

# Agenda

## Special Meeting of the USFA Board of Directors

July 11, 2010 Atlanta, GA

The Board of Directors meeting is divided into six major phases:

**Information:** Minutes of the previous meeting; officer, director and committee reports; and general announcements.

**Budget:** Approval or disapproval of the budget, requests for major changes in it including staff or executive actions that may involve budget changes.

**Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws (when appropriate)**

**Elections (when appropriate)**

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

The latter two categories are what was formerly known as the “Decision Phase” and consist largely of motions before the Board, as well as planning discussions.

Motions before the Board (excluding those directly related to the budget) are divided into three categories:

**SECOND HEARING:** Motions that have had First Hearing at the previous Board meeting; Second Hearing motions must be voted upon as presented, with only minor changes permitted (if a motion requires major changes or fails completely, it must be re-presented as a First Hearing Motion at a subsequent Board meeting).

**URGENT:** Motions that have not had a First Hearing but must be acted upon by the Board for time or other considerations.

**FIRST HEARING:** Motions that are new to the Board, but for which decisions are not urgent. A First Hearing motion may not be voted upon unless the Board moves it to the Urgent category; instead, it is automatically placed in the Second Hearing category at the next meeting unless the sponsor withdraws it.

Every motion must have an individual sponsor identified in the agenda and in attendance at the meeting. The sponsor presents the motion, answers questions, takes notes on suggested changes, and shepherds the motion if it is referred to committee. Committees that are presenting motions must assign a member to fulfill this duty.



## I. Information

### A. General Information and Organizational Items:

General announcements

Appointment of Parliamentarian.

### B. Minutes of the February 14, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve the minutes of the February 14, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (the minutes are distributed separately)

### C. Report of Board Vote Conducted via Mail May 31, 2010

- Passed motion proposed by Mr. Benson to alter the classes of membership and the dues set for each. New membership classes and rates will take effect with the 2010-2011 season. (Please refer to Appendix M for description of modified classes and fee structure)

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve the above record of the action taken by the Board of Directors via mail vote conducted prior to May 31, 2010.

### D. Officer and Executive Director Reports: (Please refer to the Index of Appendices)

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To receive Officer and Director reports.

### E. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee Reports of Action. The EC took the following actions:

#### March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010

- Adopted the following policies:

#### March 2010 NAC

Athletes entered in both the Veteran 60 and Veteran 70 individual events or just the Veteran 60 individual events, will remain in those events. Current formats and seeding practices will remain. Note: Currently V70WE has been cancelled due to lack of entries.

#### Summer Nationals 2010

Individual age group events at the 2010 Summer Nationals will be: Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69 and Veteran 70+. Current qualification, formats and seeding practices will remain.

#### 2010 Veteran 70+ World Championships Team Selection

Due to the late notification of changes to official events at the 2010 World Veterans Championships, Veteran 70+ National Team selection will be based on the point standings to be calculated at the best 2 out of 5 results from the Veteran 60+ and Veteran 70+ events at the 2009 December NAC, 2010 March NAC and Veteran 70+ events at the 2010 Summer Nationals as the 5 event results.

#### 2010-2011 Season

Beginning with the 2010-2011 season: NAC individual Veteran event categories will be changed to: Veteran Combined, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69 and Veteran 70+.

Starting with the 2011 Summer Nationals the veteran individual event categories will be: Veteran 40-49, Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69 and Veteran 70+. National Team selection for the Veteran 50-59, Veteran 60-69, and Veteran 70+ will be based on current procedure of best 2 out of 3 results from the 2010-2011 Veteran season tournaments.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

- Passed a motion to revise the club membership levels as follows:  
Basic: \$40/year  
Standard (includes \$1,000,000 in liability insurance): \$300/year  
Premier (includes \$2,000,000 in liability insurance): \$500/year

This change is intended to update the pricing structure and make more rational the differences between the various tiers. It was noted that additional new benefits are currently planned for Premier-level club membership.

- Passed a motion to allow Felicia Zimmermann to compete as a member of a team representing Rochester Fencing Club at the 2010 Summer Nationals.

Based upon our reading of the Operations Manual, the Executive Committee believes that no such special permission is required, but has chosen to take this action on the basis of a request to clarify the situation.

- Appointed Paula Reed and Alex Ryjik as co-chairs of the Club Development and Support Committee.

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010**

- Denied the request of a fencer to change club representation.

The request was precipitated by conflict with the management of his former club. The final paragraph of Section 1.3 in the Athlete Handbook explicitly deals with the described situation and states that such conflict “will not be recognized as justification to change club representation.”

**April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

- Added Carla-Mae Richards to the Tournament Committee.
- Established a task force to review policies and procedures applicable to persons in positions of authority regarding their relationships with members under their charge. The task force is to report to the Board of Directors no later than at the annual meeting in September, 2010.

The USFA needs to consider potential liability and identify and address its responsibility for the safety of its members,

- Accepted FIE invitation to hold a Junior Women’s Sabre World Cup in Arizona in January, 2011.

**May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

- Denied the request of parents representing athletes from a non-member club to be allowed to enter teams to Summer Nationals.

The organization does not meet the requirements to join as a member club of US Fencing. Without being a member club the organization is not permitted to enter teams into events at Summer Nationals. There have been on-going discussions over several months between the USFA leadership and the organization's principals about the steps necessary to meet the requirements to become a member-club. The organization has, nonetheless, failed to resolve the problems.

- Accepted the request of two fencers to be allowed to enter an event at Summer Nationals after irregularities at their divisional qualifier.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**

- Approved a budget variance of up to \$1,500 to support expenses necessary to cover an in-person meeting of the ROC Advisory Group in Dallas, TX in June, 2010.
- Denied two requests for athletes to be allowed to submit late entries to the Summer National Championships.

**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

- Denied request of an athlete to be allowed to submit a late entry to the Summer National Championships.

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** to approve EC Action Items.

2. Committee Reports: (Please refer to the Index of Appendices)

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** to receive committee reports.

## **II. Budget Phase**

### **A. Financial Reports:**

Budget vs. Actual report for period ending May 31, 2010.

**Motion (Mr. Dilworth):** To receive the Budget Report as submitted to the Board.

### **B. 2010-2011 Budget**

**Motion (Mr. Dilworth):** To approve the 2010-2011 Budget, as submitted to the Board.

## **III. Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws**

### **A. Motion (Mr. Clements; Seconded by Mr. Baker; Referred to Bylaws Review Task Force):**

To amend the Bylaws of the Association by adding the following section to Article VIII:

Art. VIII, Sec. 23. **Executive Session**. The Board shall hold an executive session during each Annual Meeting at which the Board shall review the performance and terms of employment of the Executive Director or any member of the Association's staff exercising the authority of the Executive Director. At either the annual meeting or at any special meeting, the Board may take up a specific matter, including a disciplinary matter, in executive session on a motion supported by two-thirds of the ~~whole membership~~ members of the Board present. An executive session shall be open only to members of the Board and General Counsel of the Association unless the motion seeking the session expressly designates specific, named individuals who may remain present.

#### **Rationale:**

Currently there are matters which come before the Board involving privacy issues, while no specific mechanism or authorization exists providing for such matters to be taken up out of full view of the membership. Colorado nonprofit law does not prohibit executive sessions, and the

Bylaws of the United States Olympic Committee expressly include a provision requiring that body's Board of Directors to meet in executive session at least twice per year. USOC Bylaws, Sec. 3.2, Para. 6. There is currently a need for some provision allowing for the Board to meet in executive session while recognizing that such sessions should be extraordinary and limited to specific matters.

**B. Motion (Mr. Clements; Seconded by Mr. Masin; Referred to Bylaws Review Task Force):**

To amend Art. VIII, Sec. 10 of the Bylaws of the Association as follows:

**Section 10 Quorum.** At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the number of members present in person constituting a quorum shall be the greater of one-third of the members in office or seven members present in person. On failure of a quorum a lesser number shall have the power to adjourn to a given time and place. The date, place and time of each meeting shall be designated by the President.

**Rationale:** Colorado Revised Statutes Sec. 7-128-205 expressly provides that a quorum of the board of directors of a nonprofit corporation cannot consist of fewer than one-third of the members of the board. Currently, the Association's Board of Directors includes up to thirty individuals, one-third of which is ten. This amendment conforms the Association's Bylaws to the requirements of Colorado law.

**IV. Elections (If Necessary)**

In the event the proposed Bylaws are adopted at the Annual Membership Meeting on July 10, 2010, as recommended by the Board of Directors, elections of directors will be conducted in accordance with Article XVII.

**V. Unfinished Business**

**A. Second Hearing**

**1. Motion (Mr. Streb; Seconded by Mr. Blake):**

To adopt 100% promotion from pools to direct eliminations in all Veteran USFA National events including NAC's & Summer National Championships.

**Motion (Mr. Wood):** To amend the motion to provide for 100% promotion at Veterans Championships events of 24 or fewer entries and 80% promotion at Championships events with 25 or more entries.

**Second: Mr. Blake**

**(Motion was tabled and referred to the Tournament Committee and Veterans Committee prior to a vote being taken on the motion to amend)**

**Rationale:**

1. The 80% rule was applied to veteran fencers a few years ago in order to replicate the World Championship format. Only a very small percentage of vet fencers compete in the World Championships held annually in September, unlike the other team categories – cadet, junior and senior where there are several world cups open to a range of competitors who can qualify via their point standings. We shouldn't penalize the majority of the veteran fencers for the sake of preparing the four people in each category who are going to attend *one* international competition annually.

Furthermore, if such a rationale was applied uniformly to all other age categories, the Division 1 Nationals would have to return to a 2-day format as done at World Cups.

2. The national veteran events have traditionally been small competitions. At the last NAC, (March 2009) the largest group was 35 competitors while the average was below 25. There is no logical rationale to cut fencers out of such small events. The veteran 60 women's foil had 11 competitors. If all of these women fence in July 2009, 2.2 of them will not be able to fence in the direct elimination bouts. Dropping 2 fencers does nothing to expedite the competition, nor does it advance the sport in any manner. It only serves to ensure that those two women will think twice about paying tournament fees and taking on the expense of traveling to Summer Nationals again.

At present, there are only three national tournaments available to Veterans fencers. Unlike 14 year-olds, who can fence in upwards of 8 events at any given national tournament, Veterans are restricted by age and event timing to 1 or 2 competitions. At National Championships, without the veterans combined category, fencers are flying to a venue and booking a hotel for one event. While many have been involved in the sport for decades, equally as many are new to fencing and the USFA. Why should one incur the considerable expense to fence in 4 or 5 pool bouts, only to be eliminated before the direct elimination bouts?

### **Tournament Committee Response to Motion**

The Tournament Committee recommends that based on the current formats outlined below from the Athlete's Handbook, that no change is warranted at this time.

#### Format (NAC)

- One round of pools
- 100% promoted out of pools
- No repêchage
- DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In saber, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches.

#### Format (Championships)

- One round of pools
- 80% promoted out of pools; however, if there are 8 or fewer fencers registered in the event, 100% shall be promoted out of the pools [BOD, September , 2008]
- No repêchage
- DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In saber, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches.

### **Veterans Committee Response to the Motion**

Over the past three years every meeting of the veteran fencers that has taken place, three times per year; two NACs and the National Championships, has resulted in the discussion of the adoption of a change of the Athlete's Handbook to adopt a format of 100% promotion out of pools at the NACs and the Summer National Championships. On every occasion the veteran fencers present overwhelmingly supported the adoption of this change for the NACs and the Summer National Championships. The sole argument raised by some was the requirement that

the 80% rule should be applied to the veteran fencers in order to replicate the qualification as utilized for the World Championships.

It should be noted that veteran fencing on an international level has unique rules that apply that are not the same as other age categories. The Veterans Committee has not identified any impediment for the USFA to adopt the 100% promotion from pools to direct elimination in all Veteran USFA National events including NAC's and Summer National Championships.

Furthermore it considers the 100% promotion rule as an essential part of ensuring an equitable opportunity for all veteran fencers to receive the chance to qualify for the Veterans World Championships on those occasions where preliminary round results under the 80% rule could possibly eliminate an exceptional fencer who may have experienced an unfortunate performance. We must maintain the focus upon the goal of veteran fencing, which is to provide the greatest number of opportunities for veterans participation at all levels of competition. Experience has shown that the 80% rule has not resulted in an increased number of veteran competitors at national tournaments and in fact it has discouraged many who have been involved in the sport in the past to participate when they would incur the considerable expense to fence in 4 or 5 pool bouts, only to be eliminated before the direct elimination bouts. If our experience with the adoption of the 70+ Veteran categories is an example, given an opportunity, veteran fencers will compete at the highest level.

The Veteran Committee recommends that a change is warranted and that the Athlete's Handbook should read as follows:

#### Format (NAC)

- One round of pools
- 100% promoted out of pools
- No repêchage
- DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In saber, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches.

#### Format (Championships)

- One round of pools
- 100% promoted out of pools
- No repêchage
- DE bout format: 10 touches in two 3-minute segments. In saber, bouts are fenced to 10 touches, with a 1-minute break when the first fencer reaches 5 touches.

## **2. Motion (Mr. Clements; Seconded by Mr. Blake):**

To amend Chapter 6, Section 4 of the Operations Manual by adding a new Paragraph 7:

7. In the event that the issuance of a penalty of exclusion from a competition would result in a reduction of the rating of a competition (either through the reduction in the number of fencers or through the reduction of rated fencers finishing at the appropriate levels of competition) or the number of qualifications awarded at qualifier events (through the reduction in the number of qualifiers awarded based on applying the appropriate percentage, e.g. 25%), the Tournament Committee may examine the circumstances of the exclusion, including through statements of the tournament organizer, officer(s) of the sanctioning body, and/or the official issuing the exclusion.

Upon this examination, the Tournament Committee may award classifications and/or qualifications to the non-excluded fencers as if the excluded fencer had completed the tournament if, in its judgment, such result would be equitable. The Tournament Committee may establish a fee for this review not to exceed \$100, to be divided amongst the party/parties requesting examination.

**3. Motion (Mr. Masin; Seconded by Mr. Becker):**

**Team Event Proposal**

Eliminate the Divisional qualifying competitions for the Senior and Junior team events at the Summer Nationals. Teams would still be required to submit their entries at the time of close of entries for the individual events of the same competition. The team entry would still not have to specify the names of the fencers on those teams. Clubs would be allowed to enter up to three teams. At the time the teams submit their registration at the competition, the fencers on the teams must meet the following criteria.

**Senior Team**

One member of each team must be a fencer who is registered to fence in the Division I Championship in the same weapon in that year. The second, third, and fourth members of the team must be fencers who are registered to fence in either the Division I, the Under-19, the Division I-A, or the Division II Championship in the same weapon in that year.

**Junior Team**

Two members of each team must be fencers who are registered to fence in either the Under-19 or the Division I Championship in the same weapon in that year. The third and fourth members of the team must be fencers who are registered to fence in either the Under-19, Under-17, Division I, Division I-A, Division II, or Division III Championship in the same weapon in that year. (Age requirements would, of course, still apply.)

		Current Year's					
		Division I	Division I-A	Division II	Division III	Under-19	Under-17
<b>Senior Team Members</b>	<b>1</b>	Y					
	<b>2</b>	Y	Y	Y		Y	
	<b>3</b>	Y	Y	Y		Y	
	<b>4</b>	Y	Y	Y		Y	
<b>Junior Team Members</b>	<b>1</b>	Y				Y	
	<b>2</b>	Y				Y	
	<b>3</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	<b>4</b>	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

## **Justification**

- 1) The proliferation in the Spring of the various competitions (North American Cup, Regional Open Circuit, Super Youth Circuit, Regional Youth Circuit, Senior World Cup, Junior and Cadet Worlds, Sectional Championships, NCAA Championships) plus religious holidays (Easter, Passover), secular holidays (Memorial Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day), SAT exam dates, and school final exam periods makes it unlikely that clubs can field their four strongest fencers on any date that a Division might choose to schedule its team qualifying competitions.
- 2) NCAA regulations limit the dates that a fencer can represent a club. This means that collegiate fencers cannot be used to help their clubs qualify a team if the Division schedules its qualifying event during what the NCAA defines as the collegiate season.
- 3) Teams can currently submit a line-up at the time of the competition completely made up of incompetent fencers since there's no requirement that any of the fencers be the same ones who qualified the team at the Divisional qualifying competition. Also, in many cases, especially when the National Championships takes place a considerable distance away from a Division, the teams that the Division qualifies may not be the strongest from that Division but rather the only ones that showed up at the qualifying competition. This demeans the National Championships and wastes the time of the other fencers, bout committee, and referees as well as other resources. In short, Divisional qualifying competitions are not serving the role of making sure that only competent teams are competing.
- 4) The change allowing clubs to enter up to three teams has created a potential problem with the current Divisional team qualification process. Consider the following scenario. A club has many fencers but three are much better than the rest. Those three fence in the Nationals and finish in third place. This gives the club an automatic qualifying spot in the following year's Nationals. The following year, those same three fencers fence in the Divisional team qualifying event and earn a qualifying spot. The club can now enter two teams in that year's Nationals, one based on the automatic qualification and one based on the Divisional qualifying result, even though it was the same three fencers who earned both slots.
- 5) Verification of membership status of the team members is simplified since all of the team members will have had their current membership status confirmed at the time their entry into the individual competition was processed. The person checking the submitted team line-ups need only see if the names are on the list of entries for that year's events.
- 6) Note the proposed criteria do not prevent a cadet fencer from fencing in the Senior Team event but the cadet fencer must be competent enough to have qualified for the Under-19, the Division I-A, or the Division II Championship. Likewise D, E, or even Unclassified fencers can compete as long as they have demonstrated competence by qualifying for one of the individual Championships.
- 7) The proposed criteria would prevent a strong team from putting a totally incompetent fencer on the team with no intention of that fencer fencing just so that fencer can get a medal if the team finishes in the top three spots. In the most notorious case from the past, one year a gold medal in senior team was awarded to the son of one of the fencers on that team even though the son was less than one year old. The team did not have a fourth fencer, so the father took out a USFA membership for his son and the team registered the son as the fourth person on their team.

8) The Division I-A, Division II, and Division III Championships would gain additional importance since they would now attract fencers who wish to be able to fence in the team events.

9) The proposal might result in the loss of revenue to the Divisions of the entry fees to the qualifying events which would no longer be held. This should probably be minor. Divisions may actually benefit financially from the proposal since there are probably many cases where they've had to schedule the team qualifying competitions and no teams have shown up.

#### **4. Motion (Mr. Baker; Seconded by Mr. Dilworth):**

That the National Office be directed to establish a mechanism for the answering and distribution of policy questions and answers from and to the membership. Any member may submit to the National Office a question on US Fencing policies. The question will be forwarded to the appropriate group with oversight responsibility (e.g. FOC, TC, or YDC). The cognizant committee, commission, or group is tasked with supplying the National Office with an official response, suitable for public distribution, within two weeks. The question and answer from each such query will be posted in designated area of the US Fencing website.

#### **5. Motion (Mr. Berke; Seconded by Mr. Clements):**

Beginning with the 2010-2011 season, all non-championship team events held at the national level will have no club or division affiliation requirements. Any three or four fencers that are age- and classification-eligible for the event will be permitted to enter a team.

##### **Rationale:**

The current requirement for teams to be comprised of fencers from the same club or division is unnecessary. This artificial limitation simply imposes unnecessary restrictions on who attends, and can complicate things for NCAA fencers.

Team events are meant to be fun events and to encourage participation. Why not let any three or four fencers create a team and fence? Why should fencers have to limit their choice of team members based on their mailing address? If a fencer wants to put together a team with his or her friends from the other side of the country, let them!

This model is already planned for the veteran team events at the 2010 Summer Nationals. This motion simply offers the same freedom to all fencers.

Team events designated as "team championships" (such as the junior and senior team events at Summer Nationals) would not be subject to this motion and would continue to enforce club affiliation.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. First Hearing**

#### **1. Motion (Mr. Stasinos, on behalf of the Fencing Officials Commission):**

That the US Fencing Rulebook be modified as indicated in Appendix K. The modified rules will go into effect as of August 1, 2010.

**Rationale:**

These modifications are based on those passed at the last FIE Congress. The English version put forward by the BFA has been modified to use the terminology of our rule book. The video refereeing has been modified to follow how we use video refereeing.

**2. Motion (Mr. Baker):**

To amend the Athlete Handbook as follows:

In 2.11, under Team Events, delete the first two bullet items under Summer Nationals.

- ~~• Clubs qualify based on the number of different USFA Member Clubs represented at each of the Division's Senior Team, and Under 19 Team qualifying competitions (See chart below). OR~~

# Clubs	2	3	4-5	6-10	>10
# Qualifiers	2	3	4	5	6

- ~~• Be a USFA member club that placed in the top 4 at the previous season's National Team Championships in that category of team championships~~

**Rationale:**

Currently the division-level team qualifiers serve minimal purpose.

Unless five or more clubs enter a qualifier, all entered teams advance to Nationals. In the vast majority of divisions in all categories there are four or fewer entered clubs. Removing the requirement for divisions to conduct a largely-unnecessary qualifying tournament will result in much-needed added flexibility to local schedules during the crowded spring season.

A survey of available results from the 2009-2010 season found team qualifiers with 5 or more clubs in only 4 of 66 divisions. Only 12 out of a possible 132 events around the country eliminated any clubs. Ten of those eliminated a single club.

In an environment where we are attempting to encourage the growth of national team events, including the decision earlier this season to allow qualified clubs to enter up to three teams each, it makes little sense to continue to eliminate a handful of clubs at local qualifiers.

**3. Motion (Mr. Baker):**

To have SYC points enter Y10/Y12/Y14 NRPS calculations upon being earned and expire 12 months later.

This change is not intended to alter the current policy of counting only a fencer's single best SYC result towards his or her point total.

**Rationale:**

Currently SYC points are only updated once a year, after the April NAC. This has created seeding inaccuracies and other issues that could be resolved if the points were updated as they were earned.

The primary purpose of youth point standings is to seed athletes in national, regional, and local events. Unfortunately, since these points are systemically outdated, seeding is inaccurate. Updating points, as they are earned would better reflect fencers' abilities and improve the accuracy of youth seeding.

With youth fencing three factors combine to exacerbate the issues that are raised by the current policy:

- The ability of young fencers tends to change over time more rapidly than with more mature and experienced fencers. A lag in the seeding mechanism that doesn't account for these rapid changes is thus more detrimental.
- Classifications are significantly less common among youth fencers for a variety of reasons. This heightens the importance of national points as a distinguisher in seeding.
- With age category boundaries every two years and rapid physiological development meaning that relatively small differences in chronological age are significant, it's not unusual for athletes to focus primarily or exclusively on their current age cadre. With a delay of up to 19-20 months possible between the date when an athlete earns points and when they finally expire from the rolling standings, there develops a strong incentive for fencers to fence up an age category whether or not that would otherwise be indicated by their development as a person and as an athlete.

Depending on when an SYC takes place, points can remain on the youth list up to 20 months after being earned. A fencer earning points at a September SYC is qualified for Summer Nationals or the youth championships, a year and a half in the future. This unintentionally places more emphasis on points earned at SYCs early in the season.

Younger fencers are allowed to fence up an age category. Unfortunately, since there is no published list of who has earned points, bout committees and parents must unofficially determine who placed in the top 25% at an SYC and when such fencers are permitted to do so.

Fencers who earn points at SYCs are auto qualified, so fencers in divisions, that host their Y14 qualifiers after points are updated have an advantage over those that don't. Parents/bout committees/coaches often contact the USFA office for clarification, as whether their child earned points and is officially qualified or allowed to fence up an age category. Updating points throughout the season would eliminate this additional source of confusion and resultant work for the USFA office.

Updating the points would eliminate the unofficial calculations of who has earned points, thus leading to more uniform enforcement of age eligibility rules, determination of qualification for national events, more accurate seeding for youth events and end qualification for events up to 20 months in the future.

#### **4. Motion (Mr. Baker):**

To amend the Athlete Handbook as follows:

In 2.11, under Youth 14/12/10, insert the following text between the existing fifth and sixth bullet points for Youth-14 Summer National Championships Qualifying Paths:

- Win the Youth-14 event at any current season RYC **OR**

**Rationale:**

Adding a Y14 qualification path for fencers would create an incentive for more and stronger Y14 fencers to attend local RYCs rather than travel to additional SYCs.

Those in stronger, larger divisions would have another qualification path, potentially lessening the inequities between small divisions, where fencers only have to show up to qualify, compared to large divisions when 3 - 12 fencers show up and only 3 qualify.

**5. Motion (Mr. Baker):**

The National Office is directed to send out a letter on a monthly basis to each tournament official specifying all outstanding reimbursements and owed honoraria entered in the Association's financial system. Such letters should also include an update specifying the most recent national event for which payments in each category (out-of-pocket reimbursement and honoraria/per diem payments) has been made.

These letters should be sent via either snail mail or email within the first five business days of each month, starting with the first month after this motion is adopted.

**Rationale:**

Letters of this type were sent in March 2009 and May 2009. They serve the purpose of updating tournament officials of the status of outstanding payments, as well as help ensure the accuracy of the Association's records. This process is complementary towards the current practice of acknowledging receipt of reimbursement requests, which has been very well received among tournament officials.

Resuming the practice of sending out update letters will increase the level of communication and accountability, as well as increase the accuracy of payments to volunteer officials. With some payments running over a year after service is completed, it is essential that US Fencing keep all tournament officials informed about progress that is being made and the current status of all payments.

**6. Motion (Mr. Berke):**

At the July 11, 2010 Board of Directors meeting, to honor the birthdays of Mark Stasinos (July 10<sup>th</sup>) and Dan Berke (July 11<sup>th</sup>), there will be cake.

**Rationale:**

Everyone loves cake.

**7. Motion (Mr. Kuver):**

Direct that the Chair of the Youth Development Committee, by written report state the factors considered in determining the Bid winners for the 2010-2011 Super Youth Cup calendar at the Jul, 2010, special meeting of the USFA Board of Directors. Specifically addressing acknowledged concerns that criteria not enumerated in the bid packet, i.e., to only use non fencing club venues and to reduce the number of over all Super Youth Cups, were used in reaching their decisions.

**8. Motion (Mr. Kuver):**

Direct the Youth Development Committee to reopen bidding for the Super Youth Cup calendar for the 2010-2011 season.

**9. Motion (Mr. Berke):**

For the 2010-2011 season, the USFA will impose a non-refundable \$25 fee per individual (not team) registrant at all national events (NACs, Junior Olympics, and Summer Nationals). This fee will be listed separately and labeled “Volunteer Staff Debt Reduction Surcharge.” All monies collected from this fee will be applied directly to the volunteer staff honorarium debt.

This fee will automatically expire at the end of the 2010-2011 USFA season, unless the Board of Directors explicitly renews it for future seasons.

**Rationale:**

As everyone knows, the USFA owes its volunteer staff a significant amount of money in past honorarium payments. This debt has accumulated over the years due to not properly adjusting entry fees to match the increasing expenses. While progress continues to be made in paying off this debt, the process is not addressing the problem quickly enough and it is significantly affecting the volunteer morale.

This motion is intended to raise more funds to address the problem. It also serves an acknowledgement that the USFA recognizes and takes this debt seriously, and is attempting to remedy the situation without negatively affecting the current budgeting.

A rough estimate based on attendance numbers (from TC reports) from the last two seasons indicates this surcharge could raise nearly \$142,000 next season.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Entries (approx)</b>	<b>\$25/entry</b>
NAC A	1750	\$ 43,750
NAC B	2100	\$ 52,500
NAC C	0	\$ -
NAC D	1800	\$ 45,000
JOs	2000	\$ 50,000
NAC E	1900	\$ 47,500
NAC F	1800	\$ 45,000
SN	5700	\$ 142,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17050</b>	<b>\$ 426,250</b>
Assume 3 entries per person:	5683	\$ 142,083

**VII. Good and Welfare**

1. The next Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors – September
2. Bylaws

**Appendix A**  
**Vice President's Report**  
**Jerry Benson**

For most of my report I refer the Board to the reports from the committees under my responsibility. As you will note all have been very active and busy in their areas of responsibility and have been serving the organization well. Also note several have done a review of the past year and are starting to make goals and plans for the next season. We are moving forward in many areas and I would like again to thank these committee chairs and committee members for their commitment of time and dedication to USA Fencing.

I want to take a moment to thank the members of the Board who helped us create the new membership levels motion that you passed. This is a great movement forward for us as it keeps us one step ahead of what is going on in sports in the US. The new professional level is something most of the other NGBs are just starting to talk about. We also anticipate the new one day membership will produce some additional income and make our membership ranks larger. We are hoping also to start including more services to clubs so that becoming a USA Fencing club means more than just insurance and the right to field a team. Finally, the new fee structure is more realistic of what the value of insurance is today. With what is going on in sports (especially at the national level) today in the US, professional and group liability insurance is becoming a premium and requires much more effort to get. I want to personally thank those few who gave us feedback and helped us create a comprehensive program that will work for our members and the organization. Their efforts helped us to continue to make changes and to move this organization forward.

I am sad to say that although we got the original motion out to all the Board almost four weeks in advance to give everyone a chance to read and comment that not only did we only get a few members to respond we also only got about a third of the Board to vote on this important issue. I think this speaks loudly that we need to change our structure as what we have now is not working very well. As of writing this we are in the middle of receiving votes for the new bylaws by our membership. I can only hope we have done a good enough job of letting our membership know how important this is and that they decide to respond by voting and approving the changes. Hopefully this will be my final report as your Vice President of this great organization.

With Respect,  
Jerry Benson

**Appendix B**  
**Secretary's Report**  
**Bradley Baker**

This meeting's agenda, while still lengthy, is somewhat less complicated than some of those in the past season. For the most part the same committee chairs that routinely provide reports in a timely manner have continued to do so, while many other reports are again either late or missing entirely. I can only reiterate the point that has been made in the past two Secretary's Reports that it is essential for good governance that Board members and the general membership have access to information relevant to the discussions and decisions to be undertaken in a timely manner. This can only happen if reports and other materials are submitted by the announced deadlines. This continues to be a problem area for the Association and contributes significantly to a degradation in decision-making and organizational performance.

The qualification paths for US Fencing include methods of petitioning for qualification in the case where an athlete is incapable of participating in – or, in the case of injury or illness, from completing – the qualifier tournament. Such appeals are sent to the National Office, where the information is verified and a determination is made first of the validity of the given reason for missing the qualifier and second of the probability that the athlete would have qualified had he or she been able to fully participate.

For Summer Nationals, 194 such petitions were received, a decrease from 238 in 2009. As of the writing of this report, 3 of the petitions are still incomplete or pending. Of the 191 complete petitions, 188 were approved and 3 were denied. In every case of a denied petition the athlete had participated in the qualifier event and failed to achieve a qualifying placement.

**Appendix C**  
**Hall of Fame Committee**  
**Andy Shaw**

**The Hall of Fame Committee has finalized the nominees for induction in 2011.**

See the 2010 Summer Nationals ballot below. It is on display on the HOF website.

**United States Fencing Association Hall of Fame ballot for induction in summer of 2011**

**ERA 1 - Standard Era to 1935**

Select 1 of the following 2 nominees

Arthur St. Clair Lyon

Alec Hern

**ERA 2 - Era of Inequality 1936-1975\***

Select 2 of the following 4 nominees

Delmar Calvert

Tanya Adamovich

Al Morales

Larry Anastasi

\* women fenced 4 touches while men fenced 5

**ERA 3 - Modern Era 1976 - present**

Select 2 of the following 4 nominees

Ann Marsh

Cliff Bayer

Jon Normile

Stacey Johnson

In addition, the Committee is considering sending the ballot to the complete USFA membership via email for their perusal. In the near future, we hope to be able to email the ballots to all eligible voters well in advance of the Summer Nationals so that the Congress would have ample time to read all of the pertinent information and biographical data to make an informed vote without the time pressures that have been present. In addition, we have been expanding all of the elements of the Hall of Fame website so that our membership has a better understanding of how it works for everyone. All of these elements, we hope, will help the Hall of Fame to be a more transparent part of our fencing body.

**Appendix D**  
**Report of the Clubs, Divisions & Sections Task Group**

In the period since the last Board meeting, we have dealt with (and assisted in solving) problems brought to us by eight Divisions and two Sections. The questions covered such topics as: limits of Division disciplinary authority; eligibility for the national team events; policies for on-line local tournament registration; courses of action for handling complaints of local referee bias; appealing for a waiver into the Summer Nationals (a hardy perennial during this time of year), and, of course, questions about bylaws. We feel fairly confident that, since rewriting the Division Operating Guide in 2006, and restarting the “In the Trenches” column in *American Fencing*, more than 90% of USFA Divisions have rewritten, updated, or just plain established bylaws that comply with the current requirements of the USFA’s. Thus, assuming that the new national bylaws are approved by the membership, most Divisions have solid protocols in place within which to operate while the Association’s policies towards their structure are reviewed and agreed upon.

## **Appendix E**

### **USFA Sports Medicine**

I am pleased to report that the Sports Medicine program has continued to meet its mandate to provide clinical and educational services to participants in regional and national events and to the national teams for the Junior/Cadet and Senior World C<sup>o</sup>ship and various Zonal competitions, professional development opportunities to members of the Sports Medicine program and injury research information to USFA members and sports medicine professionals in the USA and abroad.

The success of our program rests on the professional expertise and commitment to the wellbeing of the USFA family of the members of the Sports Medicine program – for their service over the past season I would like to gratefully acknowledge: Lonnie Sellers (Integrated Manual Therapy, WA), Doug Rank (MarRan Physical Therapy, WA), Brian Russon (Peak Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy, WA), Jen Krug (Silverton High School, OR), Jim Wallis (Portland State University, OR), Peter Harmer (Willamette University, OR), Jacon Chun (Elite Sport Physical Therapy, CA), Susan Hurst (CA), Jeremy Summers (OC Dynamic Rehab, CA), John Carollo (Theodore Roosevelt High School, TX), Quinn Madden (Robert E. Lee High School, TX), Brian Hardy (UC – Colorado Springs, CO), Kyle Momsen (Gustavus Adolphus College, MN), Kaitlyn Silbaugh (Gustavus Adolphus College, MN), Jim Gossett (Columbia University, NY).

During the 2009-2010 season, the program was also able to meet two requests for coverage of important regional competitions and we anticipate continuing to expand our service to ROC events and others. I am very appreciative of the excellent support of the program for covering domestic events we received during this past season from Ashley Razo and Christie Simmons. Additionally, for support of our international assignments, I would like to express my great thanks to the former national team manager Andrea Lagan, and current International Programs Director, Jeanna Mendoza, and new national team manager Paul Fitzgerald .

The Sports Medicine program has continued to educate the USFA members on matters of injury prevention and treatment through the Sports Medicine Q&A in each issue of American Fencing and one of these articles has also been reprinted in the FIE magazine *Escrime*. Moreover, I was honored to contribute the chapter on fencing injuries in the IOC book *Epidemiology of Injury in Olympic Sports* published this year (refer to attached book cover).

For the 2010-2011 season, the prospects for the program to continue its positive contributions to the mission of the USFA are very good. We have added several new members and continue to actively recruit to our ranks. We also look forward to the return of our long time colleague Nick Tobianski (MI), who is completing his training as a Physician Assistant, to bring new expertise to the ranks.

The major concern going forward is clarifying funding and appointments to the national teams for the various world championships. The scope of the responsibilities and the number of athletes to support has increased over the past 10 years to the point where two sports medicine staff need to be assigned to each team (Junior/Cadet and Senior). However, this has been a “hit and miss” situation with only one being appointed to one or the other team in some years and two to one or both teams at other times. It would be very helpful to have a realistic review of the workload associated with a world championship team and a firm decision on the number of sports medicine staff for each event determined so we can plan appropriately.

Overall, I believe the program is working well and will continue to serve the needs of the association in upcoming season in an exceptional manner.

Yours sincerely,  
Peter A. Harmer, Ph.D., MPH., ATC., FACSM  
Chief Medical Officer  
Email: [pharmer@willamette.edu](mailto:pharmer@willamette.edu)

# EPIDEMIOLOGY OF INJURY IN OLYMPIC SPORTS

EDITED BY DENNIS J. CAINE, PETER A. HARMER  
AND MELISSA A. SCHIFF

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THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF SPORTS MEDICINE  
AN IOC MEDICAL COMMISSION PUBLICATION



 WILEY-BLACKWELL

**Appendix F**  
**USFA RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**

Following the BOD meeting at the Junior Olympics the **Resource Development Committee** has been serving as a support group to the national office as they develop the specific rebranding plan for announcement at the Nationals, and develop the tactics for marketing the USFA through 2012 and forward.

Our group has provided advice, planning, insight and review for the following:

**1. USFA Brand Development**

The USFA national office, working with a specifically appointed task force which included the Chair of the Resource Development Committee, used external and internal resources to develop a new USFA brand. The process included the review of existing domestic and international Fencing brands and the examination of USFA communication and branding needs. Various images and approaches were proposed, reviewed, and significant time was spent in choosing an image that will reposition USA Fencing. In addition, the launch and execution of the brand strategy was developed.

The national office staff will present the details of the plan at the BOD meeting at Summer Nationals.

**2. USFA Sponsorship and Business Development Plan**

The Resource Development Committee has been on hiatus while the national office completed the necessary re-branding process. The RDC will now be working in conjunction with the national office to support the execution of the new branding and the resulting sponsor initiatives.

## **Appendix G Veteran's Committee Report**

A Veterans meeting was held at the Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas, on March 27, 2010, which was attended by approximately 50 persons. Committee members (1) Present: Delia Turner and Rinaldo A. Campana, Chairperson, Veterans Committee and (2) absent: Bob Block; Gerrie Baumgart; Joe Elliot; Paul Levy; and David Micahnik.

Ms. Jane Carter (formerly Jane Hall), Vice-President, USFA, who is responsible for overseeing veterans fencing issues was introduced to the veterans. She stated that she has had a long history with fencing; she has retired from fencing, has been involved with many USFA committees and was at the meeting to listen to the veterans.

The attendees were informed that the Veterans Committee is an advisory committee which forwards their recommendations to Kalle Weeks, President of the USFA or the USFA Board of Directors after coordination with USFA officials. If any of the veteran fencers have any suggestions they want to address, they should send them to the Veteran Committee which will review, evaluate and forward their recommendation to Kalle Weeks and/or the USFA Board of Directors for their consideration.

The Veterans Committee is in transition; many of the members have not been able to actively participate in the meetings. Efforts are being made to have a full complement of committee members. The Board of Directors has approved the appointment of Wang Yung as a new member of the Veteran Committee.

The major advances this past year were the adoption by the FIE of the 70+ age group for men and women and implementation by USFA to include team events for veterans at summer nationals.

The World Veteran Championships will be held in Porec, Croatia from the 28 September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October. There was discussion about what support the participants could expect from USFA, such as referees and assistance in making arrangements. No decisions have been made by the USFA at this time.

There was a general discussion about how USFA supports international events. It was noted that it depends on where the tournaments are held and the available funds. There is no discrimination between veteran and other fencers in the allocation of funds for these tournaments.

The veterans participating in the meeting were pleased to have Veteran Team events scheduled at the national Championships. Teams will be made up of three members. The total minimum age must be 150 years. It will be open and not limited to divisions or sections, but members must qualify as veterans.

A Veterans Dinner and awards ceremony at the 2010 Summer Nationals was postponed and will be rescheduled for the first NAC in the new year because the Veteran Committee organizers received numerous comments from veterans suggesting this change. Nominations for the outstanding veteran male and female who: (1) are considered outstanding veteran fencers for 2010, and (2) a female and male veteran who have made outstanding contributions to development of veteran fencing in the United States will be selected after the National Championships.

The Veterans Committee is in the process of developing a plan for the adoption of an authorization procedure for the distribution of money from the Veterans Designated Fund. The Veteran Committee anticipates presenting a proposal to the USFA Board of Directors concerning this issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rinaldo A. Campana  
Chair

**Appendix H**  
**SPORTS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY REPORT**  
**Dr. John Heil**

**2010 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**&**  
**2012 QUADRENNIUM PROSPECTUS**

Three programs have been the primary focus of attention for sport science in 2009-2010: Sport Science Seminars at National Tournament Events, production of Sport Science videos, and continuing development of eScout (for statistical aggregation & video playback).

The **Sport Science Seminars** held at National Tournament Events, initially sponsored by fencing.net, and subsequently co-sponsored by US Fencing and fencing.net are now being brought completely in-house with the goal of making these seminars a profit center for US Fencing, along the model developed at US Cycling and USA Triathlon.

A series of brief **Sport Science Videos** have been in planning and development over the 2009-2010 year, with filming set for Summer Nationals, and delivery shortly thereafter. While the primary goal is educational, the videos are intended to serve a marketing function as well. This provides a 3<sup>rd</sup> vehicle for sport science delivery – in addition to American Fencing Magazine articles and the event based seminars referenced above.

**eScout**, provides stripside tactical information with statistical, descriptive and video capabilities.

This project is near completion, but on hold because of lack of funding – now requiring about \$3,500. At this point, the video playback function needs to be upgraded and integrated with a video storage website, with continued beta testing of statistical application.

Similar paper systems have been implemented previously by European nations, but abandoned due to their labor intensive nature. It is simply a matter of time before these nations will re-discover this application in its greatly enhanced and more user friendly form. As a point of reference, the capture and integration of video and statistics is the leading edge of sport science elsewhere in the sports world, and is in the process of revolutionizing high profile sports. Ideally, eScout development will dovetail in a synergistic manner with the USOC directed tactical video storage program that has been proposed, but not yet implemented.

2010 marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year of continuous program development in sport science. Programs are regaining momentum lost over the last 3 years due to budget cuts and a change in organizational infrastructure. However, the programs are still well short of the peak of service delivery and development reached in 2008.

Notably absent at this juncture is a role for sport psychology in high performance planning and in consulting with National Teams - which was continuous through the Sydney and Athens quadrennia. Re-establishing this function is seen as enhancing competitiveness of our National Teams, especially as mature, experienced fencers retire and are replaced by younger athletes.

Looking forward, it is prudent to continue to rethink sport science as a profit center, via sport science seminars and other education programs. The profit center strategy fits also with eScout. This follows from an understanding that eScout is proprietary device on the verge of appealing to a wide array of stakeholders in fencing – and as such is capable of being a profit making venture. Completing the development of eScout will also enhance competitiveness of US Fencing, in the long run.

In this regard, it is important to improve communications between US Fencing Sport Science & USOC Sport Science, in general – with recent difficulties in receiving return communication from the Performance Technology sector. This is particularly important given the extensive commitment to technology by US Fencing and need for collaborative efforts.

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## **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

Sept. 2009 – Jul. 2010

### **Project Status Reports**

#### **Sport Science Seminars at NAC events**

Seminars have been a collaboration between US Fencing and Fencing.net.

Seminar for coaches, and athletes offered at Pittsburg NAC & Memphis JOs

#### **Sport Science Network**

Develop a sport science network, and provide support and guidance to its members with the goal of enhancing access to sport psychology and sport science for fencing clubs and individual athletes and coaches.

Initial group has formed as Special Interest Group (SIG) with the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (the leading professional sport psychology organization)

#### **Sports Medicine Continuing Education Training**

Seminars for Event Medical staff at Memphis NAC to help meet professional continuing education requirement.

Provided at Memphis JOs

#### **Fencing Sport Science Videos**

Develop sport science videos (5-7 minutes each) on select topics in sport psychology. Videos will be based on seminar presentation by sport psychologists/scientists, and interviews with coaches and athletes.

Identify producer and do preliminary planning; Initial contacts with coaches and athletes regarding participation. Planning for video production at Summer Nationals

#### **eSCOUT (Electronic Scouting Project)**

An electronic scouting tool intended to enhance competitiveness of US Fencers by providing tactical information including: Statistical, Descriptive and Video. Designed for use on PDA (handheld) device allowing strip side information retrieval (and real time strip side scoring). Personal Computer version provides enhanced display, data analytic and storage capacity.

Beta testing continues with existing users; User Manual is now available to assist existing and potential users; User agreement developed and distributed

### **USFA EVENT CONSULTATION**

#### **2009 Pittsburgh NAC**

Sport Psychology & Sport Science Consultation (Report previously submitted).

Travel and ground costs funded by fencing.net with room costs funded by US Fencing.

#### **2010 Memphis JOs**

Sport Psychology & Sport Science Consultation (Report previously submitted).

Travel and ground costs funded by fencing.net with room costs funded by US Fencing.

### **EDUCATION & TRIAGE**

Ongoing services provided to general membership

#### **Information/Education**

Provision of materials to coaches, athletes and administrators on Sport Science & Technology topics upon request.

## **Intervention/Triage**

Direct consultation to coaches, athletes and administrators on Sport Science & Technology topics by phone, email or face-to-face

Referral to local sport science specialists

## **Publications**

### **American Fencing Magazine**

Ongoing articles in *American Fencing Magazine* Sport Science Column

## **INTERNAL LIAISON**

Collaboration with USFA Committees, Officers

Consultation with Rob Weekes re Sport Science role in Sponsor benefits package (Sport Psychology driven approach to Ropes Course Training as Corporate Team Building benefit)

## **LIAISON TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Contact as appropriate with professional organization

Contact with American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) on Sports Injury, and with Professionals Against Doping in Sport (PADI) on anti-doping

## **APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION**

I would like to recognize the support of members of the national office, especially, Christine Strong Simmons. In addition, I would like to thank the current Board of Directors for their decision to re-invigorate the sport science programs

Finally, I would to express my appreciation to Craig Harkins and fencing.net for support of sport science programs

*Contact:* Dr. John Heil, Psychological Health \* Roanoke

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Phone-Direct: 540-772-5147

[jheil@PsychHealthRoanoke.com](mailto:jheil@PsychHealthRoanoke.com)

**Appendix I**  
**Youth Development Committee**

Recent activity in the YDC has been focused on the bid selection process for next season's Super Youth Circuit tournaments. Last year the bid selection for the 2009-10 season was conducted primarily by staff members in the national office. For the 2010-11 season, the committee chair received and reviewed the bids, and made recommendations to the national office. Because the office has a much broader base of experience with reviewing and selecting bids, they again took the responsibility for selecting the final bids. Cities that will host SYC tournaments for the 2010-11 season are: Dallas, TX; Rochester, NY; Phoenix, AZ; Washington, D.C.; and San Francisco, CA.

Since the final selections were made, several people have inquired about returning to a smaller number of tournaments after the SYC series was expanded for the 2009-10 season. When the SYC concept was introduced, a conscious decision was made to carefully control the number of large tournaments available to young, developing fencers. The rationale was to ensure that young fencers had some access to the unique learning experience provided by large tournaments without placing an expectation of large-volume travel on fencers and their families, or risking that the learning gains made in tournaments would be more than offset by burnout.

The YDC will meet in Atlanta during National Championships to determine priorities and plan for the 2010-11 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Hanna, YDC Chair

June 11, 2010

## **Appendix J**

### **Wheelchair Development Committee**

The W'Chair Development Comm. is pleased to report a significant increase in participation in our events. Just a couple of years ago, we were looking at fewer than 10 participants overall. This Summer Nationals will have close to 30 w'chair athletes.

Unfortunately, we had a miss-communication with regards to our committee funding. We were under the impression that our budget had been shifted over to the National W'Chair Coach's HP budget. As a result, we have only utilized a portion of our budget and ask for a continuation of funding as we explore plans to utilize it.

We have purchased some new (and larger) lame capes and floor cables for competitions. We also have T-shirts that will be provided to volunteers working in the 'pod', allowing us to both promote volunteer participation as well as identify those allowed in the fencing areas as we grow and face more crowd control issues. We also have new 3-fold brochures available describing our sport, and are looking to possibly offer mini-grants to clubs or programs with w'chair development goals.

Although it is not within the responsibilities of this committee, we continue to have concerns with our elite/HP program, as there seems to be a lack of direction and/or communication. Athletes have not seen or been informed of any finalized qualification plan, or performance reward plan. Entries and flight bookings for World Cups have been problem areas. The timeliness in flight bookings has been problematic and is costing additional money as a result.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary M. van der Wege  
Chair

**Appendix K**

**TOURNAMENT/DATE CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>TOURNAMENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DATES</b>
<b>AUGUST 2010 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2012</b>		
2010 1 <sup>st</sup> Youth [Summer] Olympic Games Birth Year: 1/1/93-12/31/94 SEE NOTE BELOW	Singapore	14-26 August 2010 to be held every 4 yrs
2010 Pan American Senior Zonal Champs.	Costa Rica	1-9 August 2010
SUPER REGIONAL YOUTH (SYC)	Houston, TX	4-6 September 2010
LABOR DAY		September 6, 2010
YOM KIPPUR		17-18 September
SUPER REGIONAL YOUTH (SYC)	Rochester, NY	October 2-3, 2010
2010 World Veterans Championships (Age as of 9/1/10: 50-59; 60 -69. 70 & Older)	Porec, Croatia	Sept. 28-Oct. 3, 2010
SAT Test Date		October 9, 2010
NAC Division I/Division II/Veterans	Cincinnati, OH	October 15-18, 2010
SAT Test Date		November 6, 2010
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS END – BACK TO STANDARD TIME		November 7, 2010
2010 World Senior Fencing Championships	Paris, FRA	Nov 6-13, 2010
2010 Wheelchair World Championships	Paris w/Sr World Chmps	Held once every 4 yrs
SUPER REGIONAL YOUTH (SYC)	Phoenix, AZ	November 5-7, 2010
NAC Junior (U-20)/Cadet (U-17)/Youth 14	Milwaukee, WI	November 19-22, 2010
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		November 25, 2010
SAT Test Date		December 4, 2010
FIE Congress	Moscow, Russia	4-5 Dec. 2010
HANUKKAH		1-9 December 2010
CHRISTMAS DAY		25 December 2010
NAC Division I/Junior (U-20)/Cadet (U-17)	Dallas, TX	January 14-17, 2011
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY		17 January 2011
SAT Test Date		January 22, 2011
SUPER REGIONAL YOUTH (SYC)	Springfield, VA	February 4-6, 2011
Junior Olympic (U-20, U-17) Championships	Dallas, TX	February 18-21, 2011
PRESIDENTS DAY		21 February 2011
NAC Division II/Division III/Veterans/Wheelchair	Detroit, MI	March 11-14, 2011
SAT Test Date		March 12, 2011
<i>2011 NCAA Regional Tournaments</i>		<i>12, 13 March 2011</i>
REVERT TO DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME		13 MARCH 2011
<i>2011 NCAA Fencing Championships</i>	Ohio State U., Columbus	<i>24-27 March 2011</i>
2011 World Junior/Cadet Championships	Mer Morte, Jordan	26 Mar – 6 April

TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	DATES
		2011
SUPER REGIONAL YOUTH (SYC)	San Francisco, CA	April 9-10, 2011
NAC Division I/Youth14/Youth 12/Youth 10/ Wheelchair National Championships	Portland, OR	April 15-18, 2011
SAT Test Date		May 7, 2011
2011 Pan American Junior Zonal Champs.		15 Apr-30 August 2011
SAT Test Date		June 4, 2011
Summer National Championships	RENO, NEVADA	July 1-10, 2011
2011 Pan American Senior Zonal Champs.	TBA	~1 July-30 August
2011 World University Games	Shenzen, China	12-23 August 2011
2011 World Veterans Championships		September/October
2011 Senior World Championships	Catania, ITA <a href="http://www.siciliascherma.it">http://www.siciliascherma.it</a>	8-16 October 2011
2011 XVI Pan American Games	Guadalajara, Mexico	13-30 October 2011
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS – REVERT TO STANDARD TIME		6 NOVEMBER 2011
2012 World Junior/Cadet Championships	Moscow, RUS	April 2012
2012 World Team Champs: M. Epee, W. Sabre	Kiev, UKR	TBA
2012 Pan American Junior Zonal Champs.		15 Apr-30 August 2012
2012 Pan American Senior Zonal Champs.	At least 1 month prior to OG	
2012 World Veterans Championships	TBA	September/October 2012
2012 OLYMPIC GAMES	London, GBR	27 July – 12 August 2012
2012 PARALYMPIC GAMES	London, GBR	29 August – 9 Sept 2012

COLLEGE BOARD SAT TESTS: According to College Board formula, test dates fall on the first Saturday in November, December, May and June; the second Saturday in October and March; and the fourth Saturday in January.

**YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES:**

AGE GROUP: 1/1/1993-31/12/1994

**QUALIFICATION SYSTEM**

(Qualifying Events) : 2010 Cadet World Championships (WC)

Procedure : Best ranked fencers from each geographical zone at Cadet WC qualify, respecting the following distribution: Asia/Oceania - 2 per event, Europe – 4 per event, America - 2 per event, Africa - 1 per event.

**US FENCERS SELECTED:** Katharine Holmes, WE; Mona Shaito, WF; Alexander Massialas, MF; Celina Merza, WS; Will Spear, MS.

Lee Kiefer was selected in WF but unable to accept appointment to the team.

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2010 VETERANS WORLD FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Organizer:** The 2010 Veterans World Fencing Championships will be organized by the **Croatian Fencing Federation** with the support of the Plava Laguna Company and the Town of Poreč.

**Place and Date:** The Championships will be held in the **Intersport Centre** of the **PLAVA LAGUNA** company in Poreč/Croatia from 28 September to 3 October 2010.

**Events:** The following Championship events will take place:

**Foil, Epee and Sabre**

1. Category A : 50 to 59 years of age on 1 September 2010
2. Category B : 60 to 69 years of age on 1 September 2010
3. Category C : 70 years of age and older on 1 September 2010

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2010 PAN AMERICAN SENIOR ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS; 2011 PAN AMERICAN GAMES

The Pan-American Fencing Confederation, the International Fencing Federation and the Costa Rican Fencing Association are happy to announce that the 2010 Pan-American Fencing Championship and the Qualifying Tournament for the 2011 Pan-American Games will take place in San José, Costa Rica, from August 1st to August 9<sup>th</sup>.

[www.panamericanoesgrima2010.com](http://www.panamericanoesgrima2010.com)

The Pan-American Fencing Championship will take place in the "Center for the Arts and Technology" also known as "La Antigua Aduana".

During the 2010 Pan-Am Championships, the Pan-American Confederation will be holding the 2011 Pan-Am Games (PAG) qualifiers. The PAG qualifiers for the individual events will be held before the 2010 Pan-Am Championships, whereas the team event of the 2010 Pan-Am Championships will serve as the team qualifier (WE, MF, WF, MS only). There is no ME Team or WS Team event at the 2011 Pan-Am Games.

At the Pan Am Games, only two fencers per country are permitted in the individual competitions and a maximum of three fencers per country are permitted for each team competition.

Sunday, August 1st	Arrival	
	18:00	Technical Meeting
Monday, August 2nd	9:00	Individual Men's Épée 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	11:30	Individual Women's Foil 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	14:00	Individual Men's Sabre 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
Tuesday, August 3rd	9:00	Individual Women's Épée 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	11:30	Individual Men's Épée 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	14:00	Individual Women's Sabre 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
Wed, August 4th	9:00	Individual Men's Épée 2010 Pan-American Championship
	12:00	Individual Women's Foil Pan-American Championship
	9:00	Individual Men's Foil Pan-American Championship
Thursday, August 5th	12:00	Individual Women's Sabre Pan-American Championship
	9:00	Individual Women's Épée Pan-American Championship
Friday, August 6th	12:00	Individual Men's Sabre Pan-American Championship
	9:00	Women's Foil Team Pan-American Championship & 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
Saturday, August 7th	11:30	Men's Épée Team Pan-American Championship
	13:30	Women's Épée Team Pan-American Championship & 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	9:00 Hrs	Men's Foil Team Pan-American Championship & 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
Sunday, August 8th	11:30	Women's Épée Team Pan-American Championship & 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
	13:30	Men's Sabre Team Pan-American Championship & 2011 Pan-american Games Qualifying Tournament
Monday, August 9th	Exit	

## Appendix L Proposed Rulebook Modifications

### Proposed Changes to USFA Rules

(Additions in blue, removals in red)

**t.21.1** Displacing the target and ducking are allowed even if during the action the unarmed hand **and/or the knee of the back leg** comes into contact with the strip.

**t.42.1** As soon as the bout has stopped, the Referee **briefly** reconstructs ~~briefly~~ the movements which composed the last fencing phrase.

~~For finals, the Referee may make use of a television monitor to check on his decision should he be uncertain.~~

After reaching his decision regarding the materiality of a touch, the Referee, by applying the rules, decides **against** which fencer ~~a touch is to be awarded~~ **was touched**, whether both ~~are~~ **were** touched (épée) or if there ~~is~~ **was** no valid touch (cf. t.55ss, t.64ss, t.74ss).

## 2 VIDEO-REFEREEING

*Only applies to USFA tournaments where video-refereeing is in use.*

**a) Video-refereeing is compulsory at all 3 weapons at Grand Prix, World Cup team competitions, the World Championships, Zonal Championships, and qualification events for the Olympic Games.**

**i) For Grand Prix competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 strips, and in any case from the table of 64.**

**ii) For World Cup team competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory from the table of 32 onwards, including the matches for 3rd place but excluding the other ranking matches.**

**iii) For individual and team competitions of the open World Championships, video-refereeing is obligatory from the beginning of the competition onwards. 8 strips equipped for video-refereeing are thus necessary.**

### **b) Appeals**

**i) In individual events, the fencer has:**

- in **pools** in which the video-refereeing system is used, one possible appeal during each bout;
- in **direct elimination** bouts, two possible appeals.

Should the **referee agree with the fencer** who appealed for the video-refereeing the latter is entitled to retain the right of appeal.

**ii) In team events**, the fencers have one possible right to appeal to the video-refereeing per relay and they are entitled to retain this right should the referee agree with the appeal.

**iii) In the case of an appeal for video-refereeing**, the referee will walk over to the refereeing delegate, they will watch the video together and after consultation with the delegate, the referee will give his final decision.

**c) At conventional weapons**, when both lamps are lit, the referee must consult his monitor before making a decision.

**d) If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match**, for the decisive hit, the

referee must use the video-refereeing and walk over to the refereeing delegate. They will examine the video together and, after consulting the delegate, the referee will give his final decision without the possibility of consulting the video again.

**e) The last action will be replayed** on the referee's and the refereeing delegate's monitors, first at the real speed and then in slow motion, at 20%.

**f) The refereeing delegate** may at any time request that the referee review his decision.

**g)** Following a request by one of the fencers to check the video, the **decision given is final** and his opponent cannot ask for the same action to be reviewed again.

**h) The person(s) monitoring the referees' decisions** do not have to be members of the Refereeing Commission. For the World Championships, the refereeing delegate in charge will designate this or these person(s). For "Grand Prix" competitions, the delegate from the Refereeing Commission will designate this or these persons.

**3** The Referee would use the following signals (see Figure 3a-b, pp. 15-16).

- t.70**
1. The saber is a weapon for thrusting and cutting with the cutting edge, the flat and the back of the blade.
  - ~~(a) 2. All touches made with the cutting edge, the flat or the back of the blade are counted as good (cuts and back-cuts).~~
  3. It is forbidden to score a touch with the guard. Any touches scored with the guard must be annulled, the fencer at fault being penalized as specified in Articles t.114, t.116, t.120.
  - ~~(b) Point touches which slip over the valid target, or cuts which merely brush the opponent's target (passé touches) do not count.~~
  - ~~(c) 4. Touches through the blade, that is to say those which touch the valid target and the saber of the opponent at the same time, are valid whenever they arrive clearly on the target.~~
  - ~~(d) 5. Placing the point of the weapon on the strip at any time to straighten it is forbidden. Any breaking of this rule will be punished according to Articles t.114, t.116, t.120.~~

- m.32**
1. The metal mesh of the mask must not be insulated and must ensure electrical conductivity.
  2. The bib and any trim must be entirely covered with conductive material with the same electrical characteristics as the conductive jacket.
  3. The trim may also be made of conductive material.
  4. The electrical resistance between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms.
  5. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire and one or two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached, either by means of a crocodile clip or by being soldered, to the mesh of the mask, and must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long. In the case of a coiled cable, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25 cm in length, with a tolerance of  $\pm 5$  cm. The crocodile clip, the design and size of which must conform with the conditions laid down in Article m.29, must be soldered to the other end of the wire.  
**In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between crocodile clip and crocodile clip or crocodile clip and soldering) must not exceed 1 ohm.**

- m.33**
1. The conductive material, which may be removable or fixed, of the regulation glove of the fencer's sword arm must cover all the sleeve down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the 'on-guard' position and when the sword arm is straight.
  2. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet to a depth of at least 5 cm.
  3. In order to guarantee a good contact with the sleeve of the conductive jacket, it is necessary to use an elastic band, a popper button or any system which will guarantee conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI

Committee. When a conductive overglove is worn, the overglove must contain a device which fixes the position of the overglove on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.

**4. The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5).**

**o.2.2**

Every competitor or **designated official**, irrespective of his status, is required to have a **valid international license for the current season** (cf. Statutes Chapter IX).

**o.6.2**

**Superintendents of the apparatus**

**Deleted:**

~~b) The superintendent of the apparatus must not touch the apparatus while fencing is in progress. When fencing ceases, he re-sets the apparatus either after the Referee has given his decision or when the competitors are testing their weapons; but he must never, after a phase of the bout has caused the apparatus to signal a hit, annul this signal before the Referee has given his decision.~~

**Delete letter a) in front of the previous paragraph.**

**o.7**

The **checking of the organisers' equipment**, as well as the equipment of the fencers, must be carried out in accordance with the rules to be found in the Material Rules, **by personnel who are qualified and designated by the organizing committee. If there are present designated members of the SEMI Commission, this function must be carried out by them or under their control.**

**o.9.1**

The **programme must be displayed, communicated and respected and must take into account the time needed for the fencers to rest between bouts. It** should be arranged in such a way that no fencer is obliged to participate in events for **more than 12 hours in 24**. In any case, no pool, bout or match may begin after midnight, or at any time when it can be foreseen that there is a likelihood that it will end after midnight.

**o.9.3**

In their timetable the organizers must allow sufficient time for it to be possible to carry out **the checking of the fencers' equipment, i.e. a minimum** of one day per weapon.

**o.10**

The **first round** of all individual and team competitions, **including** the World Championships and Olympic Games, **must be displayed** by 4 p.m. at the latest the day before the competition (cf. **t.123**).

**o.13.1**

~~Except where there are contrary provisions in these Rules, The pools are composed~~ taking account of the latest official FIE ranking and by drawing lots among ~~any~~ fencers who are not in the ranking.

**o.15.3**

**Deleted:**

~~When competitors classed as 'stateless' are included in a pool, they must first fence against the competitors of the nationality to which they originally belonged, after the latter have fenced each other, and thereafter against the competitors of the country which grants them their international fencing license.~~

**o.15.4 and o.15.5 become o.15.3 and o.15.4**

**o.18**

Before the competition starts, the Directoire Technique will decide on and announce the **number of fencers who will be eliminated based on the ranking established by the pools.**

**o.29**

This formula is used for the **individual competitions of the Open World Championships**, as well as for the **Open World Cup competitions and for Grand Prix competitions.**

**o.31.4**

Should a fencer ~~or team~~ who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) payable to the FIE will be inflicted on the Federation of the fencer ~~or team~~ at fault **except in a case of properly authenticated injury or force majeure which is duly justified.**

#### **o.32.1**

The **preliminary phase** consists of one round of pools, from which 20%-30% of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all competing in them, and a preliminary direct elimination table. **For Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated based on the indices of the pools must be 30%.**

#### **o.33.1**

The **main phase** consists of an integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four strips, one quarter of the table per strip. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organization of the competition, be fenced on eight strips. **Grand Prix competitions must be fenced on (only) four strips.**

#### **o.33.3**

**Should one of the 16 exempted fencers** who had been entered in accordance with the Rules **not present himself** to fence (cf. o.31), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE **a fine (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) unless** his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside as his control.

#### **o.39**

2/ The 64 highest ranked in the official FIE junior ranking **of the year in course.**

4/ Those placed 65 onwards in the official FIE junior ranking **of the year in course.**

#### **o.47.2**

The **table will be drawn up** based on the ranking of the teams **entered, at the latest one hour after the end of the quarter finals of the individual event.**

**o.50** Heading changed to: **Entries to competitions**

#### **o.50.3**

2 For **World Cup competitions**, it must be sent out at least **two months** before the competition in question.

#### **o.51 a)**

the official name of the Organizing Committee, postal address, **e-mail** address and telephone and fax numbers;

#### **o.53**

**Entries for World Championships (all categories)**

**1 Three months** before the start of the events, the federations will receive an **entry form** from the Organizing Committee, on which they are required to specify the **number** of fencers and teams participating in each event of the competition's programme, **two months** before the start of the events. ~~No additional entry of fencers will be accepted after this date.~~

**2 The entry** of fencers and teams **by name** is to be made via the FIE website. **This entry of the names** of the fencers and all possible substitutes, and **the entry** of teams, must be made **fifteen days (by midnight, Lausanne time) before the first event of the Championships at the latest.**

**3 Withdrawal of a fencer.**

**After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name except in any case of force majeure duly justified.**

**4 Addition of fencer(s) after the cut-off date.**

Nevertheless one or more fencers may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines)** per **additional entry.**

To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add **a fencer or fencers together with immediate payment of the penalty.**

**5 Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE and only for reasons of 'force majeure' ~~or injury~~, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

**o.54**  
**Entries by name for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions, Grand Prix competitions, Satellite competitions, World Cup team competitions and Zonal Senior and Junior competitions.**

**1 The entry of the names** of the fencers and all possible replacements, and the entry of teams, must be made via the FIE website **7 days** before the competition at the latest (**midnight Lausanne time**).

For **team entries**, the names of the fencers making up the teams may be changed, by informing the organizers, until the day before the competition, **at the latest at the end of the quarter-finals of the individual competition**.

**2 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team.**

**After the closing dead-line for entries, no named fencer or team may be withdrawn.**

From the Tuesday preceding the competition, should a fencer have to be withdrawn for reasons of force majeure, the national federation must inform the FIE and the organizers. The fencer may not be replaced.

**3 Substitution of a fencer.**

**Until the Monday** preceding the competition (**midnight Lausanne time**), a fencer may be replaced by another. To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE, by fax or e-mail, a written request to substitute the fencer.

**4 Addition of a fencer after the deadline.**

**However, until the Monday** preceding the competition (**midnight Lausanne time**), one or more fencers may be added after payment to the FIE **of a penalty (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) for each additional entry**.

To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE (by fax or e-mail) a request for the additional **fencer(s) and a written commitment to pay the penalty within 15 days**.

**5** Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalized with a **fine (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines)** payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'**.

~~**6 For Grand Prix competitions and Team World Cup competitions, as the referees are designated by the FIE, the delegations are not required to provide referees.**~~

**6** The organizers of all official competitions must, at risk of a penalty of a fine **payable to the FIE (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines)**, **refuse the entry** of any fencers not appearing on lists conforming with the above, any entry not requested by a federation and any entry of either fencer or referee not in possession of an FIE license valid for the current season.

**o.55**  
**1** No fencer may take part in an official event of the FIE unless he or she is **at least 13 years** old on 1st January in the year of the competition.  
**2 Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Cadet competitions must be under 17 years old at midnight on the 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.**

**3 Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Junior competitions, individual or team, must be under 20 years old at midnight on 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place (cf o. 80).**

**4 Apart from the stipulations above, there is no maximum age limit for those taking part in any other official events of the FIE, except in regard to the different Veteran categories.**

**o.56**  
Apart from the specific areas of competence which are the responsibility of the other technical officials, the technical  
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management of **official FIE competitions** is entrusted to a **Directoire Technique**, whose composition and nomination must respect the specific rules for each competition.

**o.57**

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people who **have the experience and competence to organize competitions**.

**1 World Championships and Olympic Games**

**a)** The **technical organization** is undertaken by a **Directoire Technique** of **six** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organizing country.

**b)** The **President of the Directoire Technique and the other members are** appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

**c)** Should there be a tied vote among the members of the **Directoire Technique**, **the President** of the **Directoire Technique** has the casting vote.

**2 World Cup competitions**

**)** The **Directoire technique** is composed of three qualified persons from the organizing country or invited by them.

**b)** For **Grand Prix competitions**, the **Supervisor of the competition**, designated by the **Executive Committee of the FIE**, is also the **President of the Directoire Technique**.

**o.58.3**

**c)** It draws up the **pool sheets** and **direct elimination table**, ~~according to the rules for individual and team events;~~

**e)** It supervises the **progress of the event(s)**

**o.70**

**1 Directoire technique.**

**Two foreign members** if the **Directoire Technique** has three members; **five foreign members** if there are six members. The **Directoire technique** is appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE ~~after consultation with the Organising Committee.~~

**2 Checking of Equipment.**

**One or two representatives of the SEMI Commission** of the F.I.E., depending on the importance of the fencing events at the Games. These representatives are appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE ~~after consultation with the Organizing Committee.~~

**3 Refereeing delegate.**

**A representative of the Refereeing Commission** of the F.I.E., appointed by the Executive Committee ~~after consultation with the Organizing Committee.~~

**4 Neutral referees.**

**Two or three international referees**, depending on the importance of the event, from countries outside the region of the Games, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE ~~after consultation with the Organizing Committee.~~

**Deleted:**

~~**o.72**  
**1** Competitors in the World Junior Championships, individual and team, must be **less than 20 years** of age on 1 January of the year in which the World Junior Championship is held.~~

~~**2** Competitors in the World Cadet Championships must be **less than 17 years** of age on 1 January of the year in which the World Cadet Championship is held.~~

**o.71.1 becomes o.71 and o.71.2 becomes o.72**

**Deleted:**

- ~~**o.78**  
1 The **Directoire technique** shall consist of three suitable members from the organizing country or invited by it.  
  
2 For **Grand Prix competitions**, the competition supervisor, designated by the Executive Committee of the FIE, shall also be president of the **Directoire Technique**.~~

**o.79.1 and o.79.2 become o.78.1 and o.78.2**

**o.79.3 becomes o.79**

**o.81.2**

**For Grand Prix and World Cup team competitions, 7 referees, proposed by the Refereeing Commission and in consultation with the organizers, will be designated by the Executive Committee, and delegations will not have to provide any referees. These 7 referees will be at the expense of the organizers, who will in return keep the entry fees.**

**o.81.3**

**Should a national federation not provide the required number of referees, a fine (cf. o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) will be inflicted on it if it has notified the fact 15 days in advance. This fine is doubled if there was no notification 15 days in advance.**

This fine must **be paid by the delegation to the organizers so** that they are able to arrange for other referees to replace those missing as necessary.

~~This fine **reverts to the FIE** if the organizers do not arrange the presence of replacement international referees, who may be from the organizing country.~~

**If a national federation** does not pay this fine, it **must reduce the participation** of its fencers in conformity with the quotas (cf. o.81.1 above).

**The Supervisor must ensure the proper application of this article.**

**Deleted:**

~~**o.82.2 c)**  
Each Team World Cup competition is run throughout by **direct elimination** and all places in the table up to **16th place** will be fought for. From 17th place onwards teams will be classified according to their initial place in the table.~~

**o.82.2 d) becomes o.82.2 c)**

**o.82.3**

**Participation**

Team **participation is** open to all countries and limited to one team **per weapon** per country.

**o.83.1**

1 Individual World rankings

**c)** For both Open and Junior rankings, the ranking is kept **permanently** up to date. **The competition in the current** year cancels out the corresponding competition in the previous year, and the points allocated for a competition cancel out the points attributed **at** the same competition in the previous season. If a competition does not take place in the current season, the points obtained **at** the same competition in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the competition.

**e)** After each competition **which is taken into account to establish the ranking, this is updated automatically after verification of the results by the FIE.**

**o.86 Table of financial penalties and fines**

	<b>Article</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date of payment</b>	<b>To be paid to</b>	<b>By whom</b>
Entry to World Championships after closing date	o.53.3	150 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
Entry to other FIE competitions after closing date	o.54.4	150 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
If a fencer or team duly entered does not turn up	o.31.4, o.33.3, o.54.5	750 CHF or 500 Euros per fencer or team	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the National Federation
Participation of a fencer or team not properly entered	o.54.6	1500 CHF or 1000 euros per improper participation	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the organizer
Required number of referees not respected (organizers informed 15 days in advance)	o.81.3	750 CHF or 500 Euros per Referee	At the same time as the information is sent to the organizer	Organizer	By the National Federation
Required number of referees not respected (organizers informed less than 15 days in advance)	o.81.3	1500 CHF or 1000 Euros per referee	At the same time as the information is sent to the organizer	Organizer	By the National Federation

**Appendix M**  
**Membership Class Motion Passed by Board Mail Vote May 31, 2010**

**Motion (Mr. Benson):** To replace the existing classes of individual memberships with new membership classes having rights, benefits, and privileges as follows:

- 1. Competitive Members.** Competitive members have the right to enter and compete in local, regional, and national-level competitions, and subject to deadlines as to the date of membership or requirements as to the minimum length of membership, shall have the right to vote or run for office in USFA elections. Competitive members may join for one-year or three-year terms upon payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors.
- 2. Professional members.** Professional members, particularly including coaches, have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and additionally receive the benefit of a general liability insurance policy purchased by the Association. In order to become a Professional member, an individual must successfully complete such background screening as may be required by the Association or by said insurance, and the Executive Director is hereby authorized to implement standards for said background screening.
- 3. Life members.** On payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors, Life members have the same rights, benefits, and privileges as Competitive members, and may vote in elections of the USFA membership subject to deadlines as to the date of membership. Life members retain these rights, benefits, and privileges for the remainder of their natural lives without the payment of additional dues.
- 4. Benefactor members.** Life members may show their continuing support of the Association by upgrading their membership to Benefactor status. Benefactor memberships are grouped in four levels (Endowment, Patron, Benefactor, and Philanthropist), with the dues for each level as determined by the Board of Directors. Benefactor members receive additional benefits, including insignia and devices for wear, a certificate, and additional recognition through the Association's channels of communications.
- 5. Supporting members.** Supporting members enjoy the rights, benefits, and privileges of Competitive members with respect to voting and holding office; however, Supporting members may not enter into sanctioned competitions. The Association will also include access to a major medical/special accident plan at special rates. Supporting members may join for one-year or three-years upon payment of dues as determined by the Board of Directors.
- 6. Subscription members.** Subscription members are those individuals who wish to receive American Fencing magazine, but who do not wish to vote, compete, or hold office in the Association. The Association will also include access to a major medical/special accident plan at special rates.
- 7. Family memberships.** Family memberships include 2 Competitive memberships Additional Competitive members living at the same address may be added on payment of additional dues as determined by the Board of Directors. Family memberships include one subscription to American Fencing magazine.
- 8. One-Day Memberships.** A One-Day membership is valid for one calendar day only and not upgradable. One-Day members have the right to compete in any USA Fencing sanctioned competition that is not nationally organized or a qualifying competition (for example NACs, RYCs, SYCs, ROCs or Divisional/Sectional Qualifiers), and will receive secondary medical/accident insurance for the single day of membership. One-Day members may not vote or hold office in the Association.

To implement these changes, the Operations Manual is amended as follows:

## Chapter 2: USFA Membership<sup>1</sup>

### Section 1: Rights of Membership

The USFA Board of Directors has established specific categories of memberships to differentiate ~~age groups~~ and those who are eligible to compete, those who coach, and those who support the sport. The USFA Board of Directors determines the rights and regulations associated with each category of membership. ~~All individual members, except the Associate class of membership, may participate in competitions held under the auspices of the USFA.~~

This participation is subject to the limitations specified in the USFA Bylaws as well as regulations and limitations approved by the Board of Directors with respect to particular categories of members or types of competitions. These limitations are published in the *USFA Operations Manual* and the *USFA Athlete Handbook that describes, in detail, criteria for national tournaments.*

A member of a class which has voting rights is not entitled to vote in USFA elections or participate in competitions until USFA Membership Services has received and processed the member's dues and fees. Payment of dues to a Division Secretary or other duly appointed agent renders a fencer eligible only to fence in local competitions sanctioned by the Division where the dues were paid. Once the membership has been satisfactorily processed, the individual will receive a membership card.

#### A. Voting Privileges [*Article Ix, Section 6, 2001 USFA Bylaws*]

All Competitive, Life, Non-Competitive-Supporting, Professional and Benefactor ~~individual~~ members in good standing, including those Competitive members associated with those holding a Family membership, who have paid their dues (membership processed and fee collected), as specified by the Board of Directors, on or before February 1st of each membership year and who have attained their 18th birthday as of that date shall have the right to vote on all matters that may be voted on by the USFA and its member Divisions. In addition these members may hold any office to which they may be elected or appointed. A person is considered a member when the USFA National office satisfactorily processes the membership application and associated fees. Members whose applications are incomplete, e.g., missing required signatures, will not be considered in good standing until all information has been completed, signatures have been obtained and fees have been collected. Members must inform the USFA Director of Membership Services of their date of birth, if not noted on their membership application, on or before February 1st of the current membership year or stated in writing that they have, or will attain their 18th birthday as of that date to be eligible to vote in any USFA election.

#### B. International License

Competitive members (including Life and Professional members) of the USFA can apply for an FIE License in order to compete in international competitions. See the *Athlete Handbook* for rules governing application for an FIE License and entry procedures for FIE World Cup competitions. Members of the USFA may not compete in any international team competitions representing the United States without specific approval of the committee designated by the Board to select members of international teams or by the National coach who has been given the authority to field teams at international competitions.

#### C. New Members

A new member whose individual one-year dues are paid between April 1 and July 31 shall be entitled to membership through the next membership year without the payment of additional dues. A person who has not been a member of the USFA for the past five years will be treated as a new member in establishing the expiration date of membership.

## Section 2: Categories of Membership

~~Except for One-Day Associate and Non-Competitive~~ members, the membership year commences on August 1 and ends on the following July 31. All dues are payable in full on application for membership and thereafter when the next membership year begins, or when one's membership expires, whichever is later. See Appendix A for dues structure. ~~For each individual membership category~~ Competitive and Supporting members, one can pay for one year or three years of membership. ~~If one's status for a category changes, e.g., age change creates a different status during the three year period, the change will be recorded in the system and a new membership card issued. If one does not receive the new card, notify the Director of Membership Services.~~

### A. Individual Memberships

1) Honorary Membership: Open to any person who shall have rendered distinguished service to the cause of fencing. A candidate shall be elected an Honorary Member of the Corporation by the Board of Directors of the Corporation upon a two-thirds vote of those present at any meeting. Honorary Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Life Members.

2) Competitive Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein.

3) Professional Membership: Open to all persons who wish to be credentialed as a coach or other professional member at sanctioned tournaments. Professional members must successfully complete a background check at the expense of USA Fencing.

4) Supporting Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Supporting members shall have all the rights and privileges of Competitive membership, subject to the limitation that they shall not be eligible to fence in USFA or international competitions.

~~2) Senior Membership: Open to all persons who will attain 20 years of age as of January 1 following the beginning of the membership year upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. There are three types of Senior Membership: Senior, Coach and Veteran. Persons over 20 years of age are Senior members unless they fall within the definition of coach or veteran.~~

~~3) Coach category: Those coaches who are competing and are coaching and notify the USFA that they are coaches who are competing.~~

~~4) Veteran category: Those competitors who are 40 years or will become at least 40 years of age as of January 1 of the current fencing season.~~

~~5) Junior Membership: Open to all persons who will be younger than 20 years of age as of January 1 following the beginning of the membership year upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein~~

~~6) The three year Junior membership is valid for the period in which the member meets the age criteria, after which the membership is changed to Senior.~~

~~7) Associate Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Associate members shall have all the rights and privileges of Senior membership, subject to the limitation that they shall not be eligible to fence in USFA or international competitions.~~

~~8) Associate Coach: category for those coaching or teaching fencers and no longer competing in USFA or FIE competitions~~

~~9) Associate Parent: category for parents of any fencer who are interested in receiving regular communications — email newsletters, American Fencing magazine, special notices — about the activities of the organization and its affiliates. Associate Parent category also provides the parent the opportunity to vote on the affairs of the USFA and the Division in which the child or children are competing.~~

~~10) 5) Life Membership: Open to all persons upon payment of the Life membership fee specified herein. Life members shall have all the rights and privileges of Competitive Senior members, but shall be exempt from the obligation of paying dues subsequent to the payment or waiving of the Life membership fee. Life members seeking the benefits of Professional membership may do so upon payment of an annual fee equal to the difference between a Professional and Competitive membership and successful completion of a periodic background check.~~

~~11) 6) Olympians/Paralympians: Any athlete member of an Olympic Fencing Team or Paralympics Fencing Team is granted Life membership from the USFA. [BOD, 2/05]~~

42) 7) Life Membership with installments: Open to all persons upon payment of one-tenth the dues for Life membership at the time of enrollment. Upon payment of supporting membership dues for ten consecutive years at the same rate as at the time of enrollment, the membership will be automatically converted to Life membership. [BOD, 2/04] The purpose of this category is to allow individuals to become Life members by spreading the cost of the Life membership fee over a period of ten years.

8) Benefactor Membership: Open as a membership upgrade to all Life members upon payment of dues specified herein. Benefactor memberships are grouped into four tiers, with dues for each tier designated in Table 1. Dues paid towards one tier may be credited against the dues required for the next tier.

9) Subscription Membership: Open to all persons on payment of specified dues, but having the limitations that Subscription members may not compete, vote, nor hold office in the Association. Subscription members receive *American Fencing* magazine and other periodicals and electronic communications from the Association.

A-10) Family Membership: Open to a maximum of four members of the same family all at the same address. For the basic dues specified herein, two family members will receive the benefits of Competitive membership. Additional family members may be designated as Competitive members upon payment of additional dues as specified by the Board of Directors, and for which no more than two will be granted competitive membership status with the remaining two granted Associate membership status. For this category of membership only one member of the family will receive a copy of the *American Fencing* magazine.

B-11) Club Membership: Open to any organization which (i) actively promotes or offers instruction in or provides facilities for engaging in the sport of fencing, (ii) has met its obligation with respect to the payment of dues for the membership year as specified.

• To be eligible for Club membership in the USFA, a club must meet the following criteria:

1) The owners and/or principal officers of the club or fencing ~~Division~~ organization of such club must be members of the USFA.

2) All members of the fencing coaching staff be they, paid, volunteer or other similar status, must be members of the USFA.

3) Each Member Club must have a minimum of ten members of the USFA, at the time of the submission of the application, who ~~have~~ has declared that club as their club. [BOD September, 1999]

4) The name of the club must be distinctive from that of all then existing club members, as determined by the Executive Director.

5) Tiers of membership with applicable benefits may be available as determined by the Board of Directors.

a. **Motion:** *that all member clubs have a unique name that has at least one distinctive word different from another club. Motion approved. [EC meeting, July 2006]*

### **Section 3: Definition of Division Membership**

A fencer must identify to which Division the member will belong. A fencer may be a member of the Division:

- In which the fencer resides; OR
- In which the fencer's club is located, OR
- In which the fencer is a resident student at a school (i.e., not a day student).

The Division for the member becomes the place from which the member can qualify for the Junior Olympic Fencing Championships and the associated qualifying competitions for the Summer National Championships. The Section in which the Division is located An organization whose application for club membership is accepted has the option to request liability insurance coverage available through the USFA for an additional fee. Refer to the USFA club membership application for current insurance rates.

C-12) Corporate (formerly Business) Membership: Open to any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other business entity which has an interest in supporting the development and growth of fencing in the United States upon the payment of the dues for the membership year as specified herein. Vendors wishing to purchase booth space at National USFA tournaments must be Corporate members of the USFA.

13) One-Day members: A One-Day membership is valid for one calendar day only and not upgradable. One-Day members have the right to compete in any sanctioned USA Fencing competition except for any nationally organized competition or qualifiers (for example NACs, ROCs, SYCs, RYCs, Divisional or Sectional qualifiers) and will receive secondary medical/accident insurance for the single day of membership. One-Day members may not vote or hold office in the Association.

D. The Subscription category allows individuals or organizations who do not seek membership in the USFA to receive the quarterly fencing magazine, *American Fencing* and regular releases of the *E-Newsletter*.

**TABLE 1: SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP FEES [This table replaces the table currently in the Operations Manual]**

<b>CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>DUES (Annual except for those marked *)</b>	<b>3 YEAR MEMBERSHIP</b>
<b>One-Day</b>	<b>\$10*</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Competitive</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$160</b>
<b>Professional</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Supporting</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$110</b>
<b>Life</b>	<b>\$1,200*</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Benefactor</b>		<b>N/A</b>
<b>Endowment Tier</b>	<b>\$2,000*</b>	
<b>Patron Tier</b>	<b>\$5,000*</b>	
<b>Benefactor Tier</b>	<b>\$10,000*</b>	
<b>Philanthropist Tier</b>	<b>\$25,000*</b>	
<b>Subscription</b>	<b>\$25 (domestic) \$37 (foreign)</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>\$110</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Additional Members</b>	<b>\$50</b>	
<b>Tiered Club</b>		<b>N/A</b>
<b>Basic</b>	<b>\$40</b>	
<b>Standard</b>	<b>\$300</b>	
<b>Premier</b>	<b>\$500</b>	
<b>Corporate</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>N/A</b>

The Board of Directors establishes the schedule of annual dues of the USFA. Table 1 specifies the fees for each category of membership approved by the Board ~~February 2004~~ July 2010.

is the Section in which the member can compete to qualify for the relevant Summer National Championships competitions.

A fencer may change Division membership if the fencer moves to a place that is located in another Division. Such change will affect the Division and/or Section from which the fencer can then qualify for any National Championship tournament. A fencer, who resides at a school located in another Division, must decide when submitting the membership application whether to represent the Division where his/her home (residence) is located or the Division where his/her school is located. Once the choice is made it cannot be changed in that fencing season.

Persons who have paid for a three-year membership must notify the Director of Membership Services if the Division should be changed at the start of each season. Without such notification the Division will remain the same.

If a member reports a change of address, the member must notify the Director of Membership Services if the Division needs to be changed.

## Section 4: Benefits of Membership

Membership in the USFA includes the following benefits:

- Subscription to *American Fencing* magazine, published four times a year.
- Athlete Accident Insurance, is a secondary insurance policy that covers individuals only when participating in authorized USFA activities. (Contact USFA Membership Services for policy specifics).
- Coaches Liability Insurance; contact USFA Membership Services for details.

~~“U. S. Fencing Association (USFA) offers general liability coverage for member~~

~~coaches at no additional cost. This coverage is extended to all USFA sanctioned and non-sanctioned fencing events/activities. This coverage is provided as an added benefit of coach membership through USFA.~~ [BOD Agenda, Sept. 2005]

- Voting privileges: Members 18 and over as of Feb. 1 of the membership year who have provided their date of birth, have the right to vote on USFA issues and in USFA elections.
- Competitive members may compete in USFA sanctioned competitions if they meet conditions of specific competition.
- Discounts on Travel and Fencing Equipment.
- USFA Membership Card: Recognition as a member of U.S. Fencing and gateway to worldwide fencing.
- Club Memberships:
  - o Eligible to enroll in the liability insurance program offered through the USFA
  - o Eligible to enter team qualifying competitions for National Team Championships
  - o Subscription to *American Fencing*
  - o Free Link on USFA website
- Corporate membership:
  - o Advertising discount in magazine
  - o Free link on USFA website
  - o Eligibility for vendor space at national tournaments
  - o Magazine
  - o Mailing labels at special rates
  - o Advertising opportunities in tournament mailings

### **Section 5: Dues Sharing (BOD, July 1997)**

The USFA shall each year allocate \$3 of each member's dues to the Division specified by the member and \$1 of each member's dues to the Section in which that Division is located. The USFA shall pay Divisions and Sections their share of dues on a quarterly basis as long as each is current in filing past and present financial reports with the USFA and in filing Officers' reports for all previous membership years. Until all those reports have been filed, the Division or Section's share of the dues will be held by the USFA. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the Life Membership fee and Life Membership with installment fee shall be paid by the USFA to the Division to which the member belongs and five percent (5%) of the Life Membership fee shall be paid by the USFA to the Section to which the member belongs. One-Day memberships will be not be shared. That portion of dues not allocated for Divisions or Sections shall be deposited to the national account of the USFA for general USFA purposes.

### **Official Policy [BOD, 9/95]**

- a) Checks will be issued only to those Divisions and Sections that have filed the required financial report (from the Division/Section Treasurer) and Division/Section reports indicating current officers. If the Divisions/Sections have not filed the required reports, the funds due will be held in escrow until such time as the reports are current.
- b) Checks will be issued every three months according to the following schedule:
  - 1) November, December, January will be issued approximately February 15
  - 2) February, March, April will be issued approximately May 15
  - 3) May, June, July will be issued approximately August 15
  - 4) August, September, October will be issued approximately November 15
- c) Escrowed funds will be paid upon receipt of delinquent reports. On August 15, all funds held in escrow will be released providing that the conditions in Item (a) above have been met.
- d) Checks are valid for 90 days. There will be a \$15 charge to reissue checks that are no longer valid.

### **Section 6: Arrears**

A member is not entitled to vote in USFA elections or participate in competitions until the USFA has received and processed the member's dues and fees. Payment of dues to a Division Secretary or other duly appointed

agent renders a fencer eligible to fence in local competitions. When the USFA National Office has processed the membership application and the accompanying payment of dues, the fencer will be recognized as a member. No person will be eligible to vote in USFA affairs unless the person's dues for the membership year in which the person seeks the right to vote are processed by the USFA Membership Services by February 1 of that membership year. [*Article IX, Section 6, 2001 USFA Bylaws*]