

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Georgia Division, USA Fencing
April 5th, 2009 Atlanta Fencers' Club, Eastpoint, GA.
Call to order at 7:04 p.m.

Old Business:

Officer Reports:

Chairman, Frank Pratt:

Frank extended his thanks to the members who attended. He also thanked the officers for their hard work which resulted in a very successful year. He extended condolences to Gene and his family in their time of loss from the board.

Vice Chairman, Gene Gettler:

Gene was unable to attend because of a death in his family. He asked that Frank extend his thanks for everyone's hard work on this year's successful JO Qualifier.

Secretary, Kathleen Ferrara:

Kathleen asked that everyone sign the attendance sheet. There were 16 voting members in attendance.

Last year's general meeting minutes were passed around and approved (Earl made the motion to accept, and Ed seconded).

Treasurer, DJ Martin:

Please see attached financial report.

The tournament sanction fee check written by Nellya bounced and needs to be replaced. DJ is in contact with Bill Lanier and Terrance Lasker to get this done.

The checks collected by Stuart at the tournament committee scheduling meeting were lost. DJ and Stuart are working together to resolve the issue.

Tournament Director, Stuart Johnson:

As mentioned in the treasurer's report, checks were misplaced and Stuart took full responsibility for the problem.

There were a lot of tournaments this past season and they were generally well attended. There is a geographical influence involved with attendance.

Fencing Star Academy was added to the schedule, and Georgia Tech is planning to hold some tournaments. A couple of tournaments were cancelled due to lack of attendance, and a few were cancelled due to lack of facility.

**New Business:
Points Standings:**

Bill Lanier introduced Bob Calvert and Art Italo and explained that they have a proposed change to the current method of calculating the points. The list is currently published by age, weapon and points. The problems with this system are two fold:

- 1) When a fencer switches classification or age bracket, their points are lost.
- 2) Y14 fencers are not recognized for their Y14 points

Bob and Art want to tweak the existing formula so that it rewards excellence more and participation less. They also want the points listed by event type (all event types/ ages) and weapons.

Kathleen pointed out that the original intent behind the creation of the points standings was to reward participation in more meets.

There followed a very technical discussion of the two proposed formulas and their advantages and differences. Rudy pointed out that the meeting would go on all night if we continued this discussion in such minute detail.

Rudy proposed that Y14 points be calculated and posted for next season. Ed seconded. The motion passed.

Kathleen proposed that the discussion about the points be tabled until the first board meeting. DJ seconded. The motion passed.

Bob moved that Y14 points be calculated and posted for this season as well. Bill seconded. The motion passed.

Web site changes:

DJ pointed out that she tried to look up the tournaments on our web site and the most recent posting was made last February. There is clearly no regular updating of information.

Rudy pointed out that Gary is not responsible for gathering all of the information, he is merely responsible for posting it.

Frank said that he would speak with Gary to determine the necessary changes and that these would be voted on by the board.

Elections:

Frank asked for proposals to amend the bylaws or change the policies and guidelines. There being no proposals, he opened the floor for elections.

Rudy nominated Frank Pratt for Chairman, Ed seconded. All assembled voted yes.
Ed nominated Gene Gettler for Vice Chairman, Rudy seconded. All assembled voted yes.
Kathy Vail nominated Kathleen Ferrara for secretary, DJ seconded. All assembled voted yes.
Earl nominated DJ Martin as Treasurer and Rudy seconded. All assembled voted yes.

As both Rudy Volkmann and Stuart Johnson were nominated for Tournament director, Kathy moved that there be a silent ballot election for this position. Pete seconded. The motion passed.

After a silent ballot, it was determined that Rudy Volkmann was the winner.

Frank opened up the floor for nomination of directors. The following were nominated:

Earl Shapiro
John Terris
Kathy Vail
Pete Appel
Bob Calvert
Stuart Johnson

Frank also asked for nominations for alternate directors. The following were nominated:

Gary DiMaggio
Bill Lanier

Ed Nolan moved that all nominated directors and alternate directors be elected. Rudy seconded. The motion passed.

Ed moved that the meeting be adjourned. All assembled seconded. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.