

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

July 26 2026, 12:30pm

Via Zoom Teleconference and In-Person at Avant Garde Fencers Club

Present: In person: James Beihold (Chair), Karen Lieu (Secretary) and Bianca Costin (AGFC)  
Attended via Zoom: Karl Jordon (Vice-chair), Eric Speicher (Treasurer), Lucas Dobrzanski (KAFF), Phil Hareff (Conejo), Anna Jordon (UFA), Tim Robinson (Presidio), Greg Schiller (Bridgeport/VAPA), Yiyang Wu (At large).

The meeting was called to order at 12:36 pm.

Minutes from March 1, 2026 meeting tabled for approval.

**Treasurer's Report**

For the 2025-26 season, the total expenses was \$33,286.34. There were more expenses this year, due to 5 new fencing strips purchased.

Budget for the 2026-27 Season was presented. This was based on the 2 qualifier tournaments the division holds.

Karl asked why was the rebate from USA Fencing \$900.00 less than last season? Eric stated there is no accounting or details from USA Fencing or formula given. Its mystery cash and currently being received by direct deposit.

m/s/u to pass the budget for 2026-27 season.

**New Business:**

Bianca proposed that there should be an annual inventory report given at the annual meeting so that members of the Division are informed. James stated that there are 12 scoring machine sets, 13 fabric strips, with 2 of them are dead, 3 of them are bad, and 5 of them are brand new. There is a box of extension cords, a crate of spare Uhlmann reels. In the past there was a problem with the mixup of equipment between the Division and Swords. Equipment was not properly labeled. Currently, Karl has an inventory list and photos of all equipment.

Greg proposed to have a proactive approach to check if the scoring machine set ups are in working order prior to the tournaments, to avoid any technical delays. James stated that currently all the equipment is in working order. If the equipment fails, Sam Signorelli will repair them right away and we have spare equipment to be used as back up. Two reels were recently repaired by Sam. Karl added that he has an inventory sheet and pictures of all the equipment. He tests the equipment before they are rented out. James stated that 5 pictures are taken of each strip occasionally to record the condition of each strip. At this time, current process is sufficient in maintaining equipment.

**Election Results:** The Election was conducted via the online voting platform Election Buddy by the USA Fencing National Office – Addison Worley, Club & Division Services Coordinator, from July 3, 2026 to July 17, 2026 and was extended to July 24, 2026 due to many voting members not receiving their ballots by email.

|                                                                   |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Election Results for Southern California Division Election</b> |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Division Chair                                                    |            |            |
| *****                                                             |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Candidate                                                         | Votes      | Percentage |
| Jim Beihold (UCLA Fencing)                                        | 91         | 39.22%     |
| <b>Tigran Shaginian (Swords Fencing Studio)</b>                   | <b>141</b> | 60.78%     |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Votes tallied: 232                                                |            |            |
| Abstentions: 4                                                    |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Vice Chair                                                        |            |            |
| *****                                                             |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Candidate                                                         | Votes      | Percentage |
| Karl Jordon (Points West Fencing Center)                          | 80         | 35.71%     |
| <b>David Chong (Swords Fencing Studio)</b>                        | <b>144</b> | 64.29%     |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Votes tallied: 224                                                |            |            |
| Abstentions: 12                                                   |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |
| Treasurer                                                         |            |            |
| *****                                                             |            |            |
|                                                                   |            |            |

| Candidate                                          | Votes      | Percentage |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Eric Speicher (Ace Fencing Academy)                | 81         | 36.49%     |
| <b>Grace Lee (Swords Fencing Studio)</b>           | <b>141</b> | 63.51%     |
|                                                    |            |            |
| Votes tallied: 222                                 |            |            |
| Abstentions: 14                                    |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
| Secretary                                          |            |            |
| *****                                              |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
| Candidate                                          | Votes      | Percentage |
| Karen Lieu (Avant Garde Fencers Club)              | 86         | 38.22%     |
| <b>Samantha Arnold (Swords Fencing Studio)</b>     | <b>139</b> | 61.78%     |
|                                                    |            |            |
| Votes tallied: 225                                 |            |            |
| Abstentions: 11                                    |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
| At Large Members                                   |            |            |
| *****                                              |            |            |
|                                                    |            |            |
| Candidate                                          | Votes      | Percentage |
| Bianca Costin (Avant Garde Fencers Club)           | 66         | 14.01%     |
| Liz Geyer (Kern Athletic Fencing Foundation)       | 53         | 11.25%     |
| Phillip Hareff (Conejo Fencing Club)               | 59         | 12.53%     |
| Anna Jordon (United Fencing Academy)               | 59         | 12.53%     |
| Tim Robinson (Presidio Fencing Club)               | 63         | 13.38%     |
| Greg Schiller (Bridgeport Fencers Club)            | 71         | 15.07%     |
| Rudolph Streitz (Kern Athletic Fencing Foundation) | 48         | 10.19%     |
| Mike Vazquez (Elite Fencing Club)                  | 52         | 11.04%     |

|                    |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|
|                    |  |  |
| Votes tallied: 471 |  |  |
| Abstentions: 122   |  |  |

#### 2026-2027 Elected Officers

Chair – Tigran Shaginian (Swords)  
Vice Chair – David Chong (Swords)  
Treasurer – Grace Lee (Swords)  
Secretary – Samantha Arnold (Swords)

#### Executive Board - All Elected

|                                 |    |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Mike Vasquez (Elite)            | 52 |
| Rudy Streitz (KAFF)             | 48 |
| Greg Schiller (Bridgeport/VAPA) | 71 |
| Tim Robinson (Presidio)         | 63 |
| Anna Jordon (UFA)               | 59 |
| Phil Hareff (Conejo)            | 59 |
| Liz Geyer (KAFF)                | 53 |
| Bianca Costin (AGFC)            | 66 |

Discussion – Greg stated there were many problems with the voting process with so many people not receiving their ballots to vote. James stated that Addison was using a list that didn't include members that had auto-renewal set up. It took a week to figure that out and an additional 214 members were emailed ballots. Approximately 600 eligible voters should have received the ballots, but there is no way of knowing or verifying if all of the voters received their ballots. Due to this error, the deadline to vote was extended. Lucas stated he didn't know he was supposed to get a ballot until a colleague told him and he had to email the national office. James stated there was a lot of difficulty reaching the National Office and obtaining any response. There is probably no recourse on this.

m/s/u Karl Jordon (Points West) – Nominated by Anna Jordon to be an At Large member to the Executive Board.

m/s/u Karen Lieu (AGFC) – Nominated by Karl Jordon to be on the Executive Board as extra at large member.

m/s/u Rudy Streitz (KAFF) – Nominated by Lucas Dobrzanski to be on the Executive Board as extra at large member.

m/s/u James Beihold (UCLA) and Eric Speicher (ACE) – Nominated by Karl Jordon to be on the Executive Board.

**Junior Olympic and Summer Nationals Qualifier Dates** – Tabled to future meeting for the new board to determine.

**Decide if we want to organize a third tournament** – Tabled to future meeting for the new board to determine.

**Referee Shortage** – need to increase referee certification, this will be for the new board to decide. Greg reported that he and Charles Astudillo conduct an online referee course in conjunction with the Southern California Scholastic League. There are scholarships available. James stated that the past referee clinic with Derek Cotton was successful and fees were waived for fencers under 18 years old.

Next Board Meeting to be announced.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:48 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Karen Lieu (Secretary)