

**Southern California Division, USFA,
Membership Meeting**

July 16, 2016, 3:00 pm
Burbank, CA (Swords Fencing Studio)

Present: Tigran Shaginian (Chair), Clare Deffense (Vice-Chair/Secretary), James Beihold (Treas.), Phil Hareff, Sorah Shin, Az Mikayelyan, and Sam Signorelli

The meeting was called to order at about 3:10.

1. Minutes. M/S/C (unan) to approve the minutes from the February membership meeting, as presented; and M/S/C (unan) to approve the minutes from the April membership meeting, as presented.
2. Financial. Jim Beihold presented financial results from the near-ended fiscal year, showing a \$300 net loss for the year. However, significant equipment purchases were made during the year.
3. Budget. Jim also presented a proposed budget for 2016-2017. The proposed budget assumes amounts similar to the 2015-2016 actual expenses and revenues, except for equipment expenses, projected to be much smaller in the coming year.
4. Venue. Jim reported on favorable discussions with PCC as a potential venue for both qualifiers (JOQ and SNQ), as well as for two or three potential Division tournaments. Jim will provide PCC with proposed dates for JOQ (12/11) and SNQ (3/26), as well as for potential additional tournaments. The venue is large, staff are great to work with, and the pricing is favorable.
5. Toys For Tots. Phil Hareff noted that he will probably hold another Toys For Tots tournament this year, Thanksgiving weekend, and he would appreciate continued support from the Division. As always, all proceeds go to the non-profit Toys For Tots. M/S/C to allow Conejo Fencing to use Division equipment rent-free for the Toys For Tots toyraising event.
6. Sanctioning Procedures. The following policies and procedures were discussed and adopted unanimously:
 - a. M/S/C - Member clubs holding Division-sanctioned events should post tournament results on AskFred within 24 hours after the end of the tournament
 - b. M/S/C - Member clubs holding non-sanctioned events must clearly state so in their AskFred postings, from as soon as the event is posted. This is also a USFA requirement.
 - c. M/S/C - Member clubs seeking to hold a sanctioned event must submit their

Tournament Sanctioning Request (TSR) forms to the Division at least 1 week before the tournament is posted on AskFred. It was also agreed, the Division will inform clubs within 1 week after the TSR is submitted if sanctioning is approved, after which clubs must post their events on AskFred. The Secretary will collect and distribute TSR forms to the board, and if no objections are made, after 1 week, the Secretary will inform the clubs that sanctioning is approved.

- d. M/S/C - Member clubs must seek sanctioning for the entire tournament, not just certain events. However, the Division will waive sanctioning fees for Y10 and Y12 events.
 - e. M/S/C - During sanctioned events, any Division officer or board member, not just the designated observer, who observes rules or safety violations may require those violations to be corrected; and sanctioning approval may be withdrawn if the violations are not corrected to the reasonable satisfaction of the officers/board members present.
 - f. M/S/C - Member clubs holding sanctioned events should set up their strips, tables and equipment in a configuration that is safe for fencers and referees. At a minimum, there should be at least 18 inches between the strip and the table, and there should be at least 9 feet between strips on the referees' sides. Clubs also should be careful to place cords so they are not in the way of fencers who may step off the strip. (For example, cords should not lie right behind the runoff line.)
7. Elections. Nominations for officers and directors for the 2016-2017 year are: Tigran Shaginian (Chair), Clare Deffense (Vice-Chair), James Beihold (Treasurer), Secretary (open). Clare Deffense agreed to continue serving as Secretary, if she could resign as Vice-President. She suggested Phil Hareff would make a good Vice-Chair. Tigran Shaginian and everyone agreed. So, M/S/C to elect the nominated officers, with Tigran Shaginian, as Chair, to accept Clare's resignation, to appoint Phil Hareff in her place, and to appoint Clare Deffense as Secretary. Agreed by unanimous consent.

In addition, M/S/C to nominate and elect the following to the board of directors of the Division (all also nominated at the February membership meeting): Phil Hareff, Tim Robinson, Vadim Ayupov, Jae Sang, Karen Lieu, Tigran Shaginian, Clare Deffense, James Beihold and Sorah Shin.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at about 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Clare Deffense (Acting Secretary)