Minutes for the 2018 General Meeting of the Georgia Division of USA Fencing, May, 5, 2018

Attendance: Will Chase, Alia ElGhamrawy, Erik Droutman, Arthur Lim, Ian Lenthart, Wilbert Liu, Saqlain Awan, Laura Anderson, Aditya Kamatkar, Audrey Barroso, Kathy Vail, James (Chad) Morris, Bill Lanier, Alicen Spurlin, Chirs Williams, Charisma Williams, Charise Munlin

Call to Order: 5:15pm

Chairperson: Will Chase, welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending. Expressed being pleased with how the season went, thinking that things ran very well. He liked that there seemed to be more engagement by the general membership and wants to continue to have more engagement.

Vice Chairperson: Laura Anderson, stated that she was happy with how the Jo Qualifiers went and would like to be more involved on the development side

Secretary: Charise Munlin, stated that there were less issues with turning in tournament reports this season and hoped this would continue. Suggested use of the Georgia Referee list on the division website. Also suggested a check fencers’ membership a week before the tournament so that any possible issues can be addressed early.

Tournament Committee Chair: Rudy Volkmann: Rudy was unable to attend

Treasurer: Audrey Barrosso, presented the income statement thus far (does not include Division Qualifiers). So, far, the Division has a small net profit for the season.

Webmaster: Sarah Shirey – was not able to attend, however did provide some web analytics (attached to this report)

There was a brief discussion about the Division Survey results and the main takeaways, the membership would like more tournaments

Will discussed how the Division Championships went and did mention that there will be some changes going forward. Mainly that the referee clinic will not be tied to the tournament going forward.

There was a suggestion to create a committee to update the Division policies and by laws, including updating the election process. The by-laws need to be updated to more closely reflect the current USFA Division by-laws. The last update was about 5 years ago.

Discussion was held about the Division schedule and accounting for our neighboring state’s tournament. There was a motion brought by Kathy Vail to set the tournament committee meeting. Motion was seconded and a vote was passed to hold the meeting on Sunday June 10, 2:00pm. Location to be determined.

Kathy Vail discussed Region 6 information. There were questions around the bidding process for RYC, SYC, ROC’s and NACs. She said that a USFA club or Division can bid. She suggested that having publicity for the event would help with getting the bid accepted. She also suggested that we hold more regional tournaments. NAC’s need lots of volunteers and we’d need to convince Atlanta Chamber of Commerce to want to host a NAC.

Membership lead discussions:

Membership would like the Division to purchase strips to loan out to the clubs. There was discussion about the cost to house and care for the strips. There was discussion around rental versus purchase. Membership lead a discussion around the Division supplying an Armorer for local club events when requested/needed. More referee development was requested. Membership expressed that they liked the increased Facebook engagement by the Division and would like to see that continue. Membership felt like there was a lack of participation in tournaments outside of Atlanta, but also mentioned that even the Atlanta ones don’t fill up. There was no real solution offered other than to make Atlanta the hub, possibly holding all tournaments in a neutral location that clubs just take turns hosting.

There were four uncontested Board Positions, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Tournament Committee Chair. These positions were voted on and elected first.

Will Chase was nominated, seconded and elected as Chair

Charise Munlin was nominated, seconded and elected as Secretary

Audrey Barroso was nominated, seconded and elected as Treasurer

Rudy Volkmann was nominated, seconded, and elected as Tournament Committee Chair.

Laura Anderson was nominated and seconded for Vice chair as was James “Chad Morris. Laura Anderson was elected Vice Chair.

There were four nominations and seconds for Directors, James “Chad” Morris, Aditya Kamatkar, Gene Gettler, and Sarah Shirey. Aditya Kamatkar and Sarah Shirey were elected as Directors.

2018-2019 Georgia Division Board

Chair – Will Chase Vice Chair – Laura Anderson

Secretary – Charise Munlin Treasurer – Audrey Barroso

Tournament Committee Chair – Rudy Volkmann Director – Aditya Kamatkar

Director – Sarah Shirey

\*\* All proxy and membership votes were validated with the National Office by the Secretary and witnessed by the Chair. Any proxy votes that were found to be invalid were deducted from the vote. Any members found not valid were deducted from the winning votes, since there was no way to know how they had cast their vote. After the deductions were made, the outcome of the election remained unchanged. \*\*

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm