

AMERICAN SOKOL - BOI
Minutes of August 14, 2013 Meeting

This meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. by Sis. M. Fiordelis at the American Sokol Office in Brookfield, Illinois and via teleconference. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bro. T. Pajer. The following BOI members were present: Maryann Fiordelis, Juanita LoGiudice, Bev Domzalski, Allison Gerber, Jane Wise, Howie Wise, Chuck Kalat, Jan Kalat, Bob Kucera, Joe Kucera, EllenJeanne Schnabl, Kathy Barcal, Todd Yatchyshyn, Donna Sbriglia, Barb Vondra, Mary Cushing, Paul Lebloch, Nadia Leary, Kandi Pajer and Tom Pajer.

- Happy Anniversary to Maryann and Carl Fiordelis, 8/9; Christina and Tom Wurst, 8/17; Chuck and Jan Kalat, 8/26; Bob and Barb Kucera, 8/26.

MINUTES:

- Minutes of the June 12, 2013, meeting were reviewed.

MOTION made by Bro. T. Pajer to accept the June 12, 2013, ASO-BOI meeting minutes, seconded by Bro. B. Kucera and passed.

BILLS:

- None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- See attached Correspondence Report dated August 14, 2013.

- In addition, the Sports Festival edition of the Directors' Newsletter came out; Sis. M. Fiordelis thanked Bro. C. Kalat for putting together the Directors' Newsletter Special Edition.

- Also, received an e-mail from Sis. Fiordelis that she will be attending Region 5 Congress.

OTHER OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Assistance to Sokol West

- Bro. C. Kalat studied the BOI budget and recommended that \$1,000 of \$1,100 budgeted for the 2013 BOI Development Conference be donated to Sokol West.

MOTION made by Bro. C. Kalat that \$1,000 of \$1,100 budgeted for 2013 BOI Development Conference be used as a support donation to Sokol West from the ASO BOI, seconded by Bro. P. Lebloch and passed.

- Sis. Fiordelis will present this to the ASO Executive Board and then prepare a letter to Sokol West; Bro. Pajer noted that this amount is under the \$1,500 spending authority, so all Sis. Fiordelis needs to do is send a note to Sis. B. Vondra and Bro. Pajer and it will be approved.

- Bro. Kalat said both of Sokol West's buildings have been demolished; they are seeking a temporary place to hold classes.

District Directors' Meeting

- Several e-mails have been going around concerning when to hold the Meeting.

- Central District said they would host a District Director's meeting (not Development Conference).

- BOI needs to put together a four-year business plan for the convention; part of plan would be BOI recommendations for next Sports Festival, so we would take the time to review the past Sports Festivals.

- Annual reports will be due, but will not be reviewed during the conference. Main goal is to build a 4-year plan going forward.
 - Currently, the weekends of November 7-10 and November 14-17 are being held at Comfort Inn in Westmont, IL. Sis. LoGiudice will see if there are rooms available for November 21-24 (weekend before Thanksgiving); Sis. LoGiudice will check other hotels at a comparable cost if Comfort Inn is not available.
 - Discussion was held on whether Districts will help pay for part of the expenses of sending their Directors to this conference. The ASO BOI will pay for housing and food and other possible expenses.
 - The four-year plan will be getting developed by the BOI leading up to the Directors' Conference; details will be added at the conference. Assignments will be given to the BOI to begin developing this plan prior to the conference.
- MOTION made by Bro. R. Milan, via previous e-mail, to hold a District Directors' Meeting in the month of November, 2013, seconded by Bro. H. Wise and passed.
- Sis. Fiordelis will poll the District Presidents and ASO BOI members to see what the best weekend in November would be for them and will then choose the weekend most supported.
 - On Thursday prior to the Director's Conference, the School Board will meet.

USA Gymnastics Routines

- Sis. Fiordelis received a letter from USA Gymnastics asking the different organizations that are using these routines what their purpose was, and if they were making any changes. Not-for-profits would be taken into consideration. Based on information Sis. Fiordelis submitted to USA Gymnastics, we will have use of the routines without further charge; however, we cannot reproduce any routines; the routines have to be purchased by each unit using them. Any changes to the routines would have to be submitted to USA Gymnastics and approved.

New 2013-2014 ASO-BOI Board Members

- Sis. Fiordelis sent out invitations to members of the 2013-2014 ASO BOI Board. She is still waiting for responses from several people.

Skills

- Bro. B. Kucera and Sis. A. Gerber will see if there are changes needed to Skills cards.
- Sis. Gerber has already been looking over the women's skills. Masters and Novice will stay the same as in Milwaukee; no approval needed from USA Gymnastics on old routines.
- It was questioned where a pre-Level 1 routine will be needed or if the Novice routine would fit that category for 6/7 year olds and Jr./Sr. Sokol Greater Cleveland is using the old Level 1 as a pre-Level 1.
- On the skill cards there are now 6 categories as flexibility and conditioning are combined as one skill column; the other columns are dance and the four individual apparatus.
- It should be okay to use routines solely written by ASO and probably do not need permission to use them in conjunction with USA Gymnastics routines, especially if ASO uses routines written by ASO just amongst ASO members. The music used may be a problem, though. Sis. M. Fiordelis will check further with USA Gymnastics on these questions.
- USA Gymnastics also has an excel program listed on their web site that might work well for Sokol competitors.

Sokol USA Convention

- Bro. Todd Yatchyshyn reported that Sokol USA held its convention last month. Sokol USA entered into a merger agreement with GVU Financial Life, another fraternal benefit society. Sokol USA will become a division of GVU; name and mission will remain the same; policies

will have GUV on the insurance certificate rather than Sokol USA. Sokol USA will retain control over their surplus assets; members will receive some additional paid up life insurance; a portion of assets will go towards the 2016 Slet which will be held in the Pittsburgh area.

- Through this merger, they will gain a sales force, a marketing department and a communications and public relations department. Sokol USA will also receive a few financial incentives; money back for policies generated; and will receive some start-up funds.

Upcoming Events

- In 2014, Sokol Canada is planning some type of event with skills activities, special numbers and track and field.

- In 2015, American Sokol will celebrate its 150th anniversary with some type of event.

- In 2016, the Sokol USA Slet will be held in the Pittsburgh area.

SPORTS FESTIVAL

Registration System

- Registration was very confusing. There should have been separate event and competition ticket sales. Unsure why there was a surcharge for registration. Allowing District Directors to register for a group would be easier. Too much information was needed from people for just attending the banquet. The registration program itself was cumbersome. Birthdates and competition divisions were a problem. There needs to be some continuity checking. The Slet packet distribution process was a problem. The registration reports were too big to look at online. In the future, possibly have individuals get their tickets printed out.

- It would have gone better if there was one person who devoted time to work on this system.

Main Venues

- Every event needs to be in one place. More buses were needed to get between venues. Hart Park was not conducive to field games and very few participated.

- We need to incorporate into the four-year plan whether to have a whole football field for the Slet.

Daily Workouts/Daily Coaches Meeting

- Not many showed up for these events because the distance to travel to venues did not leave enough time to attend, and many people did not stay at the main hotel and were not available in the early morning. The coaches meetings were really not necessary due to lack of attendance.

Price of Events

- Prices were too high. It was too expensive for families; there should have been children's pricing at events. People carefully chose what they wanted to see due to high cost. Golf entry fee was way too high. Volleyball and basketball was eccentric compared to past Slets. There were many objections to the exhibition participation fee.

- It was noted that the Milwaukee location had a lot to do with making money. Past Slets did well when outside help was not used. Using ASO members to plan events have always made money from Slets in the past.

Outsiders

- Outside participation at all events was anticipated, but did not go as well as expected.

- It was upsetting that the outside club parents were laughing at the Sokol adult competitors.

- Outside private gym clubs are better trained than Sokol children; Sokol is more of a recreational program and it is unfair for them to compete against well-trained, high-priced private clubs.

- Many were disappointed that no ethnic associations were present, i.e. Turners, Catholic Sokols and other ethnic associations from the Milwaukee or Chicago area.
- New USA Gymnastics routines and lateness of competitions discouraged many private clubs to come.

Due to the late hour of this meeting, the Sports Festival discussions were tabled to be continued at the next ASO BOI meeting.

2013 SLET ACTION LIST

- Slet Action List was closed.

BOI ACTION LIST

- Action list was reviewed; an updated copy is posted on the BOI members' web site.
- The next regular ASO-BOI meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.

There was no further business to discuss. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly R. Domzalski, Secretary