

FENB Board of Directors Report

FENB AGM Sunday, November 24, 2024

2023-2024 Season

Our latest fencing season in New Brunswick has been our most successful one in recent years, with increased membership, including an increase in girls and school participation; the establishment of a high-performance program with the Canadian Sport Institute Atlantic; and continuing commitment with running successful tournaments and provincial camps.

Participation

Membership

	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Provincial	117	122	82	61	93
1st time / Rec.	97	86	63	68	71
Associate	7	6	10	12	14
School	62	0	24	0	28
Total	283	214	179	141	206

2023-24	Male	Female	Total
Provincial	89	28	117
1st time / Rec.	68	29	97
Associate	4	3	7
School	24	38	62
Total	185	98	283

	2023-24		2022-23	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Male	185	65.4%	148	69.2%
Female	98	34.6%	66	30.8%

Tournaments

FENB hosted our regular three tournaments: Alfred Knappe in Fredericton, East Coast Games in Saint John, and NB Provincials in Moncton.

Athlete Development

HP Program

This season we were able to introduce an HP program with support from the Canadian Sport Institute Atlantic (CSIA). The HP program is designed to align with CSIA's goals of providing more training opportunities and coaching support at competitions, and includes strength/conditioning training, and mental performance and nutrition counselling. Five athletes from the program attended Nationals in Saskatoon, along with coaching support from Jim Stevens and Marc-Andre Leblanc. Performance highlights include Flynn Stevens winning bronze at the Canada Youth Cup in Ontario, and coming first out of the pools at Nationals, ultimately finishing in the top 10; Sammy Singh-Ranger coming fifth at the Canada Youth Cup, and top 16 at Nationals; and Graham Goodwin coming top 16 in both junior and senior at Nationals. For those unable to commit to the HP program or were not yet ready for the program, we also ran a provincial team program.

Provincials

Congratulations to our 2024 provincial winners:

Cadet Sabre: Flynn Stevens
 Cadet Foil: Dominique Richard
 Cadet Epee: Graham Goodwin

U15 Sabre: Shiloh Jamer
 U15 Epee: Sammy Singh-Ranger

U13 Sabre: Ashelin Stevens
 U13 Epee: Luke Martin

U11 Sabre: Hadley Parker

Open Sabre: Logan Nugent
 Open Epee: Marc-Andre LeBlanc
 Team Sabre: Beaches (Wendy Yano, Ashelin Stevens, Flynn Stevens)

Team Epee: La Résistance (Alexander Chang, Marc Landry, Marc-André LeBlanc, Mathieu Paquet)

Gender Equity

We have started to focus on this more this season, adding a Girls Fencing Fun Day, participating in a She Is Active girls multisport event, as well as including some girls-only events at our tournaments.

School Programs

We continue to support school programs with George St. Middle School, Fredericton High School, and the YMCA of Greater Saint John, plus this year, we had school programs in Moncton that had an interschool exhibition competition.

Leadership

This season, the Board of Directors created two more board positions and new subcommittees to help with the workload. Subcommittees include an officials committee, social media committee, NB fencing hall of fame committee, and fundraising committee.

Officials Subcommittee

We continued our pilot project with Alexis Lague, providing him with funding to train as a referee in Ontario. He became certified at the Ontario provincial level in foil and epee at the end of the season, and can challenge the National exam once he is 18.

Fundraising Subcommittee

In order to help with the costs of attending Nationals in Saskatoon this season, a raffle was held with various handmade prizes and gift card collections. Fencers from the HP program sold raffle tickets for \$10 each, and sold around 150 tickets collectively. A large thank you to Sally for organizing the raffle, especially the lotto licence from Service New Brunswick, and to all prize donors.

Banking

A major project that our Executive Director took on this season was to update our banking system, in order to facilitate better online banking and have a two-signer process with electronic transfers.

Funding

Our funding structure from the province remained the same from the previous season. In addition, we received \$12,000 from CSIA to support our HP program.

Board, Staff, and Volunteer Recruitment

Kathryn Howe was hired as Executive Director at the beginning of the season, and we are pleased that she is continuing with us through the next season.

FENB would like to thank the people who served on our various committees and subcommittees this past season, including David Collins, Patrick Craig, David Drysdale, Barbara Daniel,

Sebastien Fournet, Sally Goodwin, Marc-Andre LeBlanc, and Jim Stevens. We would also like to thank Barbara Daniel in particular for serving as our Coach Developer.

As always, we are grateful for the many people, coaches, parents, community members, and many more, who give their time and expertise to support FENB's events and activities. We could not operate without these individuals, much less thrive, without all of this generous support.

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