

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHEAST DIVISION**  
**2010 SPRING MEETING**

The Spring Meeting of the Southeast Division was held on Friday March 12<sup>th</sup> 2010 at Clearwater Lawn Bowling Club, 10.00am.

Present at the meeting were the SED President John Garbett (Lakeland), Vice-President Sue Bellerose (Suncoasters), Secretary Christine Garbett (Lakeland), Treasurer Jan Kline (Mount Dora) and Board Members Linda McDougall (Suncoasters), Jack Phillips (Pebble Beach), Bobbi Elwell (Mount Dora). Also present at the meeting were Delegates Trevor Colby and Joy Sinclair from Clearwater LBC and Delegate Bev Phillips from Suncoasters LBC. Others from Mount Dora LBC also attended. President of Clearwater, Cathy Stephan opened up the clubhouse and provided coffee for the meeting.

President John Garbett called the meeting to order and determined a quorum. He welcomed those attending and proceeded with his remarks. He noted that there were still vacancies on the Board and once again appealed for people to come forward to fill the positions available for both Board and Club Delegates. Clubs were continuing to work towards getting more members, the new SED website was getting a lot of hits – it was doing its job! Clubs should check to make sure that the information on the website was correct. USLBA had its marketing project up and running, but although there are reservations as to how the East Coast would benefit from the marketing, we should still support it and see how it develops. No presence from the Marketing Company had been noted at the past week's Southeast Division Open. Bobbi Elwell asked whether the results of the Open would be posted on the website and Jack Phillips stated that he had already sent the Mens Results to Earl Shaner for posting. John confirmed that the results would be posted.

He spoke about the Open Day date in May which had been set by the USLBA and said that May was not suitable for Florida. It was really only Mount Dora who kept going in the summer months; the other clubs had diminished membership from April onwards with very few remaining residents in each club. The bulk of the membership returned to Canada or UK in April. He was concerned that the divide between East and West was not closing but seemed to be widening as the West Coast had the strength of club membership. He said he had tried to get Governor Crist involved in an Open Day such as Governor Schwarzenegger had been involved in California but having received no response to a letter to the Governor had emailed also. The email resulted in a response from the Governor's office stating that they could not help at this time. We would however keep trying and perhaps we would eventually get somewhere.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held in December 2009 were taken as read and seconded by Jack Phillips. There were some matters arising from these Minutes. Jack Phillips spoke about two items he wished to revisit. The first was the question posed about sanctioned tournaments. He passed around the meeting a note to be read by the Board and which he then explained. Jack put forward the following suggestion: "DIVISION SPONSORED EVENTS SHOULD BE DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND LIMITED TO THOSE EVENTS FOR WHICH THE DIVISION PROVIDES FINANCIAL SUPPORT OR HAD DESIGNATED AS MAJOR DIVISION EVENTS – IE POINTS TOURNAMENTS".

President John stated that he thought the Constitution allowed four sponsored events. Jack confirmed these as the Southeast Open, the Playdowns, the Mens Pairs at Clearwater and the MacWilliams. These events were the ones where points could be gained and also where financial support was given. Discussion then followed on whether it was four additional major events excluding the Opens and the Playdowns. Jack stated he was unsure whether or not the points were considered any longer and the women had never done this. Linda McDougall stated the SED Open, the Playdowns and the National Open were the only tournaments that counted for the women. She stated that although you could enter every Open, only one would count. You could put everything on your application but the selectors would only consider one, so you should put your best result down. Jack agreeing with Linda so far as the men were concerned.

Discussion followed, determining that there were no womens tournaments, but it being pointed out that the women did not use this method anyway. Jack Phillips commented that the women basically

used the “camps” for selection process and the men did not, so historically the stated tournaments counted for points for them. Linda McDougall explained about entry requirements for the Womens Camps. President John stated that there was supposed to be a Divisional Review Board for selecting entrants applying for Team USA. Jack Phillips stated that there had not been one for years. Bobbi Elwell stated that Earl Shaner and Abe Kaplan might be applying and Jack commented that perhaps we should indeed have a review board set up. John and Linda commented on the review board and discussion followed on its purpose and how it would be set up. Three people would comment on applications and if it were for men, then the board should be composed of men.

President John then commented on the 30 day rule, previously agreed upon at the Annual Meeting. This should be treated as a separate issue from everything else and must still stand. Jack Phillips stated that it had been enforced already this year.

The second point raised by Jack Phillips was regarding assistance to clubs. The Division should have a policy that allowed provision of financial assistance, albeit limited. Clearwater had put in a well to save water because of their financial situation and Jack thought we should have been able to provide some assistance. Sun City Center had to buy a new roller and he thought occasional assistance for major purchases and major events would be “showing the flag” and convince people that we are really there to help. He thought we should not go backwards on it, but for the future we should have a policy that would enable the Division to assist. Treasurer Jan Kline stated that such a proposal would have to be written very carefully as the Division only has a limited amount of funds. Jack agreed that we could only do what we can do. He said he thought only a few hundred dollars perhaps on a major purchase and thought that \$500 would go a long way with the membership and convince them that we at Division level were really behind them. President John asked for any other thought on the matter. Jack stated that we should not have specific boundaries as there was not a lot of money, but should be able to do something. Bobbi Elwell gave the example of the tractor breaking down during the Open at Clearwater, this past week. They had to go and purchase a new one that very day. Jack Phillips stated that was the kind of thing that he was talking about – an unexpected and major equipment purchase. President John stated a Club could apply to the Board for consideration of a problem. The Secretary asked when this would commence and discussion concluded that it should not be retrospective but for the future. President John stated that no donation could be made without a properly worded proposal for this Division policy and the wording for such proposal should come out to Board members for review and acceptance. It could be provided with the Minutes. All were in favor of the idea but all Board members would have to agree the wording. President John stated that the wording should be along the lines of the following:

“ THE SED BOARD MAY RECOGNISE AND CONSIDER SPECIAL OCCASIONS WHEN CLUBS MIGHT NEED SOME FINANCIAL OR OTHER SUPPORT FROM THE DIVISION. ANY APPLICATION TO THE BOARD WILL BE GIVEN INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION WITHOUT ANY OBLIGATION OR COMMITMENT BEING MADE ON THE PART OF THE DIVISION”

Jan Kline stated that if we received money from Ellenton, which may be forthcoming, then that money could be allocated for such a purpose.

Jack Phillips commented next on a vote which had been taken during the Open as to whether or not the Open should have triples or fours. 29 were in favor of triples, 15 in favor of fours and 7 did not care. President John stated that there had been straw polls previously and the vote taken, including club delegate votes, at the Annual Meeting had passed fours and not triples. He stated that when the Agenda had been sent out to the Board and Delegates, the Delegates should bring their club’s views and votes on Agenda items to the meeting. He commented that Jack Phillips had done a great job at the Open.

The only correspondence received had been the letter from Governor Crist, already dealt with earlier in the meeting. Sue Bellerose asked if she, as VP and new to this Board, would get information and Secretary confirmed that she would provide this to her in due course.

Under Old Business, the Board member vacancies and Sanctioned Tournaments had already been dealt with.

President John spoke about Abe Kaplan after previously accepting the position of Male Councilor, had now declined to take up the position. Bobbi Elwell asked if it must be a male and the answer was yes. We already had a female Councilor, Linda McDougall and ideally it should be someone who goes to the National Open. Jack Phillips stated that historically it was a person who not only attended the Open but could "bring something to the Open". Suggestions were made as to suitable candidates and Bud Ricucci and Earl Shaner were named. Linda McDougall stated it was only one meeting on the Thursday preceding the Open and it was agreed that Earl Shaner might be approached. Sue Bellerose asked about the venue for the National Open and President John confirmed that it would be in California for the next five years. Linda McDougall stated that there were more younger bowlers in the Southwest Division and Jack Phillips commented that the Southeast Division lacked the facilities to host. John reverted back to Board members and commented that Board Members did not have to be Americans and the two Southeast Division meetings were generally held when everyone was here in Florida.

Jack Phillips stated that Ron Buck, Sarasota, was away at present and his ill health may preclude him from representing Sarasota and he was not sure whether or not he wanted to do it. The Board should be full and Hans Momkes (Asheville) had been approached for the Board but declined. Linda McDougall pointed out that Maple Leaf was almost entirely Canadian and from April onwards no-one was there. Jack Phillips commented that we should make it clear to Clubs that there were only two meetings and when they took place annually. Linda McDougall stated that without representation from clubs, it was unknown what a club wanted or what its views were.

The Treasurer Jan Kline gave a comprehensive report to the meeting and explained the chart and paperwork which she handed out. She spoke of the MacWilliams Tournament and money that had been donated in the past by Gene Goodwin. Discussion and questions followed about a lady – Ann Wood - who had contributed to lifetime membership in the AWLBA and also the Memorial Fund and its purpose. Bev Phillips (Suncoasters) then gave further information on this. When men and women's associations merged into one, payment was continued until the death of the member and the money came from the USLBA Memorial Fund. Jan Kline queried payment of the SED dues. The Auditors' Report had been prepared by a committee of Beth Forbes, Tom Eppich and Dave Kruger (all from Mount Dora). President John read out the report to the meeting. The report challenged the money sent to tournaments asking that the committees or persons expending funds should provide the Treasurer with detailed income statements backed up with supporting documentation. The committee also recommended that the Treasurer should provide short written meaningful explanations of line items as part of the annual Financial Report and that the Policy & Procedure Manual, under Financial Obligations, addressed various allowable dollar amounts that the Auditors' committee felt should be accounted for. The Policy & Procedure Manual required appropriated documentation of secretarial expenses, so that should be required for all other receipts and expenditures. Such documentation provides historical information. Otherwise, nothing appeared to be unusual. Linda McDougall asked what tournaments required money and what needed short accounting and the Treasurer explained this. Linda McDougall approved the Treasurer's Report and Bobbi Elwell seconded. President John commented on a good Treasurer's Report which met the requirements of the auditors. He thanked the Treasurer and Audit Committee for their reports.

In the absence of the Head Umpire, Bud Ricucci, his emailed reports were read to the meeting. Bud stated that there were twenty five umpires in the Division with three prospects in the process of becoming umpires, two from Mount Dora and one from Sarasota. Two had been added since December. Recruitment for new umpires is an ongoing effort. Sue Bellerose asked about paperwork on becoming an umpire and Jack Phillips stated that Sun City Center needed umpires and also some younger people.

Bud wrote that the Playdowns will be at Sarasota and several non-playing umpires have agreed to work this event. At the time of his writing, only one day was not covered and if it cannot be covered, they would use playing umpires that day.

With reference to Bowls USA Correspondent's report, Bud wrote that he had no report to give since there was no longer a magazine and therefore the Board should consider the elimination of this Standing Committee. Discussion ensued on whether or not there would be a magazine. Trevor

Colby, Editor, stated that it was finished totally and the websites should be used for information. Izzie Forbes could be emailed to confirm whether or not the magazine would be online. Linda McDougall said she had heard nothing about it.

The Playdowns in April at Sarasota would be handled by Barb Roller and Ron Buck. Jack Phillips initiated discussion about the 2011 playdown dates and that clubs should be emailed about the dates. This should be on the agenda for consideration at the Annual Meeting as the dates fall within the Easter period.

Linda McDougall gave a report as female Councilor for the Division. She stated that the National Open would be in California for the next five years. Jack Phillips enquired about the Hammer rule, stating that the consensus of opinion from other countries was that it should be a no to having it. World Bowls would want to revert back to the original ruling at its meeting. Linda McDougall agreed to take a proposal to the USLBA meeting stating that this Division wanted a domestic rule passed stating that all USLBA Tournaments had no hammer rule. President John thanked Linda for her efforts as Councilor for the Division.

Jack Phillips explained his report on the Mens Southeast Division Open. He stated that it had been a very successful tournament, very competitive and the fours teams had been evenly matched. More pins were needed. President John commended the catering and organization at Sun City Center and thanked Jack again for his efforts in making the tournament a great success this year.

Singles – Ed Reynolds (Williamsburg), Pairs – Peter Bunce and Doug McLeese (Sun n Fun)  
Fours – George Whitelaw (Sarasota), Peter Bunce, Doug McLeese (Sun n Fun), Pat Byrne (Sarasota)  
Bowler of the Tournament – Rex Pickles ( Pebble Beach)

Barb Roller, who was not present at the meeting, had prepared her report on the Womens Southeast Division Open. This was read to the meeting. It stated that the Womens Open had 32 singles, 28 pairs and 14 fours.

Singles – Brooke Reid (Clearwater), Pairs – Sandra Whitelaw (Sarasota) and Heather Comba (Maple Leaf)  
Fours – Angela Carkhuff, Diane Kruger, Brenda Paget and Jean Adams (all Mount Dora)  
Bowler of the Tournament – Sandra Whitelaw (Sarasota).

A decision had to be made at Clearwater due to the weather. On the final day the morning games were shortened to 12 ends and the afternoon finals to 8 ends. Bags had been beautifully embroidered and donated to a silent auction by Barb Roller. Raffle Prizes were given out every day and Clearwater had done an outstanding job with catering, organization and grounds keeping.

Under New Business, the first item of Auditors Report had been addressed earlier in the Meeting. The second item of Marketing Firm had also been discussed earlier and Sue Bellerose added that lawn bowling might be a suitable game for WII.

The Novice Tournament was discussed briefly and Linda McDougall commented that it might be difficult to pull together. Short discussion followed and it was pointed out by some that novices had been included in several of the womens teams this year.

Wording on entry forms was discussed and it was agreed by the Board that an eligibility paragraph submitted by Barb Roller but which was on a tournament entry form sent out by Earl Shaner, should be sent out by the Secretary as a recommendation for inclusion on all club tournament entry forms. This paragraph reads as follows:

“ALL BOWLERS MUST BE MEMBERS OF USLBA SE DIVISION IF RESIDING WITHIN THE SE DIVISION FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS. BOWLERS NOT RESIDING WITHIN THE SE DIVISION MORE THAN 30 DAYS MUST BE A USLBA MEMBER OR BELONG TO A CLUB THAT IS AFFILIATED WITH WORLD BOWLS”

Bobbi Elwell commented on email address line being on entry forms. This was now on most tournament forms and allowed for confirmation of entry.

An additional item on the agenda was submitted by Ron Buck regarding attracting northern bowlers to Florida. This was again remitted for discussion at the Annual Meeting.

Further additional items had been received for the Spring Meeting Agenda as follows"

1. A proposal had been received from Ron Buck that the time of year for Clubs to remit their dues should be changed to 31<sup>st</sup> December annually. This proposal was discussed by the Board and agreed on as follows:

USLBA/SED DUES TO BE REMITTED TO SED TREASURER BY 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER ANNUALLY.

Seconded by Bobbi Elwell.

2. Further item for discussion was the change of date of the Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place 2010 at Sun City Center and on a day in November to be arranged with SCC.

This would make it a more central location and also alleviate the burden placed on Mount Dora who has the Holiday Bowl immediately following the Annual Meeting, which meeting has been held at that club for some time.

It was proposed by Bobbi Elwell that the Annual Meeting of the SE Division be held at Sun City Center in November 2010.

Seconded by Jan Kline.

Finally, discussion took place on the provision of Membership Cards for Southeast Division members. The Secretary spoke about the cards which would be given to all who paid their USLBA/SED dues and which would show that dues had been paid for the current year. These cards could bear name of member, a number corresponding to the club and the year. Although the distribution of the cards is still to be finalized, they would be given out to member when they paid their dues. The cards would be similar to those produced by the Ontario LBC and would prove dues have been paid. Many people had asked about being provided with evidence of payment and membership of USLBA/SED and the Secretary would attend to this.

The provision of membership cards for this Division was proposed by Bobbi Elwell and seconded by Jack Phillips.

There being no further business, President John thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 11.48 am.