

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
 CAPITOL DIVISION, USFA
 17 July 2022
 Virtual Meeting

Meeting Attendees:

Position	Name	Present	Absent
Chairperson	Nick Ferrara	+	
Vice-Chairperson	Arnold Wynn	+	
Treasurer	Fen Tamulonis	+	
Secretary	Bettie Graham	+	
Member-at-Large	Valerie Asher	+	
Member-at-Large	Raymond Finkleman	+	
Member-at-Large	Elliott Clinton	+	
Club Representative	Chevy Chase Fencing Club—Matthew Moore	+	
Club Representative	DC Fencers Club—Byron Neslund		+
Club Representative	George Washington University FC—Hunter Higgison	+	
Club Representative	Half Shell/U Maryland FC		+
Club Representative	Nazlymov Fencing –Jill Feldman	+	
Club Representative	Invicta Sports		+
Club Representative	National Capitol Fencers Club		+
Club Representative	Royal Fencing Academy—Teja Safai		+
Club Representative	Rockville Fencing Academy—Malcolm Patterson	+	
Cap Div Member	Oleg Rusanov (Royal Fencing Academy)	+	

The meeting opened at 1:38 pm.

Nick welcome members to the first meeting of the 2022–2023 Fencing Year.

Schedule of Division Fencing Events:

Nick suggested that the two under 12 events be replaced with two C and under events. The rationale being that clubs hold 12 and under events, the attendance at these meetings is small, and there is a greater interest in fencers getting a USFA rating. This suggestion was unanimously agreed to by the attendees.

Ray drafted a tentative schedule of Capitol Division USFA events for the 2022–2023 season (see attachment). The final schedule is contingent on USFA’s 2022–2023 schedule which has not been finalized by the time of this meeting. The Cherry Blossom Open (CBO) will be a ROC again this season.

There was an issue with parking for CBO officials at UMD campus. This has already been resolved for the two referees who were affected.

Review of Registration Fees and Stipends for Capitol Division Event Officials:

By unanimous vote it was agreed that all Division sponsored events will require fencers to register via AskFRED and (2) the fee schedule will change as listed below:

The Division’s registration and event entry fees will be: Registration: \$10 and entry fee per event: \$45.00. Payment on AskFRED will be required.

The Division’s stipends for referees are lower than what surrounding Divisions are paying. It was proposed that the rates for referees be increased to near parity with the Virginia Division. If these rates are implemented, it will cover all Division events, including the Cherry Blossom Open. Clubs set their own fee schedules.

Position/Rating	Fee
Referee N1–N2	\$200/Day
Referee R1–R2	\$175/Day
Referee L1–L2	\$150/Day
Referee P	\$125/Day
Referee Unrated	\$100/Day
Meet Manager	\$200/Day
Referee Wrangler	\$75/Event

ACTION:

Two related issues to the referees’ stipends were:

- (a) Should the Division provide referees with a 1099 Form to report their earnings to the IRS?
- (b) How should Meet Manager keep track of the stipends paid to each referee?

The suggestion was later made to give all those receiving funds a tax form at the beginning of the season. The Referee Wrangler would send out the tax form in the hiring e-mail. The Treasurer would keep track of how much each person is paid. Those receiving funds would be responsible for income tax filing.

In projecting the 2022–2023 budget, the goal is to retain a budget cushion of a minimum of \$20,000.

International Competition and Club Development Programs:

International Competition Awards

Recipients of the international competition awards can only receive one award per year. The award is \$400 per year. Capitol Division fencers may request awards to attend FIE events and non-FIE events in other countries as long as they are national competitions.

Club Development Program: It was unanimously agreed that the Division should continue its development grants to clubs and international travel grants to Capitol Division international competitors. The stipend will be \$300.

College clubs are eligible to all apply for Club Development grants annually. Normally, other clubs are eligible to apply every two years; for the 2022–2023 fencing year, all ten Division clubs are eligible to apply for club development awards.

The deadlines requesting grant funds: June 15th for cadet/junior/senior grants; November 30th for veterans. The Treasurer usually mails checks within two weeks of receiving the vouchers.

The continuation of these two programs will always be contingent upon available funds.

Capitol Division Handbook for Division Officers

Nick is drafting a handbook detailing the responsibilities of Division officers. He will circulate a draft for comments. This handbook is for internal guidance by the Executive Committee only and will not be posted on the Capitol Division's website.

ACTION

Nick will circulate the draft to Executive Committee members for comment.

Mike Brown Award

By unanimous consent, the Mike Brown Award (one-year USFA membership) will be given again this year to a promising University of Maryland Fencer. It was observed that in past years, the UMD Fencing club has not proposed fencers for this award.

ACTION: Nick agreed to follow up with the UMD fencing club officials to encourage them to be very prompt and consistent in submitting nominees for this award annually.

Closing Remarks

Nick thanked all those who helped make the 2021–2022 fencing year a success.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 pm.