

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Arizona Division of USA Fencing
June 7, 2015 Fencer's Club of Arizona, Chandler, AZ

Attendance:

21 voting members in attendance (exceeding the quorum minimum of 11).

Pat Wokulich, Anthony Quinn, Paul Hicha, Michael Poppre, Rolly Arroyo, Teresa McBryan, Pam McBryan, Andreas Xagoraris, Adrienne Xagoraris, Rachelle Arama, Will Becker-Ives, Melvin Rodriguez, Eric Thogersen, Patricia Waples, Mark Fowler, Kaitlyn Fowler, Bill Becker, Michelle Becker, Will Becker, Sabrina Becker, Nina Linder

30 members were unable to attend but assigned proxy votes (*James Fowler present but assigned proxy to Mark Fowler)

Call to Order 1:07PM

Reports:

Chairman Recap (Bill Becker):

Bill thanked everyone for making the time to attend this year's annual meeting. He began his recap with an overall discussion of how there have been a lot of changes this past season at the national level that trickle down to the divisions. He discussed the qualifying paths and competitions for next season and at this point in time our region (region 4), has three SYC events, 3 RJCC events, and 5 ROC events. Please try to encourage your fencers to be aware of events and deadlines and help them understand the qualifying paths, points, and ranking systems. Only competitions within our region will count towards qualifying points/rankings however fencers can attend and participate in other regions for experience. There is an SYC and an ROC both hosted within our state. Please encourage your fencers to attend because by having these events held locally it will help cut down on costs the fencers and their families incur trying to gain the necessary points for national events eligibility. It is important to read through the postings that US Fencing posts on the website and Facebook page. In our division, we make every effort to communicate what is going on in US Fencing to help keep everyone informed via our division website and Facebook page so if you have not yet "liked" our division Facebook page please do so.

There was a brief discussion that the division had recently been contacted and advised that we would be receiving a distribution as a result of the "sections" being eliminated. The exact amount was not available but the funds will be deposited into the division checking account.

There was a reminder that if a fencer has medaled in either of the last two Grand Canyon State Games they are a qualifier for the State Games of America being held this July/August in Lincoln, Nebraska. We have requested information from them but have not yet received anything. Our advice to you is to continue to check their website and watch for any information that they may post.

Treasure Report (Jay Fowler)

Jay passed out a financial report for the division; he did amend the copy as there was a calculation error. He pointed out that again this season there was a net gain and that our division financial resources remain positive. We did not have a charge this season for our domain name as we are in year two of a 5 year contract with Go Daddy. Our webhosting remains on an annual contract to be renewed in September.

Jay thanked the division for the opportunity to serve as Treasure but shared that in the next few days he and his wife were leaving on a yearlong backpacking adventure through South America.

Vice Chair (Mark Fowler)

Mark provided a recap of current division inventory. There was a discussion about the division equipment and the poor condition and quality of many of the items. Both Charlie King and Pat Waples would like to use the equipment for their tournaments in August and September respectively. Phoenix Falcons has kindly been housing the majority the inventory for most of the season as well as the storage trailer but would like to pass that to someone else willing to store it.

Secretary Report (Nina Linder)

Nina provided a recap on division membership count. There are again 11 member clubs. US Fencing records show that as of February (the date that all members must be registered by to be considered voting members for the season) Arizona has 376 registered members -up by 23 members from last season. The division consists of 129 Females (34%) and 247 Males (66%). The breakdown is as follows: 191 Competitive, 2 Competitive-Professional, 9 Life, 137 Non-competitive, 27 Professional, 9 Supporting, 1 Supporting+Professional.

Membership renewal will not be available until after June 30th. US Fencing has it blocked for renewals to assist them with a cleaner accounting system. The new athlete handbook will be available on August 1st. They currently have technical writers reviewing it to make things clearer for the organizations members. It does not mean that there will not continue to be updates throughout the season so please be aware to watch for changes as in the past.

- The division clubs held 17 competitions this season
- There were 3 additional events hosted by the division which included: Grand Canyon State Games, JO Qualifiers, and Summer National Qualifiers.
- An SYC, ROC and a Men's Junior Saber World Cup were also events that took place within our division

Arizona was represented well at the Junior Olympics we had 21 fencers compete.

Results were:

Mens Epee:

Junior:

Addison Wessel 178/246

Cadet:

Addison Wessel 225/245

Women's Foil:

Junior:

Teresa McBryan 108/175

Men's Saber:

Junior:

Calvin Liang 17/188

Dawson Bolton 150/188

Aiden Marin 166/188

Cadet:

Luke Linder 59/180

Dawson Bolton 143/180

Aiden Marin 149/180

Matthew Nah 164/180

Women's Saber:

Junior:

Kara Linder 3/139

Brianna Steele 11/139

Kaitlyn Becker 54/139

Gillian Harrill 59/139

Genevieve Robillard 126/139

Cadet:

Kara Linder 2/148

Gillian Harrill 32/148

Olivia Young 66/148

Diana Nah 72/148

Kaitlyn, Becker 94/148

Genevieve, Robillard 137/148

Women's Saber Team: FCAZ 2/10

It looks like we will also have a strong presence at Summer Nationals and also in the July Challenge. We will try to make Facebook updates as the event occur to keep everyone up to speed.

Open Discussion:

Question was asked by Rachelle Arama about the notice that she had seen that the division is involved in a lawsuit. The Chairman referred her and all members with questions to Kris Ekren in the National Office.

Rolly Arroyo brought up that Phoenix Falcons has been storing the division trailer and some strips in their storage yard at their club. He would like to have that moved. There was discussion of the condition of the strips. There were a few clubs that had attempted to use the strips but they are not in usable condition. There may be salvageable parts if someone was interested in making the effort but they would more likely be better off sent to the scrap yard.

The division trailer it is not something that we are in need of any longer if we do not have strips to store. It is a double axel trailer about 16-18 feet long and approximately 8 feet wide. The tires are not great but someone could put it to good use. Dimensions need to be verified and then we can post it on the division website, division Facebook page and Craig's list to have it sold.

Two clubs have already requested and been approved for competitions for the 2015-2016 season. Flagstaff is hosting an event on August 15th. Charlie King has all the information posted on AskFred. Prescott is also hosting their annual event the weekend of Labor Day and has their event posted on Askfred as well. Both clubs have requested that fencers have their memberships renewed prior to showing up at the event to help expedite the check in process.

Member clubs will be asked to submit their competition calendar requests for the new season in August. The Executive Committee members will have the conference call meeting to finalize the division calendar and it will be post prior to the Prescott event.

Motions:

There was a motion made by Rolly Arroyo to first try to sell the strips within the division and if there was no interest then to send them to the scrap yard and have the proceeds go to the division. The motion was seconded by Michael Poppre. The vote was unanimous

There was a motion made to sell the trailer. The motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous

There was a motion made by Michael Poppre to waive the \$5.00 fee that goes to the division. The motion was seconded by Paul Hicha. Vote was unanimous.

Elections:

Nominations for the Officers for the 2014/2015 season were taken from the floor. Ballot votes were collected and counted by Henry Villani. 49 ballot votes were collected as 2 members abstained from voting.

Chairman:

Jay Fowler nominated William Becker, Mark Fowler seconded.
Adrienne Xagoraris nominated Rachelle Arama, Pam McBryan seconded
A ballot vote was held 40/9 William (Bill) Becker was elected

Vice Chair:

Mark Fowler nominated Kaitlyn Fowler, Will Becker seconded. Kaitlyn was elected

Treasurer:

Mike Poppre nominated Mark Fowler, Bill Becker seconded. Mark was elected

Secretary:

Rachelle Arama nominated Adrienne Xagoraris, Pam McBryan Seconded

Jay Fowler nominated Nina Linder, Will Becker seconded

A ballot vote was held 42/7 Nina Linder was elected

Mark Fowler thanked everyone on the current board for their service and Jay Fowler reminded everyone to follow him over the next year on FB as he and his wife backpack and travel through South America. Everyone in attendance was reminded that the Division "General Meeting" would be held at the Prescott Fall Classic in September.

Meeting Adjourned