

**American Darts Organization  
Board of Directors Meeting  
July 31, 2022  
Video Conference**

Call to order – 1:10pm EDT

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

Members for quorum – 10

Auxiliary Discussion Items

April 2022 meeting minutes approved on May 8, 2022

Report from the President – Charles T. Sawyer

Review of the first round of National Qualifiers under the new fee structure -

Vice President Stoner stated that responses he has received show that many players are excited about the new, lower fees and that areas that previously had low turnouts are now seeing more participants. Current consensus is that it's improving participation in most areas, except possibly in 5-1. General Secretary Lynde and Director of Operations Brown remarked that more communication to associations about the ADO program is needed.

Report from the Vice President – Matthew Stoner

In order to continue to re-grow, and continue to improve doing the best possible for the players, it's important that all Board Members do their jobs. Called on Area Managers to do more to communicate with their Regional Directors to ensure they have what they need to follow through with their responsibilities.

Discussion surrounding how to handle tournaments that have applied for, and been granted, WDF ranking, but are not adhering to the WDF rules during the 501 Singles (WDF event). Most important are seeding, dress code, and alcohol not being present in dart area during event. To assist in ensuring tournaments adhere to the rules, Area 3 Manager Helms suggested a fee charged when applying, that is returned only if said tournament adheres to the rules. It was suggested that the Tournament Director receive a document, listing these rules, and is required to sign in agreement.

Vice President Stoner motioned to require any WDF-sanctioned tournament pay a \$500 deposit, at time of submission of application, and before that sanctioning is approved. This deposit will be forfeited if any of the WDF rules pertaining to dress code, alcohol and seeding are not followed/enforced by the tournament. In addition, that tournament will not be granted WDF sanctioning the following year. Area 3 Manager Helms seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

The Tournament Director will also be required to sign in agreement, a document listing these rules, at time of application. This will go into effect January 1, 2023.

America's Cup in Jamaica has been cancelled. There were 4 adult players and 2 youth players that were qualified for this event. Discussion surrounding how to make up for it to these players. It is believed those same players will have invitations to the Masters in the Netherlands.

Vice President Stoner motioned to compensate the would-be America's Cup participants by having the ADO cover the cost of the flight to the Masters in the Netherlands, and half of the cost of the hotel room – and for the youth players, cover the cost of the flight and the full cost of the hotel room, (to include their chaperones). National Youth Manager Demers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Report from the CFO – Jacqueline Robbins

No reports, as past years' information is still being entered into QuickBooks. Accounts look good, and no credit card debt. Jeff Inman (previous ADO CFO) has offered to handle the tax filings when all entry into QuickBooks is caught up.

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

General Secretary Lynde asked for clarification regarding the correct process for submitting a tournament flyer for ADO sanctioning. It was stated that the flyer should be submitted in the exact form (final version) that it will be for publication, including the ADO-sanctioned-by logo. The flyer will not be posted on the ADO website, and should not be publicized by the association, unless and until sanctioning has been approved.

#### Schedule for 2022 Elections:

Vice President and General Secretary - Call for Candidates emailed on August 12, with a return deadline of August 21. Ballots emailed on August 23 with a return deadline of August 30. President Sawyer will need to run the General Secretary election.

National Youth Manager and Even Numbered Area Managers - Call for Candidates emailed on September 2, with a return deadline of September 11. Ballots emailed on September 13 with a return deadline of September 20.

Odd numbered areas Regional Directors - Call for Candidates emailed September 23, with a return deadline of October 2. The Call for Candidates document will include the change to the eligibility requirements, (voted in at the November 2021 BOD meeting). Ballots emailed on October 4 with a return deadline of October 11.

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

Nothing much to report from the office. Still chasing down results and fees from tournaments. FDA is sending late results and submission payments – but tournaments were never sanctioned. Currently working on gathering contact information for General Secretary Lynde for election use, and completing the list for the Masters.

#### Area Manager Reports

##### Area 1 – Ronald Peppers

A lot of players have dropped out and aren't coming back to play. Sacramento is holding qualifiers, Delta Dart League will be running qualifiers. Camelia Classic still planned for February 2023.

##### Area 2 – Michael Sexton – absent

Vice President Stoner noted that there is a new Regional Director in 2-5, Gary Brooks.

##### Area 3 – Christopher Helms

No changes in Area 3. Still fewer dart associations coming back after pandemic.

Purchased tablets to get bars and associations on DartConnect.

##### Area 4 – Elizabeth Newby

Eric Sickler, Region 4-5 Director, has resigned.

Currently working with board members from Florida Dart Association, as there seems to be some confusion as to what the ADO needs from them.

There was an issue with an organization's tournament flyer. The organization published it before it was approved and put events on the flyer that were not added into the payout or not designated as not being included – and they would not correct it per the Regional Director's direction. Once Area 4 Manager Newby

stepped in to assist, the flyer was corrected and then approved by Area 4 Manager Newby, the Regional Director and Vice President Stoner.

RCDA's Shoot for the Moon is considering applying for WDF ranking for 2023.

#### Area 5 – Michael French

Region 5-1 had a qualifier with a turnout of 7 men and 7 women. Reaching out to associations to get them going on National Qualifiers.

#### Area 6 – Christopher Ryan Mooneyham

Noted that one reason there were so few problems with WDF rule adherence at the St. Patrick's Open tournament was that all the information about the rules was posted well before the tournament. Also, the 501 Singles was in a separate room. If the tournaments gets in front of it, it's easier to get the players to follow the rules.

Everything is pretty quiet. Have seen an increase in the areas of NW Arkansas, and Joplin, MO. Planning to work more with 6-5 and 6-2 to get qualifiers going.

#### National Youth Director Report – Carrie Demers

Now has the list of youth players with scholarship money due to them, and is reaching out to those kids to let them know what they have available.

Asked if the ADO is sending a youth team to the World Cup, because she hasn't seen any information posted about it. Vice-President Stoner stated that the ADO is sending a youth team from Seacoast to Denmark.

Youth players must be under the age of 18 as of September 30, 2023, in order to participate. National Youth Director Demers asked Director of Operations Brown to post the details of the Youth Qualifier, taking place on the Saturday morning at Seacoast, on the ADO website as soon as possible.

Need to know where Youth Nationals will be in 2023.

#### Old Business –

Decisions regarding soliciting for Board Sponsors for the Las Vegas Open was tabled until there is more discussion. Possibility of having a brain-storming session on the BOD FaceBook group.

The ADO is moving forward with tablet replacement and purchase of necessary chargers (previously approved).

President Sawyer will forward information about the agreement regarding renting standards from Pat Carrigan, so that the Board may discuss and vote online.

#### New Business

CFO Robbins and President Sawyer will be reaching out to Scott regarding updating/overhauling the website.

Discussion regarding compensating those Board Members who work at the Las Vegas Open and at the two Nationals that take place with it. Vice President Stoner proposed to compensate these Board Members in the following manner: In addition to the travel stipend, Board Members that assist in running both the Nationals will receive \$200. Those that work the tournament will be paid based on shifts/days performed - \$25 for Friday night, \$50 for one shift/\$100 for the full day on Saturday, and \$30 for one shift/\$50 for the full day on Sunday \$50. Vice President Stoner motioned to accept the proposal. CFO Robbins seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal from Will Stuart for streaming at the Las Vegas Open will be posted on the BOD Facebook group, for discussion and vote by the Board Members.

Next meeting – October 23, 2022 at 1pm EDT

Adjourned at 4:30pm EDT

Addendum to July 2022 BOD Meeting Minutes

- Area 2 Report, submitted on August 17, 2022 by Michael Sexton.

Region 2-2 continues to have steel darts going on, maybe have even had a tournament or two over there. Still not as much as when it was the SCDA and had many divisions and many players. I know there are a couple of southern California guys (2) that made it to the Wild West Shootout this year.

Region 2-3 continues to struggle with ADO member leagues and players for the individual leagues in the area. All of the dart leagues in Arizona, maybe 6 or so leagues left, number probably less than 50 players each. Most near 20-25 players. Plastic darts is still huge out here and hundreds of players participate in the various leagues. Most are trying to get the necessary games in to make it to one tournament or another. I don't keep up on plastic so you'd get more info on that from someone other than me but suffice to say plastic is doing very well out here. Were it not for the plastic players that showed up, there wouldn't be much of a tournament at all. We probably had a dozen steel players from the Phoenix metro area show up. Very sad.

Region 2-4 seems to have a good amount of players and they run a couple of steel tournaments a year. I hope they improve their reporting process for these as one from last year was embarrassing. I have spoken with Chris Jaramillo and he will try to bring them more into line with what's needed.

Region 2-5 has a new RD in Gary Brooks. I've not had any interaction with him. Region 2-5 seems to want to coordinate with Matt Stoner so he will know more than I about Region 2-5.

We just held the Wild West Shootout this past weekend. Attendance was not too good. It seems that in our southwest region there is no support or consideration for our sport here. Even when we post our event far in advance, other tournaments and events seem to pop up on those same weekends by other Regions in our own area. This hurts attendance for both events and makes folks choose one or the other to attend. There is no coordination effort that I have seen among our regions. Or RD's or our member associations. No regard to what anyone else has scheduled and it appears that our dart community is much like our society anymore with an "It's all about me" mentality. Sad but true for my little Area of the country. I think it reflects poorly on us as an organization and keeps membership numbers down.

Next year we will move the date to the spring in hopes of avoiding further conflict with other events, like we've had the last 3 years, and also in the hope that cooler weather in Phoenix might be a better draw for folks coming from elsewhere.

Thank you.

Mike