



Fencing-Esprime New Brunswick
2015 Annual General Meeting
July 2014-June 2015
Board Report

As a non profit volunteer lead organizations, Fencing Esprime New Brunswick continued to be an active participant in the sport of fencing. Though challenges were faced over the previous year, FENB is optimistic that the sport of fencing can continue to grow within the province and aid in the development of athletes, coaches and volunteers.

Athlete Development

Athlete highlights

November saw Wendy Yano selected to represent team Canada at the 2015 Commonwealth Championships in Largs, Scotland. Wendy Yano competed well and did New Brunswick proud with the top result amongst Canadian sabreuses.

FENB also saw athletes represent the province abroad throughout Canada, with multiple fencers taking part in the Canada Cup events throughout the year.

Provincial Training Camps

There were two provincial training camps held this year in New Brunswick; one during the summer and another in winter months. The summer camp was more high performance based, seeing 11 participants take part in the camp. In the winter camp, there were 28 fencers and seven coaches that took part over the two day event. The camp saw all age and skill ranges in the province represented.

FENB Competitions

The NB Open

This competition was held in Fredericton on the weekend of November 22 and 23 at the Arthur Currie Center at UNB Fredericton. Overall, 75 competitors took part in nine events throughout the course of the weekend. There was limited representation from the other East coast provinces.

The Alfred Knappe Team Tournament

The Alfred Knappe competition was held on January 31 and February 1 in Fredericton at the Arthur Currie Center at UNB Fredericton with the help of both the UNB Fencing club and Damocles Fencing club. Unfortunately, due to a winter storm, there was limited representation

from across the province. The Chaleur club was unable to attend, which reduced the overall numbers of the competition. Fencers from NB still came out to support the competition as long as they could make it through the snow, as well as one fencer from Nova Scotia. The Board decided to move the Knappe team tournament for the 2015-2016 season in order to avoid potential weather issues, as well as to use it as a competition to kick off the competitive season.

2015 NB Provincial Championships

Le club d'escrime Chaleur took on the responsibility of aiding in the hosting of the NB Provincials, and did nothing less than an amazing job. The competition was held on March 28 and 29 in Petit-Rocher. The competition saw 59 competitors over the course of two days participate in 13 events. There was participation from 3 Maritime provinces outside of New Brunswick, though the number were limited. Organizationally, Chaleur proved that they would be able to host competitions such as this in the future without difficulty.

Technical Leadership Development

Coaches

One coaching development workshop was run this year, lead by Jim Stevens. The clinic was held in Fredericton, with coaches from the Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton areas represented. The clinic was aimed at educating NB coaches on the CFF armband program, including skills required and how to test and evaluate students at the yellow and orange armband levels in all three weapons. The clinic also focused on how to effectively give and build private lessons with fencers at these armband levels. While very informative and helpful to the coaches in attendance, this clinic did not lead to formal certification for any of the participants.

Officiating

Two referee development workshops were held this year, both of which were lead by Michael Ivankovic, with assistance from Jim Stevens at one of the workshops. The workshops were delivered to multiple people in various stages of fencing and/or referee development.

The first clinic was held in Fredericton on November 22 after day one of the NB Open. This clinic was aimed at fencers with experience as referees. It covered current trends in refereeing in the conventional weapons as well as common errors and mistakes in the application of rules (mainly for epee). This clinic did not lead to any formal certification of referees.

The second clinic, held at the 2015 NB Provincial Championships in Petit-Rocher in March, targeted a different audience from the first clinic. This clinic was aimed fencers with little/no experience as referees and also parents and supporting members from the fencing community. The clinic helped to educate those with less experience in how and why referees made calls in the way that they do, and also helped to educate how to properly interact with officials as well as when and how officials could be challenged and questioned throughout the course of competition. This workshop did not lead to certification, but was aimed to educate and gain more interest among members in becoming referees.

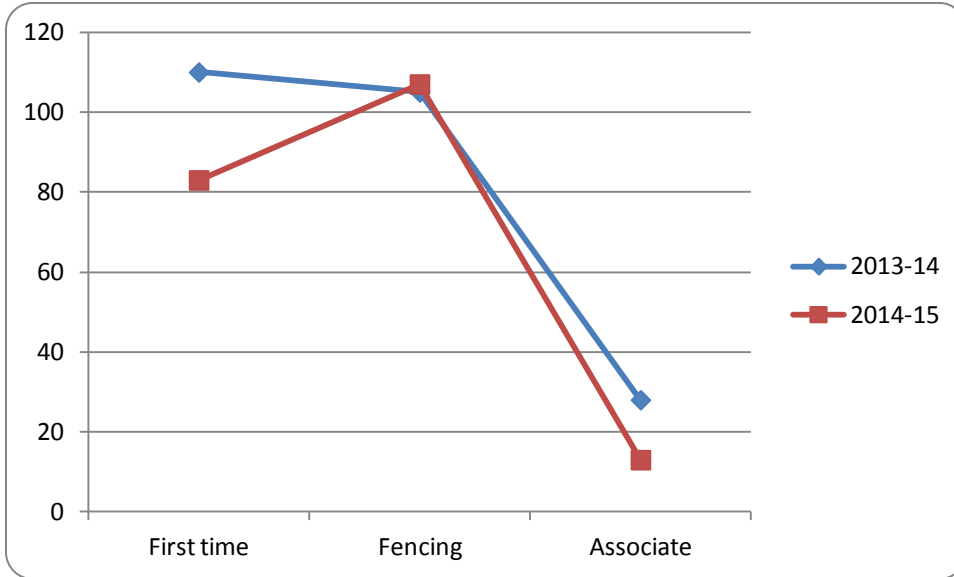
Armoury

FENB did not host any armoury education workshops in the 2014-2015 season.

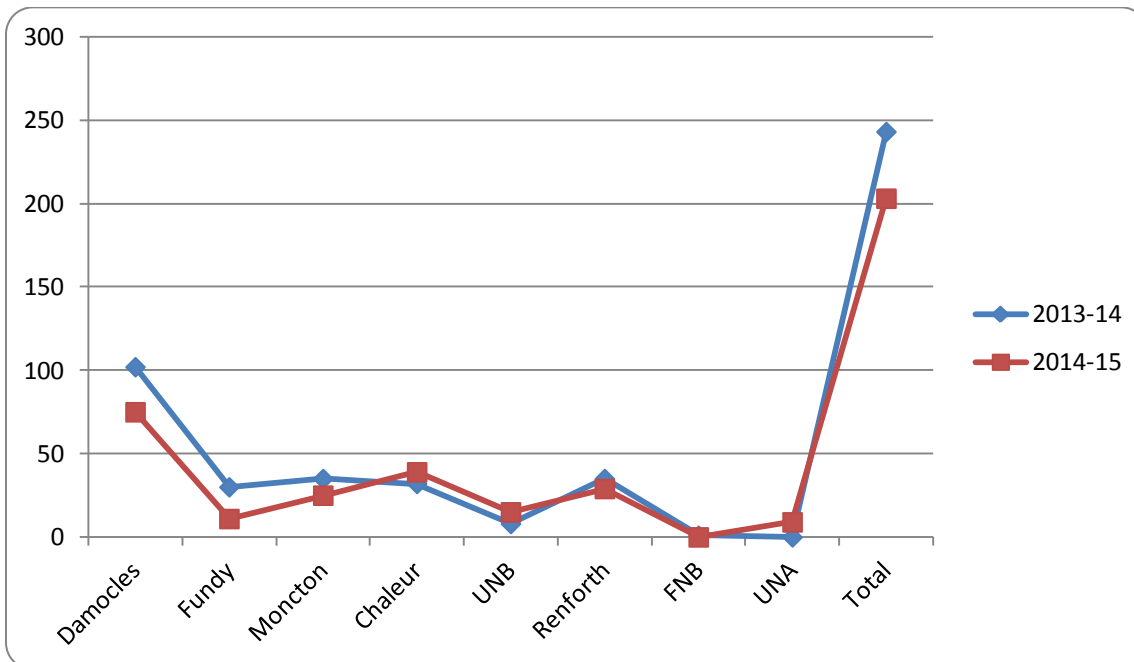
Membership

The membership numbers this year were down slightly from last season. The total number registered to FENB was 214. The CFF license system was still working out some kinks that made membership renewal difficult across the country. The CFF has continued to work on the system and are optimistic that the bugs will be worked out within the upcoming season, allowing for simple registration and renewal.

Breakdown of membership by type



Breakdown of membership by club



Future of FENB

The upcoming season will see FENB focus very much on their strategic plan. The organization plans to organize coach training workshops leading to certification of any coach who wishes to go through the program. FENB will also seek to continue to develop officials, implementing a new training and certification program, and also will look for ways to increase participation from the clubs in this area.

2014-2015 Board of Directors: Anne Bardou, Robert Cole, Stephanie Doucet, Jim Stevens and Diane Raiche-Phillips (President).