

MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTORS

OF

COLUMBUS OHIO DIVISION, USFA, INC.

January 13, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Directors of COLUMBUS OHIO DIVISION, USFA, INC. was held, pursuant to the notice given in accordance with the Code of Regulations, at 7:30 o'clock P.M. at the law offices of Joseph S. Streb, 736 Neil Ave., Columbus, Ohio on the 13th day of January, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Joseph S. Streb.

ROLL: A roll of Directors was taken by the secretary, and pursuant to Article VI(A) of the Amended Bylaws, a quorum did exist. The following Board members and invited guests were present:

<u> X </u> Joseph S. Streb, Chairman	<u> X </u> Tim Mills, Secretary
<u> X </u> Fred Hunker, Treasurer	<u> </u> Joseph T. Streb, 1 st Vice-Chair
<u> X </u> Julia Richey, 2d Vice-Chair	<u> X </u> Terry Amrine
<u> </u> Alivia Mourot	<u> </u> Gail Kaye
<u> </u> Charles Simonian	<u> X </u> Kristian Boyadzhiev

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of November 25, 2018 were unanimously approved.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chairman -- Joseph Streb: The Chairman reported that the primary purpose of the meeting is to discuss the upcoming Todd Curn Memorial event currently set for Saturday, January 26, 2019 at Royal Arts and any other matters to come before the meeting.

Secretary – Tim Mills: Mr. Mills reported that Mr. Lillard of CF&F complained about perceived delays in sanctioning ratings from the Ron Weaver open; however, the delay was caused by Mr. Lillard not being SafeSport certified and appearing on the even report to USA Fencing.

Treasurer -- Fred Hunker: The Treasurer reported that the Division finances are as follows:

	<u>11.25.18</u>	<u>01.13.19</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Checking	3,404.59	3,346.20	(58.39)
Vanguard Treasury Bond Fund	2,649.31	2,677.70	28.39
Vanguard ST Investment Grade BF	4,305.21	4,347.23	42.02
Streb Trust Funds	000.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	<u>10,359.11</u>	<u>10,371.13</u>	<u>12.02</u>

The Treasurer also recounted briefly the history of USA Fencing's various inconsistent interests in Division finances over the years.

Vice Chairman -- Joseph T. Streb: Absent.

2d Vice Chairman – Julia Richey: The Arnold is coming.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Referee Committee – Joseph Streb, Chairman of the Referee Committee reported that a referee seminar and practical examination was held at Royal Arts on September 28 and 29 with Sean Shumate, and several persons received referee ratings. Those referees are encouraged to continue to work to improve and to consider volunteering to referee at the 2019 Summer Nationals in Columbus. Otherwise, it is expected that there will be referee training available at the 2019 Arnold Fencing Classic and the 2019 Summer Nationals. Further, Mr. Streb reported that FIE has adopted a major change to the non-combativity rule, but US Fencing has yet to implement the change due to difficulty with compliance. A copy of the new rule was made available at the meeting.

Nominating Committee – (Streb, Simonian, Hunker): No report.

MATTERS OF DISCUSSION (No Formal Action):

MEMBERSHIPS: If they have not already done so, Board members were reminded to renew USA Fencing Memberships and to be Safesport certified. Further, as per the resolution passed on April 29, 2018, the Division will reimburse members for the extra cost of obtaining the +Coach or +CheckED (formerly Professional) Membership, upon request.

OSU FENCING: The Chairman reported on more coaching changes, to the The Ohio State University Varsity Fencing Program. Katarzyna (Kasha) Daborowa has joined the OSU coaching staff as a epee coach. The OSU program has submitted a bid to US Fencing host an SYC for January 2020, although details remain unknown. Further, the Cavelli Center on OSU West Campus near the soccer stadium, new home of several OSU varsity sports, will not include fencing. Fencing and gymnastics will stay at Steelwood for the time being. And, OSU may reopen its fencing club after August 1, 2019.

UAHS FENCING: There was discussion of the status of the UAHS fencing program; there is none, and of the conditional equipment grant made in 2003. Notice has been given to the UAHS Principal of an intent to re-purpose that equipment. There has been a request by a local social club for fencing training, and the equipment may be re-purposed to that use.

2019 OHIO HIGH SCHOOL FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS: In connection with the coaching changes at OSU and last year's experience with the OSU Facilities and Compliance Offices, the potential use of the Steelwood facility for the 2019 Ohio High School Championship was discussed. The Chairman reported that he spoke in person with new OSU fencing coach, Donald Anthony, to ascertain that he had no objection to use of Steelwood for the 2019 event, and

he did not have any objection. Therefore, a formal application was made to OSU's Facilities Dept. and to its Compliance Office.

NEW FIE/USA FENCING RULE(S): As mentioned at the August 5th meeting, commencing August 1, 2018, all referees for certified USA Fencing events (meaning events where fencer ratings may be awarded) must be licensed, rated fencing officials with +Coach or +CheckedED status.

Further, a new rule with respect to chest protectors is now in effect. Essentially, the new rule requires that chest protection for foil fencers must be covered with soft material. Referees are to check for compliance; however, if a fencer believes this check could be invasive, the fencer may obtain an external marker or card from the bout committee or armorer certifying compliance.

Further, FIE has adopted a major change to the non-combativity rule, although US Fencing has yet to adopt the new rule for domestic competitions due to difficulty in complying with the rule. Essentially, there is no longer any shorting of fencing time in individual bouts due to passivity. Instead, there is a return to issuing penalty cards to fencers for passivity, meaning no touch scored or hit made for one minute. The first time there is passivity, if the score is tied, both fencers receive a yellow card, but if not, the fencer who is behind receives the yellow card. Then, should there be a 2nd or 3rd instance of passivity, and the score is tied, both fencers receive a red card, but if not, the fencer who is behind receives the red card. Then, if there is a 4th instance of passivity, and the score is tied, both fencers receive a black card (and the fencer with the highest rating wins the bout), but if not, the fencer who is behind receives the black card. Of course, receiving a black card requires a referee report to the bout committee in the U.S., and the effect of a black card is as though the fencer were not present at the competition; hence, any placement points earned to that point in the tournament are forfeited.

FINANCIAL REPORTING: Pursuant to a Memo from Director of Member Services for USA Fencing, Bob Bodor, USA Fencing intends to require "an accurate annual bank statement (along with regular financial report) NEXT AUGUST." According to Mr. Bodor, this is an effort to better organize all accounting as it relates to Divisions. The matter was discussed in light of the fact that the Columbus Division USFA, Inc. is a chartered non-profit corporation under Ohio law with IRC 501(c)(3) tax exempt status and its own federal EIN. And, much of the Division's funds have not originated with USA Fencing or its predecessor USFA. No action was taken at this time, but the consensus was to respond at some point with a letter setting forth the nature of the COD and asserting that its bank account information is trade secret and confidential. A draft letter was laid before the meeting, but no action taken at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

(1). OFFICIAL COD EVENT CALANENDAR 2018-2019:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2018-2019 schedule of COD and other notable fencing events will be as follows:

Todd Curn Memorial

January 26, 2019 at Royal Arts

Junior Olympics	February 15-18, 2019* at Denver
Arnold Fencing/NAC Cleve	March 1-3, 2019*
Ohio High School Championship	March 30, 2019 at Royal Arts
NAC Salt Lake	April 12-15 at Salt Lake City
COD Division II/III Qualifiers	May 5, 2019
Columbus Open	June 8, 2019 * at Royal Arts
Summer Nationals (July Challenge)	June 28-July 7, 2019 at Columbus

*Non-COD event, being put on schedule for reference purposes.

(2). TODD CURN MEMORIAL: The Chairman reported that the the Curn medals have been ordered, and they have a revised sticker on the back. With respect to referees, the usual people will be hired.

NEW BUSINESS:

(1). CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS FROM EVENTS: Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed the results of the following event were certified.

- Ron Weaver Open
- Winter Warlock
- JO Qualifier

(2). EQUIPMENT RE-PURPOSING: Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed the following resolution was passed.

WHEREAS, no Upper Arlington Fencing Club with any association to the Columbus Division or USA Fencing currently exists, and;

WHEREAS, the Germania Singing & Sports Society of Columbus has expressed an interest in offering an educational fencing program;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the officers are authorized to do all things necessary and proper to repossess the equipment conditionally granted to the UAHS Fencing Club and to re-purpose said equipment to the Germania Fechtenverein.

MISCELLANEOUS:

(1). The 2018 COD outing at Schmidt’s is scheduled to January 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., and this year the event will honor of Mr. Doug Bliss for his 24 years of service to the Division and the sport of fencing. The guest list for the event was expanded to include certain non-board members of the fencing community. Mr. Hunker has obtained a commemorative plaque for Mr. Bliss which he will present to Mr. Bliss on behalf of the COD at the event.

(2). The next meeting was set for Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. at the law office of Joseph Streb, 736 Neil Ave., Columbus, Ohio, 614-224-0200.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

/s/ Tim Mills

Secretary, Tim Mills

/s/ J. S. Streb

Chairman, Joseph S. Streb