

MONTANA USBC ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2018

President Fred Sadler called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM at Star Lanes in Butte.

Roll call was taken. Present: Fred Sadler, 1st Vice President Don Warner, Directors: Lewis Dobie, Mike Evjen, 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: 2nd Vice President Nancy Collick and Director Robyn Barker.

Minutes from the May 19, 2018, meeting were approved by email vote in June in which they were approved by all 13 respondents.

Financial Report: Given by Tom Brendgord. The balance sheet through July 31, 2018, and budget spreadsheets for 2018-19 were distributed to all board members. Tom pointed out that we profited \$10,329.34 in the fiscal year ending July 31, 2018 mainly because of higher than expected 50/50 and brackets revenues from the Open and Women's state tournaments. The 2018-19 finance committee recommendations are: (1) continue the postcard project, at a budget of \$900, (2) purchase 1,000 200-pins for the Women's tournament for a cost of \$1,905, which represents a savings of \$300 or more and enough to last at least 7 to 8 years, (3) budget \$1,682 for 2,000 YBC participation patches for the Pepsi YBC tournament, which represented a \$0.11 per patch savings and enough patches to last 7 to 8 years, (4) increase the budget for Junior Gold travel stipends from \$2,100 to \$2,800 due to the new U17 division added to our YBC tournament, (5) recommend capital computer equipment purchases as follows: \$5,000 for new server, 4 new laptops @ \$900 estimated each (\$3,600 total), 4 new printers @ \$500 estimated each (\$2,000 total). This new equipment is necessary so that the new software, WinLabs 12, which is required by USBC, will be compatible and able to service our state tournaments. The new laptops and printers are needed to replace four older laptops, which will be used to provide the Brackets software that we purchased last year. This equipment purchase also increased our projected depreciation expense from \$1,137 to \$2,025. The total 2018-19 budget shortfall is \$17,850. Motion to accept financial report and approve the finance committee recommendations made by Sandy True and 2nd by Mark Hodges. **Passed.**

Association Manager Report: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

1. Adult membership in 2017-18 was 10,386, which was 460 less than 2016-17 (10,846). The decrease one year ago was 455. Youth membership in 2017-18 was 1,333, which is a decrease of 66 from 2016-17. A year ago youth membership increased 29 more than in 2015-16. 23 associations reported youth members, which is the same as last year. The top 5 adult associations last year: Billings – 1770, Great Falls – 1139, Helena – 826, Missoula – 781, Bozeman – 648. Top 5 youth associations: Billings – 217, Glendive – 143, Helena – 135, Butte – 118, Cut Bank – 92.
2. Local association changes for 2018-19: Chinook and Columbia Falls are now merged as required. There are new association managers in Thompson Falls, Missoula and Great Falls. Eureka association reported 4 adult memberships last year. Have not been able to contact their association manager, Kirk Dieziger, so don't know if he is still their AM. Need a district #1 rep to check that out.
3. Bowling center news: Bowling center in Hamilton is about to change ownership and could add 12 lanes in near future. Harlem center is reported closed. If so, the Harlem USBC will be inactive losing 47 members from last year. Bowling center in Belt is also reported closed. Sources report a possible bowling center to open in Phillipsburg, but cannot confirm if true, nor size. Fireside Lanes in Billings recently joined BPAA making Billings eligible to host Pepsi YBC.
4. Proprietor tournaments:
 - a. The Montana Family Doubles Tournament lost its sponsor, Republic Services. Therefore, that tournament has been abandoned until further notice.
 - b. Queens Qualifier to be held at Star Lanes in 2019 as an optional event at the Jeanette Martinich Classic the first weekend in March. The U.S. Open Qualifier will probably be conducted as an

optional event at the Ringin' Ten Classic at Star Lanes the third weekend in March. This will be a separate arrangement between Star Lanes and the USBC and is unconfirmed at this time.

President's Report: Given by Fred Sadler. Fred mentioned the trip he took to the Flathead area in August to inspect the lanes in Whitefish and Bigfork being used to host the 2019 women's tournament. The inspection committee was very well and enthusiastically received by both centers. He said that both centers easily passed the committee's inspection. He also recently returned from the Dallas area where he attended the Bowling Academy given by USBC. Forty four people attended that session. He raved about the quality of his learning experience and highly recommended that others go to this academy, if possible, in the future. One idea he returned with was that we need to develop a board orientation program for new board members.

Nominating Committee: Given by Sandy True. Sandy stated that there are 8 positions open for the election next May in Butte. They are: 1st Vice President (Don Warner), District 1 Director (Leroy Thom), District 2 Director (Charlie Pepos), District 3 Director (Mark Hodges), District 4 Director (Chris Guidry), one Director-at-Large position (Tom Brendgord), District 2 Youth Director (Terri Johnson), and District 4 Youth Director (Pam Brendgord). Sandy also mentioned that Don, Leroy and Mark are terming out of their positions this year. Sandy also mentioned that four directors just entered their final terms and will term out in 2020. They are herself, Debbie Martinich, Rich Foran and Robyn Barker. New applications can be obtained online at: mtusbc.com.

Youth/Scholarship Committee: Pam Brendgord gave the report. She said that the 2019 Youth State tournament will be held in Helena starting April 12 through May 5 excluding Easter weekend. Danielle Bolan will be the tournament director. Changes to the tournament entry form that were passed at our spring meeting in 2018 have been implemented. **The youth committee also recommends changing the bowling center hosting requirement for future state youth tournaments from 20 to 12 lanes minimum.** The 2019 Pepsi YBC tournament will be held in Missoula on April 6-7 with Teri Hodges the tournament director. That tournament will include a new U17 division required by USBC. Because of the additional division, additional scholarship money will be necessary, but not necessarily available from entry fees. Therefore, the committee desires to increase the amount of our SMART account unassigned funds from \$2,000 to \$4,000. **Mike Evjen motioned that we allow assigning those additional funds. Second by Lewis Dobie. PASSED.** The travel stipends that youths are eligible to receive in our YBC tournament has been changed from \$2,100 to \$2,800 to accommodate the additional bowlers qualified for Junior Gold caused by the new U17 division. This was also approved previously by the board when they approved the recommendations of the finance committee. The youth committee expressed an interest to conduct a silent auction/raffle during the 2019 Hall of Fame banquet being held at Star Lanes in Butte the weekend of May 17-19. Proceeds will be used to supplement the 14 additional youth scholarships needed to pay off the YBC due to the new U17 division.

Hall of Fame: This committee did not meet due to Nancy Collick's excused absence. Therefore, there was no report given.

Tournament Committee: Mark Hodges gave the report.

- 2019 Women's State tournament will be held in Flathead Valley starting April 12 through May 12 (4 weekends) excluding Easter weekend. Team event at Pin & Cue Lanes in Whitefish and Doubles/Singles at Pick's Lanes in Bigfork. Mary Kruse is the tournament director. A proposal was made to change the division average limits to create a more even distribution of the prize fund payoff, but that proposal was defeated. This tournament along with the 2019 Open and 2019 Youth will also allow multiple entry doubles/singles. A bowler may enter doubles up to three times providing they change partners each time and also enter singles each time. A person is allowed to cash only once in singles. Entry fee is \$30 per person per event (no change from last year). No change in eligibility rule from last year. All bowlers must have a current year certified Montana league average of 21 games or more. Souvenir pins representing the 2019 tournament will sell for \$6 each, an increase from \$5 each in the past. The 2020 Women's State tournament will be in Billings with team event at Town & Country Lanes and doubles/singles at Fireside Lanes.
- 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 entering average rule for the Open, Women's and Senior state tournaments that was adopted for the 2018 tournaments will continue to be the first priority used for the 2019 tournaments. A bowler must use their Montana tournament average for a minimum of 21 games for the previous 5 years. This average will be available on the website, www.bowlmontana.com, but will not apply to our youth tournaments. For bowlers not having the minimum 21 games, they will have to comply with the former rule of end-of-previous-season average or January 1st average, whichever is higher.
- The 2019 Open State tournament will be in Butte from March 30-May 19, 2019 including Easter weekend (April 19-21). Dave Martinich will be tournament director. Every event will be at Star Lanes. There will be a Friday night shift @ 6 pm and running for five Fridays starting April 19. Entry fee will be \$30 per person per event (no change from last year). Multiple doubles/singles entries allowed as mentioned in 2019 Women's tournament. The 2020 Open State tournament will be in Missoula and run 8 weekends (including Easter weekend) plus some Friday nights. It will run from March 28-May 17.
- 2019 Youth State tournament will be held in Helena starting April 13 thru May 5 (excluding Easter weekend) for a total of 3 weekends. Every event will be at Sleeping Giant Lanes. Danielle Bolan will be the tournament director. All shifts will be flex shifts. Changes made to the 2019 tournament include: Division 5 (bantams) will include all youths who are age 8 or under as of August 1, 2018; Bantams will also be allowed to bowl up into higher divisions as well as enter their own division; anyone reserving 4 team spots or more are required to have all entry forms and fees to the tournament director by or before March 5, 2019. **A motion was made by Rich Foran and seconded by Danielle Bolan to change the hosting requirement for our youth state tournament from 20 lanes to 12 lanes. This change has also been endorsed by the youth committee (as previously mentioned). Passed.**
- The 2020 Youth State is scheduled for Great Falls, but the committee is recommending that Elks Lanes not be used due to not having any youth leagues for at least the last three years. Instead it is recommended that Little's Lanes host the entire tournament. Since Little's Lanes is a 16-lane center, the tournament would have to run at least 4 weekends unless oiling requirements are changed, allowing for 4 Saturday shifts, thus, being able to conduct the tournament in 3 weekends. It was decided to table these decisions until our spring meeting in order to discuss these options with Little's Lanes proprietor, Mel Willey.
- 2018 Senior State tournament is being held at Rimrock Lanes in Thompson Falls right now and currently has 225 entries. The 2019 Senior tournament will be held in Forsyth and is scheduled to run four weekends starting September 27 through October 20 including one shift on each Friday night. Tournament director will be Yvonne Mogle. The site for the 2020 Senior State will be Cut Bank and the site for the 2021 Senior State tournament will be Miles City. The site for the 2022 Senior tournament was accepted and approved for Hamilton.
- 2019 Pepsi YBC will be held in Missoula at Westside Lanes. Dates: April 7-8. Teri Hodges will be the tournament director. The 2020 Pepsi YBC will be in Helena April 3-5. The 2021 YBC will be held in Butte, the 2022 YBC is scheduled for Helena, the 2023 YBC is scheduled for Missoula. The 2024 YBC is yet to be determined. Billings is now eligible to host the Pepsi YBC.
- We have to purchase a new server to conduct our tournaments, as the new WinLabs 12 needs to be installed. USBC will no longer support WinLabs 10 effective Dec. 31, 2018.
- We intend to start accepting credit card payments for 2019 tournament entry fees using a PayPal account. Don Warner is currently attempting to set up the process. It is hoped that we can use our new website, www.mtusbc.com, as a way for people to effect their payments through a payment tab directly to PayPal.

Legislative: Rich Foran gave the report. Our legislative manual is being worked on at this time for presentation at our spring meeting.

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

- We have a new website now. It is www.mtusbc.com. It is a public website, but isn't finished at this time. There is some logic in keeping the old website (Office 365) for at least one more year. **There was a motion by Mike Evjen and second by Mark Hodges to keep the old website for one more year. Passed.**

- Regarding the memorial, Don mentioned that it would be nice if all local association managers could become educated as to how to post deceased bowlers on our website.

Future Meetings: Tom Brendgord gave the report.

- Our Spring 2019 meeting will be in Butte on May 18. Also the Hall of Fame banquet on May 18 and Delegate's meeting on May 19.
- The Fall 2019 meeting will be in Bozeman at the GranTree Inn on September 21-22.
- The Spring 2020 meeting will be in Missoula at Westside Lanes.
- The 2020 Hall of Fame banquet and the 2020 Delegate's meeting will also be in Missoula at a location yet to be determined.
- Great Falls is the expected site of our Fall 2020 meeting.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

- Chris Dunbar, a financial advisor from Missoula, made a presentation regarding better ways for our association to invest our money than through a traditional CD. A committee was formed consisting of Fred Sadler, Tom Brendgord, Debbie Martinich plus Chris Dunbar to explore some of the possible ways to enhance our association's financial worth in the future.

Meeting adjourned 11:02 am.

Submitted by Tom Brendgord