

**American Darts Organization
Board of Directors Meeting
January 10, 2021
Video Conference**

Call to order - 1:15pm EST

Present:

President –Tom Sawyer

Vice President - Matt Stoner

Chief Financial Officer - Jackie Robbins

General Secretary - Cindy Lynde

Director of Operations - Stephen Brown

Youth Manager – Carrie Demers

Area 1 Manager - Ron Peppers

Area 2 Manager – Mike Sexton

Area 3 Manager – Chris Helms

Area 4 Manager – Beth Newby

Area 5 Manager – Jerry Thomas

Absent:

Area 6 Manager – Ryan Mooneyham

Members for quorum - 10

Report from the President – Tom Sawyer

Nothing new to report.

Report from the Vice President – Matt Stoner

Vice President Stoner updated the Board regarding the World Darts Federation (WDF):

Due to COVID, there will be no events sanctioned by the WDF in January and February 2021. March 2021 is still to be decided.

WDF officially announced the Masters is to be held in the Netherlands in December. The format will be round-robin, leading to a knock-out bracket. Status of the World Cup will be decided in mid-June.

(For players not already qualified), Invitations for the Masters are based on the WDF Points Table as of the end of September. Invitations to two men and two women for the World Cup are based on the ADO Points Table, as of the end of December, 2019/20. The World Cup is planned to take place in Lakeside in January 2022.

The Witch City Open has agreed to be WDF sanctioned at the Gold tier, and the WDF is clear to announce it. The event may be middle to late September.

Vice President Stoner motioned that the ADO require an association hosting a National Finals have their tournament WDF sanctioned at the Silver level. Area 5 Manager Thomas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Report from the CFO – Jackie Robbins

No credit card debt, no line of credit debt

Financial reports were distributed to Board members via email.

Report from the General Secretary – Cindy Lynde

Meeting Minutes -

It was found that minutes from past meetings, starting with January 2019, hadn't yet been finalized, approved, and posted. General Secretary Lynde is working with Director of Operations Brown to get said minutes approved and posted.

Process for completion of meeting minutes -

General Secretary Lynde will type the minutes and email to the BOD to request any needed edits and revisions. Once all revisions are complete, General Secretary Lynde will upload to the BOD group on Facebook, and call for a vote for approval. Once they are approved, Director of Operations Brown will post the final version on the website.

Bylaw revision project -

General Secretary Lynde stated that some work has been started, but not a lot of progress yet. Hope to have at least a few items to present to the Board by the next meeting.

Report from the ADO Office – Stephen Brown

Member associations from 2020 were contacted about the 50% discount on membership renewal for 2021. Thus far, associations are pleased with the discount.

Area Manager Reports

Area 1 – Ron Peppers –

Camellia Classic was postponed until 2022. Area leagues are not running at this point, not even having league meetings, because so much is still shutdown.

Area 2 – Mike Sexton –

Current restrictions still making more difficult for dart play.

Arizona Dart League started a singles league in the fall that ends in February. There seems to be more interest in singles play right now, so they plan to continue that, at least until Covid is settled. Area 2 Manager Sexton stated he will send in paperwork for the Wild West tournament for the last weekend in July, in the hopes that it will still take place.

Area 3 – Chris Helms –

Situation is the same. Texas has had a few tournaments, and they're still playing darts in some areas.

Area 4 – Beth Newby -

Same concerns. There are no darts in Michigan, some darts in Florida, but no sanctioned events since March.

Rocket City Dart Association cancelled the 2021 Shoot for the Moon tournament.

Leagues in area 4-2 are operating.

A player brought to Area 4 Manager Newby's attention that the ADO website shows the flyer for the Charlotte Open has not been approved.

Some players complained that for the Missouri Open tournament, they were told they couldn't book a room because they were from out of town. However, it was found the tournament hotel had not turned away anyone.

Area 5 – Jerry Thomas –

From Washington, DC, all the way to Maine is shut down, one league in New Hampshire started playing but the governor shut them down through May. Draws might still be happening in some areas.

Alaska still has a tournament scheduled for March

Area 6 – Ryan Mooneyham – absent

Vice President Stoner noted that it is hit and miss as far as what tournaments are still happening in that area.

National Youth Manager Report – Carrie Demers

The World Darts Federation (WDF) approved to host Youth Tournaments/Rankings for American Darts Organization (ADO) youth players in 2021.

Some changes made for 2021:

The WDF will be hosting the World Masters Youth Event.

The USA will be recognized as its own region and the ADO will be allowed 16 WDF youth events.

Youth events will be divided into 3 levels - Bronze, Silver, and Gold - just like the adult players. These levels will be determined by the number of youth players participating; Bronze group 4-16 players, Silver 17- 64, and Gold group 65+.

The WDF is also issuing more invitations to the youth players to attend the World Masters:

Winners of WDF Youth Events at tournaments - Bronze level 1st place, Silver 1st and 2nd places and Gold Top 4 places.

Invitations can be earned by position in the World and Regional tables.

The ADO will be allowed 4 additional invitations for the youth players, which will be used to send the Youths from Nationals compared to 2 players in the past.

There is no cost to the tournament to run a WDF Youth Event that is approved by the ADO; however, National Youth Manager Demers requests the tournament run a 50/50 raffle at said tournament. The proceeds will go to the Youth International Fund, raising money to send a Youth team to the America's Cup, World Cup, as well as the World Masters (Youth National Winners)

The format for the World Masters Youth is still undecided, but the ADO is able to choose their own format for our WDF tournaments. Boys and girls will be separated, provided there are minimum of 4 players in each.

National Youth Manager Demers stated that she would like to require all WDF Youth events to be 501 Singles best of 5 legs. This will allow for a longer format for the youth players but still not too long.

National Youth Manager Demers sent out an email with this information and included the link to the request application (2020 version, because 2021 is not out yet). Applications should be submitted, as soon as possible, to her or to Director of Operations Brown. Director of Operations Brown stated he'd received two applications so far.

Old Business

Reworking the Point Structure - tabled

New Business

National Play-off Program 2021 & 2022

Cleveland and Seacoast lost their opportunity to host Nationals in 2020 because of COVID. Vice President Stoner motioned that each are offered to host Nationals in 2022. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Due to COVID and the WDF calendar changes, it needs to be decided which National Finals to hold with the 2021 Charlotte Open – the Masters or the US Team. However, it is not confirmed the tournament is still taking place. Vice President Stoner suggested the decision be made no later than February.

It was suggested that the ADO charge \$150 flat rate for players to register for 2020 National Finals, even if they didn't play in the preceding National Qualifier. The idea was tabled, until it is decided whether the Charlotte Open will take place.

Action: Area 5 Manager Thomas will reach out to the Charlotte Open Tournament Director to get more information.

Next meeting - March 28, 1pm EST

Meeting adjourned - 2:33pm EST