

❖ **Jenny Called the meeting to Order at 7:00pm**

- Members present on the call: Emily Grajales, Jenny Seachrist, Ken Lauver, Shanna Davis, Jackie Wiksten, LeAnn James, Alex Libers, Robert Szokolay, Nestor Grajales

❖ **Consent Agenda**

- Alex moved to approve the minutes from the last minute. After a second from Ken, the minutes from October 12th were approved unanimously.

❖ **Old Business**

- Winner of the 20-21 Charles Johnson Award
 - Some EC members were not eligible to vote at the last meeting and we found ourselves with a tie yet again. Jenny shared the link so that any EC members who had not previously voted could submit their responses and break the tie. The winner will be announced on Slack.
 - LeAnn suggested that we find a way to make this a more well-known and prominent award somehow soliciting input throughout the season. Jenny reviewed the historical process that had each club submit up to two nominees and the EC members voted on them. The hope is that it would not become simply a popularity contest. The original nominees for last season did have a paragraph or more on why they were nominated in the first place but those initial write ups have been left off the subsequent tie break ballots. Alex did not see why two people couldn't receive the award simultaneously. Jenny asked if LeAnn would like to lead a break out group to come up with ways to improve the award process moving forward.
- Club Status
 - Shanna reported that Resolute Sport Fencing, Orlando Fencing Sport Center and USF have been added as active members to the spreadsheet and the website
 - EC list in the spreadsheet and on the web is also up to date
- Status of Bids to host The Divisional Championship Series
 - Shanna reported that no bids were received to host these events so Stoccata and OFC/WG proposed the upcoming schedule of events to be held at Stoccata Fencing club
 - The schedule was checked against the current regional schedule to eliminate conflicts

Minutes

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- Robert asked about the process should he wish to hold a tournament. Jenny went over the process and the 75 mile rule. The sanctioning link was shared.
- Jenny stated we are still looking to secure a venue for the final combined event in the Championship series but there are some good options on the radar.

Tentative Event Schedule for Central Florida Division Championship Series

Division Championship Series: Youth #1	January 8th
Division Championship Series: Junior/Cadet/Vet #1	January 15th
Division Championship Series: Youth #2	February 26th
Division Championship Series: Senior #1	March 19th
Division Championship Series: Junior/Cadet/Vet #2	April 9th
Division Championship Series: Senior #2	April 16th
Central Florida Division Grand Championship All Events* - Y10, Y12, Y14, Junior, Senior, Veteran	TBD

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

^Reminder: Masking Policy for USFA is unchanged from last season. All sanctioned events require everyone to be masked at all times including fencers on strip.

- Referee Development
 - Jenny stated that there is something in the works with Bill Becker for a referee clinic/tournament combo but it has not been finalized.
- Standardization of division bylaws
 - Shanna reported that she was recently appointed to the Division Resource Committee and has been informed that the first order of business will be to approve a bi-law template, but the committee is yet to meet.
- Website Development and Advertisement
 - Shanna reported that she has put together some questions for a potential website survey for clubs. LeAnn is working on feedback. It may be ready to go out at the beginning of January.
 - Shanna suggested that the division could allocate a small amount of money to experiment with some facebook promoted advertisements using the existing "Find a Club" Page as an experiment to go out after the new year. Emily shared her

experience with the platform when promoting her own club and how the more you spend the broader the reach.

- LeAnn made a motion to allocate up to \$100 for facebook promoted advertisement. Ken seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

➤ SafeSport

- Shanna confirmed that all EC members are up to date on SafeSport training.
- Jenny reported that she and a staff person attended the new 1 hour zoom training and highly recommends it.
- Shanna will continue to look for ways to incorporate Safesport training links and information on the website moving forward
- LeAnn asked if there were posters that could be hung at events to broaden understanding of inappropriate behavior. Nestor thought there may be something already available on the USFA or Safesport website. Shanna and Jenny stated they would look for existing materials.

➤ Post Tournament Surveys

- Shanna stated that this topic remains on the agenda as no formal motions have yet to be made. Shanna and LeAnn voiced support for keeping this discussion on the radar. Jenny stated her support of something in the future as long as information gathered remains with the tournament organizers and EC. We agreed to table any further discussion until the next meeting.

❖ **New Business**

➤ Related to Sanctioned Competitions

- Shanna shared some general reminders regarding sanctioned tournaments as follows:
 - Masks are still required for all people inside the facility including fencers on strip
 - Please remind your fencers to be respectful of tournament organizers by cleaning up after themselves and not leaving trash inside or outside tournament venues
 - Organizers/clubs may only restrict registrations for sanctioned competitions on the basis of age, classification, or division membership.
- Jenny and Emily shared a need to update the official sanctioning policy to lay out a process for when a tournament organizer violates existing sanctioning rules.

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- After a lengthy discussion about how to proceed and the details of a recent rules violation being shared, there was a general consensus to adopt an explicit amendment to [the sanctioning policy](#).
 - The resulting change to the sanctioning policy will add a point 6 to section “Competitions Internal to the Division” under **Procedure for Sanctioning a Competition** to read as follows:
 - ◆ 6. Organizers/clubs may only restrict registrations for sanctioned competitions on the basis of age, classification, or division membership. Sanctioning may be rescinded by the board from an event after approval (and before, during or after the event has taken place up until results are submitted to the national office) due to rule violations as outlined in The USA Fencing [Operations Manual](#). Sanctioning can be rescinded by the Officer Team (BOD). Appeals for having a tournament rescinded can be made to the Executive Committee. Tournament managers/owners may request a special meeting of the Executive Committee. They will be allowed to speak in regards to the sanctioning, but will not be allowed to vote unless they are already a member of the Executive Committee.
 - Robert made the motion to approve the amendment of the above to the sanctioning policy. Nestor seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Regional Bids for Next Season
- Shanna let the group know that there is a club partnership in the works to submit a bid for next season. Link to [bid package information released by USFA](#) The EC will be kept abreast of the details as they are available. We can discuss further at the next meeting.
- The next meeting was set for Thursday, February 10th at 7pm on Zoom.
- At 8:43 pm Nestor made a motion to adjourn and Robert seconded and all were in favor.