

FIRST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING of 2016-2017
 CAPITOL DIVISION, USFA
 21 AUGUST 2016
 DC Fencers Club
 Silver Spring, MD

2016-2017 Executive Committee

		Present	Absent
Officers			
Chair	David Ruskin	X	
Vice-Chair	Arnold Wynn	X	
Secretary	Bettie Graham	X	
Treasurer	Rebecca Chimahusky	X	
Members-at-Large			
	Aaron Ruby		X
	Raymond Finkleman	X	
	Valerie Asher	X	
Club Representatives			
Chevy Chase Fencing Club	Gayatri Bhalla-Ladd	X	
DC Fencers Club	Katelyn Keegan		X
Capital Fencing Academy	Jill Feldman	X	
National Capital Fencing Club	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
National Fencing Foundation	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
Rockville Fencing Academy	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
Royal Fencing Academy	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
Royal Imperial Fencing Club	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
Terrapin Fencing Club	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		
Z-Parta	Not a US Fencing member club as of 8/21/16		

David Ruskin, Chair, Capitol Division, US Fencing, called the meeting to order at 1: 50pm.

Actions:

- 1. Capitol Division Schedule for 2016-2017.** Ray presented a draft schedule with suggested dates. The schedule was approved and is now posted on [AskFred](#). The schedule is also posted on the Capitol Division's [website](#). The exact dates for the Cherry Blossom Open are pending and will be determined in early 2017, pending discussions with the University of Maryland.
- 2. Increase in Fee Schedule for Referees.** It was brought to the attention of the members that the fees that we pay referees were low compared to what other clubs or divisions were paying. In order to make it more attractive to recruit referees for division events, the members agreed to raise the stipend for referees. The fee for unrated referees was increased to \$50.00. The fee for referees with ratings of 8-10 was increased by 25%. The fee for referees with ratings of 4-7 was increased by 50%. The fee for referees rated 1-3 was increased by 100%. The new fee schedule is posted on the Capitol Division's [website](#). All other fees and expenses remain the same.
- 3. Sanctioned Versus Unsanctioned Club Events.** Clubs are strongly encouraged to hold sanctioned competitions which require all participants to be members of USFA. As a best practice, if an event on AskFred is listed by the division, it should not be unsanctioned on the day of the event. Coaches should be apprised of this concern.
- 4. Developmental and International Travel Grants.** The division will continue to support these grants for the 2016-2017 year. The rates remain the same: \$400.00 for travel grants and \$300.00 for club developmental grants. All clubs are eligible to apply this year.
- 5. Mike Brown Award.** The Division will continue to support the Mike Brown Award which is a US Fencing membership given to a University of Maryland fencer who is selected by the Terrapin Fencing Club.
- 6. Safe Sport Membership for New Referees.** In order to encourage new referees and rated referees turning age 18 to be eligible to referee tournaments, the division will reimburse the cost of their Safe Sport background check (professional upgrade fee of \$35.00). In return, the fencer will have to referee at least two division events (not club events).
- 7. Referee Clinic.** The Division agreed to sponsor a referee clinic this year. There is a need for more referees to become familiar with weapons outside of the one they fence and there were some discussions about how to encourage that. Given the increase of foil fencers in the division, there is a need for more foil referees.
- 8. Donation to the Matthew Porter Fund.** Matthew Porter, Team USA's armorer at both the 2012 and 2016 Olympic games, lost his home due to the Clayton Fire while in Rio. The division agreed to donate \$100.00 to help the Porter family rebuild from its losses. Individuals interested in making a donation can do so at <https://www.gofundme.com/2kg64t5p>.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20pm.