

SOMBA Board Meeting

DATE/PLACE: September 18, 2011, Unitarian Church

PRESENT: Mary Bennett [P], Posh Gulati [P], Jane Hall [P], Gail Hanson [E], Jerome Hasenjager [E], Steve Jacob [E], Barbara Jur [P], Marilyn Lindow [P], Jim Phillips [E], Ginny Poulter [P], Satish Shah [E], Henry Shevitz [P], Kathy Twomey [P] Marianne Varion [P], and Vickie Vallone [E]

GUESTS: Dave Buskirk

AGENDA: SEE ATTACHED

- 1) Posh called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.**
- 2) Election of First and Second Alternates to the District Director on the Board of Governors of the ACBL.**

Posh distributed biographical information and voting ballots for the two candidates running for First Alternate. Barbara J. described the duties and responsibilities of these positions. Both candidates were absent. Each board member completed a ballot and placed it in a sealed envelope containing his/her signature and ACBL number. Ballots were collected and placed in a large manila envelope addressed to the ACBL.

Jane H. distributed biographical information and voting ballots for the two candidates running for Second Alternate. Each board member completed a ballot and placed it in a sealed envelope containing his/her signature and ACBL number. Ballots were collected and placed in a large manila envelope addressed to the ACBL.

- 3) Approval of Minutes:** Posh distributed copies of the board minutes. After a review and discussion of the minutes, Barbara J. made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ginny P., and unanimously approved by the board.
- 4) Treasurer's Report:** Jerry H., Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting. Posh distributed and reviewed a profit and loss statement for SOMBA covering October 1, 2010 through September 11, 2011, a current Balance Sheet, and a fiscal report for the May 2011 Wolverine Regional submitted by Jerry. These documents showed that SOMBA made a net profit of \$12,704.37 on the May Regional (attendance down by 50 tables in pair events, and up by 25 tables in knockouts/swiss events). A savings was also generated by Posh's hiring a Tournament Assistant rather than a 2nd Tournament Director. Current assets for SOMBA total \$99,025.24.

Several board members had questions regarding the revenue/net profit from the May Regional, and the number of tables listed for pair events and knockouts/team events. Posh will discuss with Jerry. When clarification is provided, board members may approve the Treasurer's Report via email if they are satisfied with the explanations provided. The Treasurer's report will be approved at the by mail.

Posh informed the board that SOMBA has been registered as a Charitable Organization by the State of Michigan since 1982. He further stated that taxes for the organization were not filed for the year 2010. Vipin Gulati, a CPA, has been completing paperwork to correct this oversight. He will obtain a copy of the 2009 taxes from the IRS for a fee of \$57.50, and must file the 2010 taxes by 10/15/11. All required documentation has been submitted to the CPA.

- 5) Past Tournaments: Wolverine Regional.** As stated above, attendance was down 50 tables in pair events, and up 25 tables in knockout/swiss events. Kelly took pictures of various players in the hall and

posted them on the SOMBA web page. No negative comments about the tournament, except for hotel rates and lack of shuttle service between the hotel and Costick Center. Henry S. to check out rates for other hotels in the area.

6) Upcoming Tournaments/Events:

The **Apple Cider Section** is scheduled for November 10 – 13, 2011 at the Costick Center. Fliers are being distributed. Posh noted that the novice events are listed as “0 – 199” points instead of “0 – 299” points. It is too late to correct the error for this tournament, but flyers for the Valentine Sectional will reflect the higher point range for novice events.

Posh reported that Ken will no longer be Tournament Director for SOMBA Sectionals. New Directors have been selected for this tournament. We will be having new Tournament Directors at the Apple Cider Sectional

Barbara will be giving table cloths to Ginny. Vickie V., Marilyn L. and Kathy T. will be assisting the 0 – 199ers, and Mary Bennett, James P. and Satish S. and Marianne V. will be chairing the partnership table. Ginny P. will be in charge of hospitality, assisted by Scott M.

Trophies, mugs, convention cards with pencils, pens, etc. are available for the tournament.

The **Spooktacular Tournament for I/N players** is scheduled for October 28 & 29 at the Unitarian Church. Co-chairs Marilyn L. and Kathy T. are attending to tournament details and job assignments for volunteers. Lunch is included in entry fee for one session events on Friday, and for swiss team event on Saturday. Flyers for the event are being distributed.

Posh to clarify if 2nd room is available for use if additional space is required. (Area was being used by a dance group last year.) Posh also to check on procedure for obtaining a key to the room for set-up.

Trophies, mugs, convention cards with pencils, pens, etc. are available for the tournament.

GNT: District 12 gives \$1,000.00 to the winning team captain, who distributes the money to his team. SOMBA has agreed to give an additional \$200.00 to each winning team with 5 or 6 players and at least one SOMBA member. (MBA has agreed to do like-wise with its team winners.).

6) District Reports: N/A

7) Old/New Business.

- Discussed marketing ideas for the Wolverine Regional. Discussed potential benefits of advertising on BBO and putting ads in the Bulletin. Board tabled the discussion until more information on pricing is available. Also discussed the advantages of having a tournament at a hotel rather than a stand-alone site. Posh informed the board that the Cincinnati Regional is the same week as the Wolverine Regional next year.
- Henry S. indicated that MBA has changed the handicap rule for knockout teams at tournaments: Handicap awards are capped at 5,000 points (team average). Henry agreed to formally present this issue for a board vote at the January 2012 meeting.
- Henry S. also stated that MBA now flights team events by averaging the total number of points held by team members rather than the number of points held by the highest team member. Henry made a

motion to try this method of stratification at the next two SOMBA sectionals. This motion was seconded by Ginny P. and unanimously approved by the board.

- Dave B. discussed need to be attentive to the 0- 300 players at tournaments – providing assistance and direction as needed, making sure they get to the right room/table, making sure someone is available to hand out trophies, etc. – not just having someone sitting at the I/N table. Marilyn L. and Kathy T. to coordinate with Vickie V. regarding these concerns.
- Marilyn L. and Ginny P. reported that people have told them they don't attend SOMBA tournaments because the players are rude. The board discussed ways of enforcing the "zero tolerance" rule. Posh reminded board members that they are the eyes and ears of SOMBA, and should report any incidences of rudeness to him.
- Patti and Al Becker are being considered to do the Daily Bulletin for the next Wolverine Regional.
- Flyer for Valentine Sectional will list I/N events for 0 – 299ers.
- Satish S. and Jerry H. will present finding of their internal audit at the January 2012 meeting.
- Discussed methods for encouraging all players to have a completed convention card at tournaments and club games. The board will revisit this issue at the January 2012 meeting.

8) Correspondence: N/A

9) Next Meeting: January 15, 2012, Crowne Plaza

Meeting adjourned: 2:25 p.m.