

FIRST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
 CAPITOL DIVISION, USFA  
 6 August 2023  
 Virtual Meeting

**Meeting Attendees:**

Position	Name	Present	Absent
Chairperson	Nick Ferrara	+	
Vice-Chairperson	Arnold Wynn	+	
Vice-Chairperson	Todd Bukowski	+	
Treasurer	Fen Tamulonis	+	
Secretary	Bettie Graham	+	
Member-at-Large	Valerie Asher	+	
Member-at-Large	Raymond Finkleman	+	
Member-at-Large	Elliott Clinton	+	
Member-at-Large	Chris Ta	+	
Club Representative	Chevy Chase Fencing Club—Matthew Moore		+
Club Representative	DC Fencers Club—Eliza Mace		+
Club Representative	Capital Fencing Academy—Elliott Clinton	+	
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 Capital Fencers Club		+
Club Representative	Royal Fencing Academy— Oleg Rusanov	+	
Club Representative	Malcolm Patterson- Rockville Fencing Academy		+

The meeting was opened at 1:05 pm.

**Announcements:**

Nick stated that the Cap Division members approved the revised Cap Division bylaws at the Annual Meeting with amendments pending Board of Directors approval. However, approval to bylaw changes are not likely to be forthcoming. Nick proposed accepting the bylaws as approved at the last Annual meeting (without amendments); the proposal was approved. The Cap Division will continue to work on the issue in the future.

Valerie will follow up with her contacts to discuss the issue further. [ACTION ITEM: Valerie]

The Operating Procedures for the Cap Division are not affected by USFA’s decision to put a hold on the Division’s bylaw changes.

[ACTION ITEM: Ray will post the bylaws and operating procedures on the Cap Div website]

### ***Draft Schedule of Events***

Ray presented the schedule of events. The only change made was to switch the days for the Cap Division Qualifiers (scheduled for January 27-28) with the second C-and-under event (scheduled for April 6-7) .

An issue was brought up about splitting some mixed events into women and men events to attract more women fencers, especially for epee events in which the field of women epee fencers is growing. It was decided that mixed events will now be separated into men and women groups. If there are fewer than 15 women registered for the women's events, the events will be a mixed event.

To increase the number of veteran events, Valerie will check with USFA if a Cap Division sanctioned veteran event can be held in conjunction with the 2024 Cherry Blossom Open which is a ROC. [ACTION ITEM: Valerie]

### ***Registration Fees***

The registration fee will remain \$10.00. The event entry fee will be reduced from \$45.00 to \$40.00. This was based on the fact that the Cap Division's financial situation was healthy, and this reduction might allow more fencers to compete. This fee will be reviewed annually and may change. The walk-on fee will continue to be twice the entry fee which will now be \$80.00 per even plus the \$10.00 registration feet.

The Cap Division should highlight this change in a press release on the Cap Division Facebook page and the National Office's Office of Communication. [ACTION ITEM: Nick]

The Cap Division will continue to use ASKFRED for registration. Registration will close one week before the event. If there are fewer than six fencers, the event will be cancelled, and registration and entry fees will be returned. This information should be included in all Cap Division events listed on ASKFRED.

[ACTION ITEM: Nick]

### ***Review of Fees:***

The honoraria for referees and the referee wrangler remain the same as last season ([Fee Schedule](#)):

### ***Review of Cap Division's Grant Programs***

*International Competition Grants:* The grant was increased from \$400 to \$500. The application should be submitted on this [form](#).

*Capitol Division Developmental Grant:* This award has been subdivided into: (1) USFA Clubs and (2) Universities/Colleges Affiliated with the Capitol Division.

- Capitol Division Clubs are eligible for a developmental grant once every two years. The current request is \$300 maximum.
- Universities/Colleges Affiliated with the Capitol Division are eligible for a club development grant every year. In addition, \$200 may be requested to offset the cost of USFA membership at the reduced collegiate club rate.

This [form](#) should be used for both types of requests.

The website will be updated to reflect the revision to the grant program. [ACTION ITEM: Ray]

*Referee Training Grant:*

The Cap Division will reimburse any Capitol Division member's: (1) referee clinic fees and testing fees if they pass the written test and practical exam and successfully earn a referee rating and (2) membership upgrade fee for new referees and for those who have just turned 18. [ACTION ITEM: Ray to remove "\$35.00" from the sentence.]

***Mike Brown Award:***

This annual Award to provide one University of Maryland fencer with a USFA membership was reauthorized. No changes were recommended.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 pm.