

**Southern California Division, USFA,  
Membership Meeting**  
July 18, 2015, 3:00 pm  
Burbank, CA (Swords Fencing Studio, Office)

Present: Tigran Shaginian (Chair), Greg Schiller (Vice-Chair), Clare Deffense (Secretary), James Beihold (Treas.), Az Mikayelyan, Phil Hareff, Jae Sang, Tim Robinson (by phone), Alex Grumman, Walter Goodwalter, John Houselog, Karen Lieu, Sorah Shin, Loy Grotts, Luis DeAlba-Yount, Michael Kuzmak, Paul Wat (DeAlba-Yount, Kuzmak and Wat joined the meeting late. DeAlba-Yount joined the meeting after the first round of voting for Chair; Kuzmak and Wat joined the meeting even later, after most of the remainder of voting for officers and directors had finished.)

The meeting was called to order at 3:15.

M/S/C (11-2) to approve the minutes of the February 2015 membership meeting

The Secretary announced that the following nominations for officers/directors for the upcoming 2015-2016 fiscal year had been made to date:

- Tigran Shaginian and Greg Schiller, both nominated for Chair (only one to be approved)
- Clare Deffense, Vice-Chair
- James Beihold, Treasurer
- Az Mikayelyan, Secretary

Also nominated to serve as directors: Phil Hareff, Greg Schiller, Tim Robinson, Vadim Ayupov, Jae Sang and Karen Lieu.

The membership first voted for Chair of the Division. Because the position was contested, paper ballots were distributed, collected and counted by the Secretary, with the result, 6 votes for Greg Schiller, 7 votes for Tigran Shaginian.

Greg Schiller raised a point of order regarding voting by phone. Tim Robinson was present by phone, but was not counted in the voting, because he was not present to vote by written ballot. Greg and the members agreed that Clare Deffense, Secretary, could give an opinion on whether the meeting could allow voting by telephone. Ms. Deffense replied that, although it is not typical to have voting by phone at membership meetings, the membership itself could decide right then whether to allow it, but that the initial decision probably should be made by those members physically present.

Dramatically, at that moment, Luis DeAlba-Yount joined the meeting. The issues were explained to Mr. DeAlba-Yount, then a motion was made and seconded (Sang/Lieu) to reopen the voting for Chair and allow voting by phone, but the vote was tied at 7-7. Likewise, a vote to reopen the voting without voting by phone was tied at 7-7. As both motions failed to carry a majority in favor, both motions failed, and the vote in favor of Tigran Shaginian as Chair stands.

As the remainder of the nominees for officers and directors were unopposed, the remaining slate was elected unanimously, by acclamation, by the members present, as follows:

Clare Deffense, Vice-Chair; James Beihold, Treasurer; Az Mikayelyan, Secretary; and additional directors, Phil Hareff, Greg Schiller, Tim Robinson, Vadim Ayupov, Jae Sang and Karen Lieu.

The discussion turned to the Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget (attached). After discussion of year-end results, a motion was made to decrease the proposed budget for equipment purchases from \$6,000 to \$2,000. The motion was amended to decrease the amount to \$3,000;

Additionally, a motion was made and seconded to allow Walter Goodwater to takeover website maintenance free, including content management, but the vote was 6-6, so the motion failed to pass. Finally,

M/S/C (unan.) to approve the proposed budget, but with the amount budgeted for equipment purchases to be decreased from \$6,000 to \$3,000.

M/S/C (unan) to change the Tournament Request Form to include the current year at the top.

The board and members present also discussed Jr Olympic qualifiers, preliminarily to be held November 7 and 8, but Jim Beihold will research venues, with the understanding that dates may need to be changed.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Clare Deffense (Secretary until 8/1/15)