## <u>Sulmas "Sue" Mohebi</u> Candidate for At-Large Director

Sulmas Mohebi, known as Sue to the fencing community, grew up in Tehran, Iran, where she graduated with a Pharm.D. degree from Azad University. She moved to the United States in 2001, and has worked as a pharmacist here for many years. Her involvement with fencing began in 2014, when she signed her son up for a beginning fencing class and watched him practice until she decided she had to give it a try. At age 38 she started to learn a new skill, and to her surprise, found her passion. She started competing in different local events. In 2017, she competed in her first national Vet-40 Women's Epee event, and won her first national medal.



Sue founded Ace Fencing Academy in 2019 with her partner Jason Pinchuk. Starting with a group of around 12 members, the club has grown over the last four years into a club with 60+ members. Sue is the proud mother of two epee fencers and resides outside of Los Angeles, CA.

## Why is Sue Running for the Board?

The seismic changes and turbulent events at the national level over the last couple of years have made her realize that as members of the community we care about so much, we should not sit by passively. We should get involved, voice our opinions and, when there is a need, step up to help.

Sue wants to ensure that, first and foremost, USA Fencing adequately represents, assists, and meets the needs of its members. USA Fencing should be a stable national platform that supports the growth of the sport at the grassroots level, without placing unnecessary burdens, demands, or costs on its member coaches, clubs, athletes and fencing families. USA Fencing needs to provide coaches and club owners with tools to help grow the sport, without getting in their way. At the same time, the national office should maintain its support for parafencing, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and our continuing excellence at the international competitive level.

From club insurance, to continuing education mandates for coaches and referees, to tournament scheduling, there are many pressing areas of concern to the community that need to be addressed. On all these issues and more, a vote for Sue is a vote for you. She comes from the community as a dedicated coach, club owner, athlete, and fencing parent, and pledges to defend members' interests above all.