

**American Darts Organization  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 12, 2022  
Tuscany Inns and Suites, Las Vegas**

Called to order: 10:05a PST

Roll call:

Present:

President – Charles T. Sawyer

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 3 Manager – Christopher Shawn Helms

Area 4 Manager – Elizabeth Newby

Area 5 Manager – Michael French

Area 6 Manager – Christopher Ryan Mooneyham

National Youth Manager – Carrie Marie Demers

Absent:

Area 2 Manager – Michael J. Sexton (report sent to General Secretary Lynde, and vote via proxy to Area 6 Manager Mooneyham)

Members for quorum - 10

Report from the President – Charles Sawyer

Discussion of whether to continue Open Registration (buy-ins) for Nationals, as well as how it affects National Qualifier participation – tabled at November 7 meeting.

Vice President Stoner suggests allowing only the top 32 of ADO Points list to continue to buy in. Others suggest staying with top 64 that was allowed prior to COVID. General Secretary Lynde suggests players must participate in National Qualifier in order to have opportunity to buy in. Much discussion about lack of participation in National Qualifiers. President Sawyer stated discussion should be tabled until there is time to review the lists of players for each Nationals, and money collected via buy-ins and via National Qualifiers, to determine if enough money is being collected.

Updates to point system – not yet ready for discussion – tabled for now

Dart board sales/prices – tabled at November 7 meeting.

Current price is \$50 and the ADO lost money on the last 64 that were sold. Discussion of what price to sell them for 2022. Area 1 Manager Peppers motioned to charge \$50 until our initial supply of boards is gone, then \$65 for any boards after that. Area 6 Manager Mooneyham seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

549 room nights were rented at Tuscany for the 2022 Las Vegas Open. Discussion regarding using other hotels; determined the Tuscany still offers the most with the best price.

Dates for 2023 - Vice President Stoner motions to tentatively set dates for the 2023 Las Vegas Open as January 19-22, 2023. Chief Financial Officer Robbins seconded. Motioned passed unanimously. President Sawyer will schedule with the Tuscany.

Report from the Vice President – Matthew Stoner

WDF News -

Lakeside World Championship delayed until April, due to COVID and in-country restrictions, such as quarantine requirements. Planning a WDF meeting in February, to go over details for 2022.

Vice President Stoner expressed disappointment in the way the WDF handled the Gold event invitations from the Seacoast for both the youth and the adults. The WDF did not honor what they promised, so he feels the ADO should focus on Silver and Bronze events, instead of Gold events.

If there are 5 Silver events and 11 Bronze events each year in the U.S., three ADO players (2 men and 1 woman) will still be able to qualify for the World Championships each year.

National Youth Manager Demers requested a new list of WDF restrictions/regulations from Vice President Stoner. Vice President Stoner stated he would get that to her as soon as he has it.

DartConnect News -

DartConnect will have a link to the Leader Board from all DigitalSteel events on the DartConnect website as well as the ADO website.

Leader Boards for all National Qualifiers will be broken down by program

The ADO benefits from a low rate for the round robins. Every Regional Director is encouraged to use DartConnect for their National Qualifiers, as they will receive free training, and the bill for the round robins will go directly to the ADO.

For any ADO sanctioned DigitalSteel event, the results will be forward to Director of Operations Brown right away, and with ADO association affiliations. When a player checks in on DartConnect for a tournament, there will be a field to enter their ADO association affiliation. Tournament Directors will still need to submit their results at the conclusion of the tournament, but this will allow for quicker updating.

Vice President Stoner suggested that the ADO encourage all tournaments use DigitalSteel. One great advantage is being able to go back to the digital bracket to obtain any missing information.

Vice President Stoner motioned that starting in 2023, all WDF events in the U.S are required to be DigitalSteel. Area 6 Manager Mooneyham seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

#### Report from the CFO – Jacqueline Robbins

CFO Robbins has been entering past information into QuickBooks, to catch up for the IRS. For that reason, financial reports are not available for this meeting.

#### Report from the General Secretary – Cynthia Lynde

Requested approval of the minutes from the November 7 meeting.

Vice President Stoner motioned to accept the November 7, 2021 minutes. Area 6 Manager Mooneyham seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

Status of By-law revision project – No new updates

Status of unpublished past minutes (January 2019, January 2020, July 2020)

#### Report from the ADO Office – Stephen Brown

Not too much new going on, just been busy with preparing for the Nationals.

3 tournament have outstanding results still not turned in.

Need to get people to use the forms on the website. National Qualifier applications (dates and information) need to be sent by the Regional Directors through the form on the website, so they can be listed.

Vice President Stoner stated that there are updates needed to be done on website. He wants to talk to Scott about getting a quote for doing the needed updates, plus possibly an overhaul.

#### Area Manager Reports

Area 1 – Ronald Peppers

Has taken over the duties for Region 1- 5

Expressed a few thoughts on National Qualifier participation.

Considering making both Tahoe tournaments Bronze events. Discussed, with Vice President Stoner, the process and availability of renting tablets from the ADO.

Discussion of having tournament players fill out W9 for winnings, once they get over \$600 won. BOD decided this will be put into place for this weekend (Las Vegas Open).

Area 2 – Michael Sexton – absent, report read by General Secretary Lynde

“Tom/Cindy, I apologize for not be able to be there this year for the board meeting and to assist in running the national championships and the weekend tournament. This is the first I’ve missed since I’ve been an Area manager. However, I would like to submit my report to you, and it is as follows.

Not a lot of change in my immediate area, Region 2-3. There are several small leagues in Phoenix (the ADL-the SDA- the DDL and the Jester’s in House league) still holding on to various league play. Mostly singles play since COVID changed our lives. My league, the ADL, is at about 25-30 players signed up. This hasn’t changed much in the past 2 years. The ADL hosts the Wild West Shootout and that is the only ADO sanctioned tournament (and league) in Arizona right now. Mike Bates and Bull Shooter’s hosts the shoot but, as Steve Brown knows, it is sometimes difficult to get information and money out of him. It’s not that he’s not good for it, its just that he is so busy with his large bar that getting him cornered or able to perform these minor duties is sometimes a lot of work for me. He is a one man show basically with his bar, as am I with the league and tournament. Not to diminish my league Secretary and Treasurer, who I could not do without.

In Tucson, the SADA, is almost non-existent. There is a new league, the Tucson Premier Dart League, that has picked up the reins and is trying to keep Tucson darts alive. Tucson has always been a hotbed of contention within their small darting community.

Prescott has 2 small leagues competing for players. They do not wish to join the ADO. They too have hard feelings between two factions in their small darts community.

London Bridge continues to have league play and host a couple tournaments a year. Although they host a couple National Qualifiers per year, they do not currently want to rejoin the ADO.

Sierra Vista has some folks trying to keep league play going. The lady I know that is doing it is struggling but, she is trying hard. She gets some backlash from previous members who don’t do anything to help her.

Outside of Arizona here is what I know. In southern Los Angeles, the Dart Players of Los Angeles is continuing to have some membership. San Diego also has some darts being played.

New Mexico has a solid foundation but some issues when it comes to running a tournament. One was not run properly and getting information will be next to impossible.

Colorado, particularly the Denver area, still has the most dart players in the west, I think. Though now somewhat splintered, they still have a good population still playing in the various leagues and events in and around the Denver area. As you all know, they host several good tournaments throughout the year there and most of the leagues (as well as the tournaments) are ADO sanctioned. They also have the most National Qualifiers of anyone in the west that I know of.”

At this point, General Secretary Lynde added some additional information about Region 2-5: The upcoming Groundhog Open is a \$10,000 tournament. The RMDA is still operating with some teams and that someone from the ADO should reach out to them about remaining affiliated with the ADO.

Continuing with Area 2 Manager Sexton’s report -

“Wyoming has been non-existent to my knowledge since the previous Area 2 Manager left the ADO. I don’t know that they ever had a large presence.

Jon Johnson has been learning the ropes as the Region 2-3 Director and has been doing a pretty good job. I have no RD for 2-2. Chris Jarmarillo is still the 2-4 RD but I don’t hear too much from him and the tournament that was run poorly could’ve used some of his leadership (or mine had I known). Tanja Bencic is handling 2-5 handily and has Brenda to lean on for information, as well as Matt Stoner.

I hereby give my voting proxy to Ryan Mooneyham and he shall cast all votes needed for my area manager position. I would have it go to Cindy first but I’m not sure if she is allowed to participate in that way.”

### Area 3 – Christopher Helms

Not a whole lot going on - not much different than last meeting. Still some darts being played in areas. Vice President Stoner remarked that West Texas seemed to be popular.

### Area 4 – Elizabeth Newby

The new Regional Director, Eric from Kentucky, reports that all is good in his area. Kim in South Carolina said all good there. Steve Jordan has some dart leagues in Michigan that are getting ready to start playing. 4-2 has been most active as far as National Qualifiers, the leagues are excited about doing qualifiers. Knoxville has been communicative. The RCDA is already doing qualifiers for the Masters.

Florida Dart Association wants to challenge the letter sent by the ADO, based on the Florida gaming laws. Both Vice President Stoner and Area 4 Manager Newby have looked through the gaming laws and did not find anything specific to this situation.

Area 4 Manager Newby was given a list from the Florida Dart Association bylaws, describing what should be on their tournament flyers, including a charge of \$5 for the weekend of the tournament for any participant who resides in Florida but is not a Florida Dart Association member, and a \$1 weekend fee for any participant who lives outside of Florida and is not a Florida Dart Association member. Vice President Stoner stated that they can do that for any tournament not sanctioned by the ADO, but to be sanctioned the ADO, they can't do that.

They have already submitted a number of flyers for tournaments 2022, but did not include the filing fees for each one. Director of Operations Brown then mentioned that besides not paying the filing fees, the Florida Dart Association has also not paid the singles surcharge for several tournaments.

Vice President Stoner stated that the Florida Dart Association has to follow the same rules as all other associations and suggests Beth make the revisions on their flyers, and let them know those are to be corrected to be ADO sanctioned.

Items they need in order to be ADO sanctioned:

Settle their bill for past ADO singles surcharges, sanctioning fees for tournament flyers submitted, and pay their 2022 ADO membership (or each association/club hosting the tournament applies for membership and pays accordingly), remove any verbiage regarding requirement of Florida Dart Association membership, and any collection of membership fees for the Florida Dart Association, (as an example, remove \$1 FDA membership per event). It was requested that General Secretary Lynde send a letter to the Florida Dart Association, detailing the items required to get their tournaments ADO sanctioned.

### Area 5 – Michael French

Darts in Massachusetts and New Hampshire and parts of Maine look to be coming back strong.

### Area 6 – Ryan Mooneyham

Quiet! Nothing outside of a few tournaments and 1 qualifier. Same tournaments year over year being held, some with increased payouts, others not WDF. Singles with dress code and drinking will be a challenge. I'm working with Northwest Arkansas and Joplin on rejoining the ADO. Biggest challenge question I receive is "what are the benefits? A rule book? Rankings?"

2 Regional Directors and both are performing

Dart Madness is one of the events that are getting players playing, even if not ADO sanctioned events.

### National Youth Director Report – Carrie Demers

Noted request for WDF youth restrictions/regulations earlier discussed.

Asked Director of Operations Brown if an email has gone out yet reminding tournaments about the youth – to advertise there are spots available for WDF youth. Vice President Stoner requested that Director of Operations Brown send that email out to the tournament contact list.

National Youth Director motioned to keep the entry fee for the youth events at \$50, even up to the day of

the event, instead of \$75 on the day of the event. Vice President Stoner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Noted that the youth liked the awards being personalized, but would like them to be bigger.

For the Youth Scholarship Fund -

Allowing extensions due to COVID was approved. Part-time students are also eligible.

Would like to push that any tournament requesting a WDF youth event be required to run a 50/50 with proceeds going toward the Youth International Travel Fund.

Vice President Stoner motioned that any tournament with a WDF youth event must provide at least one fundraiser to the Youth International Travel Fund. Area 5 Manager French seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

Documents and other items from storage unit have been collected. CFO Robbins and General Secretary Lynde will be working on scanning pertinent financial documents during the weekend.

### New Business

Vice President Stoner discussed specific Board Members' duties for the weekend's Nationals and tournament.

Vice President Stoner would like to start a conversation about forming an ADO league/team event that leads to regional playoffs and then a team championship, in Las Vegas. He asked that everyone consider some ideas to discuss for the next meeting.

Director of Operations Brown asked are we having a National Points Champion?

To recognize the 2021 National Team, (in light of COVID) Vice President Stoner motioned that the top 3 women and top 6 men from the ADO 2021 Points Table can play in the 2023 501 and Cricket National Championships at no cost for entries, but will need to pay their own travel costs. Area 1 Manager Peppers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion surrounding changing the ADO to a corporation, instead of a nonprofit revisited. Subject has to be tabled until financials from previous years are dealt with and everything is caught up.

President Sawyer brought up the need for an "International Travel Team" committee. He asked for volunteers or ideas for volunteers. Area 1 Manager Peppers and Vice President Stoner volunteered.

President Sawyer asked if any bids have come in for Nationals for 2024. Director of Operations Brown stated that none have been received yet. Discussion of whether to send another bid request email.

Area 1 Manager Peppers stated that Pat would like to do a 5 year contract for the new standards. President Sawyer will get more information to bring to the Board.

Next meeting – April 24, 2022 1:00p EST

Adjourned at 2:03p PST