

Southwest Section Annual Meeting
May 17, 2003 9:30 pm
OUTSIDE the Texas A&M Recreation Center

Attendance: Divisions - Voting Members (some with proxies):

South Texas – Oscar and Esperanza Barrerra, Gary VanderWege, B. J. Goines, Lela Whisnant

North Texas – Brenda and Ovi Waddoups, Helen Mitchell, David Sierra, Rhonda Trietsch, and Bill Huey

Oklahoma – Bob Fiegel, Jerry Benson

Louisiana – Jon Carr, Craig Kraemer, Nancy & Richard Exnicios, Angela Torres

Ark-La-Miss – Clint Bowers

Non-voting members present: Terry Harkey, Aly Khamis, Paul Schimelmann, Dan & Liz Gorman

1. Information

A. General Information and Organizational Items:

1. Treasury report of 5/4/02 handed out.

MOTION: Approve treasury report

Seconded. Unanimously approved

2. Minutes of 5/4/02 have been online for a year.

MOTION: Approve minutes of Annual Meeting 5/4/02

Seconded. Unanimous approved

B. Officer and Director Reports

1. Southwest Section Circuit Cup Chair report

Southwest Section Circuit Cup commissioner, David Sierra, reported on the state of the SSCC. All SSCC tournaments have experienced growth with an average number of entries being 200.

Averages broken down into events reflecting increase in every event except women's epee and women's sabre.

Mixed Sabre = 32

Mixed Epee = 63

Mixed foil = 66

Women's Sabre = 9

Women's epee = 18

Women's foil = 17

He acknowledged the two sponsors of the section circuit, Sword Masters and Lagrardere. SSCC final point standings are posted online. Some of the challenges at the events have been: troubles with hiring enough referees and referees with high enough skill level; equipment sharing; effective pre-registration; spacing between the events; venue issues; bout committee issues and diminishing number of women's foil and epee fencers. Southwest Circuit advisory committee was formed last year to recommend changes for the SSCC.

David outlined recommendations from the committee on changing to a bidding system where individual clubs would all submit their tournament proposals and the Executive committee would make several selections for the divisions to choose. Women will not be required to fence both events.

Meeting was temporarily interrupted by a train at 9:38.

There discussion regarding scheduling of women's events.

MOTION: SSCC tournaments will have no section mandated scheduling of events.

Seconded. Unanimously approved

David asked what minimums we should have regarding tournament problems, such as poorly run tournaments, big referee problem and burnout for SSCC committee members.

The general consensus was the tournaments will work their problems out without mandates from the section.

MOTION: Make a bid process for the SSCC tournaments.

Seconded.

MOTION: Amendment to the motion to include "Make a bid process for the SSCC approved by the Executive Committee."

Seconded. Unanimously approved

Discussion on the motion: Questions regarding what criteria for selecting a bid and whether it would be public or not. The response was the bids would be published before they were accepted or rejected, but no public explanation of rejections.

It was pointed out that we would do well to keep our politics within our divisional borders and not carry it into the section over bids.

Question called:

Unanimously defeated.

MOTION: SSCC to weigh the tournament results according to a scale similar to NAC's.

Seconded.

Discussion: Adding strength factors to results of very strong events at SSCC tournaments would prevent ties and put a bigger meaning on being on SSCC points. It would also open a door that we may not want to open nationally.

Motion to table:

Seconded

Motion to table withdrawn

Motion to move to committee:

Seconded

Motion to move to committee withdrawn

Question Called:

Unanimously defeated

2. Referee Development – Jerry Benson

Jerry did not want to discuss the proposals, but instead asked for a motion to accept the first paragraph with some revision of the recommendations that had been passed out and appeared online. The committee was to be made of 1 referee (preferably the highest in the division) to form a committee to develop recommendations which the executive committee would review; the commissioner of the SSCC would sit on the committee as a non-voting member.

MOTION: Southwest Section will develop a SWS Referee Committee consisting of 1 referee per division to develop recommendations which the executive committee will review. The SSCC commissioner will sit on the committee as a non-voting member.

Seconded.

Amendment: Divisions will designate or elect the representative in 30 days from May 17, 2003.

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Question called:

Motion unanimously approved.

3. Miscellaneous Business

Secretary asked if we were going to consider voting on amending by-laws to include time limit on the Sectional to prevent the near deadline tournament we are having this weekend. Richard Exnicios noted that the by laws already contain restrictions. Members were informed that according to the Southwest Sectional by-laws, we are not to have sectionals past May 10.

C. Election of officers

Chair suggested we nominate an entire slate then vote, entertained motion.

MOTION: Nominate entire slate then vote on all.

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Angela Torres was nominated for chair.

MOTION: Close nominations

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Clint Bower was nominated for vice-chair.

MOTION: Close nominations

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Anjea Ehrle was nominated for treasurer.

MOTION: Close nominations

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Terry Harkey was nominated for secretary.

MOTION: Close nominations

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Jerry Benson was nominated for USFA Board.

MOTION: Close nominations

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

Officers were offered as a slate of approved candidates.

MOTION: Accept by acclamation

Seconded: Unanimously approved.

MOTION: Adjourn meeting.

Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Harkey

Southwest Section Secretary