

# **Minutes from the NEBA Annual Meeting**

## **held Sunday, December 19, 2021 at AMF Auburn Lanes, Auburn, MA**

*Board members present: President Chris Viale, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Bruce Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Stephen Major, Manager Becky Kregling, Tournament Director Dan Kaye. Andrew Hall, Ed Roberts, Amy Viale and past President Dave Kipperman. Members present: None*  
*Board members absent: Matt Farber and Tim Gagne*

1. Reports of Tournament Director, Officers and Executive Committee – Dan presented the history of entries and cuts for the last four years. He stated had no major issues recently. Becky presented a treasurer's report which shows we will be close to even for the COVID impacted years of 2020-21. Some sponsor money will be carried forward to 2022 to be added to prize funds along with the \$1 per entry to be added to the Invitational in January.
2. Reports of Technology Directors and Social Media Committee – The virtual software demos which showed how to run a tournament received positive feedback. Social media platforms have been more active with posts at least three times a week. Interested in adding a promotion component and create a Marketing committee. This committee will create planned campaigns connecting all communication areas like social media, email and the website. We will solicit membership to be part of committee to include a youth member. Volunteers at the meeting: Amy, Andrew, Becky, Bruce & Stephen. For promotion, discussed getting host centers involved.
3. Board Members at Large Appointment for 2022 – Most of this year's at-large members are staying on for 2022. Returning members Tim Gagne, Andrew Hall, Ed Roberts and Amy Viale will be joined by AJ Villa and first time board member Frankie Calca. Motion by Dan Kaye to approve the group. Adopted Unanimous vote 8-0.
4. Sponsors for 2022 and committee report – Committee Chair Chris Viale distributed the list of 27 sponsors in 2022. We would like to welcome four new sponsors: Chicago Sam's, Grogmonster Sports, Ideal Bowling Concepts and Yankee Lanes Manchester.
5. Survey results and survey Committee Report – 20% of those sent a survey completed one which is a respectable response rate. Of the three groups, the survey was completed by 39% of those who bowled 3+ tournaments in 2020-21, 14% who bowled 1-2 tournaments and 9% of those who bowled in 2019. The results for the first seven proposals showed support of 70%-96% agreeing with six of the proposals and one proposal not having support with only 39% agreeing with it. In the ratings section, each area received a good or very good rating of 92%-98% by the bowlers. These results plus comments have been reviewed by those at the meeting before voting. There are some comments which are not correct such as: NEBA board members should not be allowed to pick the patterns (The host center picks the pattern except for the Invitational, Masters and Tournament of Champions) so we should consider sending out a NEBA question and answer FAQs to clear up misinformation.
6. Proposed Bylaw Changes - None
7. Proposed Tournament Rules Changes
  - a. Motion by Stephen Major: Do not recoil before the finals at one squad tournaments. Adopted unanimous vote 8-0
  - b. Motion by Becky Kregling: Change the finals format for 40 qualifiers which eliminates the current first round of a three person eliminator to head to head matches. 1<sup>st</sup> Round top 24 receive a bye, 16 bowl with 8 winners advancing to the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. 2<sup>nd</sup> round seeding by qualifying score in round 2. Adopted by unanimous vote 8-0
  - c. Motion by Ed Roberts: Change the minimum cash ratio to 1 in 5. Adopted by unanimous vote 8-0
  - d. Motion by Ed Roberts: Change the entry fee to \$80 for all regular events. Adopted by vote 6-3
  - e. No Motion for when someone misses roll call, do not let the alternate bowl.
  - f. Motion by Stephen Major: Use PBA style pair courtesy at "major tournaments" such as the Tournament of Champions and Masters and Invitational. Not adopted by vote 4-5.
  - g. Motion by Bruce Hall: In an eliminator format, the two semi-final matches will be held on one pair. Adopted. unanimous vote by 8-0.
  - h. Motion by Becky Kregling: Members who have been NEBA members for 30 years or purchased first membership 30 years ago and have not missed one or multiple membership years without substantive reason are eligible for \$0 membership with an automatic renew option. Status will be known as Honored Time Members. A three member committee will accept & review applications. Adopted by unanimous vote 8-0
  - i. Modify rules for doubles champions in regular open field tournaments
    1. Motion by Ed Roberts: Allow champions over the age of 60 who have not won in 5 years to bowl with another champion. Adopted by vote 6-1-1
    2. No Motion to Allow champions over the age of 50 who have not won in 5 years to bowl with another champion
    3. Motion by Ed Roberts: Allow all champions who have not won in 5 years to bowl with another champion. Not adopted by vote 2-5-1
  - j. Motion by Dave Kipperman: In order for changes to be made to the NEBA hall of fame qualification guidelines, the proposal must be approved by a minimum of 2/3 of the committee to be submitted to the board and must be approved by 2/3 of the board to pass with a quorum of 2/3 of the board present to vote. Adopted by unanimous vote 8-0

## 10. Committees

- a. Schedule – The 2022 schedule is finalized with dates and centers on our website. Sponsors will be added. There was support of a suggestion to add a youth tournament on a Saturday. A date and center must be selected and confirmed by Tuesday. There was a suggestion to have less tournaments in 2023 which will be on the next agenda.
- b. Special Tournaments – The rules for the Cambridge Credit Counseling Invitational will remain similar to last year. Dave has shared the rules. Trios rules will be put in writing with details including: Four games of qualifying, one team game finals and teams can be comprised of a maximum of one multi champ, one non-champ and one single time champ using the rules for regular doubles to determine a champion's status.
- c. Promotion – This committee will be merged with the new marketing committee.
- d. NEBA Network – This new idea presented by Amy at the last meeting, will allow members to share their professional services and business information so members can use other member's services. She is working with Dave to set up a channel for members to share their work info. This will be shared with the membership once a platform is chosen.
- e. Hall of Fame – The committee requested a software enhancement to keep track of bowler's Hall of Fame points. Dave will let the board know the cost for this upgrade then the board will vote on whether to approve this proposal.
- f. Hall of Fame & Awards Dinner – Next dinner will be in 2023

## 11. New business

- a. Change the definition of a youth in NEBA. Youth of the Year points will be earned until a member turns 18 years old regardless of USBC membership. There was support of this change. It will go into effect in January 2022.
- b. SMART distributed over \$600 to our account this year. The extra funds will be added to youth tournaments.
- c. Suspend announcements of the cut after each game since a livescoring link is now active and shared. Scoresheets will still be distributed and scores will scroll across screens when feature is available.
- d. Discussed and confirmed that a team is allowed to defend an over/under 50 title if the "under" person turns 50 before the next year. Both bowlers will be over 50.
- e. Use a google form to submit agenda items at any time so all ideas and proposals make the next agenda.
- f. Except for the three "major" tournaments (Invitational, Masters and Tourn of Champions), centers have been choosing patterns. Discussed going back to giving centers parameters for patterns and to plan which type of pattern will be used to spread them out in the schedule. This information will be on the website in advance. A pattern committee was made to work with the 2022 schedule. Dave Kipperman will chair the committee with members Dan Kaye, Becky Kregling and Stephen Major.
- g. A suggestion was made that board meetings be via zoom and annual meeting in person.

## 12. Motion to adjourn Ed Roberts at 11:37AM. Adopted.

### 2022 NEBA Board of Directors

President	Chris Viale	Member at-large	Frankie Calca
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Bruce Hall	Member at-large	Tim Gagne
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Stephen Major	Member at-large	Andrew Hall
Tournament Director	Dan Kaye	Member at-large	Ed Roberts
Manager	Becky Kregling	Member at-large	Amy Viale
		Member at-large	AJ Villa
		All past Presidents in good standing	