

MFA Executive Director's Report

2021-2022 Season

ADMINISTRATION

	Membership	10 Week	Associate	Full
2019-2020	122	7	20	97
Jan-22	90	4	19	67
Feb-22	105	6	19	80
Apr-22	110	12	19	84
May-22	112	5	20	87

-Anti-Racism in Sport (ARiS)- The MFA has signed on to the ARiS Accord on April 21, 2022. This commits to the MFA, over time, becoming an anti-racist organization through policy and practice.

-Call for board members or committees – Thank you to all the volunteers for your tremendous efforts this year! We have stars that continually rise to our challenges, but we do not want to burn them out. Much work is required on policy/bylaw revision. Tasks can be delegated into bite-sized pieces to assist in completion.

Documents to revise.

- Policies
- By-laws

-Letters of Support- Written for four athletes applying for travel visas to the US for competitions.

-Return to Practice (RTP)- Over the course of the fall and winter, the province loosened restrictions on sport; vaccination status was to be checked by facilities and facility tenants. The MFA worked with clubs to help communicate requirements and carry out the mandate of the provincial health orders.

-Social Media- Regular posts to Instagram. Currently, averaging of 45-60 views per story post. Generally, stories are shared as follows:

Monday- Motivational, Tuesday- Technical (armoury, referee, coach, etc), Wednesday- Epee, Thursday- Break; Friday- Foil; Saturday- Break; Sunday- Sabre.

-Sport Insurance – Insurance premiums increased again this year. Contact the MFA office if your club requires an insurance certificate for regular operations or for special events.

Registration System- We experienced a few hiccups this year, but the system seems to be working fine now. Added feature of upgrading membership from 10 week to full, only paying the difference.

CANADIAN FENCING FEDERATION (CFF)

-CFF AGM- Held online August 22, 2021; this year's tentatively booked for September 11, 2022 online.

- CFF events had resumed in limited capacity on a touch-and-go basis in the fall of 2021.

- CFF and Ontario Fencing Association offered free footwork and conditioning sessions to all CFF license holders, as well as yoga, strength training (for youth athletes), which was promoted on our website.

CLUBS

-Club Packages- Implementation of club packages -this is general information that should be always kept available at head office for insurance purposes. Assistance from the MFA office as always available to complete this task. Please provide an updated list of directors after your AGM.

COACHING

-Background Checks- Standard background check and vulnerable sector check are covered by the MFA office. Coaches with completed Respect in Sport (RiS) will be reimbursed after confirmation.

-First Aid- All coaches should have Emergency First Aid, CPR A, & AED training or similar. Clubs to send a list of interested coaches (paid and volunteer) for approval to the MFA office. Coaches with completed Respect in Sport (RiS) will be reimbursed after confirmation.

-Respect in Sport MB expects 100% of our coaches (even volunteer) be Respect in Sport certified (free, 3 hours).

-SafeSport- Available for free online and is mandatory for to coach at CFF events.

-Sport Manitoba – We have a new Sport Consultant, Kylo Harris, and new bookkeeper Peter Grenfell.

FINANCIAL

-Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) - 75% (and decreasing) of full-time staff wages for eligible periods was collected from the start of COVID in 2020 until December 2021. We are now collecting Hardest Hit Business Recovery Plan (HHBRP) in lieu of CEWS.

-Grants - Continuing to receive HP Coach Support Grant, Program Support Grant, Base Funding from Sport Manitoba. Recently we also received grants to support wheelchair/para fencing, KidSport, and Women to Watch.

-Internal Funding Framework (IFF) Submission- was completed and submitted to Sport Manitoba. This extensive series of documents outlines key elements of our growth strategies, financial plan, stakeholder demographics, etc. Working with clubs to grow and supporting coach development will be crucial to our operations these next few years.

-IFF Presentation to Sport MB - Overall, Sport Manitoba was pleased with our business plan and presentation. A reminder that they are looking for 100% Respect in Sport certification from coaches and promotion of Concussion Awareness materials. Our focus will be coaches and clubs.

-Kidsport- Funding was dispersed from KidSport to MFA to fencing family.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS

Media- Two of our Provincial Team athletes: Jordan Diacos and Zacharia Bounachada were featured in the news and media for being on the Canadian National Team and Algerian National Team respectively.

-Social Media Starting with regular postings to Instagram. Currently, the action has been well-received, with an average of 45-50 views per story post. This is just the beginning to building a Social Media presence that will hopefully be leveraged for upcoming events and communication with members.

Generally, story posts are as follows:

Monday- Motivational, Tuesday- Technical (armoury, referee, coach, etc),
Wednesday- Epee, Thursday- Break; Friday- Foil; Saturday- Break; Sunday- Sabre.

- **Newsletter-** frequency changed to quarterly. Any ideas to help engage, inform, and inspire our membership are always welcome. The newsletters are continuing to be distributed and are well received, averaging 64% click rate.

- **Outreach** – last season, a dozen clinics/sessions were booked with coaches lined up to facilitate but were put on hold due to COVID. This year, we have several outdoor and indoor camps tentatively booked. Very positive feedback was received from outreach clinics we have done so far.

-Wheelchair Fencing- Application for funding was co-submitted with Manitoba Wheelchair Sports Association to run a program at Sport Manitoba. With the funding we received, we were able to run a 10 week program. We are currently waiting for the results of another grant application to continue the program.

TOURNAMENTS

-Overall, there has been growing participation and interest in tournaments.

**See attachment