

**Southern California Division, USFA,
Executive Board Meeting**
August 18, 2025, 9pm
Via Zoom Teleconference

Present: James Beihold (Chair), Eric Speicher (Treasurer), Karen Lieu (Secretary), Bianca Costin (AGFC), Liz Geyer (KAFF), Phil Hareff (Conejo), Rudy Streitz (KAFF).

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 pm.

Tigran contested the last elections with USA Fencing and has retained a lawyer.

Bianca Costin would like to join the Executive Committee and represent Avant Garde Fencers Club (AGFC)

M/S/C (unan) Bianca Costin was voted as new member of the Executive Committee.

Role of the Division:

- Sanctioning of Tournaments
- Hold 4 meetings per year
- Qualifiers – Junior Olympics and Summer Nationals

Junior Olympic Qualifiers – Junior Olympics will be held Jan 9 to 12, 2026 this season.

Dates for the JO Qualifiers would be November 8 or 9, 2025. Carla Corbit (BHFC) assisted in obtaining venue at Brentwood High School.

Summer Nationals Qualifiers will also be held at Brentwood High School on March 29, 2026. Greg Schiller agreed to FOC for both Qualifiers.

Strips – we currently have five grounded strips that work. From previous meeting \$12k was budgeted towards the purchase of strips.

Discussion: Eric Speicher noted we need 8 to 10 strips, one or two non grounded strips for saber. Option to rent strips from South Coast Fencing Center. Blue Gauntlet is coming into town in 2 weeks and we could inquire about pricing. Absolute Fencing quoted \$2,300 per strip. Leon Paul is another vendor.

T-Shirts – Need someone to design and execute. Greg Schiller may be able to have his art students to come up with a design.

Tournament Proposal to assist tournaments held by Universities: The Division to pay up front costs of personnel (referees, bout committee, etc.) for the Universities to get paid. Charge a small amount for the service. The University

would write one check to the Division. There is a long delay in the payment process for referees, etc. UCLA is planning to host the Okawa Open in April 2026. Rudy Streiz noted this could be done by creating a purchase Order (PO). Liz Geyer said she worked at UC Santa Barbara with Tim Robinson. Eric Speicher said this applies to UCLA and a cadre of referees prefer cash payment. Bianca Costin noted you can vote on it. Find out the requirements. There was general agreement that we add a 10% service charge. Eric Speicher will research and inform us the requirements in principal and if it is an acceptable way to proceed.

Next Board Meeting to be announced.

Meeting adjourned 9:23pm

Respectfully submitted.

Karen lieu (Secretary)