

Jeff Kim

At-Large Director, USA Fencing Board of Directors



My name is Jeff Kim, and I am excited to be running for the position of At-Large Director for the USA Fencing Board of Directors. As a club owner, a fencer, and the father of three competitive fencers, I am fully immersed in the fencing life and community. I understand how it feels to win and lose important bouts, the heartbreak of consoling a child after a tough loss and have listened to my fair share of parent's concerns. I also understand the challenges of a club owner promoting fencing in my community, managing a facility, coaches, fencers, and parents. My dedication to the sport, to my club, to my fencers and fencing parents is unwavering. It is my intent to bring this passion and commitment to USA Fencing as the At-Large Director, helping build the USA Fencing organization, and promote our sport on a national level.

I started my career in California. I attended UCLA majoring in Business Economics and a minoring in Accounting. After graduating, I started my professional life as an Actuary. I established and now manage my own successful tax consulting firms; TRACS Group, Inc. in Georgia, and American Tax Credits Group in California. I have many years of successful business management experience working with both nationally and internationally based companies such as Boeing, Home Depot, Kia Motors, many banking institutions and state and federal governments. My success in this industry allows me to objectively approach the position of At-Large Director and take on the responsibilities that come with it. Details are my passion and creating companies with diverse people and personalities, that has gratifying results for both the employee and the client is my strength. I will bring this skill to the position of At-Large Director for USA Fencing.

In 2019, I founded Elite Fencing Academy in Johns Creek, Georgia with a vision to provide world class training to the epee fencers of Georgia. Elite is a 2019-20 USA Fencing Club of Excellence Winner in Membership. I am very proud of that accomplishment in our inaugural year. It has been almost two years since Elite Fencing Academy opened its doors. Through great coaching, very hard work, and promoting the core values of USA Fencing, Elite has successfully performed at all

tournaments, and proudly holds 6 national medals to date. Since the onset of the Covid pandemic, our membership has increased 150%. During the most challenging of times, we have continued to grow. It is my desire to share that success with other club owners and expand our sport through the success of all clubs, and across all weapons.

My vision is ambitious and focused.

Recruit major sponsors, including individual and corporate donors, which in turn will:

- Increase the total number of the USFA memberships through marketing the USFA brand awareness and the sport of fencing.
- Help need-based individuals and assist with paying their membership fees through sponsor driven revenue.
- Create more need-based scholarships for fencers who seek financial aid, and thus creating more opportunity for fencers.
- Build programs that will help new member clubs, especially in underserved areas and establish strong roots by paying their annual dues through the sponsor driven revenue.
- Increase pay for referees, added benefits, training, and education.

Work with financial institutions and banks to develop special loan programs.

Provide guidance and access for member clubs seeking financial assistance.

Introduce local/regional/national government assisted financial programs to the member clubs.

Diversity and unity must be addressed. Minority fencers in the USA fencing community is growing, and it is time to bring that diversity into the USA fencing leadership. It is in the spirit of our country to assemble unity from diversity.

Establish more, and stronger fencing programs in underserved schools and communities.

Ramp up the equipment donation program and help clubs and fencers in need.

Bring minority Olympians into underserved areas to share their experience, give demonstrations and inspire potential athletes to pursue fencing.

Establish a peer-mentoring program between fencers to promote and support the sport.

Establish a forum for minority coaches, referees, club owners and athletes to have a voice, to influence and educate all involved in the sport of fencing.

Equality – encourage and set protocol for USFA to continue its efforts to provide all fencers regardless of age, race, sex and, disability - equal and fair treatment, and benefits in all areas. We are all equal under the fencing mask.

I opened my club with primary focus of sportsmanship, personal achievement, and competitive growth. It is with that same focus I approach the position of Director At Large for USA Fencing. I appreciate your consideration and welcome any questions, or discussions you might like to have. Please feel free to reach out at jeffkimforatlargedirector@gmail.com