

# Mid Southeastern Deaf Bowling Association

## CONSTITUTION

(Revision date – June 2022)

### ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE:

Section 1. This Organization shall be known as the MID SOUTHEASTERN DEAF BOWLING ASSOCIATION (as known as MSDBA) and (former Dixie Deaf Bowling Association - DDBA), embracing the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Section 2. The MSDBA, hereafter referred as the association, shall conducted for the following purposes:

A) To hold, direct, or under its direction and suspicious, conduct and manage the MSDBA Tournament annually.

B) This Tournament shall determine Mid Southeastern Champions for four-men team, doubles, singles, all-events, the Robert Kolb Masters, and the John Etheridge Senior Citizen (55 and up in current calendar year) events. The said tournament shall be governed by USBC rules and regulations.

C) To encourage and foster among its members and those interested in the sport, the spirit of good fellowship.

### ARTICLE 2 - MEMBERSHIPS:

Section 1. Membership shall pay yearly with entry fee. These monies shall be used for operating funds.

### ARTICLE 3 - OFFICERS:

Section 1. The officers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three (3) board members who will automatically represent the Executive Committee which shall include the Host City Chairperson of the pending tournament. A recording secretary shall only conduct the minutes of the said association.

Section 2. Candidates for any office except of the publicity director must attended three (3) consecutive Board of Directors' annual meetings prior to nomination for officer as verified by roll call records. Any candidate for the publicity director may be a deaf/hard of hearing active bowler or a deaf/hard of hearing non bowler who has a knowledge in public relations field.

Section 3. The Executive Committee members shall attend and vote as members of the Board of Directors at any meeting of that association, but any individual, whether he is a member of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, or members of both, may be allowed to have one (1) vote only on any question at such meeting.

### ARTICLE 4 - MEETINGS:

Section 1. The Board of Directors' annual meeting shall be held on Friday night during the Annual Tournament.

Section 2. The Executive Committee's annual meeting shall be held on Thursday night prior to the Board of Directors annual meeting

#### **ARTICLE 5 - ELECTION ELIGIBILITY:**

Section 1. See ARTICLE 3, Section 2. Of this Constitution.

Section 2. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the Board of Directors' annual meeting. They shall hold office for three (3) years on staggering basis. One of top three (3) board members are to be elected in same year. Incoming officers shall take office the first Monday of October following the election.

Section 3. Immediately after conclusion of the Board of Director's annual meeting OR after the Saturday night awards, the newly elected officers shall take oath as follows: "I, (Name) DO HEREBY PLEDGE TO ABIDE THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BY LAWS OF MSDBA AND TO FAITHFULLY PERFORM THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY"

#### **ARTICLE 6 - AMENDMENTS:**

Section 1. The Constitution, by laws, and rules shall be amended or replaced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Any proposal of changes in by-laws or amendments must be made in writing to the Vice-President at or before the Executive Committee's meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – DISSOLUTION:**

Section 1. In event of dissolution, the remaining assets of MSDBA is to be held in the trust fund in the names of any clubs if they have existing to be selected at the time of dissolution, the next tournament the money shall go to the prize fee and balance shall be zero. *Mid Southeastern Deaf Bowling Association*

### **By-Laws**

**(Revision date - June 2022)**

#### **ARTICLE 1 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall compose of Executive Committee members and the bowlers of all team entered in the tournament. The member shall receive copy each of the meeting minutes, the financial report(s) before the meeting.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall vest with the control and management of the annual tournament and by a majority of vote may delegate its authority in whole and in part to the Executive Committee.

Section 3. During the Board of Directors' annual meeting, the Board of Directors shall elect their officers and shall transact business of MSDBA by a quorum.

Section 4. Two-thirds (2/3) of all members entered in the tournament who are represent at the meeting on time shall constitute a quorum and may transact all business of the Association.

Section 5. All past presidents, vice-presidents, and secretary-treasurers shall be admitted to meeting as voting members.

## **ARTICLE 2 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**

### Section 1. President's duties:

A.) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and, as such, enforce all the provisions and purposes hereof.

B.) Any vacancies occur between meetings shall be filled with persons (pro-tem) appointed by the President until next election. It shall be the duty of the President within sixty (60) days of assuming the office to inform the Host City Chairperson of the coming tournament of all expenses and related arrangements that are expected from the Host City by the Association.

C.) The president shall affix his signature on all reports by the Secretary-Treasurer and Recording Secretary before being given out to the members at the meeting.

### Section 2. Vice-President's Duties:

A.) In absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of that office.

B.) The Vice-President shall be the Chairman of the Law and Hall of Fame Committees.

C.) The Vice-President shall conduct the Robert Kolb and John Ethridge Senior Citizens Tournaments.

### Section 3. Secretary-Treasurer's Duties:

A.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep minutes of all Executive Committees and the Board of Director meetings including special meetings of the Association. The minutes shall be dated and recorded in books with proper dated and numbered.

B.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep copies of the Constitution, by-laws and tournament rules including the USBC governing rules.

C.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall also keep all records of all scores made in DDBA tournament.

D.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct all correspondence. a) The Secretary-Treasurer shall include dress code warning on the entry form.

E.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall open an account in his residence city and the bank account shall be in Mid Southeastern Deaf Bowling Association and shall deposit in this account all money received from entries, Mid Southeastern Bowler Newsletter Fund, and revenues. He shall distribute same on checks signed by himself. In the payment of bills and/or prizes, no check of this Association shall be made out to "CASH" for any reason. At the end of the tournament, he shall turn over to the executive committee a statement showing the outcome of the tournament within sixty (60) days. He shall keep all receipts and disbursements and make an annual report to the Board of Directors. He shall also be bonded for full amount of tournament fees and bank deposits at the expense of the Association. The bond shall be held by the active President for safekeeping.

F.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive the sum of fifty cent (\$.50) per men per event for his work. This sum shall come from the tournament expense fees.

G.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall adhere to the following schedule:

- a.) Mail prize money checks within thirty (30) days after the close of the tournament.
- b.) Send certified letter(s) to holder(s) of Un-cashed check(s) after ninety (90) days of mailing date.
- c.) revert prize money back to General Fund after ninety (90) days of mailing certified letter(s).

H.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall have the authority to set the tournament expense fee as he sees fit to meet the tournament expenses. He is required to give receipts to all persons from whom money is collected. Statement of expenditures and deposits is required to be submitted to Auditors.

I.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall send postcard and e-mail message to all bowlers to look at our website for forms, update, etc. during late January or early February.

J.) The Secretary-Treasurer shall have team roster, etc. ready for program book 2 or 3 weeks before tournament.

K.) The Secretary-Treasurer has authority to charge \$25.00 for each unaccepted check.

L.) The appointed Recording Secretary shall assist the Secretary-Treasurer at the meeting of the Board of Directors. The Recording Secretary shall make the minutes of the meeting in progress, make copy, and leave the original copy with the Secretary-Treasurer. He shall rewrite the minutes in clean typed paper and send the minutes to Secretary-Treasurer within thirty (30) days

M.) At tournament, the Secretary-Treasurer shall provide from MSDBA.

#### Section 4. Board Members' Duties:

A) The Board Members shall assist the top officers on various functions of MSDBA.

B) Board members will receive one hundred dollars (\$100.00) after the conclusion of the tournament.

### **ARTICLE 3 - TOURNAMENT RULES:**

Section 1. The tournament shall be sanctioned and conducted by the rules and regulations of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC). It may be modified through the agreement between DDBA Secretary-Treasurer and USBC.

- A.) Robert Kolb Event and John Ethridge Senior Event are to be held at 9:00 AM. Robert Kolb Event (Re-entry) and John Ethridge Senior Event (Entry or Re-entry) are to be held at 11:00 AM and depend if the alleys allowed for Reentry on Senior Event only at 1:00 PM. Limit 2 - (one for Entry and one for Re-entry).
- B.) Teams Event is to be held on Saturday and Singles/Doubles Events are to be held on Sunday.
- C.) "All-Events" events to be optional.

## Section 2.

A.) All prizes shall award on a handicap basis, based on 80% of the difference of bowler's average and scratch being 220. (80% of 220).

B.) An individual's handicap may exceed from 36 pins per game for Kolb, 46 pins per game for Senior (age 55 & up) and 64 pins per game in any events (T, S, D) but not unlimited.

a.) Handicap limits per game:

1. Not more than 36 pins for Kolb Event
2. Not more than 46 pins in John Ethridge Seniors Event (age 55 & up)
3. Not more than 64 pins in Teams, Singles and Doubles Events

b.) Use the highest USBC sanctioned league average consisting of twenty-one (21) games or more from previous season.

c.) Use the highest USBC sanctioned league average consisting of twenty-one (21) games from current season as of May 1st, if the average from previous season is not available. Otherwise, bowl scratch, average 220.

d) Report all tournament events (\$300 or above) winnings for purpose of re-rating submitted average. Rerate is to be applied on all tournament events.

e.) Use 220 as an average for eligible bowlers who have no acceptable average in accordance with the above rule.

C.) Bowlers who report a lower average than required by the Association tournament rules and/or bowlers who do not report prize winning of six hundred dollars (\$300) or more in any event in a tournament within previous twelve (12) months period and his actual score, position, and amount won to tournament official at time of entry for possible re-rating shall forfeit tournament entry fee and prize winnings.

D.) Bowlers must have their league averages verified and signed by League Secretary for new average only.

Section 3. All complaints, protest, and contentions as to scores bowled shall be made within twenty-four (24) hours after the game in question has been bowled, in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer, to be taken up with the Executive Committee. No changes or corrections of any kind shall be solicited or attempted otherwise.

Section 4. No Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) members are allowed to participate in this tournament. As ex-PBA member, he might be reinstated in the MSDBA after two (2) years have been lapsed since leaving the PBA. The separation from the PBA must be verified by a letter from a PBA officer.

Section 5. Each bowler must wear a collar shirt. Polo shirt ok, but must be logo as well as team such as sponsorships, hosts. Jean will not be allowed during the tournament. Nice shorts are allowed.

Section 6. The Robert Kolb rule will be on MSDBA entry form.

Section 7. No hearing bowlers may participate in tournament. Grandfather clause is that hearing bowlers who had participated in previous MSDBA tournament prior to 1999 DDBA tournament are eligible (no new hearing bowler).

#### **ARTICLE 4 - TOURNAMENT CITY:**

Section 1. The city in which the annual tournament is to be held must be selected four (4) years or more in advance by ballot at the Board of Directors' annual meeting.

Section 2. The tournament shall be held in the Dixie states as named in ARTICLE 1 of MSDBA Constitution.

Section 3. Only organization(s) of the deaf shall sponsor or host the MSDBA tournament.

Section 4. Bidders for the tournament must submit letters of intent from club(s) or association(s) of the deaf, from hotel (Headquarter), and from bowling establishment(s) of thirty-two (32) lanes or more at the time of bid.

Section 5. Host pay a flat fee of \$3,000.00 and that includes \$10 dollars per head for Kolb and Ethridge. It is Secretary/Treasurer's duty to split some money for Kolb/Ethridge

Section 6. The annual tournament shall be held during the month of May, preferably the Memorial Day weekend or after Memorial weekend.

Section 7. Any team or sponsor submitting bid for the tournament must be a member of the MSDBA for two (2) years prior to submitting the bid.

Section 8. The organization winning the bid shall give \$400 security deposit to the Secretary-Treasurer and, at the same time, presenting letters of verification from hotel and bowling establishment. Thereafter the organization shall pay 25% (1/4) prize money every year until paid in full. In addition, the security deposit of \$400 is required to assure that bidder to send a team every year after year of winning bid until next year following that bidder's host city event. \$100 per bowler is to be deducted from the security deposit if MSDBA Secretary-Treasurer had to find one to fill the team.

Section 9. The successful bidder must send a team to every MSDBA tournament between winning bid and hosting tournament to attend annual meetings to make a report on their tournament plans.

Section 10. A) - A rough draft of flyer is to be sent to MSDBA Secretary-Treasurer for an approval before printing by July 1st. B) - Secretary-Treasurer's pager is not to be put on the flyer.

Section 11. MSDBA shall have authority to fine \$100 on the future host upon failure of providing the flyer to the immediate upcoming host to be inserted into the program book.

Section 12. The flyer, hotel/motel reservation, and/or others, etc. are to be sent to MSDBA Secretary-Treasurer by 160 days (approximate 5 months) before the MSDBA annual tournament starts.

Section 13. The MSDBA and Host will provide room to the MSDBA President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer for two (2) nights on 1/3 basis. (One from MSDBA and one from Host and one from Self)

Section 14. The host must be responsible for the room reservations for three (3) MSDBA officers.

Section 15. The MSDBA officers (not including Board Members) shall be reimbursed for making a round trip to the tournament city at thirty-five cents (.35) per mile or air/bus/train fare (whichever is lower) by the host and MSDBA on 50/50 basis. Limited to \$350.00 round trip.

Section 16. The host will provide ten (10) plaques (all in handicap division) as follows: John Ethridge Seniors winner (one plaque) Team winners (four plaques) Robert Kolb winner (one plaque) Doubles winners (two plaques) Singles winner (one plaque) All-Events winner (one plaque)

Section 17. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be notified within six (6) months before the date of tournament if the host is unable to hold tournament. The host shall forfeit all monies already deposited to MSDBA.

Section 18. In the event that host club / organization fails to meet obligations outlined and provided by the Secretary Treasurer any expenses for travel and communications made by the Secretary-Treasurer to the host club / organization or General Chairperson shall be billed to the host club / organization or the General Chairperson.

Section 19. Proceeds from sale of program books shall become the property of the host.

Section 20. The bowlers shall pay between twenty-five (\$25) to thirty-five dollars (\$35) for their combo tickets at the time they send entry fees.

Section 21. Bowler's combination fee cover registration, the program book, entry to ballroom, and entry to bowling events as minimum. Bowlers are entitled to have same as fans get with their combination if fan get more than minimum.

Section 22. MSDBA shall have authority to fine \$250 on any organization for an unauthorized use of MSDBA's organizational name on any merchandise/prize tickets.

Section 23. MSDBA shall require any organization to report to MSDBA the earnings generated by using the MSDBA's organization name.

#### **ARTICLE 5 - HALL of FAME:**

Section 1. The MSDBA shall have a Hall of Fame event to honor and remember the bowlers whose activities have been outstanding and worthy of merit and recognition.

Section 2. Once every year, the Hall of Fame Committee shall hold an election to elect one or more bowlers to the Hall of Fame at an Executive Committee's annual meeting and to be announced at next year's Board of Directors' annual meeting if anyone is elected.

Section 3. Nominations shall be given in writing together with historical data and bowling records to the Executive Committee or Board of Directors at annual meeting to be considered by the Hall of Fame Committee at the next Hall of Fame election.

Section 4. Nomination Requirements:

A.) Nominee must have participated in at least eight (8) tournaments to be eligible for the nomination.

B.) Nominee must have shown outstanding achievement on the MSDBA tournament(s); however, nominee's records in other sanctioned tournament(s) and competition(s) hosted or sponsored by MSDBA or bona fide organization of the deaf shall be considered and may be used as a basis for his nomination.

C.) Request waiver of the above rule by writing to the Hall of Fame Committee which may or may not make special exception(s).

D.) Death or disability may waive this eligibility requirement and can be nominated.

E) The plaque(s) shall be awarded to the elected Hall of Fame.

F) Points - Qualify/Eligible for HOF (TBA)