**Minutes for OEDL Board of Directors Meeting 10/30/23 at O’Neals Pub**

**(Minutes taken by Recording Secretary, James Coughlin)**

**Present:** Keith Jameson, Jim Coughlin, Greg Stoffa, John Bouillon, Casey Hare, Alan Cahill, Bill Moriarty (left early 8:10pm), Mike Aird (late 7:40pm), Jeff Baxter

**Excused Absences:** Paul Kuhn (work),Paul Lichorobiec (vacation)

**Call to order:** 7:23pm

**September’s Minutes Reviewed and Approved:** Motion to approve Casey, seconded by Billmo. Minutes approved 7-0.

**Officer Reports:**

* **President** – Excused absence.
* **Chairman** – Keith Jameson has nothing to report.
* **League Recorder** – Bill Moriarty stated that he has postponed updating weeks 6 & 7 on YLS for the teams that chose to play during the cancelled weeks. Stats and Standings will be updated once all the postponed matches have been played. Stats for the Divisions that use DartConnect are automatically updated and can’t be postponed for the record.
* **Treasurer** – Bill Moriarty submitted this month’s Treasury Report via email to each Board Member prior to the meeting. Motion to Approve Jim /Seconded by Pickles. Board approved 7-0.
  + Bill discussed the current financial situation of the league in comparison to the same time last year. Currently, we have approximately $26k in the coffers. This is $13k less than we had at this point in 2022. The shortfall can be attributed to some of the listed expenditures; purchased 1st Place and Championship plates (should hold inventory for 3 to 4 years), paid for awards apparel (cost was more than last year’s total due to change in vendor), rising costs of equipment (i.e. dart boards). After reviewing the expenditures, we are operating at about $5,200 less than last year. Bill discussed creating a budget and developing recommendations to make up for the shortfall and to combat inflation. This could include sponsor fee increases, league fee increases, cutting expenses, etc. Bill will present his recommendations at the November meeting. The goal is to get back to operating in the black, not just for next season, but for the next 5-10 seasons.
  + Bill also discussed the Storage Locker situation. Due to numerous delays, we have been paying for the storage locker for an extra 5-6 months. At $200 a month, we essentially spent $1,200 for the lockers. Pickles volunteered to connect with Mike Aird, get the locker key and empty the lockers. Pickles has space in his basement to store anything we need to hold on to until another option is available. (Mike Aird was late for the meeting, but upon his arrival this topic was re-approached between Pickles and Mike. Pickles and Mike made arrangements for Pickles to get the key and empty the locker.) Regarding the wooden stand-up board(s) in the locker, Keith suggested just trashing them at this point. Everybody agreed. Pickles will make a determination, based on their conditions, about what to do with them on-site.
  + **League Director** – John (Pickles) Bouillon discussed 2 teams that have failed to pay their player’s fees. At the time of this meeting, the Avenuers of the Darts and the Artful Dodgers are both delinquent their entire teams player’s fees. Per Rules and Regulations, this is a penalty of 5 points. Both teams will be notified of their penalties. Escalating penalties may be accrued if teams do not make their payments prior to next week.
  + Pickles discussed the possibility of a Thursday OEDL league. This is not a league to compete with QCEDL, but to give an alternative night to shoot for the South Philly and Center City shooters that do not wish to venture to the northeast. Pickles suggests a shorter format, smaller team league. Starting small, possible 4 of our established “dart bars”, could host teams of 4-6 shooters, playing only single and double player games. As a smaller league, we would limit prizes to wooden plaques as opposed to pewter plates and jackets. Board were all interested in the idea, but would need to further discuss logistics (Additions to the Rules and Regulations and Bylaws, Format, Costs, Start Date, etc.). Keith suggested we kick this to Paul Kuhn and have him assign a Committee to setting this up.
* **Vice President** – Alan Cahill has nothing to report.
* **Secretary** – Jim Coughlin has nothing to report.

**Committees/Directors:**

* **Seeding and Scheduling Committee** – Paul Kuhn excused absence. Board still needed to discuss the rescheduling of the All Star Matches that were cancelled due to Phillies NLCS postponements. Division 7 will play their All Star Match on November 21 as scheduled. When to play the other Divisions All Star Matches? Suggestions include:
  + Cancellation of this seasons All Star Matches. This is not expected to be a popular idea with the players. Will be an option.
  + Play on a non-Tuesday night as we did last year. This was not a popular idea and led to poor turnouts last year. Will be an option.
  + Dart Social. Host all the All Star Matches on 1 night, in 1 location, prior to the Spring 2024 season as a sort of pre-season gathering or social. Host Bars would losing out on their All Star Matches. Would be an unpopular idea. Vetoed.
  + Combined All Star Matches, D1 and D2, D3 and D4, etc. Board did not like this idea figuring that the lower Division in any combined Match would have poor turnouts against the higher Division. Also causes half the Host Bars to lose their All Star Night. Vetoed.
  + Move the All Star Matches until after the season on an open Tuesday prior to the Spring 2024 season (January 9th?). Will be an option.
  + Pickles stated he will do an email to all team Captains asking their teams preference and going with a majority decision.
  + Greg Stoffa suggested starting the Fall season earlier (just after Labor Day). If we start play earlier for both seasons we could eventually avoid the Phillies postseason postponements.
* **Events Committee**: Nothing at this time.
* **Awards Director** – Jim Coughlin discussed his frustration with the apparel awards. The apparel awards were extremely stressful this year. Jim dealt with many issues including, arguing with the vendor to bring down costs, inflation, unmet expectations, embroidery issues, and numerous other obstacles. Jim suggests a major overhaul of the awards apparel process. To be further discussed at the November Board meeting.
* **Equipment Committee** – Mike Aird discussed storage locker with Pickles. As noted in League Director Report.
* **Rules & Regulations/By-Laws Committees** – Nothing at this time.
* **Hall of Fame Committee** – Greg Stoffa updated the Board regarding the status of the OEDL Hall of Fame. Stoffa stated that John Hunsberger and Chris Richman are continuing to work on the Hall of Fame website. Stoffa asks that we repost the Submission Form to our socials and get out the word to get a good number of submissions for our first Hall of Fame class before the end of this season.

**Old Business:**

* Nothing Pending**.**

**New Business:**

* **Kevin Wilkison Suspension.** 
  + Pickles recused himself from this conversation as Kevin was, until recently, on his team and is a very dear friend.
  + Board discussed the allegations against Kevin (mismanagement and/or misappropriation of funds in the amount of $4,875).
  + Board discussed everything Kevin has done in growing the game of darts in Philadelphia and the friendships and relationships he has built.
  + Board also discussed actions taken by other leagues and Boards. Kevin has either stepped down or been removed from all Boards and Committees, and resigned (or been banned) from shooting in any and all leagues, including withdrawing from his OEDL team.
  + Board discussed the letter we received identifying these allegations. Discussed why Spoonie was the contact for the OEDL vote since he is no longer a Board member. Citywide suspension letter should have been sent to the OEDL Director email for official purposes.
  + Board discussed rumors that we have heard through the general Philly dart chatter, including about possible litigation.
  + Board asked if any league was doing a formal investigation and would we be privy to results of that investigation. TBD.
  + Board discussed all of these topics extensively and voted unanimously 6-0 to suspend Kevin Wilkison from the Olde English Dart League.
  + Finally, the Board discussed the type or term limit of suspension. Is this suspension in perpetuity? A 1-year suspension? A 1-season suspension? A suspension until an investigation either condemns him or vindicates him? Or a suspension until financial compensation is made right? At this time, the Board will stick with a vague suspension until further information is ascertained.
  + Casey will draft a formal Suspension Letter for Kevin from OEDL to maintain our due diligence.
* **Angelo Rullo and Thomas Rose Suspensions**:
  + Angelo Rullo and Tom Rose were both recently suspended by ASL and QCEDL for violating their rules of shooting darts for 2 leagues on the same night.
  + It was discovered that Angelo was shooting ASL, a Thursday night league (rescheduling his matches to shoot on Wednesdays), and captaining a QCEDL also on Thursday nights. Both leagues have a rule against this, and this rule is explained during their general membership meetings. Angelo was not in attendance for the ASL general membership meeting and claims ignorance of the rule. That being said, both ASL and QCEDL are suspending him for 1 year.
  + Thomas Rose was also shooting in both ASL and QCEDL on Thursdays. It is unknown by OEDL if he is claiming ignorance of the rule or was trying to beat the system. Both ASL and QCEDL have suspended him for 1 year.
  + The Board had a long discussion regarding “Do we suspend them both from OEDL based on their violations of ALS and QCEDL rules?”
  + Discussed unwritten rules, handshake and gentleman’s agreements regarding reciprocal suspensions between leagues.
    - Do we want a formal written rule about reciprocation? Eliminate handshake agreement and make a rule? No.
  + Discussed the potential slippery slope of suspension reciprocation without investigation or conversation. What if a league had a rule that we considered unfair, unjust, or plain wrong? Discussed wildly unrealistic scenarios of rules and what we would do if they were instituted by another league, and that league wanted somebody suspended for it.
  + Discussed suspension reciprocation for violation of a rule from another league that is not a violation of any of our rules.
    - Talked about when this “2 league rule” was first brought to our attention when Lilian Ramos was shooting for both OEDL and QCEDL. At that time, whether the rule was formalized or not, the shooter was given the option to pick a team from the 2 leagues and shoot for them only. Not a suspension.
    - When the Board first learned that this was becoming a formal rule in QCEDL, we had a Vote where we decided against making this an OEDL rule. We let the Team Captain ensure that they have enough players and where they are it on dart night is of no business to the Board. If a team is short players because they have shooters playing in other leagues, that is up to their Captain to address. We have multiple shooters that shoot in American Leagues on the same night as OEDL.
    - Can we really suspend someone from OEDL for doing something that is actively done in OEDL (players shooting in 2 leagues, American and OEDL)?
    - Do we only reciprocate if what is done is a violation of one or more of our rules? Discussion was split. Some say a rule is a rule, others believe it has to be a case by case discussion. Issues regarding conduct, money, etc. are most likely always going to be reciprocated, but it just can’t be a blind reciprocation every time.
  + Board voted 4-3 against suspension of Angelo and Tom from OEDL for shooting in QCEDL and ASL on Thursday nights.
* Keith Jameson – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* Greg Stoffa – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* John Bouillon – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* Jim Coughlin – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* Casey Hare – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* Alan Cahill – Nothing to add for the good of the meeting.
* Jeff Baxter – Jeff suggested an alternate schedule for a 4 team division that would make it 10 weeks long and match all the other 5 and 6 team divisions in length. It would need to go before Seeding and Scheduling and Rules and Regulations Committees.

**November’s Board of Directors Meeting:**

* Next Board Meeting scheduled for Monday, November 27, 2023 at 7pm at Cavanaugh’s Headhouse. Approved 6-0

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:21pm**