

35<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 25, 2016

ISA President, Michael Zellner, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

The meeting was opened with reading of the Inherent Mission.

The Inherent Mission of the International Shuffleboard Association is to promote and foster positive international relations around the world through the game of shuffleboard. It is for this very reason that we annually meet. Our member nations gather at selected worldwide locations to share love, develop lasting friendships, learn new cultures, and spend precious time together engaging in competitive shuffleboard.

Let us keep our mission in mind as we make conversation and decisions this evening.

ATTENDING BOARD MEMBERS;

President: Michael Zellner

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Myrna Bilton

Secretary: Joyce Smith

Treasurer: Wilma Rudolph

Historian and Hall of Fame Curator: Pamela Hill

Past President: Joseph Messier

Australia President: Ian Reiher; Observer: Marj Govett

Brazil President: Bernar Borges; Observer: Paulo Pavao; Extra Observer: Valdir Silva

Canada President: Jim Corbiel; Observer: Murray Burnett

Germany President: Dieter Hussmann; Observer: Birgitt Hussmann

Japan President: Kazunari Hatanaka

United Kingdom President: Peter Davis; Observer: Lesley Davis

USA President: Rob Robinson; Observer: Rich Phifer

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Chairman – Promotions and Publicity Committee: Jim Allen

Chairman – Constitution and By-Law Committee: Bob Smith

Chairwomen – Audit Committee: Beth Allen, Wilma Rudolph, Pamela Hill

Chairwoman - Communications/Media Committee: Muriel Burnett

Chairman – World Tournament Operations Committee: Glenn Monroe

Chairman – Youth Committee: Rich Phifer

Motion was made to skip the reading of the minutes since they were available on the ISA website. Germany President, Dieter Hussmann, indicated a change was not made to the constitution and asked the secretary to read page 7, paragraph 3 of the minutes.

“ Motion was made by Dieter Hussmann that team tournaments will be on even years and singles on odd years beginning with the 2017 tournament be added to the Constitution, seconded by Sandi Quinn. Motion carried.”

Michael had no idea why change was not made and requested all Board Members help us out and let us know if they notice a change was not made but stated it would be done this year. Change should come after Article 12 and may even have to become a new Article or perhaps Article 12A. This change will be made along with another proposal Dieter had made regarding the reduction in the number of players in the world singles. There were no further questions regarding the minutes and they were accepted.

Treasurer’s report was read by Wilma Rudolph and is available on the ISA website. Copy was also handed out to all board members present. Report stated all financial transactions had been audited through September 30, 2015; however, it was not done and hopefully would be done by end of the week.

Michael explained that he had received a check in the amount of \$13,823.38 from John Barnett and he put it in the Edward Jones account. It took a little bit of a drop but now is going back up. Michael thought it would be reinvested in something else. Wilma advised that on January 24, 2016, she and the Committee agreed that the ISA Board should be advised of the amount of the loss and their opinion solicited on the two options:

1. Sell the shares and hold the money in a money market fund at Edward Jones until such time as a more suitable investment could be identified and purchased or
2. Hold the shares of the MFS Moderate Allocation Fund Class C in the hope that the stock market would improve and the unrealized capital loss would be recouped in the future and that is, in fact, what happened. We now have an unrealized loss of \$401.02.

After much discussion, Motion was made by Australia President, Ian Reiher, that shares be sold as soon as possible and put in Capital Safe Investment. Motion seconded by Jim Corbiel. Vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Shares will be sold and cash left at Edwards Jones until the Investment Committee decides where to put it.

Curator Report given by Pam Hill. Pam thanked Germany for the money donated to the Hall of Fame. HOF is in good shape and she receives money on a monthly basis from the ISA for the upkeep. The large trophies are almost full with only one section available for this year's tournament. She would like to go to the trophy shop and see if there is any way they can add panels. If not, she will have to buy more trophies and then find some place to put them. She will investigate adding panels.

Last year the United Kingdom was inducted as members and she needs a certificate for display. Jim Allen will print a certificate and Michael Zellner will sign with last year's date and Pam will hang it in the appropriate area.

For this tournament, Pam will get in touch with the official photographer, Tom Gionet's son, for a large group photograph and team photos.

Pam also requested Norway and Russia to supply something for display; memos/articles, etc. She requested President elect request something from these 2 countries.

ISA President's each gave their report. ISA secretary will request copy of their reports to attach to minutes.

Committee's reports:

Constitution/By-Laws – Bob Smith stated he had not been aware of constitution changes and will get with Michael to make those changes.

Hall of Fame – Myrna Bilton reported 3 people going into HOF this year.

1. Bernar Borges
2. Don Breau
3. Sebastian Runge

Michael stated there had been 4 nominees. Three received enough votes. Copy of voting record was given to the secretary to verify and destroy.

Youth – Rich Phifer said it was hard to put together youth teams, ages 13-19, due to the time being in October and they are in school. Michael stated constitution already has a provision for a UN Youth Team or a National Youth Team and this would not affect the national count.

Audit – Beth Allen. Michael advised Beth should be removed from the Audit Committee if she becomes the new ISA Treasurer. Beth stated she had noted that via email to Michael.

Nominating – Joyce Smith. Michael stated Joyce, ISA secretary will handle election later when we get into the nominations. There are 2 nominations, 1 for President and 1 for Treasurer which are elected positions.

Publicity – Jim Allen. Entire opening ceremonies is now on You Tube Program and has been published. There were also press releases both in Spanish and English in local areas. Tom Gionet also did a good job of promoting.

Jim Allen brought up the 1<sup>st</sup> VP and voting rights. Michael stated 1<sup>st</sup> VP will not be an appointed position and will have to be nominated and elected tonight.

Michael brought up the Keeper of Records/Historian position and questioned if we even have one at this time. Question was do we want to replace position in constitution or eliminate it altogether. We also need to add the Curator. It was decided to drop Keeper of Records and add HOF Curator. Michael asked if we needed a vote on it. We will drop Keeper of Records and add the HOF Curator.

Joseph Messier, Past President, thought we needed a record of what happens from year to year.

Keeper of Records keeps records of past tournaments, who won them, etc. but currently everything is on the website. Oliver Schwarten is the web master and has done a great job of keeping the website up to date. Need to change his title to Web Master/Keeper of Records.

Pam suggested 1<sup>st</sup> VP also be an elected member with voting rights. There was much discussion about the 1<sup>st</sup> VP also being President of a Country, giving them 2 votes. One person, no matter how many positions they hold, they get 1 vote.

Beth Allen stated under Article 6, Board of Directors, there is no 1<sup>st</sup> VP listed there. Michael stated Article 3, Election of Officers, has listed a 1<sup>st</sup> VP. This needs to be corrected in Article 6, add the 1<sup>st</sup> VP and it will be an elected position.

Beth Allen said we are at a point where we need a Motion.

Jim Allen suggested this be tabled for now and the President elect should look into all of this.

Michael stated Countries Presidents are Board of Directors, not VP's, so the 1<sup>st</sup> VP should just be the Vice President.

There was discussion about a National President having to step down to become 1<sup>st</sup> VP because of having 2 positions and 2 votes. Michael said this would be left for the next President.

Glenn Monroe asked why would a National President have to step down to become 1<sup>st</sup> VP. Rule is, according to Roberts Rules, regardless of number of positions held, you only get 1 vote. Glenn stated if Board wants constitution to be amended, there is a procedure to do that, but as it is written right now, they do not have a vote.

Jim Allen has a problem with position being an appointed position when there is a possibility they could become President. That would be a problem.

Michael says it is an elected position with no vote. Board had actually elected Myrna.

Discussion was closed and left for next President.

Michael advised Glenn Monroe he would probably be getting complaints about the format used for this tournament. Glenn said this was first year this format used as it had been approved by the Board last year in Clearwater. He thinks it is really a failure to understand, some understand but just don't like it. He advised the 3 and 1 was the problem. If they only had 1 win, they want credit for that win. If they have 3 individual losses and 1 win, they get no point. Glenn suggested a new committee be appointed to readdress this. Michael stated we have a Format Committee and after feedback from the National Presidents, he can get back to the committee with their thoughts. Earl Ball and Henry Strong are on that committee but we need to get them off since they do not participate anymore. Hallvard and Bernar will be on the committee and they will get a replacement for Earl Ball.

Wilma advised she had been asked to speak and advise Board of the displeasure with this format and they wanted to go back to 1 point for each win to be added to the pot for their team. Glenn Monroe does not disagree with that but it was the Format Committee who wanted a maximum of 2 points given. Glenn stated we have an individual event but this is a team event. Glenn requested National Presidents provide him with their feedback, in writing, so the committee has something to look at and can address it. This should be done and approved at next board meeting.

Dieter raised question about size of team. With 6 person team, may end up playing only 7 games and with amount of money spent to attend, this would not be acceptable. Glenn advised the odd number of teams causes the problem and may have to go the 4 member teams. Michael said US and Canada would send 3 teams then. US has 30,000 players, hard to get down to 2 four person teams. Dieter wants to be guaranteed certain number of matches. Glenn will see if we can guarantee a minimum of 10 games which would be acceptable to Dieter. National Presidents will get back to Glenn with their recommendations.

Michael stated in 2016 a vote was taken and the majority voted to avoid email voting until the ABM. Proposal was to limit returning champions and presidential nominations for the ISA World Singles Championship as presented by Presidents Davis, Flatland and Hussman. The only

objections Michael had as he went through were players from Full Member Nations, for example, we don't have just Full Member countries, we need to include Founding Members and Interim Members. The other example was "nations". We don't call them half countries and half nations. Throughout the constitution they are known as nations so you just need to modify the word from country to nation. Under another item, the targeted number of participants shall be in multiples of 8. Example, starting with 32-40, should be 16-24 and that's all we held it up for. Another item was Proof of Documents for a player to play. Players from other countries, change to nations, need a passport, expired or not. An expired passport is still valid as proof of citizenship from a nation. It's not valid to travel on but it is proof of your birth nationality so we need to add that in there with an I.D. or certificate of birth from their country. With those changes, as presented by them, it would pass. So we have I.D., birth certificate or passport whether valid or not. Approval to postpone came from Canada, Australia, Brazil, Russia and the Treasurer. Now the proposal is back before you again. This falls under world singles and again this will be added in the final version to World Championship.

Dieter stated Section 5A – Full Members includes Founding Members so leave as is. Interim Member is not a non member. Michael suggested they change to all members to cover all 3. Dieter requests the document not be changed and questioned why it was edited.

Michael thought document was workable but stated fine if Dieter wants to resubmit document. Dieter stated Michael changed the document without telling anyone. Dieter, Peter and Hallvard will discuss and resubmit to new President. Dieter also requested the word "expired" be removed and a valid passport or birth certificate be required.

Michael agrees we should limit number of returning champions so that we do not have an overloaded system. We had a total of 10 who were automatically qualified to come to the next tournament. This proposal recommends reducing it down to 3. Since we are coming up on a world singles he suggested they try to get this proposal pushed through by email before we get to the next country we are going to. Dieter advised this would include 3 out of the top 8 returning champions.

Michael stated there is something we need to address. We need a vote that Russia be downgraded from Full Member Status to Interim Member Status due to their failure to fulfill obligations as described in the constitution. What it says specifically is

"any nation that requests to become a member and does not fully qualify in accordance with the ISA Constitution may be granted Interim Member status until such time as they meet the qualifications. Included in this category are former Full Member nations that have not sent a competitor in 3 consecutive ISA World Championships. Interim members have no voting rights and unless they were former Full Members, have no star on the ISA flag." Since Russia was a Full Member, their star will stay on the ISA flag. "Once an Interim Member nation meets all of

the requirements, as spelled out in the ISA Constitution, and upon approval of the ISA Board, their Interim Member status shall be converted into Full Member status and afforded all rights as set down in the ISA Constitution. Downgraded Full Members shall be reinstated by sending a competitor to any future ISA World Championship and approved by a 2/3 vote of the ISA Board.”

This is 3<sup>rd</sup> year Russia has not participated in an ISA Championship. Igor was here in 2015 in Clearwater but he did not compete so we have Midland, Clearwater and here, that's 3. That's one less voting nation, all in favor of downgrading Russia from Full Member to Interim Member, please indicate. Vote passed unanimously. Michael will send a letter to Igor advising Russia has been downgraded by a unanimous vote of the ISA Board and cite the reasons why. He will also advise that when they send a competitor to participate in an event, they will be reinstated, with the approval of the ISA Board, and moved back to Full Member status with their voting rights restored.

Dieter questioned Igor continuing to refer to himself as an ISA Vice President. Michael will also include in the letter that he can no longer continue to do that.

The meeting was turned over to Bernar to present his new proposal for Brazil to host the 2017 ISA World Singles Championships. Michael has personal issues with that in that it is only 8 months away. The original proposal is not coming through as presented and is no longer an option. Valdir has a letter from Dr. Pimental that he would like to read. Letter was read and basically Dr. Pimental is just advising that he wants to make it clear that he is not part of Bernar's new proposal.

Bernar makes his presentation:

ISA World Championships would be held in Niterol, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 23-28, 2017. The host hotel will be the recently opened Best Western Plus Icarai and has 77 rooms. It is located at the Icarai beach and is only 10 minutes from the courts. The address is Rua Joaquim Taora, 54, Icarai, Niterol-RJ, telephone number +55 21 3513 6200. Rate for a single room would be approximately \$70 USD, a double room approximately \$83 USD and a luxury apartment approximately \$120 USD. Breakfast is included.

The nearest international airport is in Rio de Janeiro, the Antonio Carlos Jobim International Airport – Galeao (GIG), which is approximately 40 minutes from the hotel. Shuttle service is included.

Bernar was given the gymnasium to use for the tournaments in exchange for him teaching the physical education students to play shuffleboard after the tournament is over. Michael asked Bernar if he had signed contracts and Bernar stated he does, one for the gymnasium and one for the ballroom where the banquets will be held.

Hotel reservations can be made on line using your own credit cards which will automatically convert the currency.

Volunteers will be university students.

Paulo advised he will be going back to Brazil for the months of June and July to help Bernar.

Player's packages with more information will be coming soon.

Beth Allen will check on how far ahead we will need to apply for travel visas.

Questions were raised about safety and about possibility of losing our money. Jim Allen advised there were no problems or concerns in 2002 and 2005 so wondered why it is a problem now.

Dieter Hussmann advised Bernar on opening a new bank account for this event in ABS name

Bernar advised about 96-98 competitors would be good number to attend. It was agreed that countries start with 6 men and 6 women and that number can change depending on interest in participating.

Michael suggested everyone allow extra time after the tournament and a tourism package can be put together.

Michael asked for a vote from the Board of Directors since there were changes to original proposal. Vote was unanimous that we will be going to Brazil. Dieter Hussmann had given the secretary a letter from Hallvard Flatland of Norway. Since Hallvard was unable to attend, he gave Dieter permission to vote for him. That letter was approved and signed by President Zellner prior to the meeting.

Jim Corbiel then presented his proposal for the ISA World Team Championships in 2018. It would be held at the Foothills Shuffleboard Club in High River, Alberta, Canada. The dates would be July 15-20, 2018 and the hotel would hopefully be under \$100 a night. Jim had given each person attending the board meeting a package of events and local attractions for their review.

Michael Zellner advised this High River proposal was the only option we had. He would like to give Board Members more options and asked would they consider non shuffleboard clubs where we would use local hotels and local restaurants. He has Myrtle Beach, SC as a potential backup for 2019. He also has LaCross, Wisconsin as a backup for 2018 along with Atlantis Casino in Reno, Nevada.

Pam Hill asked if we do not use shuffleboard clubs, who is going to do all of the organizing and all the work.

Michael responded that he had suggestion for a committee. Right now he has himself and Landy Adkins. He would like to stay involved in Host Location Committee and go around all year looking for hosts to host our event. He would like to have about 8 options. He has ball rolling for 2 to 3 years down the road.

Pam Hill made motion that we go to High River in Alberta in 2018. Seconded by Ian Reiher. Vote was unanimous to go to High River in 2018.

Michael stated he has something else to bring to their attention and read from Article 3:

“Each official elected shall hold office for two years with term beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January of the following year to provide outgoing officers ample time to prepare for a smooth turnover of administrations as well as to coincide with the calendar year financial and tax reporting cycle that the ISA operates under.”

That is a suggestion and Michael would like to suggest that although the election takes place today, they be allowed to finish their terms. He would like to get with the incoming President to turn over 6 years of documents and files and Wilma has asked that we allow her to close out this tournament and close out the fiscal year for tax documentation. What we would be is in limbo status and couldn't make any decisions during that limbo period. If this is not agreeable, Wilma and he would get up and take 2 other seats and someone else could take over the rest of this tournament. This could be added to the constitution now. So let us get that approved before we proceed with the elections.

Dieter questioned why this wasn't already done, knowing there were candidates. Michael said he did not know who was going to get elected and would not sit down and turn over documents to a potential nominee. Dieter advised that the newly elected officers take over right away and the constitution was quite clear on that and there was no other option. Michael stated we could change this right now. Dieter advised we cannot change the constitution as the Presidents must have written notice 10 days prior to this meeting. Jim Corbiel stated we must go by our constitution, we cannot change it. Wilma asked was that not circulated in an email and advised that she had gotten it. Dieter advised it was presented to him today. He said the constitution says:

“Each official elected shall hold office for two years or until his successor in office has been elected.”

So once we elect the new officers, they are in office.

Michael turned the election of officers over to Joyce Smith, Secretary.

Joyce stated we have one nomination for President and that is Myrna Bilton. Do I have any nominations from the floor (asked 3 times, as required). Nominations were closed and Secretary cast 1 vote for Myrna Bilton. Myrna Bilton is the new ISA President.

Joyce stated we have one nomination for Treasurer and that is Beth Allen. Do I have any nominations from the floor (asked 3 times as required). Nominations were closed and Secretary cast 1 vote for Beth Allen. Beth Allen is the new ISA Treasurer.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. I have no nominees. Do I have any nominations from the floor. Myrna Bilton nominates Dieter Hussmann as 1<sup>st</sup> VP. Do I have any other nominations from the floor. Do I have any other nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed and Secretary cast 1 vote for Dieter Hussmann. Dieter Hussmann is the new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

Myrna Bilton gave an acceptance speech and asked Michael if he would finish out the tournament.

Michael gave a farewell speech.

Meeting was adjourned by President Myrna Bilton.

jbs

