

Agenda

Special Meeting of the USA Fencing Board of Directors

December 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm ET
Via Teleconference
1-877-805-0965 Passcode: 2478629

I. Call to Order

General Announcements

Remarks – Peter Burchard, President

Conflict of Interest announcement.

II. External Audit Report (Mr. Atkins, BiggsKofford)

Motion (Mr. Bayer): to accept the audit report for 2019-20.

III. Consent Agenda Items (Mr. Burchard)

1. To approve the minutes from the October 17, 2020 and October 27, 2020 meetings.
2. To approve the August 2020 financial reports.
3. To approve the Hall of Fame Committee Recommendation (**Appendix A**).

IV. Finance Update (Mr. Arias)

V. End of Year Giving Update (Ms. Grotzinger)

VI. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Resource Team Update (Mr. Dyett & Ms. Schneider)

VII. New Business

Motion (Mr. Burchard): to appoint Lauren Haynie as Independent Director for a two year term. (**Appendix A**)

VIII. Good and Welfare

IX. Recess to Executive Session

X. Executive Session

XI. Recess

Appendix A

Hall of Fame Committee Recommendation to the Board of Directors:

In the past few weeks the Hall of Fame (HOF) Committee has had discussions about what to do given the fact that we now have two HOF classes (Class of 2020 and Class of 2021) yet to be formally inducted.

Based on those discussions, the HOF Committee unanimously recommends skipping a year before nominating or electing another HOF Class.

Here are the reasons:

Due to the COVID pandemic, the 2020 Nationals were cancelled and the HOF Ceremony for the HOF Class of 2020 had to be postponed. This was obviously and sadly unforeseen and unavoidable.

We currently have seven (7) individuals who were to be inducted at the cancelled 2020 Nationals.

We have another five (5) individuals who would normally be inducted at the 2021 Nationals.

From both personal experience and from speaking to a few of these yet-to-be inductees, it is clear that the HOF Ceremony held at the Nationals is extremely important to them. It gives the inductees a chance to be formally recognized for this incredible honor at what has become an important and well-attended event at the Nationals. It also gives the inductees the opportunity to share the honor with their family, friends, coaches and students who supported them during their outstanding careers in fencing as an Athlete, Coach or Contributor.

Logistically, it is impossible to have a proper ceremony to induct 12 individuals at the same time. The HOF Ceremony is a long enough evening as it is, and we certainly do not want to give short shrift to any of the inductees. They each fully deserve their moment.

Therefore, the HOF Committee unanimously recommends waiting until the spring of 2022 for the next HOF election for a Class of 2023. There would be no election in the spring of 2021 and thus no HOF Class of 2022.

The plan would be to induct the currently elected Classes of 2020 and 2021 at the 2021 and 2022 Nationals respectively. This would give us and the National Office the time and ability to organize and conduct proper HOF Ceremonies for these already elected Classes of 2020 and 2021.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation.

On behalf of the Hall of Fame Committee: Carla-Mae Richards, Cassandra Bates, Arnie Messing, Doug Nichols and Adam Watson, I am,

Sincerely Yours,
Lee Shelley, OLY
Chairman - Hall of Fame Committee

Appendix B

The Nominating Committee met on November 9, 2020 at approximately 3pm ET, with Kat Holmes, Jimmy Moody, Al Kidd, Terrence Lasker, Molly Hill, and Sam Cheris in attendance.

Discussion involved the approval of the candidate, Lauren Haynie, put forth by Peter Burchard to serve as an independent director on the USA Fencing BOD. Per our discussion of the BOD gap analysis, we identified the following areas as those that a potential independent director should aim to fill:

- Education
- Financial services
- Marketing
- DEI
- Fund-raising/development
- Innovation

Given her 18 years of experience working in several different NCAA institutions' athletic departments, we believe that Ms. Haynie would fill many of these gaps. As the current Director of Athletics at Brandeis University, she deals with education, financial services, fundraising/development daily, and issues regarding DEI daily. In several of our conversations with her, Ms. Haynie emphasized innovation as a central facet of her job, particularly considering the challenges COVID-19 presents, not only to the world of NCAA athletics, but also to the world of sports at large.

After discussion/review of qualifications and potential, voting members thus unanimously approved Lauren Haynie for consideration by the BOD.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Nominating Committee Chair,

Kat Holmes