

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Chris Beard, Chair

The following proposed amendments to the BWAA bylaws were submitted to the Legislative Committee:

Amendment #1 (submitted January 2009)

EXISTING: Article IV - OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 3. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will include the President, Vice President, Executive Director, Chairman of the Council of Life Members and a Director selected by the Board. The committee shall be charged with the responsibility of acting for and on behalf of the BWAA when the association is not in session and business requires necessary action. All actions of the committee shall be reported to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Proposed Change: Remove this entire section.

Reason: *In this day and age it is not necessary to have an executive committee when we are able to communicate via e-mail, telephone and cell phone easily.*

Submitted by Jim Goodwin and Joan Taylor-Schliewenz

Amendment #2 (submitted May 15, 2009, to Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors will consist of 12 Directors who will be elected by the membership by plurality vote, the Executive Director and the Council of Life Members representative.

Directors shall be elected by a stagger system.

Six Directors shall be elected in odd numbered years.

Six Directors shall be elected in even numbered years.

The term of office shall be August 1 through July 31.

The directors shall elect a President and Vice President for a term of one (1) year. Officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

Proposed Change: Remove "The directors shall elect a President and Vice President for a term of one (1) year. Officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms." Replace with: "The BWAA President and Vice President will then be elected from the elected Board of Directors by the membership present at the annual meeting for a term of one (1) year. Officers may not serve more than two consecutive terms."

Reason: *The membership should have a right to elect its leaders. The present method of having the 14-member board elect these two positions diminishes the perception of fairness among the general membership.*

Submitted by Jim Goodwin and Joan Taylor-Schliewenz

The BWAA Legislative Committee recommends a "No" vote. *Reason: The President and Vice President function in a capacity beyond that of a board member, such as running the meetings, appointing committee chairmen and acting in an executive capacity. The Board of Directors has worked directly together and is in a better position to know who would fulfill these requirements. The presidency should not be a popularity contest from among the membership.*

Proposed Amendment #3 (submitted May 15, 2009, to Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 12: The Board of Directors shall hold its meeting preceding the annual membership meeting at a time and place designated by the President. Additional meetings shall be held as required.

Proposed Change: Add: A BWAA board member must attend at least one full meeting per year.

Reason: *Board members are elected to represent the members and should be present to participate in the discussions and business of BWAA.*

Submitted by Jim Goodwin and Joan Taylor-Schliewenz

The BWAA Legislative Committee recommends a "YES" vote. *Reason: Duties and responsibilities of the board should be defined in the bylaws.*

Proposed Amendment #4 (submitted May 15, 2009, to Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 5.

The President shall preside at all meetings; appoint committees, both standing and special; review the bank balance quarterly; authorize mail ballots to voting members if necessary; and perform such other duties as pertain to the office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Proposed Change: Add: The President may call as many meetings as he or she wishes, but BWAA will only pay for his or her transportation and lodging to one official meeting per year.

Reason: All BWAA board members have to pay their own expenses to all meetings. The president should not think of BWAA as a means of paying for trips to other organization meetings or conventions where no official presence is necessary.

Submitted by Jim Goodwin & Joan Taylor-Schliewenz

The Legislative Committee recommends a "No" vote. Reason: BWAA should have one person as a representative of the organization at the USBC Convention and BPAA's Bowl Expo. Ideally it should be the President or Executive Director. Covering the travel expenses for this individual is not a "perk" of office but rather a necessary expense to keep BWAA involved and informed about what is happening within the industry.

Proposed Amendment #5 (submitted May 15, 2009, to Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE VII – AWARDS

Special awards and contest awards may be presented as approved by the Board of Directors. The criteria for awards shall be set forth in the procedures manual.

Proposed Change: Add: The names "Luby" and "Crowe" will be attached to the BWAA Hall of Fame Award and the BWAA Meritorious Service Award.

Reason: The Luby family (Dave, Mort, and Mort Jr.) have been synonymous with bowling journalism since BWAA's founding in 1934 (even before) and Alberta Crowe was an incredible role model for what selfless service should be during her tenure as WIBC President. Putting these names on BWAA's highest honors would enhance their prestige, and help to preserve our rich traditions and history.

Submitted by Jim Goodwin & Joan Taylor-Schliewenz

The Legislative Committee recommends a "No" vote. Reason: While the contributions of these individuals are significant we do not believe a "BWAA Hall of Fame Award" is any less prestigious than a "Mort Luby Award" and the former is far more descriptive of the achievement of the individual receiving the award. The same principle holds true for the "BWAA Meritorious Service Award" compared to the "Alberta Crowe Award." The BWAA membership voted to remove names from all the awards in 2007.

Proposed Amendment #6 (submitted May 16, 2009, to the Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting. Proposed amendments from BWAA members shall be submitted to the Executive Director 60 days before the annual meeting, however, the legislative committee shall have until 45 days before the meeting to submit amendments. All amendments shall be distributed to the members not less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Amendments to the bylaws not distributed to the membership 30 days prior to the annual meeting may be considered at the annual meeting with the approval of two-thirds of the members present voting to allow the amendment to be considered. If approved for consideration, such amendments will require a 75% affirmative vote in order to be adopted.

Proposed Change: Add: BWAA members in good standing be allowed to vote via e-mail on issues having direct impact on the association as a whole.

Reason: The BWAA needs to recognize that the vast majority of members do not attend the annual meeting for various reasons, illness, health issues, economy, etc. However, they should not be deprived of their voting rights because they cannot travel. (For example: voting on the STE proposal). Most of the association members have e-mail and voting on issues impacting the membership should go out to all members for consideration and vote. Under the current by-laws as few as 27 members can make decisions affecting the entire membership.

Submitted by Don Wright

The BWAA legislative committee recommends a "NO" vote. Reason: It would be impossible to determine what legislation constitutes an issue "having direct impact on the association as a whole."

Every issue voted on by the board of directors or by the membership fits into this category in one manner or the other. This amendment would exclude that segment of the membership, without access to email, from voting rights. There is no provision for a postal mail vote in the proposal.

While the bylaws provide that a quorum of 27 is required to transact business, we have 50 or more members in attendance at a BWAA membership meeting in each of the past 10 years. Proposed legislation is sent to members at least 30 days in advance of any meeting where a vote will be taken and all members make their own decisions about attending or not. In addition, BWAA provides for a comment forum on its web site to allow members to state their views on important issues so their voices can be heard.

Proposed Amendment #7 (Submitted May 18, 2009, by the Legislative Committee)

EXISTING: ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting. Proposed amendments from BWAA members shall be submitted to the Executive Director 60 days before the annual meeting, however, the legislative committee shall have until 45 days before the meeting to submit amendments. All amendments shall be distributed to the members not less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Amendments to the bylaws not distributed to the membership 30 days prior to the annual meeting may be considered at the annual meeting with the approval of two-thirds of the members present voting to allow the amendment to be considered. If approved for consideration, such amendments will require a 75% affirmative vote in order to be adopted.

Change to: These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual meeting, providing amendments from BWAA members have been submitted to the Legislative Committee and/or the Executive Director at least 45 days before the annual meeting and distributed to the members not less than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Amendments to the bylaws not distributed to the membership 30 days prior to the annual meeting may be considered at the annual meeting with the approval of two-thirds of the members present voting to allow the amendment to be considered. If approved for consideration, such amendments will require a 75% affirmative vote in order to be adopted.

Reason: *As originally written, this bylaw is confusing at best, contradictory at worst.*