Draft Minutes
Meeting of the
USA Fencing Board of Directors
June 5, 2022

Present: Donald Alperstein, David Arias, Cliff Bayer, Kat Holmes, Lauren Haynie, Peter Burchard, Lauryn DeLuca, Nzingha Prescod, Abdel Salem

Absent: Alan Kidd, Cliff Bayer, Ben Bratton, Lorrie Marcil Holmes

Guests*: Peter BartonSam Cheris, Jack Gierhart, Jake Hoyle, Russell Ballinger, Bill Walker, Jill Grotzinger, Bryan Wendell,

I. Call to Order

General Announcements

Remarks & Updates: David Arias – Chair, Jack Gierhart – Interim CEO, Jill Grotzinger – Director of Development, Bryan Wendell – Director of Communications, Russell Ballinger – Interim CFO, Sam Cheris – Board of Directors Treasurer

- Financial overview
- DEIB Success: Shannon Jolly has joined the team and has started to connect with members and board members
- Hiring update:
  - Hired Athlete Safety and Compliance Manager: Christina Pachuta
  - Hired Regional Development Manager: Beth Mahr
- National Events update — successful Summer Nationals expected
- Regional Events calendar posted
- Strong team in Paraguay and preparing for Worlds in Cairo
- Membership services: Back up above pre-COVID levels — closing in on 40,000 members by end of year
- All-American and All-Academic programs recognized at Summer Nationals
- Hall of Fame celebration July 5
- Working with consulting firm BWF to launch fundraising initiatives and consider priorities
- Held three fundraising visioning sessions
- Election turnout could be higher — any ways to encourage voting in the future?
- Podcast downloads up to 1,000 — with new episodes out every two weeks
- Search ongoing for communications coordinator
- Discusses plans for covering Zonals, Summer Nationals, etc.
- Financial overview (latest reports available here: https://www.usafencing.org/financials)
- Membership revenue up
- Staff has produced first draft, which was presented to board.
- Staff will be taking feedback from board and then present budget to board for review.

Conflict of Interest announcement.

II. Consent Agenda Items (Mr. Arias)

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

Motion (Mr. Arias): To elect Selena Kaing as Vice President of the USA Fencing Board of Directors

Motion (Mr. Alperstein as liaison to the Referees’ Commission): To adopt for USA Fencing, and incorporate into The Rules of Competition, rule changes to the Technical (“t” section) and Organizational (“o” section) rules approved at the November 2021 FIE Congress in the form attached hereto (Appendix A), modified as follows for USA Fencing purposes:

  t.167.2: No change

Said changes shall take effect as of August 1, 2022.

Second Mr. Salem

Motion passed.

V. Good and Welfare

Mr. Arias: Discusses possibility of holding one or more town hall meetings during Summer Nationals for members to meet with staff and board members. More details to be announced.

VI. Recess to Executive Session

Motion (Mr. Arias): to recess to executive session.

Second Ms. DeLuca.
Motion passed.

VII. Executive Session

Present: Donald Alperstein, David Arias, Peter Burchard, Sam Cheris Lauryn DeLuca, Selina Kaing, Abdel Salem, Lauren Haynie, Kat Holmes,
Absent: Alan Kidd, Lorrie Marcil Holmes, Ben Bratton, Cliff Bayer

Guests: Peter Barton, Stephen Hess, Jack Gierhart, Cat Bouwkamp, Suzie Riewald

The board received an update on two audits and five panels.

The board discussed National Office staffing.

VIII. Recess

Motion (Mr. Arias): to adjourn.

Second Mr. Alperstein.

No objection was heard.