



**SOKOL USA XXXVI NATIONAL CONVENTION  
AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Sokol Convention Session #2**

Session #2 of the 36<sup>th</sup> Sokol Convention was called to order at 9:01 A.M. on Saturday, August 6, 2022, at the Indigo Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania by Bro. Jeff Richter.

Sis. Kristen Greenberg takes attendance of the members present.

A change in votes from 133 votes to 135 votes.

- 16 lodges present
- 117 votes for delegates
- 5 votes for District Delegates
- 12 votes for National Board Members

The floor was open to candidates who were nominated to speak on their behalf. Bro. Greg Bender, Bro. Matt Reynolds, Sis. Kerri Sommer, and Sis. Nancy Shurina spoke on their qualities to the voting members.

Paper ballot voting was decided to be used for the voting process, but a trial run of the clickers was used due to extra time allotted. Bro. Jeff Richter gave a PowerPoint overview on how to use the clickers.

Bro. John Kennedy gave an overview of the new Sokol website and how to navigate the important information given on the website. He also showed the new Facebook and Instagram pages for Sokol USA, @SokolUSAHqs.

Bro. Jeff Richter called upon the Cultural Affairs Committee that is advised by Bro. Mike Cunningham and includes the members:

- Sis. Debra Goda
- Sis. Ellen Kovac
- Sis. Thalassa Millwood
- Bro. Steve Banjak

The Committee recommends SWA director should include as many members as possible, and the members of the Board or organization should be tasked with organization. They recommend that we should maintain events that are attractive to member and should provide a wide variety of activities in cultural events to attract more participants. It is recommended we should create a method for the National Organization to sponsor and facilitate social and organized activities between lodges. The committee recommends that we should promote and review the process for application of grant style funding. It believes that social media access should be given to the current Recording Secretary. Lastly, the committee recommends the National Board should obtain and review copies of Task, Aim and Goal and distribute it to members/lodges.



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Bro. Ed Bohon moves to accept the recommendations and they were seconded. The recommendations were accepted unanimously.

Bro. Jeff Richter called upon a member of the Expense Committee to explain the reimbursement form. Bro. Arthur Burkhardt explained how the reimbursement form should be filled out, and where to send the form to or email it.

There was a grievance from a member not in attendance at the Sokol Convention that was addressed and read by Bro. John Kennedy.

Bro. James Malik called a motion to the floor to continue suggesting a Fraternal Secretary and Treasurer, and Ex Fraternal Secretary to be Trustees of the Growth Fund. Sis. Nancy Shurina seconded the motion. Discussion was had on whether it was needed or not. Bro. Arthur Burkhardt and Bro. Jeff Richter stresses that the account is not a part of Sokol USA and is in fact its on entity. Bro. Paul Brinley has spoken more than the allotted time allowed and a point of order was called to end his speaking time by Bro. Jeff Richter. After discussion, Bro. James Malik withdrew his motion.

Sis. Rachael Bender calls a motion to the floor to make Bro. John Kamenitsky an honorary officer. It was seconded by Sis. Debbie Golden. The motion was passed unanimously.

Bro. Ed Bohon calls a motion to the floor to make Sis. Chris Yatchyshyn an honorary officer. It was seconded by Bro. Milan Kovac. The motion was passed unanimously.

Sis. Ellen Kovac calls a motion to the floor to act on creating three districts. It was discussed back and forth on whether this was a by-law change and should even be something to discuss and change. It was found in Section 13 of the by-laws by Bro. Matt Reynolds that it was up to the Supreme Lodge to make the change. Sis. Ellen Kovac withdrew her motions based on agreeing with the previous statement made.

Bro. Jeff Richter moves the session into recess at 10:30 A.M.