

Fencing Coaches of Canada

Report to 2009 CFF Annual General Meeting

June, 2009

Introduction: This report is intended to provide an overview of the work of the FCC Management Council during its first year of operation and to present plans for the current quadrennial to improve the educational and developmental opportunities available to coaches throughout Canada.

Meetings: The Management Council has met via teleconference on a monthly basis since September, 2008 and will conduct one more meeting before its annual election process takes place in July. The minutes of all meetings are available online from the Sharefile site.

Projects undertaken:

1. Coordination of input from selected coaches to Road to Excellence Plan (Oct, 2008)
2. Coordination of coaches' seminar at Calgary CSC (Nov, 2008)
3. Development of content to FCC section of website (ongoing)
4. Recruitment of writers of NCCP Community Stream epee & sabre technical supplements (Jan, 2009)
5. Proposal to CFF Board for the FCC to take leadership of the NCCP. (January, 2009)
6. Preparation of Quad plan (February, 2009)
7. Recruitment of writers for NCCP Competition-Introduction context (March, 2009)
8. Initiation of discussions to integrate Fencing Academy of Canada within the FCC.
9. Survey of coaches (April, 2009)
10. Organization of opportunity for foreign trained coaches to challenge the exam for NCCP certification (Level 3 / 4) (June, 2009)
11. Organization of mini-coaching sessions during June Nationals and a coaches' lounge throughout the event.)
12. Coordination of the selection of coaches to participate in a high performance coaching education program through the Pan-American Sports Organization (PASO).

Policy Development:

Equivalency Policy for the recognition of foreign trained coaches: A draft has been prepared and is currently under review by the Management Council.

Coaching Education Leadership:

a. The Management Council has drafted a proposal for a new leadership structure for coaching education which would involve a CFF staff position combined with a volunteer National Coaching Education Committee. The Council is in the process of preparing terms of reference for National Coaching Education Committee and a job analysis for a National Coaching Development Director position. We feel that the amount of work required to ensure a smoothly run coaching education program requires a paid national staff position. (more discussion at AGM workshop)

b. NCCP Community Stream: Initiation and Ongoing Participation

Program content preparation: A great deal of the content required for CAC approval was prepared in conjunction with an OFA Community Instructor project which included a pilot course completed in 2007. Thank you to the OFA for their contribution. There is still some technical reference material required to support epee and sabre initiation programs before the context approval process can go forward. It is anticipated that the conditional approval prior to translation approval will be completed by the end of this year.

c. NCCP Instructional Stream – Aide-Moniteur: The final approval is pending the approved french translation to be received by the CAC.

d. NCCP Competition Stream – Introduction: This context is in the early stages of development with a great deal of technical and educational content to be developed. Manageable timelines have not yet been proposed to reach the stage of conditional approval.

Implementation of NCCP: There are a number of policies to be prepared in relation to recruitment, training and monitoring of learning facilitators and evaluators which will need a close partnership with provincial branches to maintain as high a quality of coaching development as possible.

e. NCCP database: Currently the CAC is transferring to a new database with, we are told, a large number of problems that have yet to be completely resolved.

Membership development

The 2008-09 season was the first membership recruitment season for the FCC and we got off to a very slow start for, perhaps a number of reasons. As a new organization, we have to build some credibility before coaches are prepared to sign on. Also, the sign-up process has to be simple and, ideally, linked to the provincial branch registration. We did not have direct access to contact information for the majority of coaches across the country and relied on the CFF on-line process to bring coaches to us. This was clearly ineffective since the process was somewhat cumbersome and the community of coaches generally is not eager to sit at their computer to register with the FCC. Special appreciation must be paid to the Quebec Federation who coordinated a bulk registration of 48 Quebec coaches. This initiative led to a tripling of our membership which currently stands at

Election Process for 2009-2010 Management Council:

There will be two positions open for election for the upcoming year. Peter Ho will not be reoffering. Lynn Seguin will reoffer for the upcoming two year term. Barbara Daniel, Victor Gansevitch and Jean-Marie Banos have one year remaining in their term of office.

1. Call for nominations: June 1 to 30
2. Voting: July 1 to 22
3. Publication of results: July 31

Conclusion: The first year of operation of the FCC Management Council has involved discussions on a wide variety of issues and the confirmation of what we already knew that there is much work to be done to effectively accomplish our mission: to represent a majority of coaches in every branch of the CFF and to serve the interests of these coaches by improving the educational and development opportunities available to them.

Respectfully submitted by: the 2008-09 FCC Management Council

Barbara Daniel - Chair
Victor Gansevitch
Jean-Marie Banos
Lynn Seguin
Peter Ho

