

MONTANA USBC ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2017

President Fred Sadler called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM at the Hampton Inn in Helena.

Roll call was taken. Present: Fred Sadler, 1st Vice President Don Warner, 2nd Vice President Nancy Collick, Directors: Lewis Dobie, Teri Hodges, Leroy Thom, Charlie Pepos, Danielle Bolan, Mark Hodges, Chris Guidry, Rich Foran, Tom Brendgord, Sandy True, Terri Johnson, Debbie Martinich, Pam Brendgord and Association Manager, Tom Brendgord. Excused: Director Robyn Barker.

Minutes from the May 20, 2017, meeting were approved by email vote in June, but were amended on page 4 where the quorum requested was corrected from 23 to 28. Motion by Nancy Collick with 2nd by Mark Hodges to approve the amendment. Passed.

Financial Report: Given by Tom Brendgord. Financial reports through July 31, 2017, and budget spreadsheets for 2017-18 were distributed to all board members. Tom pointed out that we profited \$7,068.35 in the fiscal year ending July 31, 2017 mainly due to the entry fee increases implemented in the 2017 state tournaments. Areas that were worse than expected were: (1) paid more for postage due to new service charge imposed by Pitney Bowes, (2) 50/50 income was down \$2,000 in the Open from this year to last year, (3) women's souvenir pin sales barely broke even this year (4) Open tournament entries were down 37 teams this year and Women's tournament entries were down 31 teams. Areas that turned out better than expected were: (1) per diem was down \$4,800 from budget, (2) Hall of Fame banquet and Spring meeting almost broke even. Hall of Fame revenue exceeded \$1,000 over budget. (3) made an additional \$2,000 by having a host hotel for the Open, (4) USBC convention delegate's expenses were almost \$700 less than budget, (5) saved \$1,000 on scholarships either not awarded or refunded by college, (6) office expense was \$708 below budget, (7) senior tournament entries in 2016 were 264, which was 44 entries more than projected plus a new state record. The 2017-18 budget committee recommendations are: (1) continue the postcard project, but budget \$900 for it, (2) purchase same amount of pins as last year, but 800 emblems (300 more than last year) at a cost increase of \$100 (3) budget \$1,200 for 4 each Perfect Brackets software programs, which were approved in the spring 2017 meeting, (4) budget \$500 for participation pins/bars for women's tournament, (5) increase budgets for meeting expense and Hall of Fame due to anticipated higher costs in Great Falls in 2018, (6) recommend entry fees for Youth State tournament increase to \$20 per person per event (division 1-4) and \$15 per person per event (division 5), (7) \$50,000 CD to renew at Billings FCU. Rate is 2.0%. Term is 2 years. Proposal to provide online state tournament entries was postponed indefinitely. It was pointed out by Lewis Dobie that a math error was made on the Youth page of the budget worksheet. In the Actual 16-17 column the revenue over expense should have read \$1,488.78. Motion to accept financial report made by Rich Foran and 2nd by Mark Hodges. **Passed.**

Association Manager Report: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

1. Adult membership in 2016-17 was 10,846, which was 455 less than 2015-16 (11,301). Youth membership was 1,399 in 2016-17, which was 29 more than in 2015-16 (1,370). 23 associations reported youth members compared to 21 associations a year ago. Broadus USBC is adding a youth program this year.
2. Local association changes for 2017-18: Whitefish and Bigfork have merged to become one association. Both the Plentywood and Red Lodge associations are now merged. There are new association managers in Bozeman, Laurel and Thompson Falls.
3. Bowling center news: New owner at Jack's Bar & Lanes in Fort Benton.
4. Proprietor tournaments:
 - a. The Montana Family Doubles Tournament is entering its second year and again is sponsored by Republic Services. Three regional tournaments with one in January in Billings, one in February in Missoula and one in March in Helena with the state finals again in Helena on March 17-18. Similar format to last year with one major improvement to allow bowlers to advance to the state finals with multiple partners. \$6,000 in scholarships to be awarded at state finals.

- b. The U.S. Open Qualifiers originally planned to be held at Star Lanes in 2018 as optional events to the Jeanette Martinich and Ringin' Ten tournaments will be changed. The women's qualifier to be conducted as an optional event at the Jeanette Martinich Classic will now be a qualifier for the Queens tournament, not the U.S. Women's Open. The U.S. Open (men's) Qualifier will no longer be held.

President's Report: Given by Fred Sadler. Fred welcomed the three new board members, who were elected during the spring meeting, and thanked all board members for their commitment and dedication to the state association and to bowling in general.

Nominating Committee: Leroy Thom stated that there 9 positions open for the election next May in Great Falls. They are: President, 2nd Vice President, District 1 Director, District 2 Director, District 3 Director, District 4 Director, one Director-at-Large position, District 1 Youth Director, and District 3 Youth Director. Leroy also mentioned that Teri Hodges is terming out of her position as District 1 Director. To run or rerun for a position, an applicant must email him. New applications can be obtained online at: mtusbc.org/downloads. Applications over five years old need to be updated.

Youth/Scholarship Committee: Pam Brendgord gave the report. She said that there would be no changes to the scholarship application/process for this bowling season. The SMART account unassigned funds balances are: \$12,693.17 for the Pepsi YBC tournament and \$3,385.23 for Youth State. \$2,000 will be awarded in the 2018 YBC and nothing will be assigned for Youth State. The 2018 Youth State will be held at Fireside Lanes in Billings on 3 weekends starting April 14 and ending April 29. The Pepsi YBC will be held at Star Lanes in Butte on April 6-8. There will be entry fee increases for all divisions in the YBC except the optional handicap event. There will be no youths rerated for this season. The 2018 Junior Gold will be in Dallas, Texas July 14-21. A change to the travel stipends that youths are eligible to receive in our YBC tournament has been mandated by nationals. They now require that we give the designated amounts to each divisional champion who attends Junior Gold regardless if they qualified in a previous event or not.

Hall of Fame: Nancy Collick gave the report.

- The 2018 HOF banquet will be in Great Falls at the Holiday Inn. The date is Saturday, May 19, 2018.
- The HoF committee is now handling the Family-of-the-Year award also. Both the HOF and the FOY applications are available on our website, mtusbc.org.

Tournament Committee: Mark Hodges gave the report.

- The proposal to develop a system for completing and paying state tournament entries online was put on hold. It is with Webgrain Inc. in Billings, a website developer. However, a committee was formed of Don Warner, Nancy Collick and Tom Brendgord to look into the possibility of accepting credit card payments through PayPal.
- The postcard project that was prepared and distributed in late December to all bowlers who entered the Open, Women's & Senior tournaments will be done again this year. It includes information on all five of our state tournaments. \$900 has been budgeted for this project.
- The ball cleaner rule that was discussed and approved in the meeting last May was discussed again. This rule has been placed on our Standing Rules and is in effect for all of our tournaments. Signs are to be placed when entering the bowling center and at the check-in tables. Plus announcements are to be made at each shift both at the start and end of the announcements.
- A new rule recently enacted by USBC, Rule 319d, has been waived for all of our state tournaments. The rule stated that winnings in the previous 12 months must be reported to tournament management if: \$300 or more in one event, \$500 or more in one tournament, or \$1,000 or more in combined tournaments in one year.
- Starting with the 2018 Open and Women's State tournaments, the entering average rule will be changed to require that a bowler use their Montana tournament average for a minimum of 21 games for the previous 5 years. This average will be available on our website, www.mtusbc.org, and will not apply to our youth tournaments. For bowlers not having the minimum 21 games, then they will have to comply with the former rule of end-of-previous-season average or January 1st average, whichever is higher.

- The 2018 Open State tournament will be in Great Falls from March 24-May 20, 2018 including Easter weekend (Mar. 31-April 1). Fred Sadler will be tournament director. Team event will be at the Elks Lanes. Doubles/Singles will be at Little's Lanes. There will be a Friday night shift starting April 13. New brackets software has been purchased for both the Open & Women's tournaments. Any unclaimed bracket money by the end of the tournament will be donated to the local youth bowlers.
- The 2019 Open State tournament will be in Butte and run 8 weekends plus some Friday nights. It will run from March 30-May 19.
- The Women's State tournament will be in Helena from April 7-May 13, 2018. All shifts will be flex shifts. Jacki Huff and Danielle Bolan will be co-tournament directors. Entry deadline will be May 13. We will purchase 300 souvenir pins and 800 emblems for the 2018 tournament. Team event and doubles/singles events will all be at Sleeping Giant Lanes. The same rule changes for the Open also apply to the Women's tournament.
- The 2019 Women's State tournament will be in the Flathead Valley with team at Pin & Cue Lanes in Whitefish and doubles/singles at Pick's Bowl in Bigfork. Mary Kruse was selected as tournament director. Dates suggested, but not yet confirmed are April 12 or 13 thru May 12 for four weekends skipping Easter weekend (April 20-21). There will be Friday night shifts.
- 2018 Youth State tournament will be held in Billings starting April 14 thru April 29 for a total of 3 weekends. Every event will be at Fireside Lanes. Pam Brendgord will be the tournament director with assistance from Rich Foran. All shifts will be flex shifts. As previously mentioned in the financial report, the entry fees have changed as follows: Division 1-4 - \$20 per person per event; Division 5 - \$15 per person per event.
- The 2019 Youth State will be in Helena tentatively starting April 13 and ending May 5 for 3 weekends and skipping Easter weekend (April 20-21).
- 2018 Senior State tournament will be held at Rimrock Lanes in Thompson Falls with the starting date still unsure. If four weekends, then it will start September 28 through October 21. If five weekends, then it will be determined in the spring meeting the actual dates. The tournament directors will be Ginger Ward and Sandy True. The site for the 2019 Senior State will be Forsyth and the site for the 2020 Senior State tournament will be Cut Bank. Miles City was chosen for the site of the 2021 Senior tournament.
- 2018 Pepsi YBC will be held in Butte. Dates: April 6 - 8. Debbie Martinich will be the tournament director. The 2019 Pepsi YBC will be in Missoula April 6-7. The 2020 Pepsi YBC will be in Helena April 3-5.
- The Standing Rules that apply to the Open and Women's State tournament was changed to include Rule 201c a year ago and is now amended to include Challenge league average adjustments when that is the only average a bowler has.

Legislative: Rich Foran gave the report. Our bylaws have been updated effective August 1, 2017, to include the new quorum changes passed in the spring 2017 meeting plus some housekeeping changes. The bylaws are also on our website.

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

- Email addresses are now available on our website for our three new directors, Charlie Pepos, Chris Guidry and Terri Johnson.
- Don also reflected on some of the Office 365 options available on our website some of which he displayed at our workshop the night before.

Future Meetings: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

- Our Fall 2018 meeting will be in Butte on Sept. 22-23. The meetings will be at Star Lanes. The Butte Plaza Inn gave us a quote of \$92 per night + tax for guest rooms, which was considerably lower than the room rate given us by the Copper King Inn of \$135. The Butte Plaza Inn was chosen.
- The spring 2019 meetings, HOF banquet and Delegate's meeting will also be in Butte on May 17-19. The meetings and banquet will be at Star Lanes. Again the Butte Plaza Inn gave us the same rate as the fall meeting and was chosen.

Old Business: Mark Hodges reported the results of the **Board Evaluations Key Findings** stemming from the USBC survey taken by the entire board last spring. The #1 key finding was: Board should develop & maintain an Association Operation Manual easily accessible to members. #2 is: Board should develop an emergency succession plan for Association Manager position. #3 is: Board should develop an orientation packet for new members, outlining responsibilities & committee responsibilities. Fred Sadler wants each committee to provide input into our proposed policy manual. This input should be done by our spring meeting next May. Tom Brendgord will be the lead person for the association operations manual.

New Business:

- Rich Foran presented to Fred Sadler the Diamond Jubilee Association award certificate. This was the result of the BVL \$813 donation made on behalf of the Montana USBC association in the past year.

Meeting adjourned 11:40 am.

Submitted by Tom Brendgord