## ABDEL SALEM

# 15280 Churchill Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80921 719-351-7819 | a.salem@comcast.net

#### **EXPERIENCE**

2019-present Referee, USA Fencing National Events

2019-present Coach, Front Range Fencing Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado

## 1998-2019 Retired, Head Coach Men's and Women's Fencing and Associate Professor, United States Air Force Academy

- Lead a team of primarily walk-ons to 19 All-Americans, numerous Western Regional Championships, and a national champion.
- Direct daily practices and competitive events.
- Manage fencing operations including fundraising and budget.
- Supervise assistant coach staff and student athletes
- Conduct athlete recruiting in compliance with school and NCAA guidelines.
- Collaborate with other areas in the Athletic Department to produce successful future Air Force Officers.
- Track athletic and academic progress of student athletes.
- Instruct a variety of Physical Education classes.
- Planned and maintained the world class fencing facility.

## 2008-2014 President, *United States Fencing Coaches Association*

- Oversaw the day to day function of the organization.
- Led meetings and counseled with the Executive Committee.
- Implemented coach training at regional and national workshops.
- Created the online newsletter Point in Line.
- Enhanced Association website and drastically improved communication between the organization and membership.
- Developed a method of instruction to improve coach skills
- Developed a system of testing to provide coach certification
- Ran successful clinics to prepare and improve coach knowledge base

## 1993-2005 Staff Member, <u>USA Fencing Coaches College</u>

 Developed curriculum and instructed training skills to coaches from around the nation in methodology to improve their abilities.

#### 1986-1989

#### Assistant Fencing Coach, University of Pennsylvania

- Coached Varsity and Junior Varsity Teams.
- Instructor for Physical Education courses.

#### OTHER COACHING EXPERIENCE

- Certified Fencing Master in all three weapons.
- Teaching and coaching fencing at New York Fencer's Club and Bryn Mawr College
- Founder and Head Coach Lone Star Fencing Center (Dallas) and Fairmont Park Fencing Center (Philadelphia).
- Students include U.S. Olympic and World Team members.

#### **HONORS**

- 2019 USA Fencing World University Games, Head Coach
- 2017 USA Fencing World University Games, Coach
- 2016 Rio Olympics, Coach
- 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, Athlete
- NCAA National Fencing Committee Member
- US Olympic Committee Fencing Coach of the Year
- NCAA Regional Coach of the Year, multiple times
- USFCA Southwest Coach of the Year
- USA Fencing World Cup Coach, multiple times
- USA Fencing World Military Games, Head Coach, multiple times
- USA Fencing Junior and Cadet Coach, multiple times
- US Olympic Festival Coach, multiple times

#### **EDUCATION**

1980

Doctor of Medicine, University of Alexandria, Egypt

### **CERTIFICATION**

<u>Fencing Master, Epee, Foil and Sabre</u>, USA Fencing Coaches Association and Federation International Escrime

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February 17, 2021

Dear USA Fencing Member,

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for the At-Large Director on the USA Fencing Board of Directors. My experience as Head Coach at the US Air Force Academy, President of the US Fencing Coaches Association, and other leadership roles make me an ideal candidate. I can make a significant contribution to USA Fencing. This is a wonderful opportunity to utilize my long involvement in our sport as a fencer, club and collegiate coach, educator, referee, and USA team leader. I will help USA Fencing see further success in all its programs.

My position as Head Coach at USAFA provided me the opportunity to work in a diverse environment and establish and maintain effective work relationships. My organizational skills in managing a NCAA Division 1 program, that is also a military program are proven. I am experienced in supervising staff, budgeting, and fundraising.

As President of the USFCA, I made significant advances in coaching education. I oversaw the redesign of the pedagogy including curriculum, testing and practical training. I ensured evaluation was objective and not subjective. I was able to guide public relations improvements that resulted in a growth in membership. One of my priorities as Director is developing a coordinated effort between the USFCA and USA Fencing that will benefit both organizations and their memberships.

Having worked in clubs with fencers of all ages and ability levels, I am very aware of the needs of all USA Fencing members and how best to grow and promote the sport of fencing in the United States. My experience as a Referee and Coach for USA Fencing teams has also expanded my ability to promote the organization's core values. I want to improve communication between fencers, coaches, parents and USA Fencing leadership.

I have built extraordinarily strong relationships with fencers, coaches, referees, and organizers. I would address the division that exists between these groups and prioritize improving their interrelationships.

Thank you for your support. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I am excited by the opportunity to put my knowledge and experience to work our sport.

Sincerely

Abdel Salem