

# Agenda

## Special Meeting of the USA Fencing Board of Directors

January 20, 2011 via Teleconference

### **I. General Information and Organizational Items**

General announcements

Remarks – Kalle Weeks, President

Appointment of Parliamentarian

### **II. Minutes of the December 16, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve the minutes of the December 16, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (distributed separately)

### **III. Board of Directors Report of Action, January 4, 2011**

The following motions were adopted by the Board of Directors via email vote, which concluded January 4, 2011:

- To approve the modified athlete contract to include reference to dispute resolution procedures to be added to the Athlete Handbook. The procedures to be added to the Athlete Handbook should also be published immediately.
- To approve the contract between Professional and Scientific Associates (PSA) and USA Fencing.

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve the report of Board Action.

### **IV. Finance and Budget**

**Financial Reports** (Greg Dilworth and Sunil Sabharwal)

### **V. Updates from the Executive Director (Greg Dilworth)**

**VI. Committee and Task Force Reports**

**Nominating Committee Report (Aaron Clements)**

**Other Updates**

**VII. New Business**

**1. Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve appointment of Jane Carter as Chair of the Youth Development Committee.

**2. Overview of Financial Policy Manual**

**VIII. Executive Session**

Personnel and Contractual Matters

**IX. Adjournment**

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To adjourn the meeting.

**Appendix A**  
**PARALYMPIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**aka WHEELCHAIR TASK FORCE**  
**January 2011**

Funding for Wheelchair Fencing programs and the back and forth budgeting has (temporarily) limited our activity. Now that our W'Chair program is under the official umbrella of US Fencing as our NGB, we began the task of searching for monies to support both domestic and international programs. Originally, funding was issued to this committee. With our stated goal being domestic development, that did not allow us to figure in the needs of our international and elite athlete programs. Per the decisions of the USFA Board, that money was in turn transferred to the budget of National Coach Les Stawicki., who was developing a budget along with the HPG. The committee is now linked to the Membership Committee and its funding.

We continue to have good response from our sources of communication, the *Sit and Fight* Newsletter and the website, WheelchairFencer.org

We are pleased to see continued development of programs across the US. Phoenix has developed a strong new program, and New Jersey is showing promise. We have been encouraging new programs to seek assistance through our offering of developmental camps and encouraging the partnership of US Paralympic's Sport Club program. The Phoenix club seems to be effectively using this program, as is San Antonio. We still are hoping to target a program in Miami, if they can handle co-ordination on their end.

Schedule conflicts seem to be our biggest problem. Different entities looking to host a competition/camp expect participation from w'chair athletes around the US. Athletes must choose where to spend their funds; regional events, national events and camps, world cups, etc.

This spring, there are camps w/events scheduled in Louisville and Phoenix, along with the Dallas NAC, all within a few weeks of each other. All should be well run events, the question remains as to where people will choose to participate. It has been stated by National Coach Stawicki, that ALL NACs will include a mini-camp on the day prior to the first event.

We do expect a good turnout for the Dallas NAC. The location should prove to be good for the larger pockets of fencers from Arizona, Texas and Mississippi. Pittsburgh was not well attended, most likely due to the location. Note: Winter events in northern cities are not attractive to people with mobility impairments.

The lack of organization and communication from the International Wheelchair Fencing Comm. has had a trickle down effect. We have little idea of the schedule of international events, rules being implemented or information on November's World Championships, including qualification paths. It is imperative we have better communication with the international community. Currently, this committee has no information on how our elite program events are budgeted and have not been able to forward any information to athletes. We hope that stabilization in the HP Director position will help.

Submitted,

Gary M. van der Wege  
Chair