

American Darts Organization
Board of Directors Meeting
January 21, 2016
Las Vegas, NV

Board members present:

President David Hascup

General Secretary Carolyn Camp

Area 1 Manager Steve Moore

Area 3 Manager Chris Helms

Area 5 Manager Tom Sawyer

National Youth Manager Steve Gagnon

Vice President Joe Hogan

Communications Officer Steve Brown

Area 2 Manager Mike Sexton

Area 4 Manager Chuck Hudson

Area 6 Manager Steve Webb

Voting Strength – 10

Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 10:00AM President Hascup called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the August meeting. Passed unanimously.

2016 Americas Cup

President Hascup reported that the Americas Cup will be held in Barbados in July 2016. The ADO Americas Cup team will be comprised of 2 men, 2 women, 1 boy, and 1 girl. The Youth Qualifier for the Americas Cup youth team will take place at the Charlotte Open Tournament on Sunday April 10th.

BDO-Ranked Events

President Hascup stated that the BDO gave the ADO a special dispensation for 2016 involving the number of legs that must be played in each round of a BDO ranked singles. The dispensation is only for 2016. In 2017 the BDO singles must be Best-of-5 from the start of the event, and from Top 64 forward, Best-of-7 for the men. The women must be Best-of-5 from the start of the event, and from Top 16 forward, Best-of-7. Seeding for BDO events is based on the BDO Invitational Tables.

If an ADO National Finals and an International Event (BDO/WDF) in the USA are scheduled on the same date and the tournament date cannot be moved, the ADO will move the National Finals to a tournament/date that does not clash with a BDO/WDF event.

If two BDO/WDF ranked tournaments are scheduled for the same weekend it will be dealt with on a first-come first-served basis.

The ADO now has two Category 'C' BDO events in 2016; the Las Vegas Open and Virginia Beach Classic. There are also seven Category 'D' events. Communications Officer Brown will contact all tournament directors of BDO-ranked events, confirming all rules and policies.

The World Masters this year is on Thanksgiving weekend at the Copper Box in London.

Officer Reports

Area 1 Manager Moore reported that his Regional Directors in Regions 1-1, 1-2, and 1-3 are providing an excellent service. He still needs Regional Directors for Regions 1-4 and 1-5. Some Regional Directors are complaining about not getting reimbursed for expenses.

Area 2 Manager Sexton reported that his Regional Directors are providing an excellent service, but still needs Regional Directors for Regions 2-1 and 2-3. He stated that he has 10 dart leagues around him but only 5 are members of ADO, and asked for suggestions on how to get leagues interested in joining the ADO.

Area 3 Manager Helms reported that his Region 3-1 Director is doing a good job. Region 3-2 has lost the venue that usually hosted their Qualifiers. The Region 3-5 Director is dealing well with some issues in that Region.

Area 4 Manager Hudson reported that he has two new Regional Directors. The Region 4-3 Director has had some Qualifiers hosted by appointed officials, and that this is working well. Florida has resumed running National Qualifiers. Myrtle Beach ran a tournament with only 3 events – a Blind Draw, a Mens Singles, and a Womens Singles. The turnout was good and the tournament ran smoothly. The Palmetto Dart Classic flyer states that only the Singles events are a guaranteed payout, with all other events being a percentage payout.

Area 5 Manager Sawyer reported that as the Region 5-6 Director is unable to complete her term, he has appointed Barbara Cotton to replace her. She is providing excellent service. Some Area 5 Regional Directors have not been reimbursed for expenses, but we have their expense reports, and are dealing with this matter.

Area 6 Manager Webb reported that his new Region 6-2 Director already has two Qualifiers lined up. The turnout for the Air Capital tournament in Wichita last weekend was a little down on the expected turnout, but was still a successful and enjoyable tournament.

President Hascup stated that he would talk to CFO Inman about new Expense Forms and Regional Directors reimbursements for expenses.

Communications Officer Brown plans to resurrect the Double Eagle newsletter as an online publication which will be geared largely toward ADO member associations, and will be easily downloadable and printable. He will add a "Guideline for Running Tournaments" section to the ADO website. There will be an FAQ page, with sections for general darts items, and for ADO-specific items. There will also be a "Rule of the Month" feature, and a page listing relevant rules and procedures in the BDO and/or WDF events.

Area 5 Manager Sawyer suggested adding the dart board setup specifications and measurements to the website.

National Youth Manager Gagnon complimented Communications Officer Brown and President Hascup on the new ADO Youth website. He suggested that AD)-sanctioned tournaments add the tournament youth events to the regular tournament flyer. There are now many tournaments wanting to host one of the 12 BDO-ranked youth events. The BDO-ranked youth events will be awarded on a rotating basis. The Charlotte Open tournament will host the Americas Cup Youth Qualifier on Sunday July 10 at 10:30AM. There is no entry fee to play in the Americas Cup Qualifier, and there will be separate brackets for boys and girls. The format will be Best-of-5 – straight knockout. To be eligible to play in the Americas Cup the youth cannot turn 18 by the end of July. A suggestion was made to award ADO points to youth like the adults receive. This will be worked on this year.

ADO Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustee Steve Moore report: The current Trustees are Primary Trustee Steve Moore and Trustee Sandi Cain. Ken Friend has officially stepped down as Trustee and has been removed from the account. Steve Moore will be acquiring a 1023 form for the first quarter of 2016. The UBS account balance as per the December 2015 statement was \$55,684.28. Total deposits into the account from August 4, 2015 thru December 31, 2015 were \$1,380.00.

Chief Financial Officer Inman report: As tax time is CFO Inman’s busiest time of year, he was unable to attend the meeting but he sent the Board his report which is attached to these minutes.

Break for lunch 12:45PM
Meeting resumed 1:30PM

ADO National Championship Finals

All bids for hosting a National Championship Final must be sent to the Board before the meeting in Stamford where the hosting tournaments will be selected.

ADO By-Law Amendments

The Board agreed on the following corrections to the ADO By-Laws:

Article II – Definitions

Section 10 – “Region” in complete quotation marks.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1 - Board member voting on submitted applications may take place by mail, **email**, or at any scheduled Board meeting.

Article V – Membership Fees

Section 2 – a) At the discretion of the **Area Manager**.

Article VII

Section 3 – Each Board member shall be elected for a period of two (2) years and shall take office **on January the first of the upcoming year.**

Article VII – The Board

Section 4 - Such appointments must be approved by the board at its next regular meeting, or by mail, **or by email.**

Article IX – Duties of the Officers

Section 1 – President - The President shall perform **such** ceremonial duties.... *(remove “such”)*

Article IX

Section 4 - General Secretary - 3rd Paragraph - **Delete the following:** The General Secretary shall work with the President in the preparation of media announcements. He shall also be responsible for maintaining correspondence with the WDF and sending required tournament results to that body, unless that duty is relegated to another member of the Executive. The General Secretary, along with the President, shall prepare or approve all press releases regarding the business of ADO. (All media announcements and press releases should come from the President and/or the Communications Officer and/or the International Representative.)

Article X – Meetings

Section 3 – Election Meetings – All elections shall be effected by mail **and/or email.**

Section 4 – Recall Meetings – Such meetings shall be effected by mail **and/or email**, and shall be subject to the provisions set forth in Article XIV.

Section 6 - Meeting announcements must be **issued** at least 30 days in advance. ***(by mail and/or email)**

Article XI – Elections

Section 8 – Corrected spelling of “domicile”

Section 10 – a) **Any candidate receiving a plurality (a relative majority of votes cast) shall be elected.**

Section 13 - Board Member vacancies shall be **covered (not filled)** temporarily by the President for a period not to exceed 90 days. During the 90 days a special election shall be held for the position.

Article XIII – Expenses

Section 2 - The Board may also effect this section by mail **and/or email**, if circumstances so warrant.

Article XIV – Recall of Board members

Section 1 - The Board may also effect this section by mail **and/or email**, if circumstances so warrant.

Article XV – Recall of Regional Director

Section 1 - The Board may also effect this section by mail **and/or email**, if circumstances so warrant.

Section 2 - The NO VOTE PROVISIO (Article IX, **Section 12**) shall apply to these recall proceedings.

Article 16 – Policy - Section 1 - These policy changes and temporary rulings will be considered to be in force immediately upon receipt, **unless otherwise stated**.

Section 3 - It is also the responsibility of the Regional Director to relay the information contained in the aforementioned announcements to individual members in their Region.

(addition)

Article XVII – General - Section 1 - The Board may also effect this section by mail **and/or email**, if circumstances so warrant.

Corrected address and contact details to be published.

Executive Director

A motion was made by Area 5 Manager Sawyer and seconded by National Youth Manager Gagnon to remove the position of Executive Director. Passed unanimously.

Tournament Rules

The following amendments and additions to the Tournament Rules were approved by the Board:

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17. Should any player have a portion of his feet or shoes over the oche line, **or on top of a raised oche, during the throwing of a dart or darts**, all darts so thrown will be counted as part of his turn, but any score made by said darts will be invalid and not counted. One **warning** by a tournament official will be considered sufficient before invoking this rule **(clarification)**.

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23. **A dart will be considered thrown if the dart exits the hand during the forward throwing motion, even if it misses the board, or fails to reach the board. Darts that are simply fumbled and/or dropped from the hand can be retrieved and rethrown, regardless of whether they land in front of, or behind the oche line (addition).**

26. The winner of the draw or toss shall throw first in the match. If the match is divided into legs, the winner of the draw or toss shall throw first in the odd-numbered legs, and the loser **of the draw or toss** shall throw first in the even-numbered legs **(clarification)**.

27. If the match is divided into sets, the winner of the draw or toss shall throw first in the odd-numbered legs of the odd-numbered sets, and the even-numbered legs of the even numbered sets. The loser **of the draw or toss** shall throw first in **the even-numbered legs of the odd-numbered sets, and the odd-numbered legs of the even-numbered sets** (*clarification*).

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44. In Doubles/Team events, **the players must throw in the same rotation during the course of a single leg. The first player throwing out of turn will receive a score of zero points for that turn/throw (three darts), and his Team will forfeit that turn/throw. After the opponents have taken their next turn/throw, the offending team will return to the original/correct rotation** (*clarification*).

DartConnect

Representatives from DartConnect presented the Board with an attractive proposition which is attached. This was tabled until more is known about the ADO finances.

Transgender

A motion was made by Area 2 Manager Sexton and seconded by Area 5 Manager Sawyer stating that the ADO transgender rule be that the person must have a legal ID stating their gender and must have had hormone therapy for 2 1/2 years. Passed by a majority vote.

Playoff System

A discussion of National Qualifiers was postponed until the Stamford meeting. All Board members are asked to bring ideas about how to make Qualifiers better.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00PM