

- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Emily Grajales at 7:08pm
- ❖ The roll was called. Those in attendance: Emily Grajales, Chair; Jenny Seachrist, Vice Chair; Ken Lauver, Treasurer; Shanna Davis, Secretary; German Paz for Naples Fencing Academy; Jackie Wiksten for Orlando Fencing Club; Alex Libers for Southwest Florida Fencing Academy; Nester Grajales for Stoccata Fencing Club & Leann James for Tampa Fencing & Tennis Academy.
- ❖ As of the meeting time, current active or pending clubs are:
 - A La Fencing - EC member?
 - D'Alerta Fencing Academy - Carlos Ablenado
 - Iron Works - Greg Arthur
 - Naples Fencing - Germán Paz
 - Orlando Fencing Academy - EC member?
 - Orlando Fencing Club - Jackie Wiksten
 - Southwest Fencing -Alex Libers
 - Stoccata -Néstor Grajales
 - Tampa Bay Fencers ([pending](#)) - EC Member?
 - Tampa Fencing & Tennis Academy ([pending](#)) - Leann James
 - The Villages - Eric Eldon
 - Winter Garden Fencing Academy - Jason Seachrist
- ❖ The tentative schedule of fencing tournaments was discussed and the idea of having events spread out across the division was emphasized. Jenny will create a bid application for those interested in hosting one of these sanctioned division events. A **bid deadline** for the two fall events was agreed to be **September 17th**. The bid deadline for events in January or later was set for **December 1st**
 - Emily reminded everyone that the Masking Policy for USFA is unchanged from last season
 - *All sanctioned events require everyone to be masked at all times.*

Tentative Event Schedule for Central Florida

Senior	October 16th
Junior & Veteran	November 13th
Junior/Cadet w/JO qualifier	January
Youth	Late Jan/Early Feb
Senior	February
Youth	February or March
All Events* - Y10, Y12, Y14, Junior, Senior, Veteran	April 9th or 23rd

*Large venue to be secured that will host all events in a day

- ❖ New Policies for this year regarding **Referee Development** were discussed
 - Referee Clinic Free for Division members
 - Vote to spend up to \$1,000 for a certified referee observer to hold a referee training clinic/refresher that would be free to all division members
 - The hope is that clubs would promote this event as something for everyone whether aspiring referees, refreshers for existing referees, knowledge for fencers (or parents) to promote understanding of fencing rules.
 - **No potential dates were discussed**
 - *Emily moved to take a vote on this referee clinic provided at the expense of the division up to \$1,000 - all present were for; none were opposed*
 - Division Funding for Referee Observers to be present at division tournaments
 - A further policy for referee development was brought forth for the division to foot the bill for servers to be present throughout the year and division tournaments in order to better train, give guidance and evaluate division referees.
 - Tournament organizers would chose the certified referee observer and make those arrangement when planning their tournament
 - Requires board approval
 - ◆ **process for board approval was not discussed**
 - There was much discussion around the importance of highly trained, good quality referees for the division and the positive effects this could have for the division over time.
 - *After some discussion on the expense to the division and sustainability into future seasons, a final motion was put forth by the chair for the amount not to exceed \$250/event and no more than \$1,500 from division funds for this season as a trial year - all present voted for; none opposed*

❖ **Website Development and Advertisement**

- At the end of last season, Emily brought up the idea of using division funds to improve the division website in such a way that it would make a good springboard for Google and Facebook Advertisements to promote fencing in general in Central Florida with any links directed to the “find a club” page.
 - The group discussed where to begin regarding website improvements. It was decided that everyone should brainstorm and put out feelers for further discussion on slack and at the next meeting. Ken and Leann, in particular, mentioned contacts they can tap for advice.

❖ **SafeSport**

- There has been a lot of major Safesport violations in the nation and division of late
- There was a general discussion to promote safesport training at the local clubs as something for everyone
 - Encourage parents and fencers to be safesport trained with age appropriate materials
 - [Free age appropriate resources are available on safesport](#) (scroll down to “For Athletes and Parents Section”)
 - Consider developing your own club policies

❖ Emily reminded the committee of previous conversations regarding **policy changes to the division bi-laws** and encouraged continued discussion on Slack as it will be on the agenda for the next meeting

❖ Ken proposed the idea of doing **post tournament surveys** to get feedback on events

- There were a lot of questions on this
 - What is the purpose of these surveys?
 - Who would receive the information?
- Shanna moved to table this topic until the next meeting
- Emily asked Ken to bring forth a proposal for the next agenda

❖ Jenny reminded everyone to check that they had access to the **Slack** account.

❖ Jenny reiterated that she will create a **bid form** for events - a link will be put on the website near the tournament sanctioning form

- She also mentioned that she received a tournament sanctioning request where the organizers did not want the event advertised on the division website or facebook page.

❖ The **next meeting** was agreed to be **October 12th** via zoom at 7pm.

❖ The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm