

Texas Horseshoe Pitching Association
General Meeting
October 2, 2009
Bryan, Texas

Othana Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm and gave the invocation.

Delegates attending the meeting:

Arlington...N/A

Amarillo...Ivy Gowdy

Borger ...N/A

Bryan...Todd Hannath

Buffalo...Paul Kennedy

Cameron...Steve Layne

Little Elm...Jack Richards

Denison...Dean Jackson

Dumas...Bill Kuykendall

East Bernard...Duck Engelhardt

Houston...Dee Robak

Kilgore...Janell Berry

Liberty Hill...Tiny Walters

Littlefield...N/A

Montgomery Co...Donna Thomason

McKinney...Larry Lee

San Antonio...Hank Hattoy

Snyder...Johnny Davenport

Waco...Jim Anderson

Independents:

North...Mark Slack

South...Ed Arionus

Othana said the minutes were published in the Ringer and on the web for everyone to read and she asked if anyone had any corrections to add. She asked for a show of hands if you wanted them read in their entirety. Jim Anderson made a motion to dispense with the reading 2nd by Donna Thomason; it was unanimous to accept them as written.

Officer's Report

Sec. – Louise Alligood

The membership cards have not come in but you can pay now for your 2010 dues and these cards will be good for the rest of 2009 & for the 2010 season. Be sure to fill out the application in its entirety in order to ensure the correct information is in the database and the correct address will go to the editor for your Ringer. When sending in an application for a junior, please fill in their age and/or school year. This will help Paula in her junior program. Pay pal has turned out to be a big success but we are now asking that you use the comment box where it says send a message to merchant to put in personal information i.e. who you are paying for and information on your juniors such as age, Birth date and the grade they are in. We had 190 members use this method of payment this year. Dennis Poff asked if the net income was up or down from last year. It is running about the same as last year. He said that was good considering the situation this year.

Membership for 2009 was 453 adults and 46 juniors.

Financial Report:

Total Income YTD.... \$29,108.22

Total Expenses.... \$18,166.72

Net Income YTD.... \$10,941.48

Total income YTD includes the State Tournament entry fees minus the \$1,125.50 still in our pay pal account. I can only transfer \$500 a month, so it will be the later part of the year before I have it all transferred. I have paid for trophies but not for the jackets or postage for mailing them. Othana has not taken any of the travel funds this year and I still have to pay NHPA for the Newsline subscription for all our officers. After we pay end of year expenses we should end up with approximately \$6 to \$7,000. A motion was made and 2nd to accept the financial report as presented.

Othana said rather than taking the travel fund this year she is giving half to the junior scholarship fund and the remainder will be used to purchase a brick for THPA at the Hall of Fame. She plans to visit with National to see how their junior scholarship program works. She said after researching some of our families that are going through some difficult times and in need of assistance, the remainder will be distributed among them.

Tiny Walters – 1st VP – Tiny said the only people he heard from this year that were interested in starting new clubs were from McGregor and Ennis. We all know that Cameron and Little Elm have new facilities and we need everyone to come out and support them.

Ron Murphy – 2nd VP – Ron said he notified Presidents and Tournament Directors earlier to send him information on their local newspapers, i.e., Addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. He will try to get them to publish tournament results.

He said out of the membership drive contest this year we got 104 new members. He announced the people and/or clubs that got as many as 2 new members. He said in 2008 we had about 102 new members but 37 didn't come back this

year. We need to try hard to keep 2009 new members active. The winners of this years contest will be announced at the end of the program.

Lavern Wilcox – 3rd VP – State Tournament Director –

Lavern reported that we had 219 sign up for this year's tournament which was 17 less than last year. A lot of people who wanted to pitch didn't get their 4 tournaments in before the cut off date. We have 2 more tournaments this year and a lot at the beginning of next year so let's encourage people to get theirs in early. Thanks everyone for coming.

Paula Poff – 4th VP – Juniors – We have 2 juniors that qualify for scholarships this year, Kayla Phelps & Michael Dodd. There will be a presentation tomorrow. Next year Montgomery County will host a tournament & all the proceeds will go into the scholarship fund. There is a possibility that other clubs may contact the juniors to do their concessions. Dean Jackson of the Denison club made a beautiful knife and the juniors will be selling raffle tickets all year with the proceeds going into the scholarship fund.

At present the scholarship fund has approximately \$11,000 in the bank & as you know there will be more going into it. They have a concession at this tournament selling popcorn, candy & pickles. Thanks for supporting our juniors.

Clayton Afinowicz—5th VP – As of right now the Newsletter has cost us about \$4,000 and we still have 2 more issues this year. Next year we will be looking for ways to offset the cost or find ways to get it done cheaper. If you have had a change of address or haven't been getting a newsletter, you need to see me after the meeting.

President's Remarks – Othana said she wanted to thank everyone for being supportive of her for the past 4 years. She thinks of this organization as part of her family. Everyone was very supportive of her 3 years ago in a difficult time in her life and she appreciated the thoughts and prayers. She said there have been some revisions she has made as president and as an officer in the past that may not have been pleasing to everybody but she made them in the best way she could. There is one wish she has for this organization after this year. It has to come together and work out any differences, personal, organization, or club wise. Come to a tournament with the sole purpose of having fun. Any differences you have should be worked out at the winter meeting or other meetings you may have.

Committee Reports – Chairman of Advisory/Rules Committee – Ricky A-Z

The biggest thing we worked on was the re-write of the By-Laws. He recognized the ones that worked with him. They were: Bob McCharen, Doug Engelhardt, Debra Odum, Bud Dodson, Coyce Allen, Donna Thomason and Lisa Majors. He said if the re-write passes or fails we did the best that we could and it can always be tweaked. If it fails let us know what we need to do to change it. We ask for your input.

Remember to come to tournaments to pitch and have fun. He congratulated today's winners and wished good luck to those that pitch the next 2 days.

Othana said she would like to see us make this meeting more of an Awards meeting and make the winter meeting more of a business meeting. State should be where we come to pitch and have fun.

Appointment of Parliamentarian – Johnny Davenport

NEW BUSINESS

Ed Arionus had questions concerning handicapping classes. He said this was ridiculous. Class A should not be 40 points or 50 shoes; it should be 40 points with 40 point playoff games. He said he had pitched in 15 or 16 States and they all have money tournaments, all except Texas. Money tournaments would make it more fun.

Hank Hattoy, San Antonio's tournament director said winning a jacket for 1st place at State is great but we live in Texas where we have 100 degree weather. He suggested we give something like a ring where you could wear it all the time. He also said San Antonio would have all money tournaments next year.

Othana said these were topics that should be placed on the winter meeting agenda.

Donna Thomason said she has been in horseshoes for the past 7 years and last year was the 1st year the scholarship fund had been raised. These kids are our future. I want deny what Ed said and I'm sure there are plenty of money tournaments for the adults but kids can't accept money as awards. If we don't keep kids in the sport it will eventually go away.

STATE TOURNAMENT SITE SELECTIONS:

State Singles Tournament – Buffalo
State Doubles Championship – Dumas
State Hi/Lo Doubles – Littlefield

AWARDS

Outgoing officers – Tiny presented awards to: Mike Dodd, Othana Donnell,

Traveling – Ron Murphy presented Most Texas tournaments attended – Ron Sanderson, 23 TX tournaments

Promotion Awards for most new members went to:

1st Place - \$150 Donnie and Shannon Kirkland
2nd Place - \$100 John and Virlene Straley

MOST IMPROVED WERE:

Cadets – Blaine Sablatura – East Bernard + 2.12%
Junior Boys – Kenneth Lara - Cameron +14.97%
Junior Girls – Savannah Thomason - Montgomery County +5.98%
Women – Deborah Wells - Garrison +19.17%
30' Men – William Sliter - Amarillo + 9.20%
Men – Dennis Childress - Brownwood +17.10%

Presidents Award/SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:

Melissa Slack - North
Holly Martin - South
Teresa Traweek - East

10& 20 -year membership patches were presented by Clayton Afinowicz

HALL OF FAME

2009 Hall of Fame inductee – Jean Davenport

Hall of Fame members present at the meeting were: Rickey Afinowicz, Jim Anderson, Ed Arionus, Jean Davenport, Johnny Davenport, Othana Donnell, Duck Engelhardt, Bob Graham, Mary Ann Kramr, Bob McCharen and Lavern Wilcox

Results of Election:

Rickey Afinowicz President
Ron Murphy 2nd VP
Paula Poff 4th VP
THPA Re-Write is the same as an amendment and needs to pass by 2/3 majority.
The vote was 87 for and 77 against. It did not pass

Meeting adjourned.