

2008.3 NABC – Boston, MA
ITT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF MEETING
Westin Hotel
November 26, 2008, 11:00 a.m.

Michael Becker, ITTC Chairman, conducted the Committee of the Whole meeting.

11 others were present: David Berkowitz, Peter Boyd, Bob Hamman, George Jacobs, Chip Martel, Jan Martel, Dan Morse, Larry Simon, John Sutherlin, Howard Weinstein, Adam Wildavsky

Becker called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Monday, July 21, 2008 Las Vegas meeting were approved.

2009 Conditions of Contest

The CoCs (version 2009CoC102908.doc) were presented by Becker. Becker went over multiple changes made since the Las Vegas meeting (items 2.a thru 2.g in the Agenda). Becker commented that the changes made to the “Daily Schedule” were made as a result of the USBF Board’s suggestion that the length of the day be shortened and George Jacobs’ suggestion that a survey be taken of USBC participants.

Berkowitz suggested that the three 4-session team games at NABCs offer a small number of PPs. It was mentioned that “Track Record Points” are awarded for these events for seeding, but that the CoCC did not favor awarding PPs.

All the presented changes in the CoCs were approved. Becker complimented the CoCC on finishing up these conditions, by far the most complex ever, earlier than ever.

USBF Update

J. Martel reported that Russia may not be the site of the 2010 WBF Open Championships. Jan mentioned that the ACBL could host the event if a site and at least a \$200,000 subsidy could be found. Morse thought that Compton might be able to help in finding a site and/or a sponsor. Becker suggested that the ACBL’s site search staff might also help out. Jan thought that Joan Gerard could also seek a site. Hamman suggested Las Vegas, because “they are hurting.” Jan was asked to follow up.

The committee thanked Jan for her long service on the USBF Board, (she reached the 6-year term limit, serving 4 years as President).

2010 Conditions of Contest

Becker referred to the 2010 CoC draft, stating that except for typos, he was optimistic that few changes would be required. Boyd pointed out a typo.

CoCC Chair

Becker reported the resignation of Henry Bethe as CoCC Chair, and suggested the post remain vacant. He referred to the outline of the Chair's duties in the Agenda's Exhibit 2, and asked that some CoCC members help out with some of the chores. No one volunteered, but Becker said he would call upon some CoCC members from time to time to perform some of "the Chair's" responsibilities. Boyd and Weinstein said that there would not be too much work for the 2010 CoCs.

ITTC Structure

Becker said that the current structure of the ITTC, with the CoCC acting as a sub-committee, was flawed, because the CoCC did the work and a [potentially] small group at an ITTC meeting, unfamiliar with all the issues discussed, could theoretically overrule a CoCC determination. While Becker felt that nothing was broken, he suggested that something be done to organizationally improve the ITTC. Jan and others suggested that the CoCC become the ITTC and the Technical Committee become the CoCC. After discussion, it was agreed that:

1. The ITTC would perform the CoCCs duties. Everyone on the ITTC would be a member of the CoCC. Becker would initially mail the ITTC, informing members of the new structure. Anyone who did not want to be included in CoCC discussions could opt out of emails. All ITTC emails would be entitled "ITTC....followed by the subject matter", as some could then more easily "file" such emails in their email subfolders. The ITTC would deal with "global issues" of the CoCC.
2. The "CoCC" would be deleted from the CoC's masthead.
3. The Technical Committee, a sub-committee of the ITTC, would be listed on the CoCs masthead, and would deal with minutia matters and appendices, and report to the ITTC.
4. Joan Gerard was appointed Chair of the ITTC Appeals Committee. Jan reported that in very recent years Gerard had been playing an active role in selecting Appeals members. The other three committee members, Wolff, Sutherlin and H. Weinstein, would remain on the committee.
5. Becker will continue to add and delete CoCC members from the ITTC depending on meeting attendance. Becker said that Schwartz and O'Rourke would be removed for lack of attendance.
6. Becker proposed, and the committee agreed, that with only 12 ITTC members in attendance at this meeting, a re-discussion of the ITTC's revised organizational structure should take place online, and/or at the next meeting.
7. The committee discussed USPS mailings of the Agenda Package Vs emailing the package and bringing copies to the meeting. It was agreed to dispense with USPS mailings.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM. The next meeting will be on Monday, March 16, 2009, in Houston, at a time and place to be announced.