

**South Texas Division, USA Fencing
Annual Meeting April 17, 2016**

Meeting called to order by the Chair, Oscar Barrera, at 6:35 p.m. at Texas Fencing Academy.

Roll Call of Members Present:

Oscar Barrera-----Chair (Unattached)
Jennifer Wheatley-----Treasurer (Texas Fencing Academy)
Bernadette Guerra.....Tournament Services Coordinator (Olympian
Fencing Club)
James Basler-----Texas State University Fencing Club
Georgina Simont-----San Antonio Phoenix Fencing Club
Luis Largaespada Simont-----San Antonio Phoenix Fencing Club
Heriberto Armenteros-----San Antonio Phoenix Fencing Club
Eric Mallet-----Austin Fencers Club
Gary van der Wege-----Academy D'Armes
Joon Yee Chuah-----University of Texas (Austin) Fencing Club
Ray Parker-----Texas Fencing Academy

Twenty four valid proxy votes were noted/accepted

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$2718.39 (\$3,300)

OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Chair--Oscar Barrera---unattached
Vice-Chair--Jim Basler---Texas State University F.C.
Secretary--Don York--San Antonio Phoenix F.C.
Treasurer---Jennifer Wheatley---Texas Fencing Academy
Tournament Events Coordinator---no nominations; no volunteers

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Eric Mallet:

"There is a need to establish a reputation, one of being skilled organizers for tournaments. A strong group that needs to be able to work together, have access to a good venue. It will take 3-4 years to establish. It might be possible to involve Mexican Junior/Youth Teams.

The recent Austin Challenge had around 500 entries (Youth, Jr.), The Pouj Open had some numbers due to the presence of Cadet and Juniors who fenced the

open events due to being there at the tournament and some interest in fencing older fencers.

There is a need to study demographics---who do we want to draw? Good scheduling is mandatory--little or no conflicts with other tournaments. Big TV screens and live-time results are now getting to be mandatory. Are the clubs in?"

POUJ MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

Oscar Barrera:

"I recently spoke with the Division club owners/coaches/ presidents. Consensus was that the majority did not want to see it go. Does need much improvement and IT NEEDS TO HAPPEN!

Needs a change of clients--young clients

Needs more help from the member clubs---it is a DIVISION tourney and not one for the Division's officers!

How to reward clubs who help?"

Eric Mallet:

"Help should come from the Division's own members. Austin Challenge has help from parents, fencers and friends. A little bit of help could come from each club. (Bid? No.) (Longhorn). (As (?) part of the point structures).

Oscar Barrera:

"Hostility between clubs needs to end before the National Office steps in to END IT as it did so some years ago in the Gulf Coast Division."

Jim Basler:

"There is a lack of communication between the clubs and the Division."

Eric Mallet:

"Set tournament dates (time) on the calendar. Get on the "overall schedule."

Jennifer Wheatley:

"Calendar already full. Juniors and Cadets choose points or ranking tourneys. Put tourney prior to Nationals in order to raise points standings."

Eric Mallet:

"Look to late May/early June. Plus Youth---high schools, working adults"

Jennifer Wheatley:

"Not too high an entry fee in order to draw IN persons."

Joon Yee Chuah:

"Put Pouj (?)/then (UT)"

Eric Mallet:

"Venue must have adequate parking, easy to travel to. It must have easy access to nice hotels and the tourney must be WELL ORGANIZED. Entry (Registration). Rotation. 2-3 volunteers from each club. Sponsors."

Look at North Texas Division fees.

Gary van der Wege:

"Get date & as many fencers as possible. Need to get entries from Gulf Coast and North Texas Divisions."

Eric Mallet:

"Have the fencers PRE-PAY! Force them to come once they have paid!"

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Oscar Barrera
