



CFF Letters – 2007:2

28th October, 2007

Welcome

Welcome to the second in the CFF letters series. I would like to update you on the primary outcomes from the last CFF Board of Directors meeting on the 20th and 21st of October, 2007.

Communications

We are not sure who to contact in many of the provinces. There have been changes to your local boards / committees. Please send us a current list of your Board / Executive Committee / Staff lists. We can ensure that our mailing list is up to date and that the contact information on the CFF website for your province is correct. Please send the information to me at president@fencing.ca or fax to (204) 235-0293.

High Performance

Almost an entire day was spent reviewing the long term strategic directions being proposed by the HP Strategic committee. This plan is closely linked to the Canadian Sport Policy. There are two timelines to address:

First, qualifying and supporting athletes for Beijing.
Second, developing athletes and coaches towards London and beyond.

HP Priorities

The immediate priorities are set for Beijing, since our goal must remain to a) qualify as many athletes as possible, and b), once qualified, provide the best support we can to prepare those athletes to achieve podium / top 8 results in Beijing.

This is referred to as project Beijing. A major change here is that individual athletes or teams are identified as projects and receive targeted support. Following the Pan Am zone competition and the World Championships we are awaiting the HP committees review and re-profiling of the priorities within this targeted group.

Project London is currently a low funding priority set of projects. Potential athletes have been identified and projects for their development are also identified. The

	<p>funding for this group of projects will be highly dependent upon results in Beijing.</p>
HP Coaching	<p>To support our future demands for Beijing, London and beyond, we have to build to ensure a consistent podium performance at World Championships and Olympic Games, the focus of the HP funding from Podium Canada.</p> <p>To achieve this, the CFF budget has been re-profiled to move towards three national coaching positions, one for each of the three weapons, covering both genders and all age groups. These three coaches will also have a responsibility for developing Canadian coaches to the international performance level.</p>
HP Accountability	<p>Each coach will be directly responsible for their programmes and the outcomes from each.</p> <p>The HP director will be responsible for coordinating information, ensuring compliance with funding requirements and programme management.</p>
HP Athlete Annual Training and Competition Plans	<p>Gabor Salomon will be engaged to advise on and prepare annual athlete training plans for the carded athletes along with the weapon coaches. Athlete plans will now be the responsibility of the national coaches in their roles as leaders for the athletes and their personal coaches.</p>
HP Foil	<p>This position is vacant at this time and for the short term (3 – 6 months) will be filled on a project basis to support athletes at training camps and competitions.</p>
HP Epee	<p>Gabor Salomon will be hired to take on the responsibility for this role.</p>
HP Sabre	<p>This position is being shared by two coaches until Beijing. Jean-Marie Banos will focus on the men and Ildemaro Sanchez will work with the women. Jean-Marie has indicated that he will be stepping down from this position post-Beijing.</p>
Post Beijing	<p>Performance of the athletes in Beijing will determine which coaches are engaged for the quad towards London. The CFF is actively keeping tabs on potential candidates.</p>

CFF Staff Structure	With the resignation of the Technical Director in June, the CFF Board has reviewed the operational needs of the organization and will be moving ahead with the hiring of a programme administrator. The technical director position no longer exists. The process is timed to have the successful candidate in place for January 2008.
Admin Support	An ad hoc position has been created to provide administrative support to the HP director. The ongoing need for such a support position will be evaluated based upon experience and the budget.
Domestic Ranking	We shall implement a weekly update to the rankings. Have your results submitted within 48 hours to be ranked quickly.
CFF AGM 2008	The location of the CFF AGM for 2008 will be in the Montreal area.
CSC in Montreal	Unfortunately I shall not be at the November CSC for the first time in many years. I shall be representing the CFF at the FIE Congress. I will keep you posted on the outcomes of this congress, the commonwealth and Pan American Confederations meetings upon my return.

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