

SED Spring Meeting March 19, 2020

Minutes Conference call

DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS THIS WAS A CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

In Attendance

Chris Heller (SCCLBC), Liz Stauffer (ALBC), Rick Abell (SCCLBC), Scott Snyder (LLBC), Sandy Wall WPLBC), Burl Roller (CLBC), Barb Roller (CLBC), Jerry Healy (SCCLBC), Randy Woods (MDLBC), Larry Johnson (SCCLBC), Martha Nilsen (PLBC), Rusty Hein (SLBC), Bud Ricucci (MDLBC), Rick Fitzgerald (MDLBC), Cathy Mills (WPLBC), Cindy Higgins (SCCLBC), Garry Higgins (SCCLBC) Steve Nilsen.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM and a quorum was established.

Presidents Report: Jerry Healy (see Appendix A)

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept Dec.3, 2019 minutes as posted. Moved by Rick Fitzgerald seconded by Cindy Higgins. Motion passed - unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Rick Abell

Summary of the SED Financial Status & Outlook as of March 18, 2020 (See Appendix B)

Motion to accept report as read - Moved by Rusty Hein seconded by Rick Fitzgerald.
Motion passed - unanimous

Auditors Report: Jerry Healy read the auditor's report dated March 5, 2020. He thanked the auditors, James Bittman and Paul Melvin. (See Appendix C)

Head Umpire's Report: Bud Ricucci - Bud thanked all the SED umpires for their hard work in the past year and informed us there are no new umpires in training and have not been this year. He encouraged all clubs to approach their membership to recruit any bowler, with at least one years' experience, to come forward for training. (see Appendix D)

Web Site: Garry Higgins - Garry is busy putting documents, graphics, photos etc. online for all board members to access.

Publicity: Jerry once again asked for a volunteer to put together an article about the activities of the SED for the Bowls USA newsletter.

Bowls USA Councilor Report: Sandy Wall. (Appendix E) Feedback was obtained from the members present on how to implement the \$10 dues increase. The majority supported a \$5 increase every 5 years. Sandy and Rick will take this information to the April Bowls USA meeting.

Old Business:

By-Law-Change

“Nominations for executive board positions, (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Male and female National Councilors) must be received by the elections chairperson one week prior to the annual general meeting. (AGM)”

This was voted on via email. Results 17 yes, 0 no .

Motion to accept the vote as reported Cindy Higgins. Seconded - Rusty Hein

Motion passed - unanimous.

At the annual meeting a request was made to move the SED Open to the last week of January rather than its present time, of the first week in March. This was because of increased hotel prices at this time.

A vote was taken via email.

Results: 18 votes to keep the same date, 2 votes to move the date.

The SED Open will remain in March.

If anyone wishes to see the results of the vote contact Jerry Healy.

2020 Playdowns: Martha Nilsen reported that due to the COVID-19 virus the playdowns will be postponed. No date has been set to reschedule at this time.

A suggestion was made that if the playdowns were cancelled, the same team as last year could represent the SED if they were willing to go. All possibilities will be looked at. Jerry will keep everyone informed as the status of the playdowns as any new information is obtained.

New Business:

Tournament Director/ Draw-Master Training:

This information is found in the Policies and Procedures under tournament tools - resources.

Rusty Hein and other members of Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club are interested in taking the training course. We will look into a time in the fall when things start up again.

Sandy Wall made a proposal for a change in the policies and procedures to read:

“Club delegates can participate and vote on business matters of the SED at both the Spring and Fall meetings” All present voted yes to this addition.

Garry Higgins and Jerry Healy thanked all the tournament directors, male and female for all their hard work to make the SED Open a success.

Fall annual General Meeting: December 3, 2020 1:00 PM at SCCLBC. .Motion to adjourn - Rick Fitzgerald

Action Items

Update SED Bylaws re: Nominations to received 1 week in advance – Garry Higgins

Feedback to BUSA re dues increase - Sandy Wall & Rick Fitzgerald

Post Major Tournament Checklist to Resources Section of P & P – Garry Higgins

Clarify Delegates voting rights in the P & P - Garry Higgins

Reservations for Fall AGM – Jerry Healy, Garry Higgins

Appendix A

President's Report

Dear SED Members:

We have had a very successful beginning to our 2020 bowling season. More importantly I want to thank the many members who willingly volunteer their time to keep our LB clubs operating and tournaments a success and fun to bowl in. As most all members know It takes real devotion and teamwork to run our many sporting events.

Although, our 2020 bowling season is being cut short by the Coronavirus many of us have had a good time bowling. I'm personally missing the game already since the Community Association at SCC has closed our lawn bowling club until further notice.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the SED umpires for the excellent job they do and the time they devote to our many bowling events. Our umpires certainly display their dedication to our sport when they travel away from their home club at their expense to ensure our games are run fairly and smoothly. We just can't thank them enough for their professionalism.

According to recent announcements from the Bowls USA Organization they are also trying to work through the daily disruptions from the COVID-19 Virus. As a result of their efforts we have received some news from the US Bowling organization. It's comforting to know that our SED National Councilors are in the information loop and will inform us as soon as they know anything. Until then we will anxiously await some positive news.

It is important to send out a special thanks to all our bowling coaches and training instructors. Their dedication to training our SED bowlers is paying dividends as evident by the number of national tournaments are bowlers either win or place in the top five categories. It is certainly uplifting when we read the tournament announcements that the SED bowlers are at the top of the competition. Keep up the great work trainers and coaches you are appreciated very much.

In summary, I am pleased with the accomplishments our SED leadership has achieved over the last couple years. I hope you all know that your SED board members spend many hours behind the scenes keeping this organization running smoothly.

Please stay tuned and watch your emails for future news announcements.

Sincerely,

Jerry Healy

Appendix B

Summary of the SED Financial Status & Outlook as of March 18, 2020

Estimated Net gain (loss): (\$143)

Income

As of March 18th the Southeast Division of BowlsUSA had 550 paying members with annual dues of \$5 per member. This comes to \$2,750.

The Men's Open will provide \$540. The Women's Open will submit \$510.

The budgeted income for the balance of 2020 based on the budget is approximately \$1,700. This will consist of the SED Playdown entry fees, Grants and/or awards, and sales of merchandize.

Total income will be approximately \$5,500 for the year.

Expense

The budgeted expense for the balance of 2020 year's expenses is expected to be approximately \$5,700. These expenses consist of support for the following:

Host clubs:

- SED Playdowns
- National Championships
- East Coast Challenge
- US Open

Tournament support

- Shirts
- Banquet
- National Championships Player Support

Councilors

Office, Web site, and marketing

(For copies of the current financial statements, send a request to info@sedlawnbowls.org)

Appendix C
Auditor's Report

March 5, 2020

To: Jerry Healy, President, Southeast Division Bowls USA
From: James Bittman & Paul Melvin, Auditors
Subj: Audit of the Books of SE Division for the year 2019.

Pursuant to your request, we met with Treasurer Rick Abell on March 5, 2020 and audited the Division's books for calendar year 2019. The audit consisted of verifying a sampling of transactions listed on the annual report that the treasurer submits to the Division. The audit was uncomplicated due to the limited category of income and expense categories involved.

We determined that the expenses and income were accurately reflected on the reports and that the bank balances on the report to the Division Board agreed with the bank statements.

The Treasurer is not only keeping excellent support documents but also is utilizing Quicken which made the tracing of accounts, expenditures and categories of funds quite easy and with a high degree of accuracy.

Respectfully submitted:
James Bittman Auditor
Paul Melvin Auditor

Appendix D

Head Division Umpire's Report March 2020

- The SED Open was covered by eight different umpires with at least one umpire assigned at both locations each day. My thanks to all the umpires who worked the SED Open at Clearwater and Sarasota LBC.
- Presently there are 31 umpires in the SED, 14 women and 17 men. However, it is anticipated that we will experience 3-4 umpires leaving the ranks in the next 12 months for various reasons. This highlights the need for recruitment of qualified candidates on an ongoing basis. Delegates from each club are requested to encourage members from their club with at least one year of experience to consider umpiring. I am planning to send to each club a request for umpire candidates that can be posted on club bulletin boards.
- Currently there are no umpire candidates in training.
- Jackie Tucker has agreed to be the non-playing umpire at the playdowns at Pinehurst LBC in April.
- Due to issues arising during the SED Open at Clearwater regarding marking the two-meter spot, I am recommending that the two-meter mark be lightly scored in the surface on each rink on the rinks at clubs with Har-Tru surfaces, before each game. In singles competitions, this can be done by the markers, working in pairs, on each rink at the beginning of the game and refreshed as necessary during the game. In team formats, the skips may refresh the mark as necessary before the jack is rolled for the next end. The non-playing umpire on duty can provide instructions as necessary to markers and players on how to properly mark the two-meter spot. The two-meter stick should not be used by players to determine the shot or shots while there are bowls left to be played in an end.

Appendix E

National Councilors Report March 19, 2020 Submitted by Sandy Wall

At the Bowls USA AGM Meeting in November, 2019, the Council approved the National Championship P & P Manual. Since then the National Championship Committee has made recommendations for several changes. During the past few months the Council has been working on these revisions. We received the final draft last week which will be voted on for approval at our April meeting.

We have a new Bowls USA Newsletter Editor who will begin publication in March. Our new editor is Rae Iverson from Sun City Grand Lawn Bowling Club in Arizona.

The Councilors are scheduled to vote in April on the plan presented by Bowls USA President Scott Roberts to increase the Bowls USA dues. Scott recommends a gradual increase of \$2 every two years which would mean an increase of \$10 over a period of ten years. Rick and I have received favorable feedback concerning the dues increase.

This year will be the 50th Anniversary of the US Open. The Open will be held in California October 2-4 as practice days with the Tournament beginning October 5th through the 10th. Five clubs in the Long Beach area have committed their greens for the Tournament. Registration will open in May.

Plans are progressing for the National Championships that will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin August 24 – 28.

Currently, there are no plans to alter the schedule of the SED Playdowns, the National Championships or the US Open due to the COVID-19. Evaluation of the situation is ongoing. Please check the Bowls USA web for updates.