

## **2023 O5PBA Annual General Meeting Bull Session Notes**

Lori Beesack from Central Ontario assisted with bull session.

Each person needs to write down what they want to talk about, things that are good (continue), bad (stop) and things they think we should be doing.

### **Continue**

- Tournament results to be posted on Facebook as the tournaments are happening.
  - o Paul Bauer – Grand River, said people really like it.
- Keep open & senior open together if scheduling permits.
  - o Paul Sprague – OV – it's hard to find another place & time to run them separately, better to keep them together.
- Continue all tournaments.
- Volunteer recognition & recruitment
- Continue to run the Open/Senior Open at Easter
  - o Paul Sprague – it's a good time to have it as people can take less time off work due to the holiday.
- Average Book

### **Stop**

- Stop Open players/keyboards warriors from complaining when none of them will do the work
  - o Paul Bauer – elite bowlers have their opinions, some more than others, and we do need to listen.
  - o John Cresswell – we have to let people have a say, but just because that's how they feel, doesn't mean that's how the majority feel. We, as volunteers, spend hours getting feedback and doing surveys. We are a member organization, we are all here representing our members, and we need to make sure the members are the ones we are listening to
  - o Bob Beaucage – Central – you have to listen to them, sometimes good ideas will come up, but surveys will never make a definite decision. We need a smaller group of people to make the decision, you can't make it with 500 different opinions.
  - o Lori Beesack – we need to do the changes in small batches, instead of one big change. We need to find a way to get people to communicate in a way they are comfortable, not everyone is comfortable behind a microphone.
- Laying blame without proposing a solution
  - o Lori – a lot of times people will say this really sucks but won't provide any ideas or solutions to make it not suck.
  - o Paul Bauer – you have people that are hiding behind the scenes but won't do anything but complain.
  - o Carol Armstrong – if people keep saying it sucks, why don't they help provide a change.
- Yearly Membership Application/Filling it for Multiple Leagues
  - o Paul Bauer – as we move into a digital world, having ability to have information there, if there's a change, you change it, if you're going to be a member, you pay your membership fee, if there's no changes, you continue on.

- Marie Istvanic – it can be a struggle to get people to fill out the forms. Why can't it be valid for 3 or 5 years, unless something changes.
  - Carol Armstrong – those same people are probably going to complain that they have to go online to fill in the form.
  - Susan Burns – membership is based on 1 year, you signing the form means you agree to any changes that might have happened to the form. It also helps the membership chair keep things on track.
  - Paul Bauer – someone will still have to check off that the membership has been paid, as member of the legion for 10 years has only had to fill in the form once, and just pays membership each year. Membership is still tracked, why do we need to follow up year after year.
  - Lori Beesack – recommends that we table this discussion as it's also on the Start chart.
- Stop Bingos
    - Paul Bauer – referring to bingos run in Toronto, every year it's a discussion about the money. Maybe it's time we stop running them.
    - Mike Wilson – we have 2 volunteers that work 1 bingo a month. City of Toronto regulates what we can use it for, currently it's Youth & Seniors in Toronto. We use the funds where possible. If we stop the bingo, the expenses we offset will have to be absorbed somewhere.
  - Temporarily stop Trips
    - Paul Bauer – there is a motion on the floor for tomorrow for this but thinks it would be a tremendous loss to not have the trips.
  - Stop Spending so Much Time on the Open
  - Board Member Protests at Awards
    - Lori Beesack – there was a joke made during the awards presentation that offended another board member, who, when called upon to present an award, refused. We need to present ourselves in a professional manner at all times.
    - John Cresswell – there are many sides to every story, and yes it looked bad, but there's more to it as well, and he has spoken to the person involved.
  - Communications Through Zones, Not Just Web/Facebook
    - Lori Beesack – sometimes we communicate a lot through Facebook, and we should send things out in other means as well.
  - Wasting Time & Resources

## **Start**

- YBC Grad Event Tournament – Winner Gets Paid Spot to Qualify for the Open
  - Maria Istvanic – we want kids to continue to move through our sport, so it's a way to transition them.
  - Brenda Pankoff – and what level would this be.
  - Lori Beesack – Central covers about 50% of their YBC Grads Open Entries
  - Kevin Smith – Huronia does the same thing.
  - Lori Beesack – provincial bowling school tournament would be a good idea; prize would be an entry to Bowling School
- Format change to YC, POA event at Provincial Round
- Committee needs to make commitments to us to talk about
  - Lori – the committees need to communicate out what they have discussed.

- 3 Organizations Need to Communicate Better
  - o Brenda Pankoff – the 3 groups need to be in a room, we've gotten away from that, but we are finding things out after the fact. When we started to talk about our Youth Challenge change, we found out that YBC had already done a change.
- Communication (eg. Leaning pin rule)
  - o Meghan Blewitt – when there are rule changes, in general, they aren't always widely communicated, and people don't find out until it happens or if you happen to take a course.
  - o Bob Beaucage – anything we discuss gets posted on Facebook, but that's dated, even email is somewhat dated. We need to look for the best way to communicate with as many people as possible.
- Need Media Coverage
  - o Bob Beaucage – other areas (Provinces) have been able to get media coverage, it's something we need to work on
  - o Paul Sprague – need to try and get media people out and involved in bowling, need to find a way to convince media to cover us, cornhole gets coverage.
- Live Stream Provincial Events
  - o Lori Beesack – this is a brilliant idea. If I watch the Open, I might think "I can't do that", but if we stream the other events, we might get more uptake.
  - o Mike I (Central) – live streamed from Open Nationals and had 900-1000 people viewing.
  - o John C – streaming world has changed a lot since Sherwood days. It takes time & investment to get it set up the way 5 Pin Universe has it set up. We are still dependent on the internet at the bowling centre, but not all bowling centres are able to do that. We would be looking at 10-15K to get that kind of investment.
  - o Neil Anderson – there is an expense involved, and of course we want to publicize as many events as we can, but it is in discussion.
- Make the Website More User Friendly
  - o Brenda Pankoff – was trying to find forms, but went to forms and it wasn't under forms, it was under incentive or news, not somewhere you would have expected it to be.
  - o Mike I – first time looking for a form, had to ask where it was, and it was buried within multiple subcategories, need to streamline it
  - o Bob Beaucage – the speed of the website is much better.
  - o Paul Sprague – if there was a search option on the website, it would make things easier.
- Intro to Bowling YouTube Videos
  - o Bob Beaucage – O5 does have a YouTube page and he has digitized some older instructional videos for us.
  - o Paul Bauer – we need to advertise to new Canadians, the videos posted are dated which makes people think that the sport is.
  - o Sue Burns – why not run a school for newcomers.
  - o Paul Sprague – their association has a coaching course every Sunday.
  - o Neil Anderson – we could utilize the "Back to Bowling" video that was put together.
- Start a Membership Database
  - o John Cresswell – O5BPA is a database controlled in the office, we do not have an online database. There are online services that would do that for us, but it will cost a lot more than the \$20 we currently charge.

- Neil Anderson – there has to be a privacy act involvement.
- Start Online Application for Membership
  - Brenda Pankoff – if we used the Average Book, which comes out every year with our names, we could work off of that to create an online database and remove the personal information.
- What is the Big Picture of our Organization
  - John Cresswell – there is the O5, Masters, YBC, government, sponsors, etc. We can fix some of the problems, but need to look at the big picture and how it will impact the overall sport.
- Need to Engage Local Volunteers
  - Brenda Pankoff – we have a number of young volunteers on our zone, and some were asked to be on committees, but then there wasn't a lot that happened.
- More Affordable AGM Options
  - Paul Bauer – the current format is time consuming and expensive, and it's hard to get people to come.
  - John C – after AGM last year, we looked at some places, spent about 2 weeks working with another location, and they determined they didn't have the space for us.
  - Paul Sprague – COVID year, we did a 1 day meeting and had it online, maybe we look at doing a hybrid version
  - Lori Beesack – is there a vast difference in SAGM & AGM attendance.
  - Mike Wilson – 2022 SAGM had 49 delegates and Board, this weekend we should have 50 in attendance.
- All Appropriately Sized Bowling Centres be Considered to Hold the Open
  - Carol Armstrong – if there are other options, it would mean that different people would have to travel each year.
  - Mike Kyte – we currently need 48 lanes and we only have 2 centres that have that (Merivale & NEBS) and NEBs currently won't host an event that goes to a C5 Nationals.

We would have to look at splitting into multiple centres.

Open to suggestions as to what areas you would like to go to, using multiple centres (eg. Using three (3) twelve lane centres, if we stayed at 13 zones)

- Paul Sprague – do we know the distribution of bowling centres across the province.
- John Cresswell – letsgobowling.ca has every centre in Ontario listed, you can put your postal code in and find a centre nearby.
- More Coaching Facilitators for Workshops
- Coaches for Holiday Classic (this should be under STOP)
  - Bob Beaucage – it's a team event, why wouldn't it have a coach.
  - Mike Kyte – Holiday Classic used to be match play, so a coach was needed, it also has to do with NCCP program.
- Coach Funding or Sponsorship
  - Lori Beesack – there are people that would like to become a Competitive Coach, but cost can be a factor. So, if we can find a way to come up with a sponsorship or funding to help offset the cost.
  - Paul Sprague – why don't we allow coaches to be paid? It would help with their cost for travel, courses, etc.

- Would Like People Who Suggest Change to Give Alternate Suggestions
  - o Neil – anyone can complain, but we need suggestions to help us help you, we can't do anything to help if you don't give us suggestions.
  - o Paul Bauer – there is a four or five page motion coming up about the Open, that's what we're looking at, need details

Lori Beesack – from the Start Category, everything has been put into groups. Every person in the room now gets 3 votes.

Communication

AGM

Membership

Advertising

Coaching

Tournaments

Seeing Big Picture