

Florida Fencing Bylaws

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization is Florida Fencing. Florida Fencing will report to the Sport Clubs Office and Division of Recreational Sports at the University of Florida. Florida Fencing is hereafter referred to in these bylaws as the Club.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this organization is to provide fencing opportunities for members across a broad range of skill levels and experiences. The Club is a training ground for leadership, organizational development and teaching. The Club offers opportunities for both competitive and recreational fencing. This organization shall be not for profit or non-commercial in nature.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Status All members must meet all of the status requirements in accordance with the Sport Clubs Handbook, the Florida Fencing Constitution and these Bylaws. A member's status with the Club will be re-evaluated before elections and other votes by the active membership, before intercollegiate meets, and at the end of each semester. If a member wishes to be an active member, a declaration of status must be made to the Club's Secretary in writing (or electronically). A member's status may be changed without the member's knowledge if he no longer meets all the requirements of his declared status. Termination of a member will coincide with regulations stipulated by the Sport Clubs Handbook.

Attendance will be monitored by the Secretary with assistance from the squad captains. Squad captains are expected to facilitate the check-in of the members of their squad so that their attendance is accurate, but individual fencers are ultimately responsible for reporting their attendance. In the event of a dispute over the accuracy of attendance records a majority vote of the team captain, squad captain, and the Secretary will be held to determine a fencer's status.

Section 2: Classes The Club shall consists of two primary classes of veteran fencers: Recreational and Competitive. In addition, a member can be classified as either a Novice or as Inactive.

Section 3: Recreational All recreational members have access to recreational facility time, recreational equipment, and the local tournament calendar.

Inactive

If a member does not declare a membership status, he will be considered inactive recreational. He may exercise use of recreational facility time and equipment as frequently, or infrequently, as he wishes. Inactive recreational members are ineligible to vote in Club elections and decisions. The Club will not subsidize the costs associated with any tournaments that a recreational member may attend.

Active

Those members who declare themselves active must attend 50 percent of recreational practice. Active recreational members are eligible to vote in Club elections and decisions. The Club will not subsidize the costs associated with any tournaments that a recreational member may attend.

Section 4: Competitive Membership All competitive members must attend two tournaments per

semester. A tournament shall be defined as events participated in one day of fencing. A competitive member must also attend two-thirds of his scheduled practice times. If a member has extenuating circumstances that do not allow him to attend his scheduled practice, an appeal to maintain status may be submitted in writing to the Club's Secretary for review by the Club's officers. All competitive members are eligible to vote in Club elections and decisions. The Club may, or may not, subsidize the costs associated with the tournaments that a competitive member attends.

Traveling competitive membership is comprised of two teams: Team A and Team B. Team A is comprised of the top three fencers in each weapon category and competes against top collegiate teams. Team B is comprised of fencers ranked fourth through eighth and competes against second tier collegiate teams. The alternate for Team A shall be the fourth ranked fencer and will compete with Team A if one of its members is unable to compete. If more than one member of Team A is unable to compete, the top fencers of Team B will compete with Team A.

Teams are determined in an unbiased manner by the Club's officers, team captains, and squad captains with advisement from coaches. Methods of determination may include fencing ladders, point systems or other tournament results. Other factors such as attendance, enthusiasm and attitude may be used as well. The actual method is subject to change, but must be made clear to all veteran competitive members before decisions are made.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1: Elections The current president in accordance with the Club Constitution and Bylaws shall oversee elections. The election shall be held in a secret ballot in which a plurality wins. Nominations can be made by any club member without need for a second. Outgoing officers will be expected to assist incoming officers in a transition period consisting of the month of April and the summer term if applicable. Protest votes may be cast. If protest votes form the plurality in any election the seat will remain unfilled. Voting is required even in an uncontested election. Abstentions are also allowed, in which case the vote is disregarded completely; it is not the same as a protest. In the case of a tie the candidate with the lowest vote count will be eliminated and a revote will be taken. If all of the candidates are tied each of the tying candidates will be given the chance to make a short speech and a vote off will be conducted. In the case of a tied vote off a random method will be employed to determine the winner (e.g., coin toss). Absentee ballots will only be accepted with prior approval from the officers due to extenuating circumstances.

Section 2: President The president is responsible for delegating and overseeing any tasks that may arise that fall outside normal officer duties. The president shall represent the club in all official capacities as well as run club meetings.

Section 3: Vice-President The vice-president is to assist the president in all official capacities and to fulfill the role of president in the absence of the president.

Section 4: Secretary The secretary will record and document all official proceedings of the Club. The secretary will retain a log of attendance at practices as well as all official documentation.

Section 5: Treasurer The treasurer will be responsible for all Club dealings in financial affairs.

Section 6: Chairs Any officer has the ability to appoint an individual to chair any special tasks that arise, fulfilling their duties, or facilitating the functioning of the Club. This may include but is not limited to travel chair, fund raising chair, and public relations chair.

Section 7: Captains The active competitive membership has the option to elect team and squad captains. Team captains shall be chosen by majority vote of the active competitive membership. Squad captains shall be chosen by a majority vote of each squad within the active competitive membership within that respective team. Captains will be expected to have knowledge of their team or squad's capabilities and attitudes. If a squad or the team is dissatisfied with their

selected captain, they may vote to impeach at any time. If a captain is impeached the squad or team may select a new one at any time. New captains will be elected in accordance with the officer election procedure.

Team captains will be responsible for matters that deal with fencing and concern the entire team. The team captains will have no administrative power. The team captains will not represent members of the Club to the officers. The team captains will largely be responsible for making sure practices run smoothly, making sure that the squad captains are fulfilling their role, and ensuring the well being of the membership.

Squad captains are responsible for matters that deal with fencing and are of concern to their squad. The squad captains have no administrative power. The squad captains will not represent members of their squad to the officers. The squad captains will be responsible for running practices for their squad, leading the squad in fencing matters, and ensuring the well being of the squad.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

The executive board, consisting of all officers and appointed chairs, will hold meetings as deemed necessary by the needs of the Club while having at least one regular monthly meeting. General meetings will be held in accordance with these same guidelines. Meetings are to be led by the executive board.

Any Club member that wishes to express a concern or idea is encouraged to do so at the officer and general meetings. Club members are responsible for representing themselves to the officers.

ARTICLE VI FEES

The Club does not require mandatory dues. However, it may be required of members wishing to partake in off campus events to pay fees involved with necessary coaching, competitive opportunities, promotions, transportation, and accommodations.