

**Southern California Division, USFA,  
Board Meeting**

November 7, 2024, 9pm  
Via Zoom Teleconference

Present: James Beihold (Chair), Karl Jordon (Co-chair), Eric Speicher (Treasurer), Karen Lieu (Secretary), Anna Jordon (United Fencing), Liz Geyer (KAFF), Phil Hareff (Conejo), Tim Robinson (Presidio), and (Greg Schiller (Bridgeport)

The meeting was called to order at 9:07pm.

**Equipment Condition**

There are 4 strips that are in poor condition and the Junior Olympic Qualifier (JOQ) is less than a month away. The Fencing Post cost per strip is 2670.00. Alliance Equipment cost is 2290.00 made of German Material. Absolute Fencing Supply is 1110.00 and is manufactured in China. The estimated cost is Nine Thousand Dollars.

Discussion: Eric Speicher: Why do we need to buy strips for 2 events? (The division is responsible to host 2 qualifiers each season). Karl Jordon: Nine thousand might not be appropriate action considering, the events lose money. Jim Beihold: We can also generate revenue on strip rental. Greg Schiller: Cost too much logistically, not worth it to rent the strips. Phil Hareff: Rent out the current ones until they go bad and keep newer ones for the Division. Jim Beihold: It is nicer to fence on better strips. At the recent Musketeers RYC, division equipment was used. Eric Speicher: There is currently 27k in the bank. Last season's rebates were delayed. Liz Geyer: her club does not hold epee tournaments and does not need to rent strips. The division should be fiscally prudent. Jim Beihold states: current strip rental rates for the Division is \$100/day and \$50.00 subsequent day. Jim Beihold: The division may be responsible for more tournaments next season with USA Fencing proposing a point system for local tournaments. Tim Robinson: Are there any rules that state epee has to be fenced on grounded strips? Question would be on toe touches. Jim Beihold: Fencing on gym floors are slippery. The strips also make it less slippery.

Motion: Eric Speicher: Proposes to increase the budget for strips to 9k for 4 strips. Yes: 4, Abstain 3, No: 2 Motion passes.

Discussion: Liz Geyer: There is no advantage to buy or rent strips. The strips bunch up. Jim Beihold: There could be better taping of the strips to prevent this. Liz Geyer: Propose to purchase one strip per season. Jim Beihold: More research on the brands of strips to be done. Greg Schiller: Why spend a large amount of money, maybe purchase 2 strips.

**Equipment Storage**

The Division equipment will be moved to Karl Jordon's warehouse after the JOQ. Jim Beihold will rent U-Haul truck and pack the night before the tournament on December 6, 2024. Will need volunteers and meet at Swords in Burbank.

**Summer Nationals Qualifiers**

March 1 or 2, 2025. Only conflicting tournament is the ROC in San Jose.

**Fee Schedule**

Eric Speicher proposes to raise the travel allowance. Currently, the rate is 30.00 flat rate. Propose to go with federal rates and by mileage.

Discussion: Jim Beihold: We want to pay local referees and avoid hotel fees. Greg Schiller: Referees don't get paid much and may not even have cars. Proposes 100.00 if more than 100 miles. Liz Geyer: Proposes a 3 tier rate. 30.00, 50.00, 100.00 Karl Jordon: 100% in favor. We should take care of referees. Liz Geyer: By paying more, will get more local referees. You are trying to get anyone. Anna Jordon: Better served in investing in referees.

Motion: Eric Speicher: To raise the honorarium rates. Karl Jordon: 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Discussion: Jim Beihold: Would like not to pay gas and hotel for referees. Greg Schiller: You either pay referees higher or pay travel fees higher.

Motion: Eric Speicher: Motion to change current mileage to 67 cents per mile for driver. Yes: 8, Abstain: 0, No:1. Motion passes.

**SoCal Championships**

Should we hold a 3 weapon open and Team Championship? Further discussion needed.

T-Shirts for SoCal Championships – Anna Jordon will get a design. Jim Beihold will get it printed. Eric Speicher: already budgeted 1000.00. Shirts ran small, get bigger sizes.

Next Board Meeting will reconvene after JOQ.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:01pm

Respectfully submitted.

Karen Lieu (Secretary)