

Minutes of the 26th Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of
The World Atlatl Association
Hammonasset Beach State Park
Madison, Connecticut
October 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Officers present – President Gary Nolf, Vice President Greg Maurer, Executive Secretary Courtney Birkett

Director present – Margie Takoch

Honorary Director present - Scott Van Arsdale

Also present was annual meeting committee member Ron Mertz.

Scott moved to accept the 2012 minutes. Margie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Courtney Birkett described the problem of many people submitting their events to be posted on the calendar later than the rules prescribe, necessitating approval for each event by the ISAC committee. Currently events are supposed to appear in the newsletter at least a month before they take place, which can mean an event must be submitted farther in advance than their organizers realize, because of the newsletter publication dates (for example, an event at the beginning of February would have to be submitted by September 15). The rules were made before the existence of an online calendar and were meant to ensure that people had the opportunity to read about events in the newsletter and enough advance notice to be able to go to them. With advances in technology, perhaps the rules could be updated to allow a shorter time between submission and event. Ron suggested that events should appear online one month before they take place. Greg wondered what could be done for events submitted late even for the online calendar. There was a little discussion of the ISAC committee and who is on it. Greg thought there should be guidelines about the number of days between submission and event and wondered if an ISAC committee was really necessary if their only reason for not approving an event was the amount of advance notice. Margie could envision scenarios where a committee would be necessary. Gary agreed with Ron's suggestion about events posted on the online calendar only needing to be submitted a month before they happen. Scott thought there should be a minimum of two weeks notice. Ron thought a month was a good minimum, except under unusual circumstances as judged by the committee, and never less than two weeks.

At the 2011 membership meeting it had been decided to award Top Ten plaques only to WAA members, but this resolution was never formally ratified by the Board. Margie moved to finalize this decision, and Scott seconded the motion. It was decided to bring the Board's recommendation before the membership. Scott agreed to look into taking over the Top Ten plaques from Dennis Lantz, if no one else was better suited.

The issue of Ken Faucher, the newsletter editor, not being a Board member was briefly discussed. This had previously been discussed in 2012. Ken does not want to be on the Board.

Justin Garnett is the new webmaster. Money had been allocated to fund redoing the website, but Justin had suggested waiving his membership dues in lieu of payment. Ron said that if the webmaster doesn't have to pay dues, why should the secretary, editor, and so forth have to do so. It would be better to reimburse for costs and keep that separate from membership dues. Margie agreed with Ron. There was some discussion about the amount allocated for the website (\$1000) and it was agreed that Justin probably hadn't spent that much. Margie wondered if waiving dues would violate our volunteer status, in which no one gets paid. Gary said he would tell Justin to submit a bill.

Possible locations for the 2014 meeting in the West were discussed, including Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, and Arizona. No decisions were made.

Greg brought up a suggestion that Jon Wood had emailed: having the newsletter online or sent by email. This has been discussed several times in the past. It would require computer skills, but Scott said that Ken is capable of doing it. The danger is alienating members who aren't online. Margie worried about unlimited access for non-members to an online newsletter. Gary said that many organizations have both paper and online newsletters. Most of the Board members preferred a paper version, however. No motions made.

The subject of open versus primitive equipment categories for the ISAC was revisited, though Gary thought it had been resolved in 2012. In the early days of the WAA it had been thought that equipment would make a difference to performance, but in reality it doesn't matter. Margie thought it would be more trouble to change the system than to leave it in place. No motions made.

Paypal was discussed. If we began to use it, it might encourage more Europeans to join and would make it easier for them to pay their dues electronically rather than by mail. Paypal also calculates the currency exchange. Ron said that as treasurer Alex Woods would be the one processing these memberships. Gary said he would explore the topic with Alex, and Ron thought that if it was feasible, we should do it. Scott added that it only costs a few cents per transaction. No motions made.

There was some discussion of insurance coverage. The New York organization's coverage also covers events in contiguous states. Greg wondered about events in Florida, which he is hoping to organize. Ron said that Missouri has used New York's insurance, and there's no problem as long as you notify the insurance company.

Greg suggested having a list on the website of what steps to go through in order to organize an event, for instance, how to get a Grand Champion plaque. This led to discussion of the Grand Champion awards, with Ron saying that it can be meaningless if people purposely let the youth contestant win. He feels strongly that it should be a

meaningful contest with attainable distances for all categories of competitors. Someone wondered if there should be a minimum size of an event at which a Grand Champion award was given, but it was agreed there should not be.

Ron also mentioned that blunt points can tear large holes in the targets, and it is important to keep the integrity of the ISAC by avoiding huge holes that can cut across lines and end up giving higher scores than are really merited. Paper targets should be mounted on a firm enough backing that big holes can't be torn, and points should be designed not to tear big holes. It was wondered if something should be put in the guidelines. Ron said that these are reminders that organizers need to read the rules. Margie remarked that awareness of this kind of thing was why the editor should come to meetings. No motions made.

Ron volunteered Cahokia as the location of the 2015 meeting unless Texas wants to host it.

Margie moved to adjourn the meeting. Greg seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Birkett
WAA Executive Secretary

11/11/2013

Minutes of the 26th Annual Meeting of the WAA Membership
Hammonasset Beach State Park
Madison, Connecticut
October 5, 2013

President Gary Nolf called the meeting to order at 6:10. He thanked the nearby concession stand for providing food to WAA members prior to the meeting.

The Board's discussion of changing the deadlines for submission of events was recounted for the membership. The Board had proposed a new deadline of one month before the event, but not less than two weeks. Doug Bassett moved to accept the change. The motion was seconded and passed.

Courtney Birkett read the treasurer's report from the end of the last fiscal year. At the beginning of July 2012 the WAA had \$9840.37. Income during the year totaled \$2900.87 and expenses totaled \$2389.74 for an ending balance of \$10,351.50 as of June 30, 2013. Gary Fogelman moved to accept the treasurer's report. Glen Oechsner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

There was discussion of where the 2014 meeting will be held. Gary Nolf had posted about this issue on Paleoplanet, and California might be interested. Joe Ungor volunteered to join the annual meeting committee. Andy Majorsky said that Leni Clubb had said that every five years an event had to be held back in Denver. The committee should look into where recent events have been. Andy remembered that Russell Richard had wanted to hold the meeting in Wyoming the last time it was slated for the West (but Valley of Fire had already been chosen) and might want to host it this time. Ron Mertz offered Cahokia for 2015. Margie Takoch clarified the rotation of meetings among the East, West, and Central regions of the U.S. Doug Bassett suggested Meadowcroft for the next Eastern location and offered to help with organizing. Joe moved to hold the 2015 event at Cahokia. Andy seconded the motion. Margie thought we should ask Texas if they wanted to host. Ron said that it's easy to get to Cahokia because of its central location. Motion passed with Margie opposed.

In response to Andy's earlier comment, Margie said that there had been an early September event in Colorado this year, and Doug added that Durango was very active and a third of the youth competitors come from there. Rabbit Stick in Idaho was also mentioned. The annual meeting committee will work on a location for the West.

Gary Nolf gave out the awards for the day. Marlin Bassett came in first in the youth category. For women: third place – Courtney Birkett, second place – JoAnne Fogelman, first place – Lori Majorsky. For men: third place – Mamerto Tindongan, second place – Doug Bassett, first place – Gary Fogelman. Gary and JoAnne Fogelman won the men's and women's mammoth hunt. The Grand Champion award went to Marlin Bassett.

Gary Nolf presented the President's Award to Courtney Birkett.

Ron went over the problems with points that create oversized holes, which he had discussed with the Board. He wondered if it should be put in the ISAC rules that targets should be mounted on cardboard or another surface where huge holes can't be torn, like flat foam. Doug Bassett said that the rules currently allow a paper target on its own as long as the holes are taped over after each round. Ron was concerned about the integrity of the ISAC. Gary thought that backing the targets with cardboard would be an easy addition to the rules. Doug thought we could delete the rule allowing pass-throughs. Ron wondered if we could make the rule specify pointed points to eliminate the problematic blunt ones. There was some discussion of rings that measure dart diameter. Gary thought cardboard backing would solve many problems. Doug Bassett moved to eliminate the pass-through clause and replace it with a statement that the target must be mounted on cardboard. Ron seconded the motion. In the discussion that ensued, Greg Maurer mentioned that targets mounted on hay bales can still have darts pass through them. Doug thought we could eliminate the rule that backless targets are allowed. Ron said that we shouldn't say cardboard because some people use foam and other backings. It should be amended to "firm" or "a substantial backing such as cardboard." Scott Van Arsdale added "because of the intent to eliminate a large tear in thin target paper." The amended motion was read: "The pass-through clause should be eliminated and replaced with 'the target must be mounted on a substantial backing such as cardboard because of the intent to eliminate large tears in thin target paper.'" Motion passed.

The election results were announced. For vice president: Greg Maurer. For Directors: Kevin Ashley, Lori Majorsky, and John Whittaker.

Margie moved to adjourn the meeting, and Linda Nolf seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Birkett
WAA Executive Secretary

11/11/2013