**2024 PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES**

**ARTICLE IV – AREA ASSOCIATIOBNS, LEAGUES, AND TOURNAMENTS**

**SECTION 6: TOURNAMENTS**

A tournament is defined as a 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 prizewinners 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 that allows those to participate in the tournament that have been suspended from or refused membership in ABBA. Any ABBA tournament official or participant who knowingly permits a bowler to compete in a 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 Telephonic Tournaments will not be certified by ABBA.

**Change:**

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

**New Language:**

**ARTICLE IV – AREA ASSOCIATIOBNS, LEAGUES, AND TOURNAMENTS**

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**ARTICLE VII: STANDING COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 4: PAST PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE**

This committee consists of the Past Presidents of the Association. The immediate Past President upon consent shall serve as Chairperson.

The committee shall advise other committees, officers and the Board of Directors and may make recommendations to promote the purposes and activities of the Association.

**Change:**

Remove this Committee from the By-Laws.

**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

**ARTICLE VII: STANDING COMMITTEES**

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**ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND 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.

**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 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.

**ARTICLE V OFFICERS AND 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:

1. Receive any and all monies and other property paid or donated to the Association except where otherwise stated in the by-laws.
2. Keep a correct account of all receipts and disbursements and publish an annual report to the Association.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Based on guidelines established by the Finance Committee, authorize the payment of bills of a general nature.
6. Provide guidance to league and association officials regarding financial matters associated with their relationship with ABBA.
7. 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.
8. Provide any information with regard to the association’s finances requested by the Finance Committee or the President.
9. 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

**ARTICLE V OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**SECTION 8: DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall:

1. Keep a true record of all proceedings at the meetings of the Association and Board of Directors.
2. Maintain a membership roster and such other records as may be determined by the Board of Directors or President.
3. 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.
4. Conduct the ABBA awards program.
5. File statistical reports received from league secretaries and local tournament officials.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 afore mentioned 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.

**T-4 Travel Expenses**

**Current Language:**

All active Past Presidents and the following committee members will include: Finance Committee, Rules Interpretation & Enforcement Committee, Legislative Committee, Public Relations Committee and National Tournament Committee will receive compensation for the annual autumn meeting. All committee chairs and committee members who attend their committee meeting at the midyear meeting shall receive a flat rate of $200.

The National Tournament Committee chairperson, 2nd Vice-President. 1st Vice-President and President will each receive $200 and up to three nights compensated room. The National Secretary-Treasurer and National Tournament Director will each receive 100% compensation. The National Tournament Committee chairman and the appointed members are to be compensated out of the Tournament Committee budget.

The ABBA Secretary-Treasurer and the Tournament Director are to be compensated for full allowable travel expenses plus $200, and the Assistant Secretary is to be paid full allowable travel expense plus $150 attending the ABBA National tournament and annual convention.

**Changes:**

The intention here is to balance the compensation for the various officials of the organization when traveling for the Mid-year meeting and the National Tournament and Convention. I realize although the proposed new language for T-4 is structurally somewhat different than the current language I believe the new language offers along with some substantive changes a straightforward description of the compensation for each position.

**New Language:**

**A. Midyear Board Meeting.**

Members of the Finance Committee, Rules Interpretation & Enforcement Committee, Legislative Committee, and Public Relations Committee and the Officers shall receive compensation from the general fund in the amount of $300 for their attendance of the midyear meeting. Additionally the Officers excluding the Tournament Director shall receive a compensated room for up to three nights of the midyear meeting. The National Tournament Committee the Tournament Director and the Tournament Director’s Assistants shall receive from the Tournament fund compensation in the amount of $300 for their attendance of the midyear meeting. The Tournament director, the rail assistant to the Tournament Director and the chairman of the tournament Committee shall receive a compensated room for the three nights of the midyear meeting.

In order to be eligible for the compensation listed above members must attend their respective committee meetings and be present at the Board of Directors meeting.

B. National Tournament and Annual Convention:

From the general fund, the President shall receive up to five nights in a compensated suite. The officers excluding the Tournament Director shall receive up to five nights in a compensated room.

From the Tournament fund, the Tournament Director, the Tournament Director’s assistants and the Tournament Committee Chairperson shall receive up to five nights in a compensated room.