

Feb 9, 2023 | 📅 WFencing Board Meeting monthly

Attendees:

- Board members: Christine Griffith , Carsissa Hammonds, Vickie Miller, Jennifer Oldham , Cathleen Randall , Taro Yamashita
- WFencing Members: Adeline Chung-Feder, Jeff Kallio , Sandra Marchant , Richard Weiss

Minutes

Please refer to the [Agenda](#) section, below.

Standing Items

- Meeting called to order 11:32 AM with a quorum of board members attending.
- **APPROVED:** Meeting agenda (this meeting);
- **APPROVED:** Minutes from January 2023 board meeting;
- **APPROVED:** Treasurer's report:
 - 2022 actual budget shared, discussed. This document will serve two purposes:
 - Documentation to submit to accountant for tax year 2022;
 - Template for 2023 WFencing budget.
 - 2022 EOY balance: \$8,067.42; Feb 9, 2023 balance: \$9,587.66.
- Chair's report (Cathleen):
 - Overall membership numbers are approximately the same as last year;
 - Discussion of other topics deferred to committee updates.

Committee Updates

- Committee updates:
 - Professional Development (Jen Oldham):
 - Preparing for Feb 15, 2023 online event, "[Six Months With Phil](#)" discussion event with Phil Andrews, USA Fencing CEO;
 - Sandra Marchant gathered questions from meeting attendees that WFencing will pose to Mr. Andrews during the event;
 - ACTION: Sandra to email collected questions to Cathleen Randall and Jen Oldham in advance of event; Cathleen and Jen to edit and prepare questions for Mr. Andrews.
 - Sandra also would like meeting attendees to start thinking about questions to pose to Coach Natalie Dostert, in advance of the online

event on Mar 30, 2023, "[Meet USA Women's National Coach Natalie Dostert](#)".

- Discussion: USFCA (US Fencing Coaches Association) accreditation;
 - There exists a task force to develop USA Fencing's coaching development platform to meet USOPC (US Olympic and Paralympic Committee) standards;
 - The current standards being put forth by this task force are not particularly helpful in developing women in coaching fencing;
 - USA Fencing has not been particularly receptive to ideas and suggestions put forward by WFencing, thus far;
 - WFencing's focus for coaching development has been on content and connection; USA Fencing has decided that their content will be developed by the national coaches;
 - USFCA's focus has been on process; USFCA has been more receptive to WFencing input than USA Fencing has been;
 - At this time, USA Fencing does not plan to adopt the USFCA platform;
 - We feel that this is part of a larger pattern wherein WFencing needs to be part of the leadership discussions within USA Fencing, as this intersects with issues that WFencing has been at the forefront of since our inception, including athlete safety and professional development of women coaches (and other leadership roles) in fencing;
- WFencing Social Media Group (Kathy Vail):
 - Kathy Vail not present at meeting;
 - Next meeting scheduled for Mar 1, 2023;
 - ACTION: Cathleen to send link out to allow for others to be added to that meeting;
- Allies Committee (Taro Yamashita):
 - Short update on current blog posts schedule;
 - ICONS (Independent Council on Women's Sports) presentation debriefing (Jen Oldham):
 - ICONS group has already moved and acted at a level above the USOPC level, potentially limiting our options and ability to influence them, but creating the need for us to discuss especially trans athletes in sport;
 - Shared to meeting participants: [link to bill](#) targeting transgender athletes;
 - Allies Committee will take up and continue the discussions on ICONS and transgender athletes;
 - ACTION: Jen to share link to recording of ICONS presentation so that those who were unable to attend may view;
 - Jen noted that the presentation is full of both information and misinformation;

Old Business

- US Center for Coaching Excellence 2023 North American Coach Development Summit on June 12-14, 2023;
 - Cathleen Randall and Jen Oldham are registered as speakers;
 - Further discussion of this topic tabled to Mar 2023 board meeting;
- Future Projects:
 - Further discussion tabled to Mar 2023 board meeting;

New Business

2023 Budget and Priorities topics were discussed only briefly, and will be higher priority during the Mar 2023 board meeting.

- Board Change:
 - Discussed briefly;
- 2023 Budget and Priorities:
 - Generally agreed that the budget flows from the priorities;
 - Suggested priorities include:
 - Directors' insurance;
 - Fundraising for potential part-time WFencing staff;
 - Identify items/services needed by the Allies and Professional Development Committees;
 - Strategic outlook for WFencing;
 - Revisiting/updating the WFencing Report Card.

Housekeeping

- Next board meeting confirmed for Thu Mar 9, 2023 at 11:30 AM Eastern Time;
- Meeting adjourned: 12:38 PM.

Action items

- SANDRA: email questions for "Six Months with Phil" gathered from meeting attendees to Cathleen and Jen.
- CATHLEEN: send link out to allow for others to be added to social media group meeting;
- JEN: ~~send link to ICONS presentation recording board members;~~

Agenda

1. Standing Items (10 minutes)

- Call the meeting to order (Cathleen)
- Check-in – How are you doing? (All)
- Review and approve meeting agenda*
- Review meeting minutes**
 - [January 2023](#)
- Treasurer's Report (Jen)*
 - To consider for 2023 budget: paying staff, no colloquium planned, contention about USAFencing/USFCA and WFencing continuing coach education.
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- Chair's Report (Cathleen)**
 - Overall membership about same as last year;
 - Discussion deferred to committee reports;

2. Committee Updates (20 minutes)

- Professional Development Committee (Jen)
 - 6 Months with Phil next Weds! (2/15, 12 noon Eastern)
 - Promotion of remainder of Professional Development series
 - USFCA accreditation (discussion)
- WFencing Social and Media Group (Kathy)
- Allies Committee (Taro)
 - ICONS debriefing (Jen)

4. Old Business (5 minutes)

- US Center for Coaching Excellence 2023 North American Coach Development Summit on June 12-14, 2023 – registration (\$727.48) & hotel (\$498.98) costs for presenters Jen & Cathleen
 - [Conference Info](#)
- Future projects:
 - USA Fencing elections
 - Get togethers
 - Swag (?)
 - Report Card

5. New Business (10 minutes)

- Board changes
 - Julie resignation
 - New recruits

- 2023 budget - recommendation and review (vote to approve at March meeting)
- 2023 priorities (top 3) - i.e. fundraising for PT staff, PDC training strategy - monetization, Allies Committee support?

5. Housekeeping (5 minutes)

- Announcements and review of action items
- Date of the next meeting – Monthly Board Meeting, Thursday March 9th, 11:30am Eastern

*Board action required

** For information/discussion purposes