

**Green Mountain Division  
Annual Business Meeting  
Minutes-June 14, 2009**

**Meeting started at 3:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Viveka Fox\*, Debbie Hogan, Kelly Moreton, Don Selby , Dan Crockett\*, Ruth Parker\*, Katherine McClintic, Charlotte Treadwel I, Yong Yu, Dale Rodgers, Keegan Harris\*, Jason Evans\*, Marc Jijina, Lisa Calitri, Ray Schuppe\*

**Election/Referendum results:**

75 people voted. The by-laws passed. Everyone thanked Kelly for her work on the by-laws.

There were some minor on-line polling glitches that Tim will be addressing, but it was not seen as a major problem. Polling services would round about \$300 and may not be cost effective.

**Secretary Report**-Kelly Moreton

Kelly felt it was a good year. She thanked Ray Schuppe and Tim Dartt for their work on the website and the efforts to keep it updated.

She discussed that it may be worth collecting email addresses since the USFA does not give them out. She has been in touch with them and it is something that is in process.

She also discussed that at tournaments, that paperwork be handed to the Secretary (or designate) as procedure. If that is not possible, for the package to be mailed to the secretary. This way the Secretary can confirm classification changes and new member information.

She also discussed the need to encourage on-line renewal of membership because that would make registration easier at the Fall tournaments.

Viveka thanked Kelly for her 2 years of service and her hard work with the by-laws and the master email list.

There was also discussion of starting a facebook page or a yahoo group, however the Northern Horde already has a facebook page.

**Treasurer Report**-Ray Schuppe

Downloaded from the web. Green Mountain Division income at a record high. This is probably due to the Middlebury and UVM tournaments. It is important to note that costs are up. The increase in fees didn't really impact increase in income. GMD bank account is at \$2,200.

The results of two particular tournaments, the JO qualifier lost \$54 and the Full Circle tournament broke even. We do have medals for the first six tournaments of next season.

Suggestions included looking for less expensive venues and to be aware of custom awards expense. Minor expenses are on the rise and fees will have to go up eventually, but there was a general agreement to try to continue to be frugal to put it off.

#### **Champlain Cup Discussion:**

Much appreciation was given to Jason who set up the new system of tracking Champlain Cup points which everyone agreed was better than doing it by hand. There are a few glitches including that it will never work for the foil/epee team tournament, however it is always accurate for the unrated and open events. There may be too many restricted tournaments; they are counted as 6-14 sometimes. These can be simplified to be the same, e.g. y14 women's events, open and non-open, restricted – 3 points to the winner.

**Motion:** Ray Schuppe mad a motion that no points be awarded for the foil/epee or team events. Don Selby seconded it. This passed unanimously.

#### **Competition Calendar:**

Ideally, 12-14 tournaments seem to work out well without stretching tournament hosts and refs too thin. This past year we had 13 and one was snowed out.

The first unrated and E event came later in the competitive season last year. This upcoming year it would be planned in the fall. Everyone agreed that the 5 youth events were well spaced.

Sabre events and Women's events were under-attended (less than 15 competitors) this year. Also, many of the fencers that made up the Y14 Epee grouping grew out of this event.

There was general discussion on how to increase participation in the qualifiers and sabre events. It was suggested to consider a sabre development day for next year.

Qualifiers were all under attended, as were events in Arlington. There is room for growth. There is a good core group in Westport and maybe they will host a tournament next year. Digger Puffer is in Moretown may be jumpstarting the Montpelier area fencing group.

Events that were consistently well attended included open foil and open epee, E and U foil and epee, and Y12 foil.

This year the demographics showed that 3/4<sup>th</sup> of the competitive fencers were in the Champlain Valley. This included the Salle Catamount fencers' addresses as their college address where they fence most of the season.

Scheduling national qualifiers need to be mindful of SAT schedules. Sectionals could be scheduled late April or Early May.

#### **Rough Template of tournaments:**

9/27 Fall Foliage Tournament is booked. Looking to add a U-event as a Saturday event.

10/17 or 10/18 Open and Youth Tournament hosted by WSC

11/7-11/8 Development Day- will be "Learn to Ref" or "Referama", followed by a tournament the next day. Discussion of the venue included the possibility of having it at UVM because the venue would be free and registration can be through Askfred. It could be done with local fencers putting up fencers coming a distance in homes overnight. There was discussion on including a pot luck as incentive to draw more people in and to make it a more of a community building event.

11/14<sup>th</sup> or 11/15<sup>th</sup> J.O. Qualifier hosted by VFA

12/5, 12/6 Upper Valley Holiday Open and Y12

1/9 & 10 or 1/16 & 17 Foil Epee doubles and Unrated in Rutland? Or LFA or VFA

2/6 Ground Hog Open with Youth events hosted by WSC

2/20 or 2/27 Upper Valley Open and Youth Events

3/6-7 or 3/13-14 Middlebury Open, VFA

3/27 or 3/28 Spring Event hosted by WSC

April/May When Sectional info is available, Full Circle and Qualifiers can be scheduled

May 29<sup>th</sup> Ticonderoga Epee

### **Open Discussion**

There was a discussion on combining some Y12 and Y14 events based on their numbers. Also, looking at the age group of Y14 Epee being able to be on their own or combine with Open Epee.

**Meeting Adjourned** 4:05 p.m.