

## **Purpose, Governance and Administrative Arrangements for Friends of Fencing (NSW)**

Friends of Fencing (NSW) is a supporters' club with the objective of raising funds for the development of the sport of fencing in NSW with a strong emphasis on programs that assist junior fencing.

Membership of Friends of Fencing is open to any member or supporter of NSW fencing who pledges to make a regular financial contribution to fencing of at least \$1,000 per year.

### **1. Objectives of Friends of Fencing (NSW)**

- a. Raise funds for the development of the sport of fencing in New South Wales
- b. Support development programs for the benefit of junior fencers
- c. Encourage young people to take up fencing as their preferred sport
- d. Support programs to improve the skills and performance of junior fencers
- e. Assist young fencers of proven talent to compete in fencing events at national and international level.

### **2. Governance**

- a. Friends of Fencing (NSW) is an independent supporter group within the framework of the New South Wales Fencing Association.
- b. Membership of Friends of Fencing (NSW) is open to any member or supporter of NSW fencing who pledges to make a contribution of at least \$1,000 per year.
- c. Friends of Fencing (NSW) will be directed by a Committee of five contributors elected by the members of Friends of Fencing every two years.
- d. The initial members of the Committee will be those who pledged support as of 1 July 2009.
- e. The Committee will appoint one of their members to act as Chairperson. Chairpersons can serve consecutive periods.
- f. The Committee may invite other members of Friends of Fencing to join the Committee.
- g. The Chairman of Friends of Fencing (NSW) will convene meetings of the Committee either in person or by teleconference at least twice a year or as otherwise needed.
- h. In the event that a vote is taken on any matter considered by the Committee, a simple majority will be required and each vote will have equal value.

### **3. Membership categories**

- a. Members of Friends of Fencing will pledge annual contributions for periods of three or five years, payable in full on 1 July each year, in the following categories:
  - i. Gold - \$5,000 or more per year
  - ii. Silver - \$3,000 or more per year
  - iii. Bronze - \$1,000 or more per year

A special category of membership – Platinum – will be reserved for members who contribute \$10,000 or more.

- b. Contributions to Friends of Fencing (NSW) are voluntary and may be discontinued at any time; however contributions already received will not be refunded.

- c. In the event that Friends of Fencing (NSW) is dissolved, any funds to the credit of Friends of Fencing (NSW) will transferred to the NSW Fencing Association.
- d. Contributions may be made either as:
  - i. Tax deductible donations made directly to the Australian Sports Foundation and credited to the “Friends of Fencing (NSW) Development Fund”, or
  - ii. Contributions made directly to Friends of Fencing (NSW)

#### **4. Contributions to the Australian Sports Foundation**

- a. Contributions made to the Australian Sports Foundation will be subject to the Foundation’s fund raising and project approval processes.
- b. Contributions made to the Australian Sports Foundation must be voluntary and unconditional.
- c. Contributors to the Australian Sports Foundation must not expect any significant benefit, advantage, right or privilege for their donation, apart from tax deductibility if accepted by the Commissioner of Taxation.

#### **5. Contributions to Friends of Fencing (NSW)**

- a. Contributions made directly to Friends of Fencing (NSW) will be held in a dedicated bank account managed by the New South Wales Fencing Association.
- b. The Chairman of Friends of Fencing and the President, NSWFA, will be joint authorised signatories to this account and each will nominate an alternate authorised signatory.
- c. Interest earned on the account will be credited to the account.
- d. Income credited to the account and expenses debited to the account will be separately identified in the financial statements of NSWFA.
- e. The fund balance will be recorded in the NSWFA accounts as an asset of NSWFA.
- f. Members of Friends of Fencing (NSW) will take their own advice on the taxation status of the funds they contribute.
- g. Members will be provided with a GST tax invoice on request.

#### **6. Expenditure**

- a. The funds directly received by Friends of Fencing (NSW) will be spent only on an approved schedule of projects agreed by the Committee of Friends of Fencing (NSW) in consultation with the Executive of NSWFA and the Head Coach of NSWFA. All spending will be jointly authorised by the Chairperson of Friends of Fencing and the President of NSWFA (see 5b).
- b. The Treasurer of NSWFA will maintain a complete and up to date record of all contributions and expenditure.

#### **7. Approval of Friends of Fencing (NSW) Projects**

- a. In accordance with 6a, Friends of Fencing will agree a schedule of projects in consultation with the Executive of NSWFA and the Head Coach. Without limiting the scope of Friends of Fencing to direct funds in support of any fencing activity, these projects will be aimed primarily at the development of promising young fencers and may include:
  - i. Specialist coaching camps and courses
  - ii. Support for young fencers to train and compete overseas, particularly in Asia
  - iii. Support for the development of fencing in schools and clubs in metropolitan Sydney and regional NSW
  - iv. Infrastructure that benefits the development of young fencers
- b. Fencers who benefit from Friends of Fencing projects will be required to provide a written report on their experience.

## **8. Recognition of members**

- a. The Executive of NSWFA may recognise the contribution of Friends of Fencing (NSW) in various ways, including:
  - b. For donations made to the Australian Sports Foundation:
    - i. Acknowledgement of the members of Friends of Fencing (NSW) on the NSWFA website, in newsletters, competition programs and other fencing media.
    - ii. The issue of certificates of appreciation, badges, medallions etc.
  - c. For contributions made directly to Friends of Fencing (NSW):
    - i. Acknowledgement of the members of Friends of Fencing (NSW) on the NSWFA website, in newsletters, competition programs and other media.
    - ii. The issue of certificates of appreciation, badges, medallions etc.
- And additionally:
- iii. Signage at NSWFA events.
  - iv. Piste sponsorship for NSWFA events

## **9. Reporting**

- a. The Chairperson of Friends of Fencing will provide a written report on the activities and projects of Friends of Fencing (NSW) for the information of members of NSWFA at each annual general meeting of the NSWFA.
- b. The report will include a description of projects funded and include a statement of the fund balance at 30 June each year.

## **10. Changes to these Arrangements**

- a. Changes to these Arrangements may be made only by the Committee of Friends of Fencing (NSW) in consultation with member contributors and with the Executive of the New South Wales Fencing Association.

Endorsed by the Executive of the New South Wales Fencing Association.

31 July 2009