



# Fall Board Meeting Part II, New York, New York

## Minutes

USA Fencing (United States Fencing Association, Inc.)  
10/26/2025 11:00 AMMDT

### Attendance

#### Present:

Members: Donald Alperstein, Phil Andrews, Peter Barton, Emily Bian, Tabitha Chamberlin, Jackie Dubrovich, Andrey Geva, Molly Hill, Kat Holmes, Damien Lehfeldt, Bruce Mitchell (remote), Andrea Pagnanelli (remote), Maria Panyi, Scott Rodgers, Abdel Salem, Jess Saxon, Lauryn Deluca  
Guests: Bryan Wendell

#### Absent:

Members: Jade Burroughs

#### I. Zoom Dial In Details

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_2Wro1tCISsmiSBj9M8TOqw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2Wro1tCISsmiSBj9M8TOqw)

#### II. Call to Order

- Roll Call
- Conflict of Interest Declaration

Conflicts: Donald Alperstein has a conflict with the SBM elections. Scott Rodgers declared that Donald is a club member.

#### III. Consent Agenda

- General Counsel & Outside Counsel: To appoint Jessica Saxon, Esq. to "General Counsel", and to in turn appoint Paul Greene, Esq. of Global Sports Advocates LLC, as USA Fencing's Outside Counsel, effective 11/1/2025.

##### A. FIE Rule Change (Presenters: Scott Rodgers)

**MOTION A:** (Mr. Lehfeldt at the request of Donald Alperstein as liaison to the Referees' Commission): To adopt for USA Fencing, and incorporate into The Rules of Competition, changes to the Technical ("t" section), Organizational ("o" section), and Publicity Code ("p" section) rules approved at the 2023 FIE Congress in the form attached hereto (Appendix \*) with the following modification and exception:

t.96.3:

It is forbidden to score a **touch with the guard**. Any touches registered by hitting with the guard must be annulled, the fencer at fault being penalized as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offenses of the 1st group.

t.122: No change

Said changes shall take effect as of January 1, 2026.

**Rationale:** At the 2023 Congress, the FIE adopted certain changes to the international rule book. With the exception of the addition of t.56.11 (and matching update to the penalty chart in t.170), which USA Fencing adopted on June 29, 2025, USA Fencing has not yet followed the FIE lead. The current motion is to adopt equivalent changes to those made by the FIE in 2023 in the technical, organizational, and publicity code sections of the rulebook. While the FIE adopted changes in the material section in 2023 as well, those updates are not included in this motion and are deferred to a separate initiative to comprehensively update the material section including changes made at earlier FIE Congress meetings that have not yet been adopted for domestic use. At the 2024 Congress, the FIE further modified t.96 to correct an error introduced as part of the updates made at the 2023 Congress, and the current motion proposes to mirror the version of t.96 as updated at the 2024 FIE Congress and in the current FIE Rules. The FIE updated t.122 at both the 2023 and 2024 Congress, in each case with the update in effect for a single season (2023-2024 and 2024-2025, respectively). As both temporary periods have since lapsed, the current motion proposes not to update t.122.

In order to remain abreast of the rules being used internationally, USA Fencing should approve the proposed modifications to the USA Fencing Rules.

 [2023 FIE Congress Rules Change Summaries.pdf](#)

**Motion by Scott Rodgers.**

**Motion Second by Lauryn Deluca.**

Motion passes by voice vote.

IV. Finance Update (Presenters: Tabitha Chamberlin, Phil Andrews)

V. Business from Friday

A. Special Board Member Appointments (Presenters: Scott Rodgers)

**MOTION B:** To reappoint a Special Board Member and appoint a Special Board Member, the Board ought to select two names from the below for appointment to a two-year term.

- **Donald Alperstein - Denver, Colorado.** Re-appointment.
- **Joe Inzerillo - New York City, New York.** A lifetime Saber and foil Fencer originally from Chicago,, an Emmy Award winner - Mr. Inzerillo professionally is currently the Chief Digital and AI Officer for Salesforce and has previously served as Chief Technology Officer or similar roles for SiriusXM, Major League Baseball, Disney, the Chicago White Sox. Mr. Inzerillo was a Sports Business Journal 40 under 40 recipient in 2009. Mr. Inzerillo founded BAMTech which became Baseball Advanced Media, and later sold the business to The Walt Disney Company. Mr. Inzerillo has served as the Co-Chair of the New York Gala for several years.
- **Jeff Weber - New York City, New York.** Mr. Weber is a current Vet60 Saber Fencer, having also Fenced Saber for Cornell University and coached the club team at Williams College in the 1980s. Mr. Weber recently returned to Fencing via the US Fencing Foundation where he now serves as a Trustee. Mr Weber has a significant career in Finance and recently retired as Chair of Fox Capital. Mr Weber is also a minority partner in the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA, and spends significant time in film and Broadway show production as a producer.

- **Roy Rodney Jr, Esq. - Houston, Texas.** Roy Rodney Jr is the parent of Fencers Adam and Max Rodney who have competed for the United States as well as Alliance, Peter Westbrook Foundation and Fencers Club and serves as an advisor to The Ohio State University Fencing program. Professionally, Mr Rodney is founder of law firm Rodney Etter LLC, a diverse law firm based in Texas and Louisiana. Rodney specializes in contract law, unfair practices, and business torts and has an extensive history defending against injustice and intrusion of civil liberties. He has won the Louisiana State Bar Association Pro Bono Award, the National Bar Association's Presidents Award amongst many accolades across his legal career.

**Rationale:** The Nominating Committee has been tasked with making recommendations to the Board of Directors for potential candidates for the role of Special Board Member, and has advanced these as individuals for the Board's consideration.

**Motion by Scott Rodgers.**

**Motion second by Damien Lehfeltd.**

Donald Alperstein left due to conflict.

Motion by secret ballot. Alperstein-7 Inzerillo-6 Rodney-2 Weber-0

Donald Alperstein and Joe Inzerillo won a seat as Special Board Member. The appointment term starts as of today, October 26, 2025.

## VI. New Business

### A. Motion-Chair of the DEIB Committee (Presenters: Molly Hill)

**MOTION C:** on behalf of the Task Force on Committees and Resource Groups- To approve Dawn Wilson as Chair of the DEIB Committee for the 2025-2026 season.

**Rationale:** The DEIB Committee does not currently have a Chair. The Task Force on Committees and Resource Groups proposes Dawn Wilson as Chair due to her seniority on the committee, years of commitment and experience in the sport as a coach, fencer, and volunteer, and excellent leadership skills. Typically Chair terms would be two years like member terms however Dawn will be completing the term previously held by Nzingha Prescod. On a related informational note to the Board, Harrison Hue has been selected by the DEIB Committee to fill the role previously held by Nicholas Harvey (member selected by the committee itself not subject to Board approval).

**Motion by Molly Hill.**

**Motion Second by Damien Lehfeltd.**

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

### B. Motion- Member of Honor (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltd)

**MOTION D:** That the USA Fencing Board of Directors recognizes former USA Fencing President Donald K. Anthony, Jr. as a Member of Honor in appreciation of his exceptional leadership, service, and contributions to the sport of fencing in the United States and internationally.

**Rationale:** Donald K. Anthony, Jr. served as President and Chair of the USA Fencing Board of Directors from 2012 to 2020, a period during which he guided the organization through significant financial recovery and strategic growth.

Under his leadership:

- USA Fencing transitioned from a \$1.5 million deficit to financial stability, restoring confidence with the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.
- He championed diversity and inclusion initiatives, expanding access to fencing for underrepresented communities.
- Anthony represented the U.S. on the global stage as a member of ComEx of the Fédération Internationale d’Escrime (FIE) and continues to serve on the US Fencing Foundation Board of Trustees.
- He founded SwordSport LLC, promoting fencing through media, events, and educational initiatives, and co-founded the Peter Westbrook Foundation, which uses fencing to empower underserved youth.
- As an athlete, Anthony represented Team USA at multiple Senior and Veteran World Championships, earning a silver medal at the 2010 Veteran World Championships.

His decades-long commitment as an athlete, coach, entrepreneur, and leader has profoundly shaped the trajectory of fencing in the U.S. and globally. Recognizing Don Anthony as a Member of Honor aligns with USA Fencing’s mission to honor individuals whose sustained contributions have elevated the sport and strengthened our community.

*Note: the member of honor accolade requires a 2/3 majority Board vote and may only be offered twice per calendar year.*

**Motion by Damien Lehfelddt.**

**Motion second by Lauryn Deluca.**

Motion passes by roll call vote. Yes-11 No-0

VII. Motion to Adjourn.

**Motion by Lauryn Deluca.**

**Motion second by Kat Holmes.**

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.