

Green Mt Division
Annual Business Meeting - Proposed Agenda
1 p.m., June 5, 2011

Election results

Motion: accept the results of the voice poll at the following party as our official election result for division officers

And In The Treasurer's Corner

Discussion: -2010-11 season balance sheet, trends and recommendations for next season.
-Budget-related issues.
-This was mentioned at last year's meeting "There was discussion on keeping event fees the same for this upcoming year (ed:2010), but perhaps having to increase them for the year after"

From The Vice President's Desk:

Discussion: - "one issue that has been brought to me by several people is the need to have more gender-specific epee tournaments, especially through the adolescent age range"
-Proper fencing attire for safety

A comment from the Out-Going Pres

Discussion: our division website needs a serious revamp to make it more useful (and hence more used), better integrated with the way we use FRED, and generally more up to date.

2011-12 Competition Calendar

For reference, this was the 2010-11 Schedule (12 weekends of competition and 2 noncompetitive clinics)

- Sept. 25, Fall Foliage Open, UVM
- Oct. 16, WSC Open, Essex Jct
- Nov. 6, Development Day, Westport: Sabre D-Day and tournament
- Nov. 13, JO Qualifiers, Middlebury
- Nov. 20 & 21, Vermont USFCA Coaches clinic, Middlebury
- Dec. 4, Upper Valley Holiday Open & E tournament, Sharon
- Jan. 8, Upper Valley Open & Y12 tournament, Sharon
- Feb. 6 Groundhog Open & Youth tournament, Essex Jct.
- Feb. 27, Foil Epee Doubles Charity tournament, UVM
- March 5 & 6, Middlebury Open, Middlebury
- March 26, UVM D Meet, UVM
- May 7, Division Championships (SNQ), UVM
- May 14, Full Circle Foil Tournament, Westport
- May 29, Ticonderoga Challenge, Fort Ti

Discussion:

Lets look over the Tournament Attendance sheet I put together. We can see if there are any trends that need attention, etc.

For example: What can we do to encourage more participation in our Y12 series, and in particular, attract first-time competitors?

Proposed Template for the GMD 2010-11 season (12 weekends of competition)

Sept 25 or 26: Fall Foliage Open.

Oct 9, 10, 16 or 17: Open and Youth

Nov 7 or 8: Development Day or Ref Clinic. Ideas?

Nov 13, 14, 20 or 21: JO Qualifiers

Dec 4 or 5: Open and Youth

Jan 8, 9, 15, or 16: Open and E

Jan 29, 30, Feb 5 or 6: Groundhog Open and Youth

Feb 26 or 27: Foil-Epee Doubles. This would be a nice change of pace event coming right after JOs

March 5-6 or 12-13: Middlebury Open (open, U, youth, veteran)

Mar 26 or 27: D Meet

April or early May ? (depends on Sectionals): SNQ (can not be scheduled against a NAC)

April or early May ? (depends on Sectionals): Full Circle Foil (Open, E and Youth)

Sat of Memorial Day weekend: Ticonderoga Challenge epee

Discussion: What events do we want to offer this coming season? Where do we want to hold them?

Some suggestions from Viveka:

1. If there is a general feeling that we need more womens events, we could do another Ladies Day. It's been a few years since we did this. I would be happy to lead the clinic portion of the day (as the GMD's lone female coach).
2. Another underserved/underrepresented population: adult rookies/adult recreational fencers. We really need to draw adult newbies into the competition world. They are our future officers, assistant coaches, refs, etc. So perhaps a clinic for adults (anyone who is too old to be eligible for junior age group events), followed by adult E-under and maybe a veterans event as well? The idea would be to draw in adult rookie fencers and connect them socially to other adults in the division. I know in the VFA my adult beginners can feel like fencing is mostly a kids world, and it shouldn't be like that (it certainly wasn't when I was growing up!). For a clinic, we could focus on the fitness aspects of fencing. Dale and I could certainly put something together for that.
3. Kids Day: clinic and events for the Y12 age group (perhaps even some Y10 events?). Goal is to introduce new kids to tournament fencing, and to connect them socially with kids who already have some tournament experience. Clinic could include icebreaker-type games, info on sportsmanship, rules, equipment, etc. We could also have the more experienced Y12 kids do some peer coaching/mentoring of newbies.

Kids Day could conceivably run simultaneously with Adult Day as they are two different populations of fencers.

Motion: Accept provisional competition calendar as discussed, host clubs agree to book venues as soon as feasible, and keep Don updated on your progress in booking venues.

Open Discussion

New business

Miscellaneous topics

Any issues or suggestions not already discussed?