

US Fencing Foundation Board of Trustees
Meeting – August 25, 2026 – 3pm US Mountain Time.
Videoconference

Trustees Present: Jeff Weber, Robin McGraw, Jeff Bukantz (non-voting), Sunil Subharwal, Ellen Geddes PLY, Yana Kratsova, Justin Fraser, Phil Andrews (non-voting, ex officio), Emily Bian (non-voting, ex officio – Interim Chair as the Senior Officer).

Staff: Jess Saxon (USA Fencing General Counsel), Tabitha Chamberlin (USA Fencing CFO).

1. Executive Director Search

An update was given on the Executive Director Search, advancing 3 candidates to the Search Committee stage. Trustees Bian and Weber volunteered to join as additional panel interviewers if needed; but it was decided (by acclaim) that the Search Committee shall remain as Trustees Fraser, Geddes and Kratsova.

The Trustees discussed process and it was agreed (by acclaim) that the Search Committee ought to advance their Top 2 choices to meet the entire Trustee group; with a goal of an appointment no later than 10/9-12/2026 (the date of the first USA Fencing North American Cup of the season in Orlando FL).

2. Nominating & Governance Committee

After discussion, the Nomination & Governance Committee was seated with Robin McGraw (Chair), joined by Ellen Geddes PLY and Sunil Subharwal.

The Nominating & Governance Committee will work to identify a new slate of leadership at the Trustee level – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer.

The Nominating & Governance Committee will also evaluate potential new and/or returning trustees. The N&GC were specifically asked to look at the candidacies of expired Trustees Dr Laura Johnson and Jake Hoyle OLY.

The N&GC will report back at the same above timeline as the Search Committee.

3. Other

It was shared that the Bylaws will need significant revision as we move forward; and time was spent on general USA Fencing updates and an overview of the current direction of the Federation; as well as a brief review of the USFF Bay Area reception, attended by Phil Andrews and Sunil Sabharwal.