

MONTANA USBC ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2017

1st Vice President Don Warner called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM at the Big Horn Resort in Billings.

Roll call was taken. Present: 1st Vice President Don Warner, Directors: Lewis Dobie, Teri Hodges, Leroy Thom, Don Jordan, Danielle Bolan, Mark Hodges, Bert Stiles, Rich Foran, Michelle Anderson, Sandy True, Marie Murphy, Debbie Martinich, Pam Brendgord and Association Manager, Tom Brendgord. Excused: President Fred Sadler, 2nd Vice President Nancy Collick, and Director Robyn Barker.

Minutes from the September 25, 2016, meeting were distributed, but were previously approved via email last October.

Financial Report: Given by Tom Brendgord. A financial report showing income and expense transactions through April 30, 2017 was distributed to all board members. Tom pointed out that this report was fairly meaningless, since it showed almost all tournament revenue received, but not all expenses paid. Tom mentioned that all local associations paid state dues at the increased rate that went into effect with the 2015-16 season. That wasn't the case one year ago. Tom also mentioned that the \$50,000 CD that we purchased one year ago will mature in August 2017 and should yield an estimated \$800 interest payment. Leroy Thom mentioned that there is an investment possibility originating in the Libby area that is headed up by Tim Rooney of Tungsten Holdings. He will try to arrange for Tim to be present at our Fall meeting on September 23-24.

Director Danielle Bolan questioned what the \$300 shown on the financial report under Tournament Entry Fees was for and found out that it was to pay the team entry fee for a team representing our association to the Open National Championships. After much discussion, a **motion by Marie Murphy and seconded by Rich Foran was made to eliminate that expense from future budgets. Passed.**

Association Manager Report: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

1. Current membership is 10,773 (adults) and 1390 (youth). This is down 510 adults from last year compared to 381 adults less the year before. Youth is up 31 from last year compared to being down 81 from the year before.
2. Out of 45 adult associations: 11 gained members, 32 lost members, 2 with no change. The largest gain was Hamilton - 45. The largest loss was Missoula - 83. These numbers will change with summer leagues starting soon, and as the Missoula 5 Valley bowlers find a spot to bowl.
3. Out of 23 youth associations: 12 gained members, 9 lost members, 2 with no change. The largest gain was Miles City - 21. The largest loss was Missoula - 32.
4. State tournament entries are down this year from last year. The Open is down about 40 teams and the Women's is down about 30 teams. The Women's came in only 3 teams short of expected. The Youth tournament was down only one team and the YBC was up 55 entries, which was mostly due to the participation of the Sidney youths.
5. Winlabs 12 is being installed at the local association level right now and is unsure when it will be available to the state association. We are still unsure how that may or may not affect our ability to extract state tournament scores for use in various databases that we use for rerating bowlers.
6. Board changes - 2 new members this year (Lewis Dobie & Don Jordan, who was appointed); Fred Sadler is our new president replacing Mike Evjen, who termed out last year.
 - a. Two more board members are scheduled to term out this year (July 31) – Michelle Anderson and Marie Murphy. That could change if a new bylaw amendment is approved extending term limits to 5 terms.
 - b. Teri Hodges is in her final term with one year remaining.
 - c. Four more board members, if re-elected on Sunday, could be entering their final term. They are: Don Warner, Leroy Thom, Mark Hodges and Bert Stiles.

7. New AM's this year in Chinook and Eureka. Bozeman and Thompson Falls will have new AM's next fiscal year.
8. USBC required merger in 2018 will require 4 of our associations to merge soon. Plentywood, Chinook, Red Lodge and Columbia Falls are our only unmerged associations. Whitefish and Bigfork are combining to form one association called Flathead Valley. It is hoped that Columbia Falls will join them.
9. Red Zone in Butte is closed. Hi Line Lanes in Havre and Fat Cat Lanes in Laurel have new owners. Hi Line changed their name to Harvest Moon Lanes. Rimrock Lanes in Thompson Falls has completed a total renovation including pinsetters, synthetic lanes and new scorers.
10. The Montana Family Doubles tournament sponsored by Republic Services resurrected the former International Family Tournament after a one year hiatus and was a tremendous success awarding over \$6,000 in scholarships at their state finals. Republic Services has already committed to sponsoring this tournament again in 2017-18.

President's Report: Was not given this meeting because of the excused absence of our president, Fred Sadler.

National convention reports:

Rich Foran reported that the 2018 U.S. Open will revert to its former format. It was changed for 2017 because of the smaller size of the bowling venue that had been previously chosen. He also stated that starting with the 2017-18 season all leagues will have to declare if they are a standard, sport or challenge type of league, which is a reflection of the type of lane condition on which they will bowl. He mentioned some of the bylaw changes that were dealt with including one that will allow local associations to send to the national convention one delegate per 500 members with a cap at 30. The required adult & youth quorums at meetings were combined into one quorum. The Montana USBC quorum presently is 38 combined adult and youth delegates. Legislation is being presented at the delegate's meeting on May 21 to lower that.

Mark Hodges reported that the prize winnings reporting requirement for USBC certified tournaments requiring such has been changed. Now a bowler will have to report winnings if they equal or exceed \$300 for one event, \$500 for one tournament, or \$1,000 for one season. Mark also mentioned that he signed our state association up for a program called USBC Board Evaluations, but that we would have to vote to approve doing the evaluations. **Motion to accept made by Lewis Dobie, 2nd by Don Jordan. Passed.** All members of the Montana USBC board will be given the opportunity to do these evaluations online. All must do so within a 20-day period, but preferably a 10-day period, to be eligible for a free Jersey. Mark also mentioned that all bowling centers will have to have inspections conducted and be certified for the 2017-18 season.

Committee reports:

Nominating Committee: Sandy True gave the report.

The following list of candidates for the delegate's meeting on May 21 are: 1st Vice-President-Don Warner; Director-District #1-Leroy Thom; Director-District #2-Charlie Pepos; Director-District #3-Mark Hodges; Director-District #4-Bert Stiles and Chris Guidry; Youth Director-District #2-Don Jordan & Marie Murphy (pending bylaw change approval); Youth Director-District #4-Pam Brendgord; Director-At-Large-Tom Brendgord; National Delegates-Nancy Collick, Rich Foran, Mark Hodges, Don Warner. Sandy also mentioned that all applications on file more than 5 years will have to be updated.

Youth/Scholarship Committee: Marie Murphy gave the report.

Some scheduling changes were made to the Pepsi YBC tournament as follows: 2018 will be in Butte instead of Missoula, 2019 will be in Missoula instead of Great Falls, 2020 will be in Helena instead of Butte, and 2021 will be in Butte instead of Great Falls. These changes were made because the 8-lane center, Black Eagle Lanes in Great Falls, is not conducive to handling the needs of this tournament. Marie also mentioned a change to the entering average rule for the 2018 Youth State tournament. Youths will now have to use the higher average of the two, March 1st or previous end-of-season (12 game minimum for Divisions 1-4, and 10 game minimum for Division 5). **A motion by Teri Hodges and 2nd by Rich Foran was made to accept the average rule change. Passed.** Marie mentioned the scholarship winners for this season: Michael Hessler (Anaconda) - \$1,000 Highest Points Scored; Emmett Moore (Billings) - \$750 MT USBC Boy; Leah Becker (Bozeman) - \$750 MT USBC Girl; Marianna Pizzini (Helena) - \$500 Isabel Cummings scholarship.

Hall of Fame: No report given.

Awards: Teri Hodges gave the report.

- Family-of-the-Year award going to the Loran Family of Billings at the banquet on May 20, 2017.
- Suggested that the Award committee be disbanded due to lack of need. **Motion made by Rich Foran and 2nd by Sandy True to eliminate Awards committee. Passed.**
- Suggested that all future Family-of-the-Year applications be handled by the Hall of Fame committee with input from the entire board. **A motion made by Rich Foran and 2nd by Don Jordan for all future FOY applications to be handled by the Hall of Fame committee. Passed.**

Tournament Committee: Bert Stiles gave the report.

- 2022 state tournament schedule was determined as follows: Open–Billings; Women-Butte; Youth-Missoula; YBC-Helena; Hall of Fame banquet/Delegate’s meeting-Billings.
- Credit card acceptance for state tournament entry fees. Webgrain (Billings based) will handle the set up. Estimated cost @ \$2,200 to be paid through our technology fund (aka Equipment Reserve). Vote to accept: **Motion made by Don Jordan and 2nd by Rich Foran. Passed.**
- Host City Guidelines change: Souvenir book (aka program book) changed to allow local associations to receive all revenue gained and be responsible for all losses. No longer have to share revenue gained with the Montana USBC. **Motion to accept by Danielle Bolan and 2nd by Don Jordan. Passed.**
- New brackets software is necessary to continue to satisfactorily offer brackets at the Open and Women’s tournaments. Need either one brackets program with 4 keys or two brackets programs with 2 keys each in order to be able to offer brackets at two centers in two tournaments at the same time. Prefer to purchase from Great Falls based Treasure Software. Estimated cost \$800 can be funded through Equipment Reserve. **Motion to accept by Lewis Dobie and 2nd by Mark Hodges. Passed.**
- Standing rules change. No ball cleaner of any kind will be allowed in all state tournaments including ones marked “USBC approved” and shall be posted at tournament check in table.
- Entering eligibility change to future Open and Women’s State tournaments: Out of state bowlers will no longer be allowed to enter those tournaments unless they have a Montana average of 21 games or more in a USBC certified league.
- Entry fee increase approved for 2018 Youth State tournament. Entry fee for divisions 1-4 increasing to \$20 per person per event and increasing to \$15 for division 5. **Motion to accept entry fee increase by Danielle Bolan with a 2nd by Don Jordan. Passed.** The 2018 Youth State tournament will be held in Billings starting April 14 and ending on April 22 (2 weekends).
- The 2018 Open State tournament will be in Great Falls starting March 24 and ending May 20 including Easter weekend (March 31-April 1) for a total of 9 weeks. Team event at Elks Lanes. Doubles/Singles at Little’s Lanes. Friday night shifts will be available at Elks Lanes starting April 13. Fred Sadler will be tournament director.
- The 2018 Women’s State tournament will be in Helena starting April 7 and ending May 13 (6 weeks total). Jacki Huff and Danielle Bolan will be co-tournament directors. Friday night shifts will be available starting April 27. Team event and dbls/sgls will be at Sleeping Giant Lanes. All shifts will be flex shifts.
- 2017 Senior State tournament will be held at Lucky Strike Lanes in Ronan starting September 30 through October 22 for a total of 4 weekends. The tournament director will be Tim Corbett. The tournament site for the 2018 Senior State will be Thompson Falls. The site for the 2019 Senior State will be Forsyth and the site for the 2020 Senior State tournament will be Cut Bank. Bids for future Senior State tournaments must be submitted to Tom Brendgord by September 5, 2017.
- 2018 Pepsi YBC will be held in Butte. Dates: April 6-8. Debbie Martinich will be the tournament director. All other aspects of the YBC were mentioned in the youth committee report.

Legislative: Rich Foran gave the report.

There are two bylaw changes to be voted on at the Delegate’s meeting on May 21, 2017. One is in tandem with the change made at the previously mentioned national convention in which adult quorums and youth quorums were

consolidated into one quorum. We will be asking our delegates to approve a combined quorum of 28 adult and youth delegates for our future meetings. The other bylaw amendment is asking to change term limits for directors only from three terms to five (ten year total). Both of these bylaw amendments require a 2/3 majority vote.

Publicity, Website and Memorial: Don Warner gave the report.

- Our Microsoft 365 website now has an app that converts email to phone.
- Don Warner suggests that we have a training session regarding our website (not to exceed one hour) at the Fall meeting this coming September in Helena. A possible time slot might be the one formerly occupied by the Awards committee.

Future Meetings committee: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

- 2017 Fall meeting: September 23-24 at Hampton Inn in Helena.
- 2018 Spring meeting & HOF banquet: Holiday Inn in Great Falls, May 18-20, 2018.
- 2018 Fall meeting: September 15-16 at Star Lanes in Butte.
- 2019 Spring meeting & HOF banquet: May 17-19, 2019, in Butte at Star Lanes and Copper King motel.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Rich Foran showed the board a picture of shirts that are available to youths participating in the 2017 Junior Gold tournament. The shirts sell for \$73 each. The idea was to have all Montana youths, who will be attending Junior Gold, wear these shirts when they parade into the bowling area as a Montana contingent. He was requesting that the Montana USBC either purchase 100% of the shirts or a percentage less than 100%. After much discussion, members of the board suggested that these youths ask the bowling centers where they participate to either help pay for them or help with fundraisers to pay for the shirts. **Request denied.**
- A suggestion was made to see if it would be possible to provide a Hall of Famer check mark on state tournament entry forms so that it would be easier for the tournament directors to identify bowlers that need to be introduced at the start of a shift.

Meeting adjourned 2:35 pm.

Submitted by Tom Brendgord