The Blind Bowler
American Blind Bowling Association
April 2022

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ABBA Members,

The end of the season is upon us. I’m honored to have been ABBA President. It’s been a long, hard road these past several years. I want to send prayers to those who lost friends or family to the pandemic. It has truly been a pleasure.

I wish to thank all the members that attended conference calls, members who served on committees, and those who kept ABBA moving forward. I look forward to a smooth and peaceful transition.

See you in Chicago,
Joyce Mintz
ABBA President

ABBA SECRETARY TREASURER
March - 2022

Greetings ABBA membership, it has been a long time since we gathered as a group, yet we will be able to fellowship with one another in May, Some members who were with us at our last tournament are no longer with us. Many leagues reported the loss of one or more members, they will be missed, Leagues lost loved ones and some families were touched by COVID-19 while others were taken due to other illness, Let us make the best of our time together in May, renew old friendships, and catch-up on what’s been going on. Seemingly tragedies are occurring whether in our area or someplace in our world. Please continue to remember the Ukrainians and
all the innocent lives taken, especially the children. Let us continue to ask for Peace and an end to war.

SMILE!!
We have the “Final 2022 Proposed By-Law Changes” to be presented in May. These changes were submitted by Charles Glaser, Chair of Rules, Interpretation and Enforcement Committee. Please reread the last submission. The Legislative committee also submitted a proposal and Life Member Keith Edgerton. All proposals from committees were listed in the previous Blind Bowlers but because of COVID, voting and passage is incomplete.

Reminder to all Committee Chairs, (Article VII. Standing Committees – Section 8. Committee Reports) All standing committees must file a written report with the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the annual convention of the Association.

We are happy to announce 34 leagues sanctioned this season with a total of approximately 620 bowlers!!

Awards earned after the January issue of the Blind Bowler. All award requests submitted after the second week in March will be listed in the first issue of the 2022/23 Blind Bowler. Corrections should be sent before the end of the season.

60 Plus Patches:
- Christine Koo – PF – average 79 – bowled 144 – earned 60 Plus Patch, Cincinnati Blind Bowlers
- Peter Wisocki – PM – average 61 – bowled 134 – earned 60 Plus Patch, Minneapolis Blind Bowlers
- Chris Peterson – TM – average 45 – bowled 115 – earned Plus 60 Patch, Minneapolis Blind Bowlers
• Vivian Williams – F? – average 12 – Bowled 76 – earned Plus 60 Patch, Delaware Valley Blind Bowlers
• Daisy Morgan – F? – average 34 – bowled 95 – earned Plus 60 Patch, Delaware Valley Blind Bowlers

75 Over Average patch:
• David Koo – PF – average 147 – bowled 229 – earned 75 Over Patch, Cincinnati Blind Bowling League
• Dray Alexander – SM – average 149 – bowled 234 – earned 75 Over Patch, Cincinnati Blind Bowling League
• Barbara Smith – SF – average 107 – bowled 190 – earned 75 Over Patch, Gate City Blind Bowlers, Greensboro, NC
• Steve Heesen – TM – average 103 – bowled 185 – earned 75 Over Patch. Rock County Railers

Silver Medals:
• Dray Alexander – SM – average 151 – bowled 288 – earned Silver Medal, Cincinnati, Blind Bowling League
• Steve Heesen – TM – average 106 – bowled 185 – earned Silver Medal, Rock County Railers

Bronze medal:
• Doug Weidennafu – PM – average 125 – bowled 220 – earned Bronze Medal, Minneapolis Blind Bowlers
Nicole Wolf – PF – average 121 – bowled 188 – earned Bronze Medal, Rock County Railers

**Split Conversion Chevron:**

Members are encouraged to check out our website, web master Koo has provided a lot of information for the membership and others who may visit the site. Many have contacted us wanting to purchase rails because of the information on the website.

Hopefully you are aware by now that tee shirts in May will be on display for sale at the hotel, in the same room as the Chinese Auction and registration.

Our rail manager has asked that anyone who is willing to take over housing the rails and their upkeep, to please contact our Tournament Director Sandy McDaniel.

Now we look forward to another good time in May at the convention in Chicago. We are not going to allow Corvid or other viruses to keep us away from the alley. We are going to put on our masks and bowl like never before.

Looking forward to a good time in Chicago, May 2022!!!!!

**Rozella Amerson Campbell**
ABBA Secretary Treasurer
SUNSHINE INVITATIONAL
BLIND BOWLER TOURNAMENT

SIBB (Sunshine Invitational Blind Bowler Tournament) will be September 8th thru September 11th. 2022 in Daytona Beach, Florida. Please contact John Harden at 386-846-1325 if you have any questions. More information will be sent out soon.

Thanks,
Sandy

2022 ABBA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

CHINESE AUCTION
Please start thinking about what you will donate to the Chinese Auction in Chicago! Janice Erkilla is anxious to hear from you so she can plan our next auction. Call her at 612-722-3041 or email at ggeezlouise@yahoo.com – the sooner the better!

Your donations will help to once again make the auction a huge success. We hope to have approximately 25-30 items on display for you to try and win, Thank you in advance for your support!

TOURNAMENT SHIRTS IN CHICAGO
Tournament shirts will again be available in Chicago. We will be working with a new shirt company this year – Shirts On Site Inc. You will once again have your choice of several colors and styles of shirts, and you will be able to personalize each one to your liking.
ABBA TOURNAMENT FUND RAISER
The ABBA Host Tournament Fund needs our HELP!

The money raised will be used for National Tournament expenses.

ABBA members, family and friends can buy tickets for a chance to win $200.00.

One ticket will be sold for $5.00 or 5 tickets for $20.00.

Tickets will be sold for 3 separate drawings. The 3 drawing containers will be labeled “A” “B” and “C.” One winning ticket from each container will be worth $200.00.

The winners do not need to be present. The drawing will be held during the tournament, Saturday, May 28th, at 10pm. If you would like to buy tickets before the tournament, send a check or money order made out to Janice Erkilla by May 13th, 2022, Include your name, phone number and which container or containers you would like your tickets to be placed in. Your name, phone number and ticket numbers will be written in a logbook like the one used in the Chinese Auction. Tickets will also be sold during the tournament.

Good Luck and Thank you in advance!!!

Janice Erkilla
Address: 5253 42nd Ave South, MPLS, MN  55417
Phone: 612-722-3041 (home) or 612-999-8821 (cell)
Email: rerkilla@comcast.net
THINGS TO DO IN CHICAGO

ADLER PLANETARIUM: Explore space at America’s first planetarium! Experience hands-on, minds-on activities and discover mind-blowing facts about the Universe. With two domed theaters, 60,000 square feet of exhibitions.

360 CHICAGO OBSERVATION DECK: Experience breathtaking 360-degree views of Chicago skyline and lakefront and four neighboring states from 1030 feet above The Magnificent Mile.

SKYDECK CHICAGO – WILLIS TOWER: Treat yourself to unparalleled 360-degree views of up to four states from the top of the world-renowned Willis Tower (formerly Sears Tower), the Western Hemisphere’s second-tallest building. Take a deep breath and step out onto the Ledge – glass floor balconies 103 floors over Chicago.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY: Explore mind-blowing exhibits at MSI, the largest science museum in the country.

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO: View the greatest impressionists outside Paris. Stand before classics like Van Gogh’s Self Portrait, and travel the globe through galleries featuring the art of ancient Greece, Japan, Africa, and the Americas.

SHEDD AQUARIUM: Get ready for unforgettable encounters with belugas and sea otters and so many more animals from the aquatic environments around the world. See penguins fly through chilly waters and monkeys scamper through rainforest trees.
LAKE MICHIGANS SIGHTSEEING CRUISE: A short sightseeing cruise is the perfect way to see the best of Chicago. Offered regularly throughout the day. Enjoy unobstructed views of Willis Tower, John Hancock Center, Aon Center, and more. Along the way, get the inside scoop on the Windy City’s exciting history.

CHICAGO RIVER FLOATING TIKI BAR CRUISE: Chicago is well known for its architecture and many visitors admire the buildings on a cruise along the Chicago River. Take your river cruise aboard a floating tiki bar that allows you to take in all the sights with a drink in hand and island tunes as you enjoy your leisurely sail.

CHICAGO CITY PASS: Save time and money at five Chicago attractions with City Pass, which provides admission to top-tier destinations. The pass grants access to the Shedd Aquarium, Skydeck Chicago, and the Field Museum, and you can choose admissions of the following attractions: Adler Planetarium, Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, and the 360 Chicago Observation Deck. In addition, get sightseeing recommendations, and shopping and entertainment discounts.

The Chicago area is full of culture and fun. You can hop on the “L” train just outside the hotel parking lot and go Downtown Chicago to see Shedd’s Aquarium, Adler Planetarium, Field Museum, Art Museum, and lots of shopping.

Of course, when you are in Chicago don’t forget to order your World-Famous Pizza. Giordano’s will deliver to the hotel phone number is 847-292-2600. It was great.
NOMINATION COMMITTEE

President- The committee discussed the nominations that we received before March 1. The committee did not have a consensus on any of the individuals. So, it will be open from the floor at the convention. Please also remember that any individuals can be nominated from the floor at the convention.

NOMINATIONS
Tanya Jones
First Vice President

Tonia Koo
Second Vice President

Rozella Campbell
Secretary Treasurer

Sandy McDaniel
Tournament Director

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The legislative committee has been reviewing all proposed changes to ABBA bylaws. I would like to thank all members who submitted proposed changes.

The committee looks forward to presenting these items at our Annual Convention.

I would also like to say a special Thank you to the Legislative Committee for your hard work and dedication.

Tanya Jones
Legislative Committee Chair
2022 PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

ARTICLE IV – AREA ASSOCIATIONS, LEAGUES, AND TOURNAMENTS

SECTION 6: TOURNAMENTS
A tournament is defined as competition opened to bowlers from two or more leagues. A tournament must be certified for participants to qualify for ABBA awards. All bowlers competing in an ABBA tournament must be current members of ABBA. Tournament membership applications must be obtained from the ABBA Secretary-Treasurer.

Applications must be sent to the ABBA Secretary-Treasurer along with a copy of the tournament entry form and rules, sent electronically or postmarked no later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the tournament.

The tournament entry fee must be divided into three (3) parts: prize fee, bowling line fee, and tournament expense fee. The entire prize fee of 100% must be returned to the bowlers to award the winners. The ratio of prize winners to entries must appear in the tournament rules. USBC Rules 1 through 18 shall apply to all ABBA member tournaments.

ABBA tournament membership will not be granted to any organization which allows those to participate in the tournament who have been suspended from or refused membership in ABBA. Any ABBA tournament official or participant who knowingly permits a bowler to compete in the tournament who has been suspended from or refused membership in ABBA is liable for suspension from
membership in the Association. This amendment shall become effective June 1, 1990.

The tournament manager must send to the ABBA Secretary-Treasurer a list of prize winners and a financial report, sent electronically or postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days after the completion of the tournament. The ABBA Secretary-Treasurer shall deny membership to any tournament that does not comply with the ABBA by-laws.

Except for the ABBA Mail-O-Graph Tournament and one Mail-O-Graph Tournament annually sponsored by each of the ABBA Area Associations, Mail-O-Graph and TelephonicTournaments will not be certified by ABBA.

**Change:**
Reassign the responsibilities to the ABBA Tournament Director ABBA’s involvement in area association tournaments. Remove “This Amendment shall become effective June.1, 1990.

**New Language:**

**SECTION 6: TOURNAMENTS**
A tournament is defined as competition opened to bowlers from two or more leagues. A tournament must be certified for participants to qualify for ABBA awards. All bowlers competing in an ABBA tournament must be current members of ABBA. Tournament membership applications must be obtained from the ABBA Tournament Director. Applications must be sent to the ABBA Tournament Director along with a copy of the tournament entry form.
and rules, sent electronically or postmarked no later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening date of the tournament.

The tournament entry fee must be divided into three (3) parts: prize fee, bowling line fee, and tournament expense fee. The entire prize fee of 100% must be returned to the bowlers to award the winners. The ratio of prize winners to entries must appear in the tournament rules. USBC Rules 1 through 18 shall apply to all ABBA member tournaments. ABBA tournament membership will not be granted to any organization which allows those to participate in the tournament who have been suspended from or refused membership in ABBA. Any ABBA tournament official or participant who knowingly permits a bowler to compete in the tournament who has been suspended from or refused membership in ABBA is liable for suspension from membership in the Association.

The tournament manager must send to the ABBA Tournament Director a list of prize winners and a financial report, sent electronically or postmarked no later than forty-five (45) days after the completion of the tournament. The ABBA Tournament Director shall send a copy of the financial report to the ABBA Secretary/Treasurer to be kept in the ABBA files. The ABBA Tournament Director shall deny membership to any tournament that does not comply with the ABBA by-laws. Except for the ABBA Mail-O-Graph Tournament and one Mail-O-Graph Tournament annually sponsored by each of the ABBA Area Associations, Mail-O-Graph and Telephonic Tournaments will not be certified by ABBA.
ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1: OFFICERS

Current Language:
The officers of this Association shall be President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Tournament Director. These officers, associate members and life members together with one representative from each member league and Area Association and as many additional persons as may be determined by the delegates at the annual convention shall be known as the Board of Directors.

Change:
Eliminate the Office of Secretary/Treasurer and the position of Assistant Secretary.

Create the Office of the Secretary and Create the Office of Treasurer

Remove all references to the Secretary/Treasurer and Assistant Secretary in the by-laws and policy statements. Assign all references to the Secretary/Treasurer to the appropriate position.

Proposed Language:
The officers of this Association shall be President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Tournament Director.

These officers, associate members and life members together with one representative from each member league
and Area Association and as many additional persons as may be determined by the delegates at the annual convention shall be known as the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE
The officers of the Association shall be elected by majority vote at the annual convention of the Association. The term of office for the President shall be two years beginning August 1. No individual may hold the office of President for more than one consecutive term. The term of office for the Vice-Presidents shall be two years beginning August 1. The term of office for the Secretary-Treasurer and Tournament Director shall be three years beginning August 1.

Change:
All Officers are elected to two-year terms.

All Officers excluding the Tournament Director are limited to two consecutive terms.

SECTION 2: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE
The officers of the Association shall be elected by majority vote at the annual convention of the American Blind Bowling Association. The term of office for all officers is two (2) years. The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms. The Tournament Directors terms are not limited. All terms begin August 1, following their election.

Change:
Remove the sentence, “The officers of the Association shall be ex-officio officers of the Board of Directors.”
SECTION 8: DUTIES OF THE TREASURER
The fiscal year shall begin August 1 and end July 31 of the succeeding year.

The Treasurer shall:
A. Receive any and all monies and other property paid or donated to the Association except where otherwise stated in the by-laws.
B. Keep a correct account of all receipts and disbursements and publish an annual report to the Association.
C. Deposit all monies received by the Association in individually titled accounts in a National bank or banks to the credit of, and in the name of, the ABBA.
D. Draw all warrants for the payments of bills allowed by the Board of Directors. The signature of the Treasurer together with the signature of the President or 1st Vice-President shall be required for the withdrawal of all funds belonging to the Association with the exception of the Tournament Fund.
E. Based on guidelines established by the Finance Committee, authorize the payment of bills of a general nature.
F. Provide guidance to league and association officials regarding financial matters associated with their relationship with ABBA.
G. File the annual incorporation document and fee with the State of Delaware, annual report form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service and fulfill any other requirements stipulated by government entities.
H. Provide any information with regard to the association’s finances requested by the Finance Committee or the President.
I. Perform any other duties consistent with the office of Treasurer requested by the Board of Directors or the President.

J. The Treasurer shall not be compensated at the end of his/her term until all the accounts are closed and transferred to the newly elected/incoming Treasurer. In order to receive his/her last full stipend, all assets must be turned over to the new/incoming Treasurer within thirty (30) days. Should this transition not occur in the specified time allotted an amount of stipend reduction will be determined by the RIEC. The last stipend must be issued and signed by the new/incoming Treasurer and the President.

SECTION 8: DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary shall:

A. Keep a true record of all proceedings at the meetings of the Association and Board of Directors.

B. Maintain a membership roster and such other records as may be determined by the Board of Directors or President.

C. Conduct correspondence of the Association, including sending to leagues and Area Association, notice of meetings and minutes of the Board of Directors and the annual convention.

D. Conduct the ABBA awards program.

E. File statistical reports received from league secretaries and local tournament officials.

F. Annually compile, publish and distribute a book containing the averages of ABBA members who competed in twenty-one (21) or more league games during the preceding bowling season.

G. Annually compile, publish and distribute, to all leagues,
Area Associations, Life Members that are active in blind bowling, Associate members, ABBA Officers and Committee Chairs a complete and current copy of the By-laws and Adopted Policy Statements. These shall be sent within ninety (90) days following the Annual Convention. Supplemental print or Braille copies will be sent on written request.

H. The Secretary shall not be compensated at the end of his/her term until all relevant materials consistent with the office of ABBA Secretary including but not limited to: files, average books, awards, minutes, membership records, statistical reports, a current copy of the By-laws and Adopted Policy Statements and anything else the board deems pertinent to the duties of the Secretary. In order to receive his/her last stipend, all the aforementioned must be turned over to the new/incoming Secretary within thirty (30) days. Should this transition not occur in the specified time allotted an amount of stipend reduction will be determined by the RIEC. The last stipend must be issued and signed by the new/incoming Secretary and the President.

ARTICLE VII: STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 9: LIMITATION OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
No member of the ABBA, except the President, Tournament Director and the Secretary-Treasurer, may serve on more than one standing committee concurrently. The Past Presidents Committee shall not be counted in applying the restriction set forth in this section unless otherwise specifically stated. All committee appointments shall be for
one year beginning August 1, except as set forth elsewhere in these by-laws. Any person on or presiding over any ABBA standing or special committee must be a current member of ABBA.

Change:
From one to two

SECTION 9: LIMITATION OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
No member of the ABBA, except the President, Tournament Director and the Secretary-Treasurer, may serve on more than two standing committees concurrently. The Past Presidents Committee shall not be counted in applying the restriction set forth in this section unless otherwise specifically stated. All committee appointments shall be for one year beginning August 1, except as set forth elsewhere in these by-laws. Any person on or presiding over any ABBA standing or special committee must be a current member of the ABBA.

FROM THE MIDWEST TOURNAMENT

On March 18, 2022, blind bowling returned, and they returned in St. Louis Missouri with the MBBA. We were able to resume bowling after three years of not having a tournament. Although, faces were missing. Names like Fred, Janice, Linda, Annie and even Mike were not there. We had a bunch of new faces that showed up and showed out.

The house hotel was the Hilton Airport in Natural Bridge Road in St. Louis. For the first time in many many years, we had a
hotel that probably marked off 9 1/2 of the 10 marks when putting together a tournament. The restaurant, top-notch. The rooms, top-notch.

We had a good time bowling and gathering, so thank you to each and every member of MBBA. Thank you also to St. Louis Railroad independent players who assisted me with putting this tournament together, especially Shante’s peoples and George Morris.

We have a lot of work to do the brain disassociation back to where it was and to improve blind bowling. So, I’d like to start off by saying thank you and let’s get started. This was a good start, but I know we could do better.

Robert McDonald
Vice President MBBA

GREETINGS TO ALL FROM THE LOST ANGELES BLIND BOWLERS

Greetings to all from the Lost Angeles Blind Bowlers! What a time this has been! Covid-19 has definitely not been our friend. Too many lives have been taken. During this time, we as a league have been gradually getting smaller. However, we have been doing the best we can with the bowlers we have now.

A small group of four of us out of the eleven bowlers we currently have will be heading to Chicago in May!
Our league has been around since the 70’s and we would love to continue bowling as a league if this is possible. However, we will not be able to bowl at the alley we are at currently because they will be expanding their arcade into the space where our cabinets are currently housed. While we are not happy about this, we are hoping to find another alley that will be accessible to all to get to. This may take some doing, however we are going to do our best to find a place that will accept, not only our league, but our cabinets as well.

We are definitely looking forward to a wonderful tournament this year and seeing friends whom we only have a chance to see at tournaments.

I hope everyone has had an amazing year, and I also am looking forward to a brighter season come September!

Stay safe everyone.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kylie Sykes**  
President  
Lost Angeles Blind Bowlers
FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

Well faithful readers, it’s that time again. Time to pack up the bowling balls and unpack the bathing suits, Time to trade the heat of competition for the heat of nuclear fusion (the sun), I hope everyone had a safe and joyful season, and may your off season be the very same, And, as always dear readers, I look forward to corresponding with you in the upcoming 2022–2023 season, Have a great summer.

Most Sincerely,

Patrick Koo
The Blind Bowler – Editor
The-Blind-Bowler@outlook.com - www.ABBA1951.com