

October 17, 2009

## **INTERNATIONAL SHUFFLEBOARD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm By President Earl Ball. In attendance were Beth Allen, Treasurer; Gus Bondi, Past President; Michael Zellner, Brazil President; Joe Messier, USA President; Jim Bailey, USA Observer & Singles Committee; Stan McCormack, Canada President; Frank Stokowski, Canada Observer; Yoshiko Suzuki, Japan, President; Sachiyo Takata, Japan Observer; Kyoko Hada, Japan Interpreter; Marj Govett, Australia President; Dieter Hussmann, Germany President; Sebastian Runge, Germany Observer; Pam Hill, HOF Curator; Jim Allen, Terry Rainwater, Henry Strong and Glenn Monroe Special Invitees.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and accepted. The Treasurer's report was given. Check Book balance \$609.43. Money Market account \$14,696.39 for a total of \$15,305.82. The report is on file for audit. The Audit for last year was conducted by Board member Gus Bondi and the books were found to be in order. No money has been received from the current tournament. President Earl explained that all finances from the current tournament would be reviewed by the Betmar Shuffleboard Club and Betmar Owners. The money that belongs to the ISA will then be forwarded to the ISA Treasurer.

Communications were only from Board Members in the general course of business.

Each Country was asked to give the Board an update as concerns Promotion and Publicity, to include growth, in their respective Country.

Japan reported that their National Organization is made up of two groups Tokyo and Yokohama. They later reported that there was a second group in Yokohama that they are now making significant progress in promoting harmony and they hope to continue to have a good relationship in the future. They have had large Shuffleboard articles published in the major newspapers in Tokyo and Yokohama during the past year as well as articles in three magazines to include the Journal of Medicine. Japan expressed that they would like to see Standard Rules for Shuffleboard used throughout the World which prompted a discussion the result of which was that many would agree but differing circumstances require different rules. Japan was asked about the potential to host another ISA event and the response was that the cost would be prohibitive; it would cost at least \$100,000 just to rent the space for the event.

Brazil has eight courts in Rio de Janeiro with 20 members. Sao Paulo has six courts with 10 members. They hold four National Tournaments a year and although growth has been slow the potential is there to host another ISA event. Brazil wasn't able to have anything published as concerns Shuffleboard.

Germany has six covered courts in a converted green house and expects to have two more in a park by next summer with the potential of four more in the future. They currently

have 100 members and are showing steady growth. Some of their members have the potential to represent other Nations in ISA events. Germany has had a good deal of promotion with their web site and other written articles. They have also enjoyed government support for Shuffleboard. They are approaching and promoting the sport as a family affair. They host five tournaments a year, two of which are decentralized “speed Shuffleboard” tournaments. Germany is preparing for the 2010 ISA Team Tournament.

The USA reports that several new States are starting to play Shuffleboard. The USA has many tournaments and the game is quite different in the East and the West. The West has very large tournaments while the East has more but smaller tournaments. The games in the East and the West are so different from each other that they require different rules. The USA now has an East/West Challenge Tournament and it is expected to take place each year. Many articles are published in the USA but growth has been slow in total numbers of tournament players, there is a great deal of social play that takes place.

Australia has four tournaments a year and reports there isn't a lot of interest in tournaments and they are concerned that if they hold to many tournaments they will actually lose members. They have 102 members and are holding steady, they expect a good possibility they will be able to field a team in Germany. They have procured a new 15 year lease on the Eleanor courts. Ian Rehier has written a book on Shuffleboard to help the members and it has been well received. They also printed a leaflet to pass around and it has generated some additional interest.

Canada holds three National Tournaments and estimated they have about 2500 players and are growing rapidly with the aid of the government's interest and the availability of government money to buy equipment. They have started up at least five new Clubs this year and several more are in the formative stage. Canada has had many Shuffleboard articles published and “theshuffler” web site is the eyes and ears of the game around the world.

The nominating committee of Michael Zellner, Chairman, Dieter Hussmann and Jim Bailey was confirmed.

No additional remarks as concerned the HOF except that each Country is expected to get their nominations into Chairman Michael.

A general discussion was held as concerns the type of tournaments the ISA will host going forward. The current tournament format was praised by everyone. There were many very positive comments about this event with only one concern voiced. That being that a few women mentioned they were tired and needed more breaks in play. President Earl thanked Dieter for introducing “speed shuffleboard” to the game. All acknowledged that it added excitement and enthusiasm to Tournament. We all recognize that in order to have others excited and enthused about the game, all of us must be excited and enthused. We will go forward with the Team format in Germany and solicited proposals for another singles event in 2011. Proposals have been received to host the next team event in 2012 by Hemet, California and Seattle, Washington. No decision will be made until the

Germany Tournament in line with ISA policy of awarding Tournaments only two years out. The Constitution will be changed to reflect team size of six players with four playing at a time and each Country can have two teams. The motion was made by Michael Zellner and seconded by Dieter Hussmann. This leaves the numbers of players allowed by each Country the same but makes it easier for new countries to form a team. There may be more than one United Nations team. We also agreed that a Youth UN Team could compete in the Germany Tournament. We also added to the Treasurer's responsibilities in the Constitution the filing of the Corporate information each year. Motion by Joe Messier, second by Dieter Hussmann.

Norway's membership ratification vote was deferred to the Germany Board meeting.

Pam Hill was confirmed as Historian and keeper of the records and as such is a Board member. The office of Secretary is still open.

A discussion was held as concerns a web site for the ISA. "Theshuffler" web site will no longer carry an International page beginning with the New Year. It was suggested that the Country hosting the tournament each year become responsible for the ISA information. We realize we need an interactive, vivacious, exciting enthusiastic site to promoted interest around the world. The problem is how to finance the site. A committee of Jim Allen, Chairman, Terry Rainwater and Beth Allen was formed. Jim will also talk to Bob Weber about joining them. Some preliminary suggestions were mentioned such as charging an extra dollar at each National Tournament by each country and Germany volunteered to lead the way by doing so and forwarding the money to the ISA Treasurer to begin to form a stream of income for the ISA. As of today the ISA has no on going income to run their business. It was pointed out that to survive and thrive a stream of income was necessary.

The Board agreed to take care of the HOF on an as needed basis.

The book published at each team tournament was abandoned with Allen Shuffleboard volunteering to put together one from each event for the HOF. In the future the Book will be similar to the one from the Betmar event with current player Bio's and the program or there will be a DVD that each player can pay for on their own.

Timing and Method of payment was discussed for the tournament in Germany. Each National President will work with their players and Dieter to effect proper payment. Everyone recognizes there is great financial risk associated with currency fluctuations.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Earl Ball President.