

September 2020 Annual Membership Meeting: President's report by Sandra Honour

Regular Executive and Board meetings.

The Executive met monthly and the Board quarterly. The Executive responds to the requirements of the Federation's administration between meetings as needed. Key executive members met weekly with the staff to ensure that our ongoing priorities are met. This year we had several changes in our Board and our current board members are posted on the web. We solicited and found some very helpful professional accountants to volunteer for the SFC committees and an eastern maritime representative is back on the board.

The Board created an operational plan that was submitted and accepted by our major funding partner Sport Canada. Many of the reports from the Executive will include results from that operational plan.

COVID-19 has impacted us all, the safety of our families and our athletes comes first in all our decisions. We have been fortunate to not lose funding for the national organization this year and are managing better than many sport organizations. Not all our clubs and provincial organizations have been so fortunate and that may impact our sport in the longer term. National championships were canceled and the Olympics were postponed. Our Domestic and High Performance team had to forgo competitions and at-range target training for March through to June. As we move to September many of the ranges are now open for limited training and so those in the outdoor sports especially are picking up from the delay but will have a very short season. Our Domestic program has attempted to "go Virtual" in this new less traveled world and our Domestic VP has great progress to share with you in his report.

Staffing

One focus of the Executive, this year, was on securing and updating our staff positions and job descriptions. We now have three employees. Again, their duties are posted on the website for all to understand how our virtual office functions.

Responding to New Gun Laws and trying to convince Hamilton's Commonwealth bid to include Shooting

As SFC President, I wrote to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Director General of Sport Canada (Heritage Canada) and the President of the Canadian Olympic Committee to try to gain support for a rewrite of the poorly thought out SOR 2020-96 Order in Council that banned many firearms in Canada including putting at risk some of our athletes back bored 12 gauge shotguns. The Minister of PS did not respond to my letter and Sport Canada's Director General and the President of the COC referred me to his office so we have been very disappointed by the lack of concern for our athletes. As a National Sport Governing Body and not a lobby group we are unable to do much more than try to communicate with the government by official channels to express our concerns for our sports and athletes. We posted the letters on the website.

We also partnered with the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association leaders to write a letter to the Hamilton Commonwealth Games Bid organization. They are making their bid for the 2026 Commonwealth Games to the City and others in the next weeks and we are hopeful that we can support them to hold Shooting as one of the sports in their bid.

Policies and procedures.

Another focus has been ensuring the Shooting Federation has policies that are in line with the newly developed Universal Code of Conduct and the *Respect in Sport* movement. We engaged lawyers that supported many sports through this change. This has added commitment for our volunteers and athletes to take the training and walk the talk of respectful conduct in all aspects of sport. We have contracted a third party to deal with respect and harassment complaints required of us as a National Sport Organization. This should provide athletes, parents, officials and coaches assurance that complaints can be dealt with in a fair manner.

We are just finalizing the updates to the policy manuals and having them officially translated so that they will all be posted on the website and easily accessible to all the members.

We still do not have a detailed Legacy agreement dealing with the use and access to the 2015 Pan Am Games facility. This has been elevated as a priority and our Technical Director is now acting on SFC's behalf to finalize the written agreements.

ISSF and America's Continental (CAT) participation

Shari Akow (VP Provincial) and I represented the SFC at the Special Meeting of the ISSF General Assembly last November. We met with a lot of individuals across the world of shooting sports trying to impact the constitutional changes proposed by the ISSF. We did our homework and presented written challenges to the ISSF before the meeting. Some but not all of our suggestions were adopted however the meeting itself was not as inclusive nor sport strengthening as we would have liked. This year's General Assembly has been canceled (Covid-19) and virtual continental meetings will be taking place. Again, we are trying to influence the agendas but we are meeting some resistance from the more staid old school leadership and the economic crisis many of our fellow nations are feeling. Hopefully, we can influence some changes as it is our goal that the Americas will help hone our performance gap between domestic level and world-class performance.

Finally, BIG THANK YOU

Thanks to all of the members, volunteers and athletes of the SFC for your continued dedication to the target shooting sports. Please continue to help out our sport wherever you can.