

# Minutes

## Special Meeting of the USA Fencing Board of Directors

November 15, 2010 via Teleconference

In Attendance: Bradley Baker, Bill Becker, David Blake, Aaron Clements, Wes Glon, David Herr, Alan Kuver, Terry Kwan, Paula Reed, Mario Rodriguez, Sunil Sabharwal, Laurie Schiller, Kalle Weeks, Alex Wood

Absent: Soren Thompson

Guests: Donald Alperstein, Nancy Anderson, Beth Bell, Dan Berke, Rita Colman, Greg Dilworth, Andrew Lambdin-Abraham, Jude Offerle, Keeth Smart, Mark Stasinov

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

General announcements

Remarks – Kalle Weeks, President

World Championships results – Mariel Zagunis, Men's Epee Team, Gerek Meinhardt, Miles Chamley-Watson, Seth Kelsey, wheelchair and able-bodied athletes.

More complete reporting of Board actions in future minutes.

Kalle will be in touch with each Board member regarding working relationship with reporting committees and other groups.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

**Motion (Herr):** To make a standing appointment of Aaron Clements as parliamentarian.

**Second:** Becker

**Motion Passed.**

### **II. Minutes of the October 21, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Motion (Mr. Baker):** To approve the minutes of the October 21, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors (distributed separately)

**Second:** Mr. Schiller

**Motion Passed.**

### **III. Finance and Budget**

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

Mr. Sabharwal and Mr. Dilworth gave an oral report of our current financial position.

Three large variances:

1) Membership numbers

Continues to run below budgeted numbers. Numbers are on pace with numbers in previous years. It appears that last year's month-by-month numbers were not accurate and we current expect to "catch up" to budgeted numbers through January.

Still being tracked to watch whether gap begins to close or whether adjustments will be necessary.

2) Magazine

Negative anticipated variance of (\$15,000). Marketing and business anticipated variance of \$62,000. Some of the latter from ProPrintWear, but also includes money shifted from magazine.

3) International Travel

Flat funding in amount of funds from USOC (preliminary numbers). We had budgeted for an increase of 10%. Other sports have received cuts of 20+%. We are anticipating going back to the USOC to request a positive revision. Until we have a final word from the USOC National Office is recommending no changes in budget numbers. Final numbers expected in the next 30 days. Any changes would take place in the senior season (starting in February). Current USOC funding allocation is approximately \$98,000 less than budgeted.

Expression of thanks to Brian Lawrence and finance team regarding general performance and routine availability of reliable numbers on a timely basis.

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

Mr. Dilworth gave an oral report of recent updates on a number of topics including:

- Squad fees from the 2009-10 season;
- World Championships feedback collection (with NTOC); survey to all top points holders at cadet/junior/senior level as well as coaches, parents and similar people;
- Phoenix World Cup – information available online, sent to FIE, invitations to federation presidents and other VIPs;
- New York World Cup – to be hosted at NYAC;
- Financial policy manual being worked on. Expected to be available for Board review in January with aim of approval at February meeting;
- Final report from auditors not yet received, anticipating a relatively clean report, although with a “going concern” letter;
- Rail Station working really well for us. Continue to see majority of people going online for memberships and tournament registration. Points standings and international registration anticipated by end of this month;
- Pan American Zonal Championships schedule;
- Tournament Software RFP;
- Additional replay system purchased;
- 2011-2012 schedule – looking to flip NAC A and NAC B to take into account international schedule;
- National tournament bid process for next three seasons. Copies of updated bid packet to be sent to Board;
- Operations Manual update – draft currently expected first week of January;
- Continue to work on a number of sponsor opportunities. Top priority is a long-term apparel sponsor;
- Staff has started working on draft proposal regarding strategic planning and reasonable goals for two-, six- and ten-year plans (2012, 2016, 2020). Full presentation anticipated for the Board in February.

Squad Fee discussion:

In 2009-10, squad fee credit card authorizations were obtained but not charged. We have chosen not to go back 10 (or so) months and make late charges. For the 2010-11 season fees are being collected and charges are actually being made.

Sentiment of the Board is to attempt to collect the old debts. Greg will draft a letter to send to Board members prior to being sent out to members with such outstanding fees.

#### **V. Legal Update (Donald Alperstein)**

Mr. Alperstein reported that we have one disciplinary panel and one incident investigation.

Working to get Panel moving again.

Investigation has been delayed due to unavailability of one of the anticipated interviewees. Report expected by next Board meeting.

Preparation of memorandum regarding Association-owned equipment lent out to coaches and clubs.

**VI. FIE Update (Sunil Sabharwal)**

Mr. Sabharwal gave an oral report of recent FIE activities related to World Championships and upcoming FIE Executive Committee meeting.

**VII. Committee and Task Force Reports**

**Nominating Committee Report (Aaron Clements)**

Mr. Clements gave an oral report of the status of the Nominating Committee.

Sam Cheris to chair committee.

**International Task Force Report (Alex Wood)**

Mr. Wood provided a report of the status of the International Task Force.

**Election Committee (David Blake)**

Mr. Blake provided a report of the status of the Election Committee.

Working on solutions for on-line voting. Moving forward and anticipate definite decisions by the next Board meeting.

**Other Updates**

## VIII. New Business

**Motion (Mr. Becker):** For the USA Fencing NAC “B” tournament being held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on November 19-22, 2010, the final sentence of rule o.9.1 shall be waived.

The entire text of rule o.9.1 follows with the sentence to be waived highlighted and italicized.

The program must be displayed, communicated and respected and must take into account the time needed for 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 with certainty that it will end after midnight.*

At the conclusion of the tournament on November 22, 2010 the rule goes back into effect as written.

**Second:** Mr. Glon

**Motion Passed.**

**Request to take up request from organizers of Arnold Fencing Classic.  
Matter not taken up by the Board.**

## IX. Executive Session

The Board convened in Executive session to consider legal and personnel matters.

## X. Adjournment

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

**Second:** Mr. Kuver

**Motion Passed.**