

# **Green Mountain Division**

Annual Business Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2011

**The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.**

Present: Don Selby, Tim Dart, Viveka Fox, Paul Horak, David Horak, Keegan Harris, Dan Crocket, Megan Lind, Ray Schuppe, Sharon Schuppe, Dale Rodgers, Robin Lowney, Julie Lamaroux, Paul Rossi, Jarrod Whalen, Ruth Parker

## **Discussion on updating Website**

The general consensus was that it would be nice to update the GMD website to give it a more modern look with simplified links, e.g. to askfred.net, etc. Tim was very open about helping, however he was concerned about his design abilities and would like someone else to design the site. Viveka suggested it might be a good project for a motivated college or high school student. We will all search for one. Don said that it may require spending some money and that we should do so if necessary.

## **Election Results**

Motion was made by Don Selby to accept the proposed slate of division officers and the results of the voice vote conducted during the party. Motion seconded by Keegan Harris. The motion was unanimously approved. Don Selby-President, Paul Rossi-Vice President, Ray Schuppe-Treasurer, Yong Yu/Ruth Parker co-secretaries.

## **Discussion on including additional age/gender limited events in the competitive calendar**

Several concerns came from membership on these issues. The choice was to discuss age and gender separately and the discussion first centered on women's events. The consensus was to plan a Women's clinic early in the year followed by a Women's open. Perhaps holding Women's open at Upper Valley to try to draw women in from out of state.

After review of the trends of the attendance at events, there was a discussion on Y12 and Y14 events. The consensus was to keep Y12 epee. Discussion was opened on the challenge of getting the younger fencers to attend competitive events. This led to additional discussion on underserved population including the adult recreational fencers and pulling them in. The thought was perhaps having a Friday evening event which would be followed by socializing. Dale brought up the TAP program, Teach A Parent, which invites parents of young fencers to try fencing. He has been somewhat successful getting parents involved in this way.

## **Competitive Schedule**

After discussion, a motion was made by Don Selby to approve the following tentative competitive schedule with the condition at the host clubs secure the dates and keep Don updated. Keegan Harris seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

### **On or about:**

September 24 or 25,	Fall Foliage Open (add unrated) UVM
October 8,	WSC Open, Essex Jct.
November 5	Women's and Youth Development Morning Clinics, tournament afternoon, VFA
November 12	Teen Fencing Day, a.k.a. JO Qualifiers, Middlebury, VFA
December 3 or 4	Ref Clinic and Upper Valley Holiday Open, Men's and Women's Open
January 7	Montpelier Open & Y12 tournament (pending okay from Digger)
February 4	Groundhog Open & Youth tournament, Westport
February 25	Foil Epee Doubles tournament, Upper Valley
March 3 and 4	Middlebury Open, Middlebury, VFA
March 25	WSC "Spring into Action" D Meet, Essex Jct.
April/May	GMD Spring Fling (GNO), UVM
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Full Circle Foil Tournament, Westport
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Ticonderoga Challenge, VFA

### **Treasurer's Report**

We have about \$2,400 in the checking account and we started the year with \$2,200. An upcoming large expense will be a new Champlain Cup trophy (approx. \$200) since the current trophy is now out of plaque space. Viveka is donating a slightly used printer.

Discussion continued from last year, is there a need to increase event fees this year with rising venue costs? Consensus was to keep event registration fees the same and for host clubs to hopefully make additional funds with raffles, food, etc...

### **Proper fencing attire**

There was lengthy discussion of cost of knickers potentially being a hindrance to new fencers attending events weighed against the safety/liability aspects of competitors not wearing them. Last year, it was discussed that meet managers would be more consistent enforcing appropriate attire with Open events. It was suggested that the GMD could acquire various sizes to have available at the tournaments and it would be transferred from host club to host club.

Paul Rossi made a motion that for the safety of our fencers to require proper attire for all fencers over 12. Dan Crocket seconded the motion. Motion passed with 11 in favor and 2 not in favor.

Dan Crocket made a motion to buy some number of knickers for knicker-less people. Viveka seconded this motion. Motion passed 12 in favor and 1 not in favor.

Don made a motion to set up a “Knickers for the Knicker-less” committee. Viveka seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Don offered to head up the committee

**New business**

Brief discussion on the effectiveness of the voucher system, especially in relation to the Y12 events. The general consensus was that this would continue to be at the discretion of the meet manager after considering the time involved, the ref’s experience level, etc.

Dale wanted to make everyone aware that there was a World Sabre tournament in NYC 6/24-6/25.

**Meeting adjourned 2:45**

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Parker