

DRAFT

**2009.1 NABC – Houston, TX
ITT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF MEETING
Hilton Americas
March 15, 2009, 11:30 a.m.**

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

14 others were present: David Berkowitz, Peter Boyd, Ira Chorush, Mark Feldman, Joan Gerard, George Jacobs, Chip Martel, Jan Martel, Eric Rodwell, Danny Sprung, John Sutherlin, Howard Weinstein, Roy Welland, Adam Wildavsky

Becker called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Wednesday, November 26, 2008 Boston meeting were approved.

2009 Conditions of Contest

The CoCs (version 2009CoC120808.doc) were presented by Becker. Becker went over the few changes made since the Boston meeting.

The unequal subsidy for the USA1 and USA2 was discussed. Pollack and Jacobs mentioned that the USBF Board regretted not ascertaining the xITTC's input before deciding on an unequal subsidy for USA1 and USA2. Pollack said that the Board only intended a slight subsidy difference between the two teams. The USBF Board will re-decide the issue at its next meeting after taking into consideration the straw poll provided by the xITTC's.

Becker mentioned the wording change in Section VII.B., where the Technical Committee replaces the Executive Committee as the group that would interpret the CoC's before the Vanderbilt ends or provide input to the DIC after the Vanderbilt ends but before entries close. This change was approved by the Committee.

Wildavsky questioned Appendix E, re: what is done when BAD numbers enter the USBC. After determining that a Preliminary Event is held when there is a BAD number, Jacobs suggested that extra time be allotted after entries close to allow enough additional team(s) to enter the event to avoid holding a Preliminary Event. The Committee agreed that when a BAD number of teams enter the event, entries will remain open for three extra days, and as soon we get enough teams to no longer have a BAD number, entries close. After the three day period expires, if there still must be a Preliminary Event, the teams assigned to the Preliminary Event would have six days to withdraw, as currently provided in the CoCs.

The CoCs, as amended above, were approved, subject to the USBF's decision on the subsidy matter and changes to the Appendices after the Vanderbilt ends and entries close.

Joan Gerard was asked to form the on-site 2009 USBC Appeals Committee.

Becker [again] complimented the CoCC on finishing up these conditions, by far the most complex ever, earlier than ever.

2010 CoCs

There were no questions raised on the 2010 CoCs, nor had any been raised since the Las Vegas ITTC meeting. Becker said that changes in the 2009 CoCs would be incorporated into the 2010 CoCs. He also confessed that he often makes non-material wording changes to the CoCs without the Committee's knowledge or consent. Becker predicted smooth sailing for the 2010 CoCs.

USBF Update

Pollack reported that holding the 2010 WBF championships in Russia had fallen through, and that the USBF and ACBL were working hard to hold the tournament in the U.S. Compton and Hamman were attempting to raise funds and sites were being sought. Rodwell supported the USBF's efforts to hold WBF events in the U.S. more often, and commented events held abroad had many disadvantages.

Pollack reported that the USBF Board was developing a program to mentor junior players and would be asking USBF members to volunteer to serve as mentors.

Sites for the 2011 and 2012 USBC are being sought. Jan Martel asked the Committee's opinion on whether to again hold the event at the PGA Resort in Palm Beach Gardens. Some thought that that the P.G.A. did not offer enough restaurants in walking distance. Welland said that he liked the variety of holding the event in different places. It was noted the event had not been held in the west for several years.

ITTC Structure

Becker reviewed the new structure of the ITTC, approved at the Las Vegas meeting and vetted by email since then. The Technical Committee, a sub-committee of the ITTC, will deal with matters involving the Appendices and other minutia issues, and report its recommendations to the ITTC. The ITTC will deal with "global" CoC and USBC matters. In other words, the ITTC replaces the CoCC. The Committee approved the new structure.

Adjournment and Notice of Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30. The next meeting will be on Monday, July 20, 2009, in Washington, D.C., at a time and place to be announced.