

Email Vote Minutes

USA Fencing Board of Directors

Via E-mail on July 24, 2024

The following motion was voted on by e-mail vote on July 24, 2024:

MOTION (Mr. Arias): To Establish a USA Fencing Parents' Council.

USA Fencing Parents' Council Charter

I. Purpose

The USA Fencing Parents' Council is established to support and enhance the experience of parents and youth fencers by fostering two-way communication, providing resources, advancing our strategic plan, and promoting a positive and inclusive environment within the USA Fencing community. The Council aims to serve as a liaison between parents, coaches, athletes, and the USA Fencing organization, ensuring that the needs and concerns of families are addressed.

II. Objectives

Strategic Plan: Provide recommendations to the Board and USA Fencing to advance the objectives of the [2024-2028 Strategic Plan](#), namely: getting parent satisfaction to 80% or higher, 25% of parents as members of USA Fencing, and other areas where the voice of the parents may be of value.

Communication: Serve as a conduit between parents, coaches, athletes, and USA Fencing.

Support/Education: Create educational resources and support to parents and athletes to enhance their fencing experience.

Advocacy: Represent the interests and concerns of parents, guardians and minor-aged fencers to the USA Fencing organization.

Engagement: Promote active participation and engagement of parents and guardians in the USA Fencing community.

III. Membership

1. **Eligibility:** Membership is open to all parent members of USA Fencing, or any other valid membership type who serve as a parent or guardian to a minor-aged fencing athlete.

2. **Composition:** The Council will be comprised of six (6) parents or guardians who meet the eligibility criteria stated above.

3. **Terms:** Members will serve terms pursuant to those established in Sections 12.18 and 12.19 of the Amended and Restated Bylaws.

IV. Decision-Making

Per section 12.20 of the bylaws, the Parents' Council may make recommendations to the Board of Directors, Committees, or the CEO, but does not have the authority to make decisions for or to bind USA Fencing.

Rationale: The Board of Directors' approval of Councils provides a unique opportunity for the creation of a Parents' Council. Parents are a critical stakeholder in the organization's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan, and creating an advocacy body for them will allow for better advocacy, communication, and advancement of USA Fencing's strategic objectives.

Result: Passed by a vote of 11 yes and 1 abstention