

6007-2009 SOUTHWEST SEASONS



LittlebitStudios

2009-2010
SEASON

The Southwest Section of the USFA is comprised of the following divisions:

- Arkansas-Louisiana-Mississippi
- Border Texas
- Gulf Coast
- Louisiana
- North Texas
- Oklahoma
- South Texas

WELCOME

TO THE INAUGURAL 2009
SOUTHWEST SECTION NEWSLETTER.

Editor: The Stay and Play Program has caused a lot of debate. Basically, according to the program, for a fencer to keep his or her registration for a national tournament the fencer must stay at a THS sanctioned hotel with few waiver options allowed. Below is Kurt Aichele's, the USFA Executive Director's, recent announcement on the subject.

Stay and Play Announcement

<http://usfencing.org/news/article/14665>

Kurt Aichele July 29, 2009

A Letter from the USFA Executive Director

As I took over the role as executive director of the USFA, I made a private commitment to myself as well as a public commitment to the Board of Directors that I would lead us through necessary organizational changes that would help U.S. fencing grow and thrive. An important component of this commitment includes guiding it to become a more responsive and adaptive organization that effectively listens to, serves, and acts on behalf of the interests of our membership. In keeping with this pledge, I strive for truly open communication where conditions can change, difficult conversations can occur, and complex situations can challenge clear decision-making. Consequently, I intend to focus on the goal of continually enabling organizational growth, visibility, and trust.

In recent months, the USFA has been planning a "soft" launch of a tournament-housing program that would effectively reduce costs for members while capitalizing on the impact we have on the cities where we hold our national events. Since the announcement of the "Stay-and-Play" program earlier this month, there has been a significant response from a variety of stakeholders, members, and others throughout the organization. I want you to know that I have carefully reviewed these

responses, listened to feedback, and had numerous personal conversations with many of you.

At the same time, the National Office has worked with volunteer leadership and a variety of members to develop a set of criteria that would serve as a prerequisite to any USFA commitment. In turn, we have expressed those expectations to, and placed demands on, our current housing provider (THS) regarding changes that we deemed necessary to effectively improve and provide the level of customer service that we required of their services (including their existing ones), and to give us the confidence that they would be capable of implementing this new program.

After a thoughtful and thorough review of the these factors, including member feedback and the response we have received from THS, at this point I am not confident we are prepared to launch the Stay-and-Play program, nor that THS is the optimal service provider for the program that we require to best serve our organization.

Therefore, I decided to put the Stay-and Play program on hold until we can investigate other housing options and service providers that would better benefit the USFA constituency. While I am confident that the Stay-and-Play program has significant merits, unless it can be delivered in such a way that it comprehensively meets the needs of U.S. fencers and their families, coaches, and clubs, I will not consider implementing it. Additionally, while we are currently

contracted with THS for existing, ongoing housing services, we will continue to demand and require an overall improvement in their customer service practices.

I am grateful for all of you who invested the time, thought, and energy to consider and respond to the proposed plan. The Executive Committee will discuss the budgetary implications of this decision over the next couple of weeks, and I will continue to keep you informed as we pursue the best options possible to enhance and develop American fencing.

For more information about the Stay and Play program please refer to the following:

Date: 7/22/09

[Christine Strong Simmons' announcement of the initial soft rollout of the program](http://usfencing.org/news/article/14494)
<http://usfencing.org/news/article/14494>

Date: 7/23/09

[Fencing Net's Craig Harkins' interview with Kurt Aichele](http://www.fencing.net/news/us-fencing/fencing-stay-and-play.html)
<http://www.fencing.net/news/us-fencing/fencing-stay-and-play.html>

[Fencing Net's Forum](#) gives a taste of the fencing public's opinion on this subject.

USFA 2009 – 2010 National Tournament

Dates and Deadlines

NAC A Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	DV2/DV3/U17	Des Moines, IA	October 9-12, 2009 August 24, 2009 August 25-31, 2009 September 28, 2009 October 5, 2009
NAC B Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	U20/U17/Y14	Kansas City, KS	November 6-9, 2009 September 7, 2009 September 8-21, 2009 October 26, 2009 November 2, 2009
NAC C Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	DV1/VET/CHR	Pittsburgh, PA	December 4-6, 2009 October 5, 2009 October 6-19, 2009 November 23, 2009 November 30, 2009
NAC D Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	DV1/U20	San Jose, CA	January 15-18, 2010 November 16, 2009 November 17-30, 2009 November 23, 2009 January 11, 2010
Junior Olympics Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Division Qualifying Forms Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	U20/U17	Memphis, TN	February 12-15, 2010 January 19, 2010 January 20-25, 2010 January 15, 2010 February 1, 2010 February 8, 2010
NAC E Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	DV2/DV3/VET/CHR	Dallas, TX	March 2010 January 25, 2010 January 26-February 5, 2010 March 1, 2010 March 8, 2010
NAC F Regular Fee Entry Deadline Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline	DV1/Y14/Y12/Y10	Virginia Beach, VA	April 23-26, 2010 March 8, 2010 March 9-19, 2010 April 12, 2010 April 19, 2010
Summer Nationals Regular Fee Entry Deadline Division & Section Qualifying Forms Late Fee Entry Period Classification Change Report Due to the National Office Withdraw Deadline		Atlanta, GA	July 4-13, 2010 May 10, 2010 May 10, 2010 May 11-21, 2010 June 21, 2010 June 28, 2010

***NAC A New
Entry Dates***

2009-2010 ROC Schedule

The Regional Open Circuit (ROC) is designed to promote and develop strong regional tournaments for Open/Division I-A fencers who seeks competitive opportunities beyond the local and sectional level, yet below the NAC Div I level.

Tournament	City	State	Date
Rose Condon Memorial	Shreveport,	LA	September 26-27, 2009
Steve Sobel ROC Tournament	Wayne	NJ	October 3-4, 2009
Remenyik Open	Evanston	IL	October 17-18, 2009
Duel in the Desert	Las Vegas	NV	January 8-10, 2010
Battle in Seattle	Seattle	WA	January 29-31, 2010
Alice Memorial Tournament	Houston	TX	February 6-7, 2010
Jeff Wolfe Long Island Challenge	Rocky Point	NY	April 10-11, 2010
Danny Bukantz Open	Maplewood	NJ	May 15-16, 2010

ROC Registration now available on askfred.net

BIB ON TARGET OR NOT?



Possible foil bib rule change still to be decided

At the July meeting, the USFA Board of Directors voted to postpone a vote on whether to enact the highly contested “bib-as-on-target” rule that has been in effect since 2009 for international competitions. The motion will be considered again at the September meeting of the Board of Directors after further review by USFA’s Fencing Official’s Commission. If passed, the bib would be on target for all national tournaments and qualifying

tournaments that lead to national events, (i.e. JO’s, ROC’s, RYC’s, Division and Section qualifiers). The major vendors are already developing conversion kits for their masks and Leon Paul has their X-Change Mask letting you swap bibs. Likely, for the best fit, the best idea will be to buy a kit from the company that made your current mask. Also, some armourers may be able to convert bibs. We’ll see what happens in September.

OTHER BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

D1 CLASSIFICATION CHANGE	VOTE IN SEPTEMBER: VETS QUALIFY AT ROC'S	VOTE IN SEPTEMBER: PROMOTE 100% IN VET EVENTS	NUMBER OF ROC'S
<p>The D1 tournament classification has changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum fencers: 15 • Rated fencers required: 4 E's (or higher) • Rated fencers must finish: 2 E's (or higher) in the top 8 • Classifications awarded: 1 -> D; 2-4 -> E. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The motion was seconded and will be voted on at the September meeting. • This would allow another qualifying path for the veteran fencer for nationals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The motion was seconded will be voted on at the September meeting. • This motion would adopt 100% promotion from pools to DEs in all Veteran USFA National events including NACs & Summer Nationals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed number of ROCs was modified from the original motion in the agenda. I don't know what the modifications were, but they passed. The original proposal was for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 12 Open six weapon tournaments, • 4-6 Div II/III six weapon tournaments, • Encourage organizers to add six-weapon veteran category.

NEWS

NEW SW SECTION OFFICERS	TERM BEGINS 8/1/09	TERMS ENDS 7/31/10
Chairman	Allan Curry	allan@atcurry.com
Vice-Chairman	Amgad Badawi	badawi_amgad@yahoo.com
Secretary	Christine Tadlock	secretary@southwestfencing.org
Treasurer	Carolyn Gresham-Fiegel	coach.carolyn@oksportfencing.com
USFA Board of Director Representative	August Skopik	katyblades@katyblades.com
Webmaster	???????	webmaster@southwestfencing.org

WANTED

Any news or photos that might be of interest to the Southwest Section fencing public.

Please email them to the Southwest Section Secretary, Christine Tadlock, at:

secretary@southwestfencing.org

ATTENTION:

The Section needs to update the contact information for the divisions on the Section's website. Please refer to the Officer's page and send updates to the Southwest Section Secretary.

WWW.SOUTHWESTFENCING.ORG/

secretary@southwestfencing.org

Remember to renew your USFA Membership. On-line registration is not available at this time. Download the application and either fax or mail it into the USFA office.

[USFA Membership Application Page](#)