Minutes
Meeting of the
USA Fencing Board of Directors
January 5, 2022

Present: Donald Alperstein, David Arias, Cliff Bayer, Ben Bratton, Peter Burchard, Lauryn DeLuca, Lauren Haynie, Kat Holmes, Alan Kidd, Lorrie Marcil Holmes, Nzingha Prescod, Abdel Salem

Guests*: Peter Barton, Stephen Hess, Sam Cheris, Jack Gierhart, Cat Bouwkamp

*There were additional guests in attendance on a separate line listening to the call.

I. Call to Order

General Announcements

Remarks & Updates: David Arias – Chair, Jack Gierhart – Interim CEO, Kate Reisinger – Chief of Sports Performance

Conflict of Interest announcement. Ms. Marcil Holmes announced a conflict that she will be recusing herself from.

II. Consent Agenda Items (Mr. Arias)

1. To approve the minutes from the November 21st, 2021 minutes and December 9 Email Vote Minutes.

Motion (Mr. Alperstein): To move November 21 minutes to separate approval in New Business.

Second Mr. Arias. Motion passed.

Motion (Mr. Arias): To approve December 9 Email Vote Minutes.

Second Mr. Kidd. Motion passed.

III. Old Business

Previously tabled item regarding new safety systems for mask awaiting report from SEMI – to hear at February 16 meeting
IV. New Business

**Motion: (Mr. Salem)** To form an operational committee with the following characteristics: Name: “Coach Relations and Education Resource Group”

Purpose: The Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall serve as a resource for USA Fencing staff, operational resource groups and other committees, and the Board of Directors on matters of particular concern to, or that benefit from the expertise of, USA Fencing’s coaching community including, but not necessarily limited to, coach education, development, and organizational relations.

Composition: In accordance with USA Fencing Bylaws Sections 12.4 and 12.5, the Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall consist of nine individuals, six of whom shall be active Coach members of USA Fencing who among them have expertise with elite and developmental programs and club operations or ownership and three athletes who meet the qualifications required in Appendix II of the USA Fencing Bylaws.

Operations: The Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall operate under and with the assistance of the staff member or members charged with coach education, development, and relations.

Second Mr. Alperstein
Motion passed.

**Motion (Mr. Alperstein):** To rename the “SafeSport Review Committee” as the “FenceSafe Review Group”.

Second Ms. Holmes.
Motion passed.

**Motion (Mr. Alperstein):** To adopt the changes to Bylaw Sections 7.15.c, 7.20.b, and 10.1, all as approved for publication pursuant to Bylaws Section 14.2.a at the Board Director’s Meeting on October 16, 2021, and as so published for more than 45 days on USA Fencing’s website.

Second Mr. Kidd
2/3 Vote Required. 10 yes, 2 no. Motion passed.

**Motion (Mr. Arias):** To adopt a new Bylaws Section 7.21, as approved for publication pursuant to Bylaws Section 14.2.a at the Board Director’s Meeting on October 16, 2021, and as so published for more than 45 days on USA Fencing’s website.

Second Mr. Alperstein.
2/3 Vote Required. 6 yes, 2 no, 1 recusal, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

**Motion (Mr. Alperstein):** To approve the November 21 Minutes as bifurcated from Consent Agenda due to need for revision of Audit Committee.

Mr. Arias & Mr. Kidd accepted the amendment.

Motion to amend passes.

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V. Good and Welfare

Mr. Alperstein: Need for update to USA Fencing Committee Website Listing – out of date or incomplete listings.

Mr. Alperstein: Need for GAP Analysis – to be completed shortly.

VI. Recess to Executive Session

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

Second Mr. Kidd.
Motion passed.

VII. Executive Session

Present: Donald Alperstein, David Arias, Cliff Bayer, Ben Bratton, Peter Burchard, Lauryn DeLuca, Kat Holmes, Alan Kidd, Lorrie Marcil Holmes, Nzingha Prescod, Abdel Salem

Absent: Lauren Haynie

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

The board received an update on three disciplinary panels.

The board reviewed an independent DEIB report.

The board approved creation of one additional disciplinary panel.

VIII. Recess

Motion (Mr. Arias): to adjourn.

Second Mr. Salem.
No objection was heard.