

NJIFA Coaches Meeting - Minutes Mar 18, 2021

Officer Reports

President's Report

- Executive Committee trying to establish contact with NJSIAA regarding fencing and Jack Dubois' successor.
- Season went well, all things considered.
- Next season - may be restrictions on the larger tournaments.

Housekeeping - Sara Bartel re-elected as Treasurer by affirmation.

Vice-President's Report

- Feedback from students - glad to have a season, see friends, and be out of the house.

Treasurer's Report:

Previous Payments made:

Fencing Time LLC	\$2,500.00
Account Balance as of 3/15/21:	\$15,321.88
Account Balance after possible outgoing payments:	\$15,000.00
-Future Tax filing for 2020-2021	Approx \$300.00

Notes:

-Looking to other CPA's for taxes

-Will be filing this year's taxes after April 30th - This year's taxes shouldn't be much since we didn't have anything to pay for, or money coming in.

Secretary's Report

Request to membership to make sure that the NJIFA has accurate contact info

Santelli/Cetrulo

- Dates January 8th & 9th
- We are exploring venues for 2022 events
- Location tba - possibility of using NJIT - larger facility than Drew, but more expensive
- Looking for possible sponsors of the tournaments
- Growth areas - current break-even amount at Drew is 40 teams; we would need to have more teams to break even at NJIT. Looking Into getting sponsorship from local merchants

- Jay Haase has reached out to ADs to gauge their interest for participating in the 2022 tournament.
- Might be no spectators; would be live-streamed

New Business

- Per Coach Jorge Gana, the **NJ Division** will be hosting a tournament, "*The New Jersey High School Individual Fencing Championship*" on April 24th & April 25th at Cobra Fencing in Jersey City [entry info is on askFred.com]
- Open to all NJ -USA Fencing members who are high school aged AND to all members of NJ high school fencing teams. Fencers do not have to be members of USA Fencing, but there is a \$35 entry fee.
- This tournament is not sanctioned by the NJSIAA and coaches are reminded that the coaching black-out rules **will be** enforced.
- Based on their finish, fencers will be able to improve their USA Fencing ratings.
- The number of entrants is subject to restriction, so coaches should encourage only their top fencers per weapon to participate.

Discussion of uncertainty concerning the finances of the NJSIAA and ways that the NJIFA can help maintain NJ HS Fencing at a high level.

New program - East Side HS in Newark - program funded, but contingent on finding a coach who would need to meet the criteria equivalent to being a certified substitute teacher, i.e., background check, etc. Please contact George Janto if you are interested.

Proposals to be voted on by the membership.

President Huemer clarified that only proposals over which the NJIFA has jurisdiction will be considered, i.e., we cannot vote on proposals that would overrule USA Fencing or NJSIAA regulations.

All-State teams

- Three proposals for selecting All-State teams for this year were read aloud, arguments pro and con were heard. There was motion from the floor to not have All-State teams this year, due to a lack of tournament results. The motion was seconded and carried.
- Another motion was made to allow coaches to come up with "alternative" all-state awards. This motion failed to pass.

- A proposal to change All-State criteria beginning in 2021-2022 was discussed, and the membership voted to table the discussion until the fall meeting when we will have more information about the coming season.

Finally, there was a proposal to create a committee to marshal evidence to convince the NJSIAA to consider realigning the districts with emphasis on geographical location and strength of programs [as opposed to the current “northering” system].

This motion passed. It calls for a committee to assemble no later than July 1, 2021, which would then create a proposal no later than August 1, 2021, to be submitted to the NJSIAA at their August meeting. Coaches were invited to volunteer for the committee.

Schools in attendance [35]:

Chatham, Christian Brothers, Columbia, Gill St Bernards, Governor Livingston, Hackettstown, Hunterdon Central Regional HS, Indian Hills, Kinnelon, Livingston High School, MacNair, Millburn, Montclair High School, Montgomery, Morris Hills High School, Morris Knolls, Newark Academy, North Hunterdon, Northern Highlands, Oak Knoll, Oratory Prep, PCTI, Pingry, Princeton HS, Ramapo HS, Ridge, Teaneck, Voorhees, Watchung Hills, Wayne Hills, West Essex, West Milford, West Morris Central, West Windsor-Plainsboro SOUTH