

**ADO Board of Directors Meeting
October 18, 2020
Video Conference**

Call to order at 1:05pm EST

Present:

President –Tom Sawyer

Vice President - Matt Stoner

Chief Financial Officer - Jackie Robbins

General Secretary - Cindy Lynde

Director of Operations – Stephen Brown

Area 1 Manager - Ron Peppers

Area 2 Manager – Mike Sexton

Area 4 Manager – Beth Newby

Area 6 Manager – Ryan Mooneyham

Youth Manager – Carrie Demers

Absent:

Area 3 Manager – Chris Helms (technical problems)

Area 5 Manager – Jerry Thomas (work)

Report from the President – Tom Sawyer

Las Vegas Open –

President Sawyer contacted the Tuscany and is waiting to hear back.

Discussion - Due to international and national travel restrictions and mandates, it's likely attendance will be much lower.

Suggestions were moving the tournament to August 2021, dropping payouts to \$20k, or cancelling for 2021.

Area 1 Manager Peppers motioned to cancel the 2021 Las Vegas Open, and to keep the tournament in the month of January. Motion seconded by Secretary Lynde. Motion passed, unanimously.

Action – President Sawyer will post an announcement explaining the cancellation, and will contact Tuscany regarding a contract for 2022.

Area 1 Manager Peppers asked about how vendors work at the Vegas Open.

Answer - price depends on space. Interested merchants should email a proposal and the BOD will vote on it.

Report from the Vice President – Matt Stoner

The ADO has a new shirt vendor, MagicWear. The ADO design should be finished next week.

Results of agreement - ADO receives 10% of every sale of ADO shirts through their website, and ADO's cost will be the same per shirt, no matter the style.

The ADO can order shirts for BOD members, Regional Directors, for sale at tournaments*, to outfit the USA teams, youth, etc. They request 6 weeks to complete our order.

*They can do a 2nd or 3rd run, so orders can be taken if shirts sell out at a tournament.

They're also working on a discount to offer to ADO associations.

Concern expressed about the quality of material, based on past shirts – Vice President Stoner states they now have an improved, lighter material.

Question about how many shirts are supplied to each BOD member. Answer – first is provided, additional can be purchased at the ADO price.

Report from the CFO – Jackie Robbins

Still working on financials, and will forward at a later date.

ADO is doing well with strong balances in the accounts, and no credit card debt.

While there hasn't been income from surcharge fees, sanctioning fees, etc., because of the pandemic, the ADO is still financially stable because there haven't been expenses for events.

Report from the General Secretary – Cindy Lynde

Introduced herself, but had nothing to report at this time.

Report from the ADO Office – Steve Brown

Not much going on, just handling general housekeeping – website, database stuff, etc. - except dealing with constant questions about the future of rescheduled/cancelled events and Nationals.

Ordered new patches and membership cards for individual members.

Director of Operations Brown stated that he had given new individual members one free year, in light of the pandemic. He asked if that was okay, and Vice President Stoner stated that it should be pro-rated or discounted at 50%, in keeping with the decision about the Association membership fees. There are approximately 100 individual members.

Vice President Stoner motioned to give 2020 Individual Members a 50% discount 2021. Motion seconded by Area 2 Manager Sexton. Motion passed, unanimously.

(Decision from July meeting – Associations that were members in 2020, will receive a 50% discount for 2021 membership. Tournaments that paid to sanction an event in 2020, but had to cancel, will get their 2021 sanctioning free)

Director of Operations Brown also brought up the need to make the individual membership fees less confusing – tabled for now.

2020 ADO Ranking Points are scratched for this year. There will be no National team, and no points champions for this year.

All elections are completed for this year.

US bank across from Tuscany is now closed. This brought forward discussion of moving to just one bank account – decided to keep all accounts open for now.

Area Manager Reports

Area 1 – Ron Peppers -

All is going well.

Talked with Jeff about Kenai Open, taking place this weekend. Less people travelling in, but it's going well and running on time. It's the only tournament that's happening at the moment in Area 1.

Fielding many questions about what's going on with the ADO and ADO events. He has explained that, with the pandemic, it is still unknown. The problem is that people don't want to play if they don't know when/where the next National event will be.

Vice President Stoner suggested that since the ADO can't yet schedule a Nationals to send those that are qualified, that regions should hold off on holding National Qualifiers, and the ADO will move forward for 2021. If they do hold a National Qualifier, those qualifications are carried over to next available event.

Action: President Sawyer will make an announcement, explaining where the ADO is with scheduling future Nationals.

Vice President Stoner suggests the need to be clear on the reasons – COVID mandates/restrictions vary by area so it's impossible to schedule nationally.

Area 2 – Mike Sexton -

Not a lot going on in Area 2. No steel darts leagues operating since March in Arizona.

Lake Havasu tournament taking place this weekend – was modified to be limited to first 50 players signed up and still had group restrictions.

Trailers – 18ft and 16ft may need new home soon.

Area 1 Manager Peppers knows someone that has a property that might be available for storing the trailers.

Action – Area 1 Manager Peppers is checking with him for pricing and availability of indoor storage and will let President Sawyer know when he gets more information.

Area 3 – Chris Helms - not present

Area 4 – Beth Newby -

It's slow in Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida. Soft tip is being played in Florida.

Fielding same questions about Nationals, when they can do qualifiers, and whether the ADO can help. She has been explaining that it is up to what the state/county will allow.

Group discussion regarding online National Qualifiers – result is that no National Qualifiers should be held online.

Area 5 – Jerry Thomas - not present

Area 6 – Ryan Mooneyham -

Held a small tournament (\$1500) recently, the restriction was 150 people, but they had 70 players. Went very well. Oklahoma City has a \$5,000 tournament scheduled in July that he feels will be larger than they're ready for. Masks will be required during this tournament.

Had to cancel a 2-day qualifier that was scheduled.

Area 6 Manager Mooneyham, and the two Regional Directors, Jason and Steve, do not plan to hold any qualifiers until Nationals are scheduled.

National Youth Director Report – Carrie Demers

President Sawyer inquired about a Youth International Fund. There is currently a fund with a balance.

Going forward, the ADO will ask associations with tournaments that include a youth event to run a 50/50 to help raise funds for that International Youth fund.

Need to have enough money raised to pay for the youth team to be sent to the World Cup in October 2021.

It's possible to hold the youth qualifier in Charlotte, if it's still taking place.

President Sawyer stated that there will be extra dartboards because tournaments are being cancelled.

Vice President Stoner asked Director of Operations Brown to send a notice to associations letting them know there are boards for sale at \$200/case. Director of Operations Brown will handle it this week.

Old Business

Re-Scheduling (postponed) Nationals for 2021 – tabled due to pandemic

Revising/updating the Bylaws

Director of Operations Brown and Secretary Lynde stated that they have already had conversations about updating the bylaws. Area 6 Manager Mooneyham and Area 2 Manager Sexton volunteered to join them.

Action – Secretary Lynde will start an email with the above members for discussion. They'll make a plan for revisions, in order to bring a draft of revisions to the BOD.

Vice President Stoner stated the need to change wording about Nationals procedures

New Business

Reworking the ADO Point Structure

Discussion: Area 6 Manager Mooneyham's stance about point structure – those who aren't close to larger tournaments are at a disadvantage when it comes to earning points. Director of Operations Brown stated that he emailed Vice President Stoner his thoughts on the subject.

After discussion, it was decided to table the subject until President Sawyer and Vice President Stoner can get together to develop a proposal to bring to the BOD.

WDF News

WDF calendar Oct-Sept

ADO previously voted to follow the WDF timetable, involves sending a team to WDF Masters in Netherlands, and to WDF World Championships

3 different tiers for tournaments – 16 spots on the calendar for US tournaments

1 Gold

Should be the largest 501 payout of the year. That is currently the Witch City.

Fees - \$2500 sanctioning fee

Top 4 get invitation to World Masters

No other WDF event allowed in North America during a Gold tournament weekend

5 Silver

Combined (men and women) prize money for 501 singles must be at least \$6,000. Must have at least 3 silver events to qualify for regional table.

Fees - \$200 sanctioning fee

Top 2 get invitation to World Masters

10 Bronze

No minimum requirement for payout from WDF, but ADO might decide on a minimum.

Fees - \$100 sanctioning fee

Winner gets invitation to World Masters

In all tiers-

Players get points, depending on how they place.

There is a requirement for format – start with best of 5, once they get to placing level (points or money), best of 7, finals must be best of 9 and be “staged”

There is a seeding requirement

Payout requirements – women’s payouts, from second place down, must be at least 50% of the men’s payouts.

WDF has changed their invitations. Because the US is one of 4 countries that has the highest membership rate for Masters, the ADO will get 8 men and 8 women invitations.

US will have it’s own regional table – Top 16 from our regional table, then top 128 from the world order of merit, get invitations

The WDF is working towards holding its own world championship, which would be at Lakeside in December.

This system should allow the ADO to send a player from each table; can send one person from the US table, and one person from the international order of merit. This is on both women’s and men’s sides of table.

Winner of a gold event gets an automatic spot in the World Championships, but the gold points don’t count toward regional table

Top 12 spots on WDF list count toward regional table, but top 8 counts toward international table.

Vice President Stoner motions to lock the Witch City in as the gold event for 2021 (if they agree) and for the ADO to put up the \$1250 towards the WDF sanctioning fees. Motion seconded by Beth. Motion passed, unanimously.

WDF is working on the senior event, then the youth will come right after it. They’re doing the Youth Masters and then the Youth World Championship, and hoping to do the same type of alignment with tables and invitation.

Also want to start moving the Masters around to other countries, including to the US.

Next meeting – January 10th – 1pm EST

Meeting adjourned at 3:23pm EST