

2017 BCFA ANNUAL REPORT



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BC Fencing Association Annual Report

This document outlines the BC Fencing Association's goals, seasonal accomplishments, and future aspirations as of the 2016/2017 competitive season.

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The following document contains the goals, seasonal successes, and future aspirations of the BC Fencing Association as of the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Both the accomplishments and association plans presented within this have aligned with the BCFA 2015-2021 Strategic Plan. The aforementioned Strategic Plan is as follows:

Strategic Plan

Vision: Firstly, the BCFA and its member clubs will achieve increased participation within the sport of fencing at all levels, genders, age groups, and weapons. The BCFA and its associated clubs will additionally achieve increased success at the competitive level. As the competitive participation and success has increased over the years, this “success” is viewed as following: continuing to obtain more medals in both a National and International setting, as well as furthering the number of BCFA members qualified to the Canadian National Teams. Lastly, the BCFA will focus on securing funding from a multitude of sources, and will additionally ensure that greater than 70% of revenue received is utilized directly towards the BC fencing community.

Values: The BCFA believes in six core values, which include the following: Promoting excellence in the sport of fencing, equal accessibility for all those who desire to participate in the sport, safety for all participants, sportsmanship and fair play among all those involved, responsive service to members of the community, and finally, respect for the sport of fencing.

The BCFA's current goals and their intended outcomes in relation to the 2015-2021 Strategic Plan, as the current state of achievement as of the 2016/2017 season are outlined in the pages to come.

Goals

Goal #1: Enhanced Participation in Fencing

Outcome: By 2021, the BCFA will have reached approximately 1,500 competitive and 5,000 developmental members on a sustainable annual basis.

Current State: In the 2016/2017 season, the BCFA reached a total of over 520 full-time members. This significant achievement has provided the association with 2 votes at the CFF AGM, which will only continue to aid in the development of BC fencers. In addition to the vast number of competitive fencers within the BCFA this past season, there were also over 2,000 developmental members. It is important to have many developmental athletes in the community, as these members may grow to fence alongside the other 520 competitive-level fencers in time.

Goal #2: Provide Support and Infrastructure

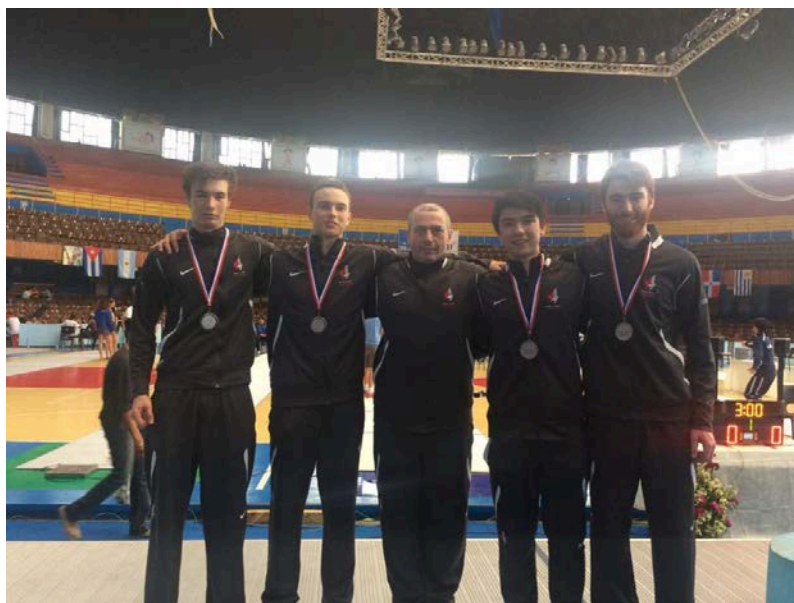
The BCFA will provide the support and infrastructure to ensure that its top athletes are able to achieve their full potential at a competitive level. The support that the BCFA will provide includes the best coaching and administrative support available, funding for HP athletes, as well as multiple BCFA-supported HP camps throughout the seasons.

Outcome: By 2021, BC fencers will have achieved numerous successes on both the national and international circuits. The BCFA community will win 20% of the total medal count at both Canada Cup and Canadian National events on an annual basis, as well as have medaled in every age and weapon categories at NAC events on an annual basis. They will also have medaled at the Pan-American Championships at the Cadet, Junior, and Senior levels in every weapon category. Athletes will have medaled at the World Championships as well at the cadet, junior, and senior levels. By 2021, at least one BC athlete will have qualified for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games, as well as having at least two BC fencers qualified for the 2019 Pan-American Games. Lastly, the BCFA will strive to have at least one BC athlete qualify for the 2020 Olympic games in Tokyo, Japan.

Current State: As of the 2016/2017 season, the BCFA has showed great strides towards the goals set in place within the Strategic Plan. Firstly, BC athletes have consistently won over 10% of the medal count at both the Canada Cup and Canadian National events regularly; well on the way to the 2021 goal. Regarding to the medals won at NAC events, BC athletes won several medals at NACs in the 2016/2017 season at Y12, Y14, junior, and veteran levels. Athletes won medals in cadet individual events, as well as in Junior Team events at the Cadet/Junior Pan American Championships. An extremely significant achievement this past season took place at the Cadet and Junior World Championships, where Fynn Fafard and Seraphim Jarov received silver medals in the cadet mixed team event; they were coached to this victory by BC/Dynamo head coach Victor Gantsevich. In addition to the success of our cadet and junior athletes, we have recently had multiple successes on the veteran level as well. Bela Suveg performed extremely well at both the Veteran Commonwealth Championships and Veteran Pan Am Championships, bringing home a combined total of four medals. Further goals have not yet been achieved due the qualification period taking place in years to come.



Fynn Fafard and Seraphim Jarov – Cadet mixed Epee Team Silver medalists (2017 Cadet Worlds)



Fynn Fafard – Junior Team Epee bronze medalist (2017 Pan American Championships)



Natasha Kis-Toth – Cadet Women’s Epee bronze medalist (2017 Pan American Championships)



Bela Suveg – Veteran Team Men’s Epee bronze medalist (2017 Veteran Pan American Championships)

Goal #3: Increased Coaching Capacity

The BCFA will provide support and programs in pursuance towards increasing the number of trained coaches at both the beginner and competitive levels.

Outcome: By 2021, every coach and official within the BCFA community will be trained and certified with the Canadian Coaching Association at a minimum level of community coach. Furthermore, BC will have access to at least five coaches trained at the Canadian Coaching Association at a competitive level. The BCFA will have supported these coaches through the attendance of courses, and by gaining competitive experienced at various international competitions.

Status: This past season, the BCFA supported coaches in attending World Cup and World Championship competitions. The association provided this support through the funding of coaches to attend VIASPORT courses in Victoria, as well as attending HP camps and working with International Coaches and athletes.

Goal #4: Increased Official Capacity

The BCFA will provide support and programs to increase the number of trained officials, such as referees, tournament managers, armorers, and Directoire Technique staff. They will develop a training program to ensure that members of the BCFA community may become qualified as provincial and national level referees. Competitions will be held for the means of providing experience and training for those of the community who are interested in officiating in a variety of roles.

Outcome: By 2021, the BCFA will have thirty provincially qualified referees, and fifteen nationally qualified referees. Additionally, the association will have five nationally qualified armourers. Finally, the BCFA will have a cadre of twenty community members well-versed in event management and Directoire Technique responsibilities.

Current Status: As of the 2016/2017 season, the BCFA has run a referee training course in conjunction with the BC provincials, and plans to follow up with more courses in the season to come. However, despite the efforts towards obtaining provincially qualified referees, the BCFA has been unable to add to the number of nationally qualified referees due to the challenges with having a clear qualifying pathway. We are collaborating with the national bodies to help resolve this. Frank Kis-Toth is now a nationally qualified armourer, and the BCFA has also supported the growth of a number of people who are well-versed and capable of managing a plethora of tournaments from club events to national, and even international events. BCFA volunteers now have extensive experience in event management and acting in a Directoire Technique role at competitions.

Goal #5: Providing Competitive Opportunities for BC Fencers

The BCFA will continue to actively pursue competitive hosting opportunities at the national and international level, as well as supporting and sanctioning local tournaments.

Outcome: By 2021, the BCFA Provincial Championships will be recognized as a major tournament throughout BC, Western Canada, and the Northwest United States, with an annual attendance of over 500 registrants. The association will have also hosted Western, National, and International tournaments, with the hopes in being in the position to bid to host a Pan Am or World Championship-level event.

Current Status: This past season at the 2017 Provincial Championships, the BCFA attracted 206 athletes and 274 registrants to the competition. Athletes travelled from across BC, western USA, China, and Europe to attend the BC provincials. In addition to the success of provincials, the BCFA hosted the Canada Cup in January 2017, and the Men's Epee World Cup in February. The association will continue to host the world cup in years to come, as well as bidding on any available Canada Cups and Western Canada Cups. The BCFA is considering bidding for the Veteran Commonwealth Championships, taking place in 2020.

Goal #6: Recognizing Contributions

The BCFA will recognize the endless contributions of its hardworking members, coaches, and volunteers in a variety of ways.

Outcomes: The BCFA will be run by volunteers whose key skill will be utilized, as well as valued and thus rewarded for their work. Developmental opportunities and recognition for volunteers will be provided, as well as the nomination of members for available awards (CFF or SportBC awards).

Current Status: The BCFA was pleased to nominate Gareth Mason for a Sport BC President's award in 2017. We are grateful to our numerous volunteers who tirelessly aid in running and officiating events. The BCFA High Performance program has a volunteer requirement that provides BC HP athletes to give back to their community, and to demonstrate the value of volunteering towards younger members.

Goal #7: The BCFA will not rely solely on core government revenue sources. Funding will be secured through the means of event hosting, fundraising, merchandising, and grant opportunities.

Outcome: By 2021, the BCFA will have annual revenue streams of \$300,000 per year, of which less than 50% will be obtained from core government of BC operating agreements

Current State: Revenue for the 2016/20017 fiscal year was \$245,176. Primary sources of these funds were from gaming grants, federal hosting grants, and membership/event fees.

Goal #8: Market Fencing to Members of the Public

The BCFA will actively market the sport using a range of media avenues, such as presentations, social media, etc.

Outcome: By 2021, most residents will know about fencing and understand it to be a life-long sport that promotes a healthy and active lifestyle. Every success at the Provincial, National and International levels will result in a BCFA press release.

Current Status: The association has been active in working with media to promote fencing. We now have a volunteer working on our website and social media platforms, and therefore hope to increase activity in these areas for the purpose of obtaining further public knowledge about our sport.



BC athletes demonstrating fencing at the 2016 Canada Day Parade held in Steveston, BC.



Capital City Fencers' Club at their annual Fence-a-thon to raise money for charity, whilst promoting fencing positively in their community.



Dynamo fencers and coaches promoting fencing at the Richmond World Festival