

# **79<sup>th</sup> National Convention**

**August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

# **AMERICAN TURNERS**



**Part C**

**(Convention Minutes)**

**Hosted by Louisville Turners, KY**

**MINUTES**  
**79TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN TURNERS**

AUGUST 5-6, 2022

*Hosted by Louisville Turners*

**FIRST SESSION, AUGUST 5, 2022**

Call to order by National President Dennis Zeller at 6:35 p.m.

Presentation of the United States Flag and the American Turners Flag

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem

The National President called for a moment of silence in memory of Turners who have passed away.

Tony Coke, Louisville Turners President, welcomed the convention delegates.

The National President introduced the Louisville Convention Committee.

The National President asked for recognition of Forty-Year Honorary Members.

The National President introduced the National Officers and Chairpersons.

National President	Dennis Zeller
National Vice President	Craig Sniezek
National Corporate Secretary	Daniel J. Hoisington
National Treasurer	Cindy Law
National Health & Phys. Ed. Chairperson	Michelle Lesperance (appointed)
National Cultural Committee Chairperson	Sue Knisley
National Bowling Committee Chairperson	Craig Sniezek (acting)

Special Funds

President of the Endowment Trust	Thomas R. Bozonelos
President of the Jahn Fund	Frank Wedl

The National President introduced the National Council District Representatives.

Central States	Kevin McCart
Illinois	Nick Barts
Lake Erie	Bill Severns Jr.
Mid-Atlantic	Keith Mulrooney
New England	John Beary
New Jersey	None present
New York	Marion Oppelt
St. Louis	Sean Sendlein

Upper Mississippi  
Western Pennsylvania  
Western U.S.  
Wisconsin District

Elizabeth Eichner  
Allen Frederick  
None present  
Andrea Boettger

The National President introduced the appointed National Council Committee Chairpersons.

National Historian  
National Scholarship  
Turner Topics Editor

Daniel J. Hoisington  
Giles Hoyt (not present)  
Craig Sniezek

The National President introduced National Administrative Assistant Kate Payne.

The National President asked for nominations for temporary officers.

Temporary Convention Chairperson. Craig Sniezek (IL) nominated John Beary (NE). Sniezek moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous nomination be cast for John Beary (NE). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Temporary Convention Vice-Chairperson. Frank Leonard (NE) nominated Steve Sargent (NE). Sue Knisley (IL) moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Steve Sargent. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Temporary Convention Parliamentarian. Craig Sniezek (IL) nominated Thomas R. Bozonelos (IL). Joy Bodine (CS) moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Sargent. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Temporary Convention Sergeant at Arms. Craig Sniezek (IL) nominated Tony Coke (CS). Sniezek moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Tony Coke. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Temporary Convention Secretary. Michelle Lesperance (WI) nominated Daniel Hoisington (WI). Craig Sniezek (IL) moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Hoisington. Motion was approved by voice vote.

The temporary officers assumed their positions.

Temporary Chairperson called for the report of the credential committee and the distribution of that report to the delegates. Committee Chairperson Craig Sniezek (IL) read the minutes of the Credentials Committee. Temporary Chairperson called for a motion to accept the report of the Credentials Committee, to establish the total federal votes for the convention, and to seat the delegates. Steve Sargent (NE) moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Frank Leonard (NE). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Temporary Chairperson announced that the National Convention was now ready to form a permanent organization and asked for a motion to elect permanent officers. Glen Barts (IL) so moved, seconded by Joe Lusk (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Convention Chairperson	John Beary
Convention Vice-Chairperson	Steve Sargent
Convention Secretary	Daniel J. Hoisington

Convention Parliamentarian    Thomas R. Bozonelos  
Convention Sergeant at Arms    Tony Coke

The Chairperson appointed Sean Sendlein (SL) and Allen Frederick (WP) as Assistant Sergeant at Arms.

The Chairperson made the following announcements:

- Anyone who wishes to receive Part B of the Convention Minutes as a hard-printed copy, please be sure to note it on the sign-in sheet prior to the conclusion of the Convention.
- Any corrections in spelling shall be given to the Convention Secretary at the end of this session.
- Anyone making nominations, motions, seconds or addressing the Convention, to please stand, give your name and district.
- This National Convention will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. In the event there is a discrepancy between the American Turners By-Laws and Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, the By-Laws shall then govern.

Chairperson calls for a motion to dispense with the reading of reports from the National Officers, Committee Chairpersons, and Districts since they were distributed in Part A of the minutes and were distributed to all delegates by email and on the website. Paul Schneider (LE) so moved, seconded by Andrea Boettger (WI). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson calls for a motion to accept reports, including:

National President  
National Vice President  
National Treasurer (No report)  
National Corporate Secretary  
National Health & PE Chairperson  
National Cultural Education Chairperson  
National Bowling Chairperson  
Endowment Trust Fund President  
Jahn Education Fund President  
Kuenzel Memorial Fund President  
Turner Topics Editor  
Scholarship Chairperson (No report)  
National Historian

District reports were also distributed in Part A, including:

Central States  
Illinois  
Lake Erie  
Mid-Atlantic  
New England  
New York  
St. Louis  
Upper Mississippi  
Wisconsin

District Reports were not received from New Jersey, Western Pennsylvania, and Western U.S.

Sue Knisley moved that the submitted reports be accepted, seconded by Elizabeth Eichner (UM). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson asked for any other reports of importance to this Convention. None were offered.

Chairperson announced that committees will meet on Saturday morning and asked Committee chairpersons to stand. He asked that committee minutes be submitted, typed, and signed promptly so that they are ready for the afternoon session.

Chairperson asked societies to consider placing a bid to host the 2024 National Convention and 2023 National Council meeting.

Chairperson asked for a motion to adjourn the first session of the Convention. Moved by Paul Schneider (LE) and seconded by Burt Adams (CS). Motion was approved by voice vote.

## **SECOND SESSION, AUGUST 6, 2022**

Chairperson John Beary called the second session of the National Convention to order at 1:18 p.m.

Chairperson asks for motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the first session. Sue Knisley (IL) so moves, with a second by Elizabeth Eichner (UM). Motion approved by voice vote.

### **Reading of Committee Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson calls for the reading of the minutes of the committees in this order:

National Health and Physical Education Committee report was read by Michelle Lesperance (WI). Marion Oppelt (NY) moved that the report be approved as read with second by Mark English (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Finance Committee report was read by Thomas Bozonelos (IL). Bozonelos moved that the report be approved as amended, seconded by Sean Sendlein (SL). Motion approved by voice vote.

Bowling Committee report was read by Craig Sniezek (IL). Sniezek made a motion to approve the report as read, seconded by Laurie Haderlein (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Bylaws Committee report was read by Joy Bodine (CS). Bodine made a motion to approve the report as amended, seconded by Sean Sendlein (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

### **Election of Officers**

Chairperson stated that the election of the Bowling Committee Chairperson would be moved to later in the agenda, pending the vote on Resolution #1.

Chairperson calls for the report of the Nominating Committee. Committee Chairperson Jim Goetz (NY) read the report as follows:

President: Dennis Zeller

Vice President: Craig Sniezek

Corporate Secretary: Daniel Hoisington

Treasurer: Cindy Law  
Culture: Sue Knisley  
National Health and Physical Education: Emily Miesner  
Bowling: Craig Sniezek  
Endowment Trust Fund Trustees (two positions): Thomas R. Bozonelos and John Beary

Chairperson asks for any nominations from the floor for President, Vice President, Treasurer, National Corporate Secretary, two (2) Endowment Trust Fund Trustees, NHPEC Chairperson, and Cultural Chairperson.

James Goetz (NY) nominated Craig Sniezek (IL) for president. Craig Sniezek nominated Dan Ahern (IL) for Treasurer. Deb Martin (CS) nominated Emily Miesner (CS) for NHPE Chairperson.

Chairperson asked each nominee to affirm their nomination. Chairperson asks for a motion to accept the Nominating Committee report and close nominations. James Goetz (NY) so moved, seconded by Sue Knisley (IL).

Chairperson read the job descriptions for National President, National Vice President, National Treasurer and National Corporate Secretary.

Chairperson announced rules for the election. Election shall be by a majority of the federal votes cast. Chairperson called upon the Sergeant at Arms and two assistants to pass out and collect all official ballots for each election unless any nominee is unopposed and is elected by acclamation.

Chairperson opened the floor for seconding speeches for the office of president. Thomas R. Bozonelos (IL) gave a seconding speech for Craig Sniezek (IL).

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National President. After ballots were cast by the districts and tallied, Corporate Secretary Hoisington (WI) announced that Dennis Zeller (SL) had been elected as the National President. Results were 77 votes for Dennis Zeller (SL) and 64 votes for Craig Sniezek (IL).

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National Vice-President. Mark English (IL) moved that Craig Sniezek (IL) be elected by a unanimous ballot, seconded by Sean Sendlein (SL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National Corporate Secretary. Craig Sniezek (IL) moved that Daniel Hoisington (WI) be elected by a unanimous ballot, seconded by Brenda English (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National Treasurer. Chairperson opened the floor for seconding speeches for the office of National Treasurer. Thomas R. Bozonelos (IL) gave a seconding speech for Dan Ahern (IL). Emily Miesner (CS) gave a seconding speech for Cindy Law (CS). After ballots were cast by the districts and tallied, Corporate Secretary Hoisington (WI) announced that Cindy Law had been elected as the National Treasurer. Results were 114 votes for Cindy Law and 27 votes for Dan Ahern.

Vice-Chairperson Steve Sargent (NE), acting as temporary chair, proceeded to the election of Endowment Trust Fund Trustees. Joe Lusk (IL) moved that John Beary and Thomas R. Bozonelos be elected by a unanimous ballot, seconded by Nick Barts (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National Cultural Chairperson. Craig Sniezek (IL) moved that Sue Knisley (IL) be elected by a unanimous ballot, seconded by Ross Hugi (IL). Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson proceeded to the election of National Health and Physical Education Chair. Craig Sniezek (IL) moved that Emily Miesner (CS) be elected by a unanimous ballot, seconded by Elizabeth Eichner (UM). Motion was approved by voice vote.

### **Old Business**

Chairperson called for old or unfinished business. There being none, proceeded to new business.

### **New Business**

The Chairperson asked for any new business to be brought up. There being none, the Chairperson stated that resolutions dealing with the American Turner Bylaws require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass. Other resolutions and recommendations may be by voice vote and a majority is needed to pass.

**Resolution 1:** To amend the Bylaws, Article 4, Section 2, to have the National Bowling Committee as part of the NHPE Committee. Revised as follows:

*The National Council shall appoint and fully define the responsibilities of committee members who shall serve on a voluntary basis, these being:*

*i. National Committee on Health and Physical Education to serve under the elected Chairperson of Health and Physical Education and that person be active in his/her Society/District Physical Education program*

*ii. National Committee on Cultural Education to serve under the elected Chairperson of Cultural Education.*

*iii. Such other committees as may be formed from time to time.*

*iv. All procedures, rules, regulations, and administration of Festivals established and administered by these committees will be published in the Operational and Procedural Manual, subject to modification upon approval of the National Council and ratification of the National Convention.*

After ballots were cast by the Districts, then tallied, Corporate Secretary Daniel Hoisington (WI) announced that the Resolution had been approved with **133 votes in favor and 8 opposing** the Resolution.

**Resolution 2:** *The National Membership Dues be increased to \$12 per member where applicable. This amount will be published in the O & P Manual.*

The Chairperson stated that the Resolution requires a simple majority. After ballots were cast by the Districts, then tallied, Corporate Secretary Daniel Hoisington (WI) announced that the Resolution had been approved with **88 votes in favor and 53 opposing** the Resolution.

**Resolution 3:** *The National Membership Dues be increased to \$9.25 per member where applicable. This amount will be published in the O & P Manual.*

After ballots were cast by the Districts, then tallied, Corporate Secretary Daniel Hoisington (WI) announced that the Resolution had been **REJECTED** with **18 votes in favor and 123 opposing** the Resolution.

### **Good and Welfare**

Chairperson calls for anything for the Good and Welfare of the Organization.

Chairperson called on James Goetz (NY) who asked that everyone view the Turner Quilt on display.

Chairperson announced that the location of the 2023 National Festival would be in New Ulm, Minnesota. Andrea Boettger (WI) extended an invitation to attend and participate in the National Festival.

The Chairperson announced that the National Council Meeting will be held following the National Convention.

The Chairperson announced upcoming events, as follows:

#### 2023 events

- National Bowling: Elgin, Ill.
- National Softball: Covington, KY
- National Golf: Covington, KY
- National Festival: New Ulm, MN

#### 2024 events:

- National Bowling: Louisville, KY

Chairperson requested bids for the location of the 2024 National Convention. Craig Sniezek (IL) stated that the Illinois District would like to host the National Convention.

Chairperson called for donations to the Endowment Trust Fund. ETF Chairperson Thomas R. Bozonelos (IL) came forward to announce the recipients of the 2022 Edwin E. Colton Award, honoring the volunteer services of dedicated Turners. This is the second year that this honorary award has been given. The 2022 honorees are:

- Carol Steinhaus, New Ulm, Wisconsin District
- Inge Pape Trampler, New York, New York District
- Joe Lusk, Aurora, Illinois District

The honorees were recognized with remarks by Andrea Boettger (WI), on behalf of Carol Steinhaus (WI), Marion Oppelt (NY) on behalf of Inge Pape Trampler (NY), and Rick Darfler (IL), on behalf of Joe Lusk (IL). Turner Lusk accepted the award in person.

The Chairperson called for a vote of thanks to all National Officers and Council Members for their efforts and services. Cindy Law (CS) made several announcements about the evening events.

Chairperson asked for a vote of appreciation and the Turner Applause to the Louisville Turners.

Kevin McCart (CS) announced that Central States District donated \$500 to the Endowment Trust Fund in memory of Terry Bodine.

Marion Oppelt (NY) donated \$100 to the ETF in the name of Gisela Mildt.



Joe Lusk (IL) donated \$500 to the ETF.

Chairperson introduced the newly elected National Officers and National Committee Chairpersons.

Chairperson reopened new business, with Craig Sniezek (IL) making a motion to accept the bid by the Aurora Turners to host the 2024 National Convention, seconded by Mark English (IL). The motion was approved by voice vote.

Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn the 79th National Convention of the American Turners. Motion was made by Nick Barts (IL). The motion was approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

  
9/14/22  
Convention Chairperson



Convention Secretary