

NJIFA, New Jersey Interscholastic Fencing Association  
Coaches Meeting Minutes, October 27, 2007, Morris Hills High School

I. Attendance:

Larry Weckstein, Boys Coach, Livingston  
Aaron Romain, Coach, Butler  
Tyler Jacobson, Coach, Moorestown Friends  
Patricia Gilbert, JV Coach, Moorestown Friends  
Michael Grohman, Parent, Columbia  
Ellen Hewett, Asst. Coach, Governor Livingston  
Tony Barbera, Asst. Coach, Governor Livingston  
Jim Rutzler, Asst. Coach, Governor Livingston  
Vince Paragano, Head Coach, Governor Livingston  
Steve Khinoy, Head Coach, Bergen County Academy  
Jim Lawless, Head Coach Boys, Voorhees  
Melanie Kerr, Asst. Coach Boys, Voorhees  
Paul Apostol, Head Coach Boys, Ramapo  
Ted Li, Coach, The Pingry School  
John Reid, Coach, North Hunterdon  
Chris Awad, Head Coach, Wayne Valley  
Tom Owens, Girls Coach, Pompton Lakes  
Sam Ciervo, Boys Coach, Pompton Lakes  
Toni Kiernan, Boys, Wayne Hills  
Jason Suto, Asst. Coach, Wayne Valley  
Joshua Lewis, Asst. Coach Girls, Wayne Hills  
Susan Lewis, Head Coach Girls, Wayne Hills  
Margie Jameson, Coach, West Essex  
Linda Byles-Smith, Coach, West Essex  
Lou DeVito, West Milford Boys  
Angelo DeVito, West Milford Girls  
Alex E. Soudah, The Hun School  
Richard Mayer, NJIFOA VP  
Sam Dupre, Head Coach, Hunterdon Central  
Micah Lewis, Asst. Coach Girls, Wayne Hills  
Michael Lanison, Asst. Coach, Hackettstown  
Laura Pelizzoni, Head Coach, Mendham  
Meimee Persau, Asst. Coach, Mendham  
Sabina Orsi, Teaneck Boys  
Pat Lawrence Teaneck Girls  
Roger Jones, Morris Knolls Girls  
Tom Tishman, Asst. Coach, Mendham  
Molly James, Somerville Girls  
Gene Packer, Coach, Fair Lawn  
Harry James, Boys Coach, Somerville  
Patrick Curran, Academy of the Holy Angels  
Glenn Blekicki, Bernards

II. Jack DuBois:

a. NJSIAA 2008 Tournament Schedule

- i. District 1 Hackettstown, Saturday Feb 2, 2008 (snow Feb 9<sup>th</sup>)
- ii. District 2 North Hunterdon, Saturday Feb 2, 2008 (snow Feb 9<sup>th</sup>)
- iii. District 3 Wayne Valley, Sunday Feb 3, 2008 (snow Feb 10<sup>th</sup>)
- iv. District 4 Fair Lawn, Sunday Feb 3, 2008 (snow Feb 10<sup>th</sup>)
- v. Squad Championships @ North Hunterdon
  - Boys Squad Championships Saturday Feb 23, 2008 (snow Mar 1)
  - Girls Squad Championships Sunday Feb 24, 2008 (snow Mar 2)
- vi. Team Tournament Dates/ Finals at Morris Hills, Gold at 7pm
  - Boys Team Tourney Feb 12(snow 14), Feb 20 (22), Feb 26 (28), Mar 6(7)
  - Girls Team Tourney Feb 13(snow 19), Feb 21(25), Feb 27(29), Mar 6(7)

- vii. Individual State Championships Sat, March 15, at Rider University
- III. 2007-2008 Tournament Dates
- a. Santelli, Saturday Jan 5 (snow Jan 12) @ Gill St. Bernards, Gladstone, NJ
  - b. Cetrulo, Sunday Jan 6 (snow Jan 13) @ Voorhees HS
- IV. Tournament Issues, Reminders from Spring 2007 Meeting
- a. Triplette Machines—Do NOT bring
  - b. Extension Cords—Please DO bring, along w/ 2 boxes
  - c. Increased Tournament Fees—To pay officials more
  - d. Rule Clarifications from Jeff Bukantz
    - i. Bout fenced out of order at a meet – go back to last bout fenced correctly and re-fence from there.
    - ii. If fencers are within fencing distance and one fencer covers target area – that is a penalty whether or not an attack has been launched. (yellow)
    - iii. Illegal use of back hand – red card
    - iv. Deliberate touch not on opponent – red card
    - v. Epee – corps-a-corps stops the action. Jostling gets a card.
    - vi. Hair must be up off jacket (and remain that way for the bout) in ALL THREE weapons. This will be enforced by referees.
    - vii. Fleching is not a question of WHEN or WHEN the touch scores but WHERE the foot lands. By definition a flech is executed when you hit and then cross your feet. If the back foot crosses the plane of the front toe a flech has occurred, not when! The back foot must come down and contact the ground behind the front foot with the fencer in control. Crossing the plane of the front toe with the back foot indicates a flech has occurred.
  - e. Frosh/Soph Format—Conferences are responsible for hosting these, not funded or organized by NJIFA
  - f. Santelli-Cetrulo Format---Unanimously voted in new format
  - g. Credentialing Issues—Only 2 high school coaches per team, max 4 per school on the floor
  - h. Team Timeouts--- 30 second between rounds in dual meets
- V. District Reps
- a. District One: Marianne Pratschler @ Hackettstown
  - b. District Two: John Reid @ North Hunterdon
  - c. District Three: Chris Awad @ Wayne Valley
  - d. District Four: Gene Packer @ Fairlawn
- VI. Volunteers—Very Important!
- a. Tournament date/site confirmation: Paulo DaSilva and Jim
  - b. Tournament start time reminder:
  - c. Tournament refreshments for officials: Sabina Orsi & Laura Pelizzoni
  - d. Securing Tournament officials: Sue Tracey
  - e. Tourney calculation equipment organizer: Nick LaTora
  - f. Tourney vendor contact: Vince Paragano
  - g. Tournament armorer assignment: Ted Li
  - h. Tournament trainer assignment: Don Difabio
  - i. Trophies: Pat Lawrence
  - j. All State Points Calculation: Dimitri Kopylov & Gene Packer
  - k. All State Points Dinner: Sabina Orsi & Chris Awad
  - l. Website & Yahoo! Group: Tom Tishman
  - m. 501C3/Nonprofit Group: Nick LaTora
- VII. Ratify Nick LaTora as 501C3/Nonprofit group liaison, passed unanimously

- VIII. Rick Mayer, VP Officials Update
  - a. Safety in playing area (runoff, chairs, fans, etc. be careful!)
  - b. Encourage officials to be a part of the Officials Assoc., they get paid more
  - c. Talk to AD to help raise the pay
  - d. Will be evaluating Coaches, just as Coaches evaluate Refs—Evaluations for all
  
- IX. Dayn DeRose, Drew University, USFCA Coaches' Association
  - a. Join USFCA, Hosting valuable seminars, Dec. 26, 2007 Women & Minorities Seminar, Summer 2008
  - b. Contact info: [dderose@drew.edu](mailto:dderose@drew.edu), daned@aol.com
  
- X. Bylaw Review, need to be updated, Tom Tishman to help
  
- XI. Tournament, Darlene and Rick Shellhouse, Youth Circuit Event RYC
  - a. Barb Lynch Youth Tournament—Ovarian Cancer Society to support
  - b. Dec 22-23 @ NJFencing Alliance, Maplewood
  
- XII. Gene Packer, won award from NJSI AA
  
- XIII. 47 Schools now have a program; Butler and Bergen Academy added to District 4
  
- XIV. Bottom Line: Check to make sure all contact info is correct on NJFIA.org website and join Yahoo! User group so you receive all relevant information in a timely manner.
  - a. Send email to: [njifa-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:njifa-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com)
  - b. Go to website: [njifa.org](http://njifa.org)
  - c. For Rules, see [usfencing.org](http://usfencing.org) and [njsiaa.org](http://njsiaa.org) website