



The 3 most important developments during the 2015 committee term:

1) The permanent long term storage space at the Tuggeranong Archery Centre. It centralises the ACT Fencing equipment, makes set up of championships easier, and makes equipment available to a wider range of people. The 'cage' is great value, since the space the equipment was occupying previously is rented out at 10 times the amount ACTFA is paying for the cage.

The next step is to run more beginner courses and camps at the TAC to make the maximum use of the opportunity.

2) Creation of the ACTFA admin officer role. Although the position is now temporarily vacant, the new Admin position is a major step towards better administration in a larger Association. The next step is to fully integrate all the ranking, and invoicing work into the position.

3) at the last AIS Summer Camp in December 2015, 10 ACT athletes took full advantage of the exceptional value for money offered by the 4-day event. Together with the 3 other AIS camps and the competition at the National Championships, this means that ACT fencers have access to the best training and competition in Australia for as little as \$300 per year. Their counterparts in other states would be paying up to \$5000 for the same events. there is potential to expand this High Performance program to Veterans as well. This is not an accident or coincidence - it is the result of hard work and strategic planning on the part of the committee. If anyone ever says: ACTFA doesn't do anything, I would like to counter by bringing up this example. I fear too many people take it for granted, and we lose these events through lack of local support.

One project I did hope to pursue while Vice President but didn't get anywhere was to talk to ACT Sports House about a permanent training and competition facility for ACT Fencing. Unfortunately, I was too caught up in club and routine activities to commit the time and effort needed to this.

What I would recommend to future committees is to focus on making ACT Fencing less reliant on individuals - in reality this would probably mean developing the admin role, and raising fees significantly to reduce the need for volunteers.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to re state what I think an Association is. To me, it's an opportunity to contribute. The question should never be: why can't we have this? It should always be: how can I help? To paraphrase John F. Kennedy: ask not what your Association can do for you; ask what you can do for your Association.

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