Agenda

Special Meeting of the

USA Fencing Board of Directors

January 5, 2022 6:00 pm Eastern Time Public Call In: 866-831-8711 Passcode: 85532

I. Call to Order

General Announcements – Jack Gierhart, Interim CEO

Remarks – David Arias, Chair

Conflict of Interest announcement.

II. Consent Agenda Items (Mr. Arias)

- 1. To approve the minutes from the November 21, 2021 meeting.
- 2. To approve the email vote minutes from December 9, 2021.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

Motion: (Mr. Salem) To form an operational committee with the following characteristics:

Name: "Coach Relations and Education Resource Group"

<u>Purpose:</u> The Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall serve as a resource for USA Fencing staff, operational resource groups and other committees, and the Board of Directors on matters of particular concern to, or that benefit from the expertise of, USA Fencing's coaching community including, but not necessarily limited to, coach education, development, and organizational relations.

<u>Composition:</u> In accordance with USA Fencing Bylaws Sections 12.4 and 12.5, the Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall consist of nine individuals, six of whom shall be active Coach members of USA Fencing who among them have expertise with elite and developmental programs and club operations or ownership and three athletes who meet the qualifications required in Appendix II of the USA Fencing Bylaws.

<u>Operations:</u> The Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall operate under and with the assistance of the staff member or members charged with coach education, development, and relations.

<u>Formation and tenure:</u> Following the hiring of a professional staff member charged with responsibilities that include coach education and development, indications of interest for serving on the Coach Relations and Education Resource Group shall be solicited from among USA Fencing Coach members. The coach members of the resource group shall be selected no later than the next Regular or Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, with the athlete members to be named by the Athlete Council as promptly as possible.

Rationale: Our coaches are both a constituency of USA Fencing and an important resource for the organization in fulfilling its Mission Statement. One of USA Fencing's Priority Initiatives under the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan is "Coaching Development/Education," and the CRERG can be of great assistance in realizing that objective, including by meeting the stated Enabling Task of establishing a coaches' group to assist with education, certification, and continuing education. Beyond that, the CRERG can offer support for club development, and serve as conduit of communication between the coaching community and USA Fencing in all its facets.

Motion: (Mr. Alperstein) To rename the "SafeSport Review Committee" as the "FenceSafe Review Group."

Rationale: At its November 21, 2021, meeting, the Board of Directors changed the name of the "Red Light Appeal Group" to the "SafeSport Review Committee" and assigned to that group certain additional duties. There are two reasons to now change the name to "FenceSafe Review Group." First, because the Center for SafeSport has exerted tradename rights over the term "SafeSport," USA Fencing is no longer authorized to use that word except in explicit reference to the Center for SafeSport. In consequence, our internal policies, procedures, and information related to concerns about member safety have been rebranded "FenceSafe," and the name of this committee should follow suit. Second, in keeping with the Governance Task Force recommendation that committee names should reflect whether the work of the committee is primarily operational or primarily policy/governance, and changes made to the Bylaws adopted that recommendation (see, Bylaws Sec. 12.2, "Committees of the USFA that are charged with supporting operations will be classified as an Operational Resource Group . . . "), the use of the word "Committee" in the name of this body is inappropriate and calling it a "Review Group" is more consistent with its function.

Motion: (Mr. Alperstein) To adopt the changes to Bylaw Sections 7.15.c, 7.20.b, and 10.1, all as approved for publication pursuant to Bylaws Section 14.2.a at the Board Director's Meeting on October 16, 2021, and as so published for more than 45 days on USA Fencing's website.

Rationale: The rationale for each change was provided with the motion to publish on the agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Board on October 16, 2021 and need not be repeated here. All prerequisites to adoption of the proposed changes have been satisfied, the comments solicited from the membership have been received and considered, and the amendments are ripe for final consideration.

Motion: (Mr. Arias) To adopt a new Bylaws Section 7.21, as approved for publication pursuant to Bylaws Section 14.2.a at the Board Director's Meeting on October 16, 2021, and

as so published for more than 45 days on USA Fencing's website.

Rationale: The rationale for each change was provided with the motion to publish on the agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Board on October 16, 2021 and need not be repeated here. All prerequisites to adoption of the proposed changes have been satisfied, the comments solicited from the membership have been received and considered, and the amendments are ripe for final consideration.

- V. Other New Business
- VI. Good and Welfare
- VII. Adjourn to Executive Session
- **VIII.** Executive Session
- IX. Adjourn