

**American Darts Organization
Board of Directors Meeting
August 8, 2021
Video Conference**

Call to order: 1:08pm EDT

Present:

Vice President – Matthew Stoner

Chief Financial Officer - Jacqueline Robbins

General Secretary – Cynthia Annette Lynde

Director of Operations - Stephen Brown

Area 1 Manager – Ronald B Peppers

Area 2 Manager – Michael J. Sexton

Area 3 Manager – Christopher Shawn Helms

Area 4 Manager – Elizabeth Newby

National Youth Manager – Carrie Marie Demers

Absent:

President – Charles T. Sawyer

Area 5 Manager – Gerald Thomas, Jr.

Area 6 Manager – Christopher Ryan Mooneyham – vote and report via Vice President Stoner, via proxy

Members for quorum - 9

Report from the President – Charles T. Sawyer - absent

No report

Report from the Vice President – Matthew Stoner

For World Darts Federation (WDF) ranked events, the WDF is now insistent that the American Darts Organization (ADO) enforce the WDF Tournament and Playing Rules for the 501 Singles events. Most notable of these are:

- 1) Proper corking rules.
- 2) No headgear/headphones while playing
- 3) No alcohol DURING matches. Players can drink before and after their matches, but not during.
- 4) Proper dress (Black pants, collared shirt, black shoes).

There will be an open last chance qualifier for Lakeside, for any players participating in the Masters. Information for this should be out soon. Players who hold a PDC card are not allowed the WDF-ranked singles events.

Las Vegas Open –

Vice President Stoner motioned that the Las Vegas Open tournament prize money be raised by \$1,000, in order to adjust the 501 Singles payouts to total at least \$7,000 to maintain WDF's Silver tier. Area 1 Manager Peppers seconded the motion. Motion passed 9-0.

Discussion surrounding having enough help to run both the ADO 501 and ADO Cricket Championships in Las Vegas. Vice President Stoner would like to bring in Dawn Cupp, Jason Demers, and Shannon Reed to help. Vice President Stoner motioned that the ADO pay travel expenses (room and flight) and stipend (flight only for Jason Demers) to the above individuals for their help. Area 1 Manager Peppers seconded the motion. Motion passed 9-0.

Action: Vice President Stoner will inform these individuals.

Received a proposal/bid from Will Stuart at USA Darts, to stream the Nationals and Las Vegas Open, for a cost of \$750, plus airfare and a room to stay.

Vice President Stoner motioned to accept this proposal. Area 2 Manager Sexton seconded the motion. Motion passed 9-0.

Action: Vice President Stoner will inform Mr. Stuart that the ADO has accepted his bid.

Discussion surrounding starting a process to allow one alternate from a National Qualifier to advance to National Finals at a discounted rate.

Vice President Stoner motioned to allow the first alternate to pay an additional \$50 to advance to the following National Finals event. Area 2 Manager Sexton seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-1.

Action: Director of Operations Brown will post announcement on ADO website.

A note about the deadlines for “buy-ins” for the Nationals:

Those who wish to pay the \$150 (and the \$50 first alternate) buy-in for the US Team Nationals at Seacoast will need to pay those fees by October 22.

Those who wish to pay the \$150 (and the \$50 first alternate) buy-in for the Cricket Championship and/or 501 Championship in Las Vegas will need to pay those fees by December 31.

Report from the CFO – Jacqueline Robbins

CFO Robbins and President Sawyer are working to get a meeting with IRS to discuss and resolve status. Discussion surrounding changing the ADO to a corporation. Discussion tabled until after taxes are resolved. CFO Robbins has been working to rebuild the records in QuickBooks, but is missing records from US Bank for years 2012, 2013, 2014.

Report from the General Secretary – Cynthia Annette Lynde

Status of By-law revision project – Document uploaded to Board Group includes revised/combined sections regarding meetings. General Secretary Lynde is waiting for feedback from BOD members.

Addition of outline of ADO Nationals Program still in progress. Vice President Stoner described what he and President Sawyer are working on for a proposal to revise the points system.

Status of unpublished past minutes (January 2019, January 2020, July 2020) – General Secretary Lynde expressed the need to get any questions about these cleared up so they can be published.

Elections - General Secretary Lynde will start the Election process on August 13.

Current plan:

--President and CFO - Call for Candidates emails will go out on August 13, with a deadline to return of August 27.

Ballots will be emailed on August 28 with a deadline to return of September 3.

--Odd numbered Area Managers Call for Candidates emails will go out September 3, with a deadline to return of September 17. Ballots will be emailed on September 18 with a deadline to return of September 24.

--Even numbered Regional Directors Call for Candidates emails will go out September 24, with a deadline to return of October 8. Ballots will be emailed on October 9 with a deadline to return of October 15.

Report from the ADO Office – Stephen Brown

Still somewhat quiet. Some associations still haven't renewed their memberships, but some associations that haven't been members in years have returned. Steady stream of new Individual members.

(by law thoughts from Vice President Stoner) – Individual members currently have no voice in the ADO.

Discussion surrounding options to rectify this – giving them a vote, or a part of a vote, for elections of Regional Directors as well as Area Managers. Tabled until Area 2 Manager Sexton and General Secretary Lynde can discuss and bring a proposal to the next BOD meeting.

Noted that Area Managers and Regional Directors need to send proper applications for National Qualifiers. Discussion surrounding ADO website and updates that are needed. Questions were raised as to whether the

ADO should consider hiring someone to redesign the site, or to maintain it. CFO Robbins has a contact and will make inquiries.

Director of Operations Brown is contacting winners of WDF-ranked tournaments to inform them of their invitation to the Masters. He asked Vice President Stoner about the email he sent about the invitations. Discussion about those players that haven't won an event but received an invitation. Vice President Stoner explained that if a player is already qualified, from the team, and then wins a WDF-ranked event, they are rolling the invitation down to the next player. Players receiving an invitation that's been rolled down will need to pay their own travel expenses.

The ADO is up to date with all WDF fees and surcharges.

Area Manager Reports

Area 1 – Ronald B. Peppers -

Leagues haven't really started up yet. Bars are opening but leagues are waiting for natural seasonal start time. Some clubs are still waiting to renew their ADO membership.

Area Manager Peppers will take over Regional Directors duties for Region 1-3.

Area Manager Peppers asked for more details regarding how WDF-ranked tournaments are being awarded, and more about the criteria. Vice President Stoner explained the tiers and the criteria.

Area 2 – Michael J. Sexton -

2-3 has been having the same problems with Covid. Most of the area leagues weren't playing for a long while. ADL is singles only at this point, primarily because there aren't enough players to form full teams.

Area Manager Sexton did have a question regarding whether a Regional Director who has run a successful National Qualifier still gets to play in National Finals. Vice President Stoner stated that is still true.

Discussion about the fact that a National Qualifier doesn't have to take place in conjunction with an ADO-sanctioned tournament.

Trailer Storage – The two ADO trailers were moved from where they had been stored. The invoice for the previous storage space has been paid. There will be new storage fees and some general maintenance done, such as new tires. Pat and his group still handling them for the ADO.

Area 3 – Christopher Shawn Helms -

Basically very little going on because of Covid 19. Lots of local leagues are hoping to start back up this year. Less activity in 3-1 with the loss of the Holiday on the Beach tournament, 3-2 has 2 active clubs. 3-3 may come back some. 3-4 no events to speak of. 3-5 has 3 active clubs still going about their dart playing as best they can.

Area 4 – Elizabeth Newby -

Tennessee is forging ahead with leagues, and RCDA starting fall session. Florida is going strong with their tournaments.

Possibly getting more individual members and/or another member league in 4-2.

Area 5 – Gerald Thomas, Jr. – absent -

No report

Area 6 – Ryan Mooneyham Report via Vice President Stoner

Would like to see something in the rules about DartConnect etiquette, like how players shouldn't type in a score after each dart thrown.

Area 6 Manager Mooneyham would like to talk about the possibility of creating a revenue stream for the ADO. An example would be an ADO league with a finals that would be in Las Vegas. If BOD members would like to help try to put a proposal together for the meeting in Las Vegas, they should reach out to Vice President Stoner or Area 6 Manager Mooneyham.

National Youth Manager Report – Carrie Marie Demers

Did not have awards to present to the winners of the Youth Nationals, but they need to be ordered. There were two winners – 1 boy and 1 girl. General Secretary Lynde has a contact for awards and will work with National Youth Manager Demers to get them ordered.

Discussion surrounding about having a Captain specifically for the youth for World Masters in the Netherlands. The ADO is sending 7 boys and 1 girl. Vice President Stoner suggested 1 Captain for the youth and 1 Captain for the adults. National Youth Manager Demers should be able to go.

Vice President Stoner motioned to send National Youth Manager Demers and President Sawyer to the World Masters, as Captains. Area 2 Manager Sexton seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

National Youth Manager Demers asked that the information for the Youth Qualifier at the Seacoast tournament be posted on the website.

Old Business - none

New Business

Leonard Gates (Soldier) – Vice President Stoner asked General Secretary Lynde to compose a letter to send to Mr. Gates, explaining that his suspension has been lifted.

ADO Tournament Status 2022 – Vice President Stoner stated that depending on Covid, there will hopefully be a full schedule in 2022, starting with the Las Vegas Open in January.

Office Storage - Discussion surrounding ADO Storage Unit in Southern California.

The ADO is paying for the unit, but it is currently in Katie Harris' name and social security number, and can only be transferred to ADO by physically meeting Ms. Harris there at the unit to have her open it up. Area 1 Manager Peppers stated he possibly can meet with Ms. Harris at the unit, to at least determine if there are items of need or value (such as past bank statements) to the ADO.

Action: Area 1 Manager Peppers will contact Ms. Harris to try to meet and report back.

CFO Robbins asked when bids for Nationals need to be in. Vice President Stoner answered they usually need to be submitted before the BOD meeting in Las Vegas. However, 2022 Nationals have already been awarded to those associations that had to cancel due to Covid. The ADO will accept bids for 2023 at the BOD meeting in Las Vegas.

Next meeting – November 7, 2021, 1:00pm EST

Adjourned – 3:34pm EDT