



Fall Board Meeting- New York, NY Minutes

USA Fencing (United States Fencing Association, Inc.)

10/24/2025 1:00 PMMDT

Attendance

Present:

Members: Phil Andrews, Peter Barton (remote), Emily Bian, Jade Burroughs (remote), Tabitha Chamberlin, Lauryn Deluca (remote), Jackie Dubrovich (remote), Andrey Geva, Molly Hill (remote), Kat Holmes, Damien Lehfeltdt, Andrea Pagnanelli (remote), Maria Panyi (remote), Scott Rodgers, Abdel Salem, Jess Saxon

Guests: Donald Alperstein, Selina Kaing, Valerie Asher, Allen Evans, Robin McGraw

I. Zoom Dial In Details

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_T8kcwJ_SQqIRyRfJxPo0Q

II. Call to Order (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

- Roll Call
- Conflict of Interest Declaration
- Moment of Remembrance

III. Consent Agenda (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

- Approval of the Minutes of the August 2, 2025 Meeting of the USA Fencing Board of Directors
- Approval of USA Fencing Records and Document Retention Policy
- Approval of the amended Conflicts of Interest Policy

 [Conflict of Interest Policy \(Final Draft\) .pdf](#)

 [USA Fencing Records Retention Policy \(Final Draft\).pdf](#)

 [August 2 Special Meeting - Called by Chair Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion by Damien Lehfeltdt.

Motion second: Kat Holmes.

Passed by voice vote.

IV. Committee, Resource Groups, and Task Force Updates

- Parents Council Meeting Notes
- Black Card Review Group End of Season Review
- USA Fencing Hall of Fame Committee - Quarterly Report Submission
- Referees Commission General Session Notes
- Coaching Committee Report
- International Relations Committee Board Report and Attendance
- World Para Fencing Updates

 [USAF Parents Council 2025 08 19.pdf](#)

-  [2025 09 05- BCRG Report for Board of Directors.pdf](#)
-  [Quarterly Report - October 2025 - USA Fencing HOF Committee.pdf](#)
-  [2025-08 General Session Notes.pdf](#)
-  [Coaching Committee Report Oct 2025.pdf](#)
-  [IRC BoD Update 2025-10.pdf](#)
-  [IRC Attendance Tracking 2025-10.xlsx](#)
-  [World Para fencing Updates.pdf](#)

Motion to accept reports by Damien Lehfeldt.

Motion Second: Kat Holmes.

Passed by voice vote.

V. Bylaw Change - Chair Eligibility

MOTION A: To approve, following the 45-day member comment period, which has now been completed, the proposed bylaw amendments that will allow any voting member of the Board of Directors to become Chair. All proposed bylaw changes have been reviewed by the USOPC and our legal team.

- From section 6.1.b: "...The Chair of the Board shall have such authorities, powers and duties as are assigned to that office by these Bylaws or as are necessary and normally appurtenant to the powers and duties herein specified. The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be elected from among the voting members of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, which election shall be conducted at each annual meeting held in odd numbered years."
- From section 6.3.a: "...Once a new Chair of the Board is so approved, the former Chair will continue to serve any remainder of their term as a Director."
- From section 6.3.c: "The Chair of the Board's term in office is subject to and not greater than their term as a Director, including limits placed thereon in these Bylaws..."
- Section 6.4.a.ii: "If a vacancy in the office of Chair of the Board occurs by reason of resignation of that office, or removal while the person who had been serving as Chair remains a Director, the Board of Directors shall elect a Director who meets the qualifications of the office of Chair of the Board."
- From Section 10.6: "...The person holding the position of Chair of the Board of Directors continues to serve as a Director unless removed from the Board itself in compliance with Section 10.3 of these Bylaws."

Rationale: Today, only At-Large directors may serve as Board Chair. The proposal would allow any voting director — elected, appointed or athlete — to be considered for this important leadership role, broadening the talent pool from five to twelve Directors. In addition it aligns USA Fencing with a best practice followed by about 80 percent of other NGBs (as opposed to only being one of two limiting the position to At-Large Directors), strengthening the sport's credibility with sponsors, donors, and the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

-  [Bylaw summary v2.pdf](#)
-  [GTF Amendments v4.2 June 2025 for comment with all colored text 20250920.pdf](#)

Motion by Andrey Geva:

Motion second: Abdel Salem

Motion to Amend to only At Large and Athlete Reps can Serve as Chair.

Motion fails by roll call vote. Yes-1 No-9 Abstain-1

Motion by Abdel Salem.

Motion second: Andrey Geva

Motion to Make Chair Vote Roll Call rather than Secret Ballot.

Motion fails by role call vote. Yes-4 No-7

Motion by Damien Lehfeltdt.

Motion Second: Abdel Salem

Bylaw Change - Chair Eligibility

Motion passed by roll call vote. Yes-8 No-2 Abstain-1

VI. Chair Election (Presenters: Peter Barton, Jess Saxon)

Running for Chair: Scott Rodgers-8, Maria Panyi-3

Scott Rodgers has won the election by secret ballot and is Chair effective immediately.

Note: Lauryn Deluca was no longer present for the remainder of the meeting.

VII. Reappointment of Treasurer (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

MOTION B: That Emily Bian be reappointed as Treasurer of the Board of Directors for USA Fencing, effective immediately.

Rationale: The Treasurer plays a critical role in overseeing the financial integrity of the organization, including budgeting, financial reporting, and ensuring compliance with fiscal policies. Emily has demonstrated the expertise and diligence necessary to maintain sound financial stewardship and provide effective oversight of the organization's resources.

Motion:

Presenter changed to Scott Rodgers after Chair Election.

Motion Second: Damien Lehfeltdt

Motion passes by voice vote.

VIII. Reappointment of Parliamentarian (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

MOTION C: That Peter Barton be reappointed as Parliamentarian of the Board of Directors for USA Fencing, effective immediately.

Rationale: The Parliamentarian provides essential guidance on meeting procedures and ensures that board business is conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and the bylaws. Peter brings experience and impartiality that will support orderly, fair, and efficient board deliberations.

Motion:

Presenter changed to Scott Rodgers after Chair Election.

Motion second: Kat Holmes

Motion passes by voice vote.

IX. Reappointment of Secretary (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

MOTION D: That Jess Saxon be reappointed as Secretary of the Board of Directors for USA Fencing, effective immediately.

Rationale: The Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate records of board proceedings, ensuring proper notice of meetings, and safeguarding official documents. Jess has shown a strong commitment to transparency, organization, and record keeping, which supports the board's effectiveness and accountability.

Motion:

Presenter changed to Scott Rodgers after Chair Election.

Motion second: Damien Lehfeltdt

Motion passes by voice vote.

X. Special Board Member Appointments (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

MOTION E: 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.

 [Nominating Committee Report - October 2025.pdf](#)

Motion moved to Sunday.

XI. Independent Appointment (Presenters: Damien Lehfeltdt)

MOTION F: To appoint an independent director to replace Marie Donoghue.

- **Oscar Wong - Los Angeles, CA**

Current Professional Role: Operating Partner at GoldHouse Ventures. Oscar Wong currently serves as an operating partner at Gold House, and also serves as an independent Director on the board of USA Curling. Wong graduated from Stanford University, where he befriended Alexander Massialas OLY and served on the Student Athletics Advisory Council. Wong also earned an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania before serving in various roles at Google, Apple, Adobe and H&M.

- **Bruce Mitchell - Denton, Texas**

Current Professional Role: Founder & President, Resilient Networks. Bruce Mitchell is the Founder and President of Resilient Networks, and has spent a career in IT, and has served as the Chair of USA Curling and currently serves on the USA Curling nominating committee, and also serves on the Advisory Board of PointBank. Mitchell graduated from the University of Oklahoma where he was part of the Sailing team.

Rationale: To appoint one Independent who would be willing to serve the remainder of the two year term of Marie Donoghue after resignation. These individuals have been recommended for the role by the USA Fencing Nominating Committee following a robust process.

 [Nominating Committee Report - October 2025.pdf](#)

Motion:

Presenter changed to Scott Rodgers after Chair Election.

Motion second: Molly Hill

Oscar Wong-1 Bruce Mitchell-7 Abstain-2

XII. Executive Session

Recess to Executive Session to discuss the outcomes of the CEO Performance and Compensation Review

Executive Session moved to Sunday.

XIII. Motion to Recess until Sunday.

Motion by Scott Rodgers

Motion second: Molly Hill

Passed by voice vote.