



### USA Fencing | Division Resource Spending Guidelines

There are two hard and fast principles that guide the divisions in how resources can be used, however:

1. Money held by divisions, however obtained, belongs to and should be treated as USA Fencing assets; and
2. The Divisions cannot do anything with USA Fencing money that would jeopardize USA Fencing's 501(c)(3) status or its standing as a National Governing Body.

On top of these standards, divisions should not use the money in their possession in any way that would violate a USA Fencing policy.

#### Division fund use for Individual Members

Divisions can use division funds to pay for **individual memberships and equipment** for fencers under proper regulations. Care must be taken to ensure that such use of funds is equitable and for a legitimate USA Fencing purpose, such as introducing under-served communities to the sport through grants or outreach programs. The division can also purchase equipment that it lends to fencers. USA Fencing would need to approve any programs the divisions operate.

#### Division fund use for Clubs

Divisions can use division funds to pay for **club memberships** under proper regulations. Care must be taken to ensure that such use of funds is equitable and for a legitimate USA Fencing purpose, such as introducing under-served communities to the sport through grants or outreach programs, collegiate or high school programs. USA Fencing would need to approve any programs the divisions operate.

HOWEVER, Divisions **cannot** purchase equipment for individual clubs. A division may, for example, pay a club to use its facilities for a division-organized tournament or may rent a club's equipment to be used at a division's tournaments. But outright equipment grants to clubs are not allowed.

#### Division Fund Use for Events

The division may purchase equipment to be used for division tournaments and other activities, such as division-sponsored tournaments and coaching/referee clinics.



### **Example Programs**

These are a few recommended example programs. You are not limited to the programs below as long as you adhere to the policies outlined previously.

#### **Grants:**

Some divisions offer grants to assist members to participate in the sport. Example grant program: \$500 grant to offset individual member expenses, including tournament fees, equipment expenses, travel, and training. These programs will need to be approved by USA Fencing.

Some divisions offer one-time grants to assist fencers in their division who compete internationally. Example grant program: of \$500 grant for these fencers and the rebate comes after the event is completed and is accompanied by receipts. These programs will need to be approved by USA Fencing.

#### **Division Qualifiers/Tournaments:**

Funds can be used to run division events, which may include paying referees, venue and other expenses needed to run a successful division qualifier event.

#### **Referee (Armory / Coaching) Clinics:**

Including airfare or mileage, meals, rental car, and hotel for the certified referee instructor, possibly the hiring of other referees to support an observation tournament following the clinic, and any meals those referees require as well and any rental fees payable to the venue that facilitates the clinic. These observation tournaments can be run throughout the season, leveraging the revenue gained through event registration fees to offset the clinic. Fees charged for the actual clinic get paid directly or indirectly to the instructor of the clinic.