



The Jersey Fencer

NJ DIVISION USFA

After one year as Chairman of The New Jersey Division of the United States Fencing Association I have a better understanding of what I believe is needed to return our Division to one that is a leader in the country, that affords opportunities for our fencers to grow and compete at all levels, and that keeps our Division solvent and thriving. During the past year, we have made ourselves more self-sufficient and will soon be in a position to open the local competitions to all vendors and to offer our athletes opportunities for competitive equipment prices.

We must now take the next step to move our Division forward and help our fencers become competitive at all levels. I would like to outline to you my goals for the upcoming year or two. We will work diligently to see these goals become a reality.

The most important step in helping our fencers at all levels is to provide a central location for all Division members and NJ clubs to use to their advantage. By securing a location that will accommodate 10-12 regulation strips, a work out area, office space, and other essentials, we can offer more opportunities for our fencers to compete and train together. We will have the flexibility to schedule competitions at our discretion while saving money and using money to benefit all of our members. Doing this will take sacrifices on all of our parts. We must increase our entry fees so we can have enough capital to purchase such a fencing center and maintain it. We are going to increase the entry fees for the Big 4 tournaments (U20, U17, U19, Denise O'Connor High

School Championships) to \$50. This will allow us to build up the capital we need to begin this important next step in our Division's future. We will also seek to hire a nationally recognized director for this fencing center who will help organize training sessions and competitions to augment the fencers' development at our Division's clubs. Of course, we will need to have the resources available to attract an individual who will be capable of providing these services.

To accomplish these goals, we will need all of our members' support and help. If you have skills that will help us raise money, find an appropriate facility to build or renovate into our NJ Fencing Center, or have the time to volunteer to help our Division in running competitions or further developing our business plan, I would like to hear from you.

These are bold moves that we need to take. Drastic steps are needed to move our Division from the holding pattern we have been in while our fencers have stagnated and the rest of the country catches-up and passes our successes. I don't claim to have all the answers, but I know we need to make changes. I believe these changes will help us to move forward. Are you willing to make these changes to revitalize our Division and make our fencers the best in the country again?

I look forward to serving with you for the betterment of the Division. If you have any questions about these issues or others that we need to address or if you can volunteer to help, please contact me at dmautone@aol.com.

Pre-Register for these Events or Incur a Financial Penalty at the Door

12-17-2000	U20 Qualifier	Mt. Olive HS
01-07-2001	U17 Qualifier	Hackettstown HS
01-28-2001	O'Connor HS Open	Christian Brothers Acad.
03-04-2001	U19 Natl Qualifier	West Morris Central HS



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Sabre Fencers

S2000 blades are required for qualifiers. See www.usfencing.org for all the rules changes.

Up to Date NJ Div Information

www.njfencing.org

973-564-9313

USFA AGE STANDARDS FOR THE 2000-2001 SEASON

Age standards based on international rules which state age cut off is as of January 1, 2001 for 2000-2001 season.

- Division I Born 1987 or earlier unless on the current Junior point standings AND must have "D" or HIGHER classification at entry deadline.
- Division II Born 1987 or earlier unless on the current Junior point standings AND must have "C" or LOWER classification at entry deadline.
- Division III Born 1987 or earlier unless on the current Junior point standings AND must have "D" or LOWER classification at entry deadline.
- Veteran Must be born 1960 or earlier.
- Junior Fencers must be born between 1981 and 1987. Younger age if on the current cadet standings. For 2001 Summer Nationals fencer must be born between 1982 and 1988; younger age if on the cadet standings on April, 15, 2001.
- Cadet Fencers must be born between 1984 and 1987. Younger age if on the current Y14 standings. For 2001 Summer Nationals fencer must be born between 1985 and 1988; younger age if on the Y14 standings on April, 15, 2001.
- Youth 14 Fencers must be born between 1986 and 1989; younger age if on the current Y12 standings; same for 2001 Summer Nationals.
- Youth 12 Fencers must be born between 1988 and 1991; younger age if on the current Y10 standings; same for 2001 Summer Nationals. Summer Nationals Y12 events are open to all who meet age criteria (no qualifying event required).
- Youth 10 Fencers must be born between 1990 and 1993; same for 2001 Summer National Championships. Summer Nationals Y10 events are open to all who meet age criteria (no qualifying event required).