check a copy of the EGM 2014 minutes are on the Devon website	Completed
Nick to write up Excalibur selection criteria using recommendations of AGM 2015 as a framework	Outstanding
Jim to add Katie to DCFU committee face book page	Completed
Jim to check all clubs have a 'live' rep on the DCFU committee face book page	Completed for 2015
Katie to update DCFU committee face book page with 'live' club reps and new committee members	Completed
Jason S to look into possibility of Devon hosting a SW training hub session and liaise with the SW hub	Outstanding

Other matter arising from minutes

Club reps need to be updated for 2016 on the Facebook committee page

3

Officers' reports

- 3a.** Chairperson's report
- 3b.** Hon Secretary's report
- 3c.** Hon Treasurer's report
- 3d.** County Captain's report
- 3e.** SW rep report
- 3f.** Competition Secretary's report
- 3g.** County Coach
- 3h.** Webmaster's report
- 3i.** Junior Rep's report

<p>3a</p>	<p>Chairperson's report (Ralph Mills)</p> <p>'It's been an eventful and successful year for Devon fencing, with lots of different things happening for both Junior and Senior fencers. The Devon events have been well promoted, well run, well supported and generated a good level of income for DCFU.</p> <p>Our emphasis as a county has changed from focusing on a small number of individual competitions such as the County Championships to a much broader range of events. These have encouraged many juniors and novices to participate for the first time and provided a friendly introduction to competitive fencing. This is in line with the Sport Council's aim to increase participation in sport at a grassroots level and it may be in the near future that pressure is put on sporting governing bodies to re-direct funds to grass roots in order to achieve this.</p> <p>Nationally the nature of fencing is changing with concentrations of coaches and fencers in certain large club locations rather than the traditional county /region structures. Devon however continues to work well as a fencing union and Jim has been very active in promoting the Devon and South West events which has resulted in cross club interaction and participation.</p> <p>We are in a very positive position, so going forward it is up to Devon to decide what we want to do, access funding and go for it!</p>
<p>3b</p>	<p>Hon Secretary's report (Jim Pilkington)</p> <p>Report from Acting Hon Secretary</p> <p>'It has been great to have your support in creating more fencing in Devon, whether it be by members of clubs taking part in each other's events, or in entering our increased number of County and Regional events. From this aspect, Devon must be the most active County in the SW and our example is beginning to have an influence on the other Counties. The creation by the SW Region of regional ranking is giving some encouragement to these other Counties to bring back their County Championships.</p> <p>At the beginning of this year, the BFA changed the membership structure and brought in the levels of Starter, Recreational, and Full membership in place of the former Social or Full membership. Precisely to what level of competition was provided by Recreational membership was a little unclear, but we have recently had affirmation, that as far as Devon is concerned, it provides for the Dart Team of 2, the Buckland Handicap and the Last of the Year. If Regional ranking is adopted by other regions, a more specific ruling could be that Recreational membership provides for any competition in which you enter as an individual and that has no regional or national ranking.</p> <p>In the Autumn of 2015, with the knowledge that being a member of an affiliated club did not provide insurance, I recommended that the cost of the then Social membership should be costed into your club membership; thereby the club took responsibility for ensuring every member had individual membership of the BFA and was thus insured.</p> <p>Some have rightly pointed out that the BFA make no obligation for this to be done. Equally in law there is no obligation for you to insure your house, but in view of catastrophic costs that can arise if you do not, it is usually regarded as a wise thing to do. In spite of the increased costs of Starter or Recreational membership, I still stand by this recommendation.</p> <p>In the past year we created the Dart Individual Epee and Sabre with an intention to bring this competition up to the status of a National open. May we welcome and support Phillip Westley who in October will be adding to this with the Devon Open Foil in Okehampton.</p> <p>As far as the running of our committee is concerned this is the first year where we have done all of our work through Facebook. Certain committee members have been more forthcoming in their views</p>

	<p>than others. I wish to say how helpful this is, when as an individual it is you that has to make the decision on behalf of the County. In shaping the decision, those other views are an essential and very welcome input.</p> <p>What perhaps we can still build upon, that this way of working requires the individual officer to initiate ideas with which to fulfil their responsibility. It is then essential that one informs the committee of those intentions, takes comments and then makes their decision. It is quite a different approach from the way committees usually work by meeting together and the onus is on each individual officer to initiate ideas.</p> <p>I wish to express my special thanks to Dave Atkins who has been such a splendid competition secretary with whom to work. He has always been so level headed on the day, in spite of being pestered by some of you with unnecessary questions. His presentation of the running results, brought our competitions to a level that is unmatched by some of the Nationals.</p> <p>Jim Pilkington 6.6.16'</p>
<p>3c</p>	<p>Report from the Hon Treasurer (Greg Beacock) for accounts 2015 - 2016</p> <p>'While over the year we have seen an increased expenditure of almost £700, this has been largely balanced by an extra £500 in income. If the former level of sponsorship by Salago had been repeated in 2015-2016, then the two years would have been very comparable. With the wish to make sure that we restored former levels of competition activity, in 2014–2015 Salago covered the cost of all of the medals. The County now has a reasonable bank balance and for this past year, as apart from providing some refreshments and prizes at our competitions, Salago has limited its sponsorship to just the medals for the Buckland, and are willing to continue to do this.</p> <p>As with previous years, the costs of the current year's Excalibur and the subsidised County T-shirts have been held over for the accounts 2016-17, and it is the costs for 2015 that appear in these accounts. A record has been added of the unsold stock of T-shirts and these are brought into the balancing figure.</p> <p>Lassitude in entering competitions continues to cause competition organisers unnecessary stress. In booking a hall and ordering medals, we commit ourselves to £250 - £300 of expenditure that 10 days before an event cannot be reversed and yet one only has a handful of entries! Fencers are urged to enter competitions as soon as possible. It is suggested that we continue with the entry fees of £15 for an adult event and £12 for a junior event and each discounted for an 'early bird' entry.'</p>

A copy of the accounts follows:

Devon County Fencing Union

Accounts for the year 2015/16

	2015/16		2014/15		2013/14
Opening Balances				797.08	
Current Account		1370.28			
Stock for resale		0			
Total		1370.28			
By Income					
Competitions	2,308.00		1,676.00		210.00
Goods sold	108.00				
Badges sold	0.00				
Interest on account	0.00				
Training sessions	0.00				
Sponsorship	68.22		276.06		38.92
AGM	0.00		39.00		
Total income	2484.22	2484.22	1991.06	1991.06	248.92
Less Expenditure					
Hall Hire	1145.16		753.05		194.62
Medals	342.03		276.06		
Badges and T Shirts for resale	367.50				
Admin	0.00				
Ex-Calibur entry fee	350.00		342.00		
Accommodation	0.00				
Web site	0.00		46.75		
Bank Charges	0.00				
Referees at Competitions	0.00				
Box hire	0.00				
Coaches fees and expenses	0.00				
Total expenditure	2204.69	2204.69	1417.86	1417.86	194.62
Income - less expenditure		279.53			
Unsold stock		91.80			
Surplus/Deficit for the year		371.33		573.20	
Closing Balance		1741.61		1370.28	
Represented by:					
Bank account		1911.62			
Less creditors		381.81			
Payments credited post 31.3		120.00			
Stock of 10 T shirts		91.80			
		1741.61			

3-Jun-16

3d

County Captain report (Nick Clapham)

Nick had submitted a report but Jim had not received this in time so it was unavailable on the night of the AGM: Nick's report is appended below:

'Captains Report 2016

I would like to start by sending my apologies for my absence at this year's AGM and to carry on by saying a huge thank you to the coaches and clubs around the County that made Katie and I feel so welcome during our various visits in the past year.

This year's Excalibur has shown the fantastic progress that Devon has been making as a county and more than that, it has shown the depth of quality fencers that we have as a county.

We have an overall weapon champion again in Sidmouth's Grace Williams, Our Women's Epee team won more bouts than they lost, we won the Men's Epee and Men's Foil outright and moved up a place in the overall rankings even with the addition of another team in this year's competition to finish 5th out of 9.

Our Women's Sabre team showed a marked improvement on last year's performance. As always there is more work to be done however it is important to take into account that this year's selection has been marked by the huge number of people that were unable to compete due to various circumstances.

Close to 30 fencers turned out to be unavailable however we still managed to have at least three fencers for each weapon.

As ever Sabre remains our weakest weapon, with the lowest participation across the county. However it has been good to see clubs making progress on promoting sabre and I have seen young fencers in many clubs that are excellent prospects for future year's teams.

I am hopeful that next year's team will be stronger yet and that we will be able to demonstrate the full strength of Devon. If there are no objections I would like to continue in this role for one more year.

Despite the initial invitations for the teams being sent out immediately following each respective county championship we have still been faced with an unprecedented number of fencers who were unable to compete with many of them quoting it as too close to the time. It was also noted by many of the team fencers that this close to the event it was not possible to book accommodation in Bath at a reasonable cost.

In light of this I would like to make a proposal that (based on past AGM's) I believe is a requirement to resolve this issue.

The Proposal is to offer a place on the Excalibur team to only the winner of each individual weapon at the County Championships.

The rationale for this is that during Excalibur a number of the team fencers asked if the selection could possibly be made before Christmas as this would allow people to take advantage of early bookings.

A proposed solution was put forward that if three of the fencers for each weapon were selected at this earlier time they would be able to book accommodation at the cheaper rate with one of the fencers booking a twin room to be shared with whoever is selected from the County championship.

Those selections made prior to Christmas would be conditional on entry to the County Championships.

The benefits of this would be:

1. To encourage participation at the County Championships by more of the top fencers in the County. In the event of Fencers who had already been selected winning the competition then the next

- unselected fencer down the rankings from the competition would be offered the number four slot on the team.
2. The county would have more of an opportunity to arrange training days that the team could participate in.
 3. The competition would become more affordable for Fencers from less affluent backgrounds.
 4. Those competing in the County Championships would be motivated to give their all to the very end of the competition instead of being satisfied with second place.
 5. More of the team would end up travelling and staying together which helps to strengthen the team spirit.

Additionally I have been struck by the need for us as a county to take advantage of our various local press. Immediately following Excalibur I typed up some copy emailed it in to two of the papers in Devon and we were on either their websites or in the papers that week.

With the matches happening between clubs and the competitions that have been developed between the various county clubs there is more happening in Devon than ever and every club could benefit from the press. A presence in the papers makes us more attractive to potential sponsors and drives participation through raised awareness.

My suggestion in relation to this is that the county appoint a "Press Officer."

The role to include the following:

- Each Monday morning to check the BFA website for results from Devon Fencers.
- To ring a representative of each club at least once per fortnight to find out if there are any results to be reported or events coming up.
- To generate copy to be sent to the sports pages of the various local papers.
- To liaise with the county/club competition organisers to write up the events/results to send to local papers.
- This is something that every club should be doing already. However "should" rarely happens and as a county Union I believe this is a service which could have the most benefit to all the clubs.

Nick Clapham'

In the absence of the Nick's report Ralph summarised Devon's achievement at Excalibur:

Devon came 5th overall winning the Men's Epee & Foil team events and individual Woman's foil. The Women's epee team was placed 2nd and improved performances were put in across all of the weapon teams.

Thanks were recorded to Nick and the team for their hard work and congratulations on their excellent results.

Devon Team Excalibur 2016

Team Captain – Nick Clapham

Vice Captain – Emily Mills

Men's Epee – Andy Lines, Seb Lee, Ollie Strath, Tim Andrews

Men's Foil – Warren Shillingford, Jason Shillingford, Mike Chew, Jorge Waterfield

Men's Sabre – AJ Jones, Tom Fitchett, Jason Ball, Dave Atkins

Women's Epee - Emily Mills, Katie Little, Taylor Ashby

Women's Foil – Grace Williams, Joanna Speer, Angela Findlay, Natasha Chaplow

Women's Sabre – Hannah Seymour, Sophie Tapp, Sofie Emmens

The following issues regarding this year's Excalibur were raised and a discussion followed on

how these could be improved for next year. The main points are summarised below: as so many points were raised it has not been possible to attribute these to individuals but thank you to everyone who contributed to the discussion as many helpful suggestions were put forward.

Issue 1: The team selection was very late, many of the team were not selected until the last minute and this made practicalities such as organising transport and accommodation very difficult and expensive for fencers. The Vice captain was not consulted on team selection.

Suggestions for next year

- Select the Epee and Foil teams as soon as the championships for those weapons have been completed rather than waiting until after Sabre championships.
- Move the DCFU Championships to earlier in the calendar (DA explained that the championships had already been moved to allow the University students to attend and that this had resulted in a positive effect on entries)
- Set specific dates for when selection process must be completed by.
- Add a section on the DCFU Championship entry form stating the dates of Excalibur and asking whether the entrants wish to be considered for the Devon Team and are available.
- County Captain should start identifying potential Devon Team fencers a lot earlier in the fencing season (currently all of the activity seems to only be in the 2 months before Excalibur). It was acknowledged a lot of effort had been put in by Nick who had visited the individual clubs but it was not clear whether this had been beneficial to the selection process.
- Involve more than one person in the selection process. It was felt the County Captain should retain the final say on the discretionary spaces however input from the vice captain, coaches and weapon captains could be useful to identify potential fencers.
- Use South West regional ranking to identify potential fencers (It was noted this would show all SW fencers not just Devon's)

Issue 2: Communication was poor because of late selection: the committee was not notified of the team until 22.4.2016 and the team list was not circulated to the other team members. Other details of the competition were not communicated in a timely manner.

Suggestions for next year

- Improve communication with DCFU committee, request help earlier if needed.
- Allow DCFU Chairman to be a member of the Team Devon Facebook page
- Disseminate event information earlier
- Publish confirmed team members and any gaps to committee earlier so that they can help
- Instigate better communication with the University teams earlier in the session so that the Uni fencers are aware of Excalibur
- As soon as DCFU Championships are completed inform top 2 fencers for each weapon on the actual day that they have qualified and get them to confirm whether or not they can attend Excalibur.

Issue 3: The selection process is still not transparent, despite agreeing the selection criteria at the last AGM these are not readily accessible and it was felt had not been clearly communicated to Devon fencers

Suggestions for next year

- Add an explanation of the Excalibur competition and the selection criteria to the Devon website
- All Devon clubs and coaches should promote Excalibur and Team Devon in order to inspire their fencers and encourage them to enter the Devon Championships
- Ensure better communication with the University fencing clubs so that they are aware of Excalibur and the Devon County Championships
- Write a job description for the Vice Captain's role

<p>3e</p>	<p>SW rep report (Jason Ball)</p> <p>‘I have been attending the South West Committee meetings and what has become evident is that a lot of the South West Counties aren’t as active or organised as Devon. Dorset is starting to get going and the South West has now (at Jim’s suggestion) got a Committee Facebook group and public group. Devon however stands out as a county where things are really happening and people are doing good things: we should be very proud of that!</p> <p>The South West Hub is a totally separate organisation to the South West committee; to clarify, Tim Miles (former SW Chairman) now manages the Hub and Jim Pilkington is the South West Chairman. We may feel that we expect the South West Committee to make things happen but in reality they are a very small number of very busy people who have little time: therefore it is up to us be self reliant and they will support us and promote our events wherever they can.</p> <p>Good things have happened in the South West over the last 12 months, As previously stated there is now engagement via Facebook (please encourage your fencers to join the public group) and the regional ranking scheme has been launched and continues to grow. Jane Brown provides promotion of competitions and events and information on these is also available on the South West website.</p> <p>We are lucky to have Excalibur as such a major ‘local’ tournament but it is sad that there is only one 3 weapon Open (Wellington) running in the Region for the 2016/2017 season. The Bristol Open will not run this year and it is unknown whether or not it will return. On the positive side this does create a gap in the national calendar and provides an opportunity. If Devon decides could host an Open I feel we have the support and expertise to do this’.</p> <p>A discussion followed Jason’s report on the feasibility of running an major Open, the following points were raised</p> <p>DA/ PW – North Tamar will be running the new Devon Foil in Okehampton on October 16th, NAFC will be running the Dart individual Epee and Sabre in Totnes on September 11th all of these competitions are Open events.</p> <p>IS – Exeter would be an excellent venue for a 3 weapon Open</p> <p>TG – Dartmouth Naval College would also be a good venue for a competition, and there is a chance it would be free of charge (TG to check conditions). <i>It was felt this may be an excellent venue for Devon team competition.</i></p> <p>AL – BFA now charge for advertising competitions, but there is a ‘free’ unofficial fencing competition page on Facebook</p> <p>NM- Facebook is a really effective way of advertising events</p>
<p>3f</p>	<p>Competition Secretary’s report (Dave Atkins)</p> <p>‘The season just passed has been a very active one for Devon Fencing.</p> <p>Moving the Senior Championships to the Winter period after Christmas seems to have resulted in increased participation across all weapons, and numbers were slightly up on 2015 with a total of 88 weapon entries this year. This year we also added a Junior team foil event to the senior foil championships which proved very popular with an entry of 8 mixed teams.</p> <p>This year we also moved the Junior Championships to early in the school year (October for 2016) rather than tacking it onto the Senior Championships and it may be no coincidence that entries rose from 9 in 2015 to 37 in 2016.</p> <p>The Buckland handicap remains popular since being re-introduced by Jim Pilkington, this year seeing 24 seniors at epee and 19 juniors at foil.</p>

	<p>We have also had the Dart events which have attracted good entries and it is hoped that these events will grow and possibly combine into a full blown Devon Open.</p> <p>I have been using 'Fencing Time' to run the DFU competitions, particularly the Senior and Junior championships, and have managed to publish entry lists and final results online and, where phone signal allows (!) live results on the day. It has also been possible to display results as they happen on screens at the event itself which seems to have proved very popular. The software has greatly helped in the smooth running of events, and would suggest that we standardise on using FT for Devon Events going forward. This is becoming possible for more events as the latest version also allows team events in the individual bout format in addition to the relay format. We have been using the individual bout method for the junior and senior handicap events.</p> <p>We have some dates for DFCU events for the 2016/17 season, which are:-</p> <p>Saturday 8th October – Junior Foil Championships – Exeter</p> <p>Sunday 23rd October – Junior Epee Championships – Newton Abbott</p> <p>Sunday 27th November – Buckland handicap Senior Epee and Junior Foil – Exeter</p> <p>Saturday 21st January – Senior Epee Championships – Exeter</p> <p>Sunday 5th February – Senior Foil Championships – Exeter</p> <p>Sunday 26th February – Senior Sabre Championships – Newton Abbott</p> <p>There are some additional events to be run by the NAFC and North Tamar :-</p> <p>Sunday 11th September – Dart Individual Epee and Sabre – Totnes (NAFC)</p> <p>Sunday 16th October – Devon Foil – Okehampton (North Tamar)</p> <p>Thursday 29th December – Last of the Year – Totnes (NAFC)</p> <p>Sunday 19th March – Dart teams of 2 epee and sabre – Totnes (NAFC)</p> <p>With regards to future events, there are some points for discussion;</p> <p>Should we run a Devon Junior Sabre alongside the Junior Epee?</p> <p>Do we continue with the idea of running a Junior Team event alongside the Senior Championships as we did with foil this year?</p> <p>Do we add a Devon team event of some description, and if so is there a club willing to take on the organisation?</p> <p>And finally, I am standing down as competition secretary today. I have enjoyed the role over the last season however as I feared when I took on the role, I have not really had the time to commit that I would have wished for, or indeed that the role deserves. Much work has still been carried out by Jim Pilkington, who I would like to thank for his valuable input. So, I would like to hand over to someone who may have more time to commit and of course a new person will bring new ideas and hopefully continue to bring improvements to competitive fencing in the county. I will of course offer any help I can in handing over to the new Competition Secretary.</p> <p>Dave Atkins, June 2016'</p> <p>Thanks were recorded to Dave who is now stepping down as competition secretary</p> <p>A brief discussion followed regarding some of the points raised in Dave's report.</p> <p>RM – U13 sabre event run by the Bornemiszas at Bovey Tracey was very successful and received excellent feedback</p> <p>LW – Could the team event be hosted by Britannia Royal Naval College</p>
3g	County Coach report (Jason Shillingford)

	<p>No report was received from Jason</p> <p>There was a brief discussion on what we wanted from the Devon Coach role and whether this was still required now that the SW Hub is running. It was concluded that the role is still important for the development of Devon fencers and that this should be discussed further by the DCFU committee.</p> <p>Jim explained that there were two Devon developmental events 'the Buckland' which is a handicapped competition and 'the Dart team of 2'. Both of these events have been recognised by the BFA as recreational and are designed to encourage inclusive participation. The Dart team of 2 is new event which was run very successfully by NAFC, teams of 2 (1 experienced fencer and one novice) are put together on the day by the organisers. This proved very popular and received very positive feedback. JP thanked VM for the original idea.</p> <p>.</p>
<p>3h</p>	<p>Webmaster's Report (Emily Mills)</p> <p>'WEBMASTER REPORT – EMILY MILLS</p> <p>I had the website details handed over in March 2016. Took a while for permissions/hosting/access to be sorted.</p> <p>I kept the main feel/look of the website the same but made quite a few significant changes.</p> <p>Changes made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Added additional pages 2) Tidied it up, made it consistent formatting throughout 3) Made it easier to navigate and find the information needed, clear 'call to action' buttons (entry form/read more etc.) 4) New homepage, built as a constantly updating hub of information with news, next competition, Facebook feed, recent photos 5) Dave is kindly hosting website on his work domain and set me up with webmaster@devonfencing.co.uk which forwards on to my personal email <p>Improvements still to come:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Photo gallery 2) Add tracking code for Google Analytics 3) Twitter – who has login? I think it's linked to Facebook 4) Facebook – can I have full admin access please? 5) Add constitution document 6) Add general Excalibur info 7) Add more history <p>Questions for committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Do you think I should be putting all monthly club competition results up? Or just keep it as 'Devon' competitions?

	<p>2) On the 'County Clubs' page are all the contact details still correct?</p> <p>Remember: If there's anything you want added to the website, news, pictures or results etc. please let me know.'</p> <p>Thanks were recorded to Katie Pinkerton who stepped down from the Webmaster role in March and to Emily for taking over in the interim before the AGM</p> <p>A short discussion followed Emily's report: Devon clubs and coaches e-mail should e-mail any reports or results they would like put on the Devon website to webmaster@devonfencing.co.uk</p> <p>Admin rights to the Devon Facebook page and Twitter account need to be transferred to the webmaster</p>
<p>3i</p>	<p>Junior Rep Report (Katie Little)</p> <p>'Junior numbers within Devon have increased over the past year although sabre numbers remain much lower than the other 2 weapons and this should be a focal point.</p> <p>Advising Jim from a junior point of view has been my main function</p> <p>I have enjoyed the role over the past year and feel Ollie would make a fantastic junior rep for the coming year</p> <p>Katie Little June 2016'</p> <p>Katie is standing down as junior rep as she is leaving Devon to attend University. Thanks were recorded to Katie and best wishes for her studies.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Appointment of Officers</p> <p>The following committee posts were appointed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chairperson b. Hon Secretary c. Hon treasurer d. County Captain di. Vice Captain e. South West Representative f. Competition Secretary g. County Coach h. Webmaster i. Junior Rep

<p>4a</p>	<p>Chairperson Nominee: Ralph Mills (Barnstaple) Proposed by: John Evers Seconded by: Dave Atkins Ralph Mills voted in as DCFU Chairperson by AGM attendees</p>
<p>4b</p>	<p>Hon Secretary Nominee: Jim Pilkington (Newton Abbott) Proposed by: John Evers Seconded by: Katie Little Jim Pilkington voted in as DCFU Hon Secretary by AGM attendees</p>
<p>4c</p>	<p>Hon Treasurer Nominee: Greg Beacock (Kingswear) Proposed by: Lucy Williams Seconded by: Jason Ball Greg Beacock voted in as DCFU Hon Treasurer by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>4d</p>	<p>County Captain Nominee 1: Nick Clapham (U/A) Proposed by: Nigel Manning Seconded by: David Atkins Nominee 2: Andy Lines (Exeter) Proposed by: Izabela Sosnowska Seconded by: Jason Ball As there were two nominees there was an AGM Attendee vote Andy Lines received the majority of votes and was voted in as DCFU County Captain by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>4di</p>	<p>Vice Captain Nominee: Emily Mills Proposed by: Andy Lines Seconded by: Katie Little Emily Mills voted in as DCFU Vice Captain by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>4e</p>	<p>South West Representative Nominee: Jason Ball (Tiverton) Proposed by: Emily Mills Seconded by: Grace Williams Jason Ball voted in as DCFU South West Representative by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>4f</p>	<p>Competition secretary Nominee: Alex Scott Proposed by: Jim Pilkington Seconded by: Emily Mills Alex Scott voted in as DCFU Competition Secretary by AGM Attendees</p>

<p>4g</p>	<p>County Coach Nominee: N/A Proposed by: N/A Seconded by: N/A This post was not voted on as it was agreed the role would be discussed by the DCFU committee, Jason Shillingford to remain in post for present.</p>
<p>4h</p>	<p>Webmaster Nominee: Emily Mills Proposed by: Sofie Emmens Seconded by: Alex Scott Emily Mills voted in as DCFU Webmaster by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>4i</p>	<p>Junior Representative Nominee: Ollie Strath Proposed by: Jim Pilkington Seconded by: Emily Mills Ollie Strath voted in as DCFU junior Representative by AGM Attendees</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Coaching in Devon Alan Payne asked the AGM attendees to consider the need for coaching courses at levels 1 & 2. It was agreed that there was a real need for this and there was a short discussion on the practicalities of organising a course. Unfortunately due to shortage of time (AGM overran) the discussion was cut short LW agreed to carry out a scoping exercise to establish numbers interested and to liaise with Alan Payne. Results to be feedback, discussed and taken forward by the DCFU committee</p>
<p>6a.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of the constitution needs to be put on the Devon website (LW) • JP was requested to feedback to BFA that majority of fencers felt being financially penalised for not paying membership by direct debit was unfair (All) • There is a need for refereeing courses (JB & AL) • Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (SASP) are running a development course on 10.7.2016 Workshops include First aid, safeguarding, strength & conditioning, sports nutrition, sports psychology and lots more Details http://www.sasp.co.uk/events/2016/07/workforce-development-day-2016 (NM)
<p>10.</p>	<p>Date & time of next AGM June 2016 (Date and time TBC)</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Meeting closed at 9.15 pm</p>

DEVON COUNTY FENCING UNION AGM 2016

ACTIONS FROM MEETING ON Date: 11.6.2016

Item	Action	To be completed by	Y/N
1	Club reps need to be updated for 2016 on the Facebook committee page	RL	
2	Admin rights to Devon Facebook page and Twitter to be transferred to Emily	NC	
3	Explanation of Excalibur and selection criteria to be put on Devon website	EM	
4	Vice captain job description to be written	AL/ EM	
5	Carry out a scoping exercise to establish numbers interested and to liaise with Alan Payne	LW	
6	Investigate refereeing course opportunities	JB	
