



American Contract Bridge League District 16



Amended Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors Held

July 6, 2013

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League was held at the Renaissance Dallasotel, San Antonio, Texas on July 6, 2013.

Board members, Committee Chairs, and others present

- Jo Smith..... Unit 224 Representative and President
- Don Mamula.....ACBL President
- Jim Thurtell,1st Vice President, GNT Coordinator, Disciplinary Committee
- Paul Cuneo.....Unit 174 Representative and 2nd Vice President
- Rebecca Brown.....Executive Secretary
- Ira Hessel.....Unit 172 Representative
- Tomi FitzGerald..... Unit 176 Representative
- Dee Schade.....Unit 187 Alternate
- Carol Schoenhals..... Unit 197 Representative
- Neal Perlman.....Unit 204 Representative
- Larry Davis Unit 207 Representative
- Gay Roach..... Unit 225 Representative
- Dan Morse..... District Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors
- Dewitt Hudson District Representative to the ACBL Board of Governors
- Melody Euler.....North American Pairs Coordinator
- Bert Onstott.....Membership, Internet Coordinator
- Betty Starzec..... District Representative to the ACBL Board of Governors
- Robert Morris.....District 2nd Alternate Representative to the ACBL Board of Directors
- Roxana TomUnit 172 President
- Kim Carpenter..... guest

Call to Order

President Jo Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present. She welcomed the attendees and especially welcomed the ACBL President, Don Mamula. With the consent of those in attendance, Ms. Smith announced that she would modify the order of Agenda items considered.

Past Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on February 2, 2013 as submitted was made and seconded and approved without opposition.

Treasurer's Report

A motion to approve the previously submitted treasurer's report (with accompanying balance sheet, profit and loss statement and updated budget) for the first six months of 2013 was made and seconded and approved without opposition.

Committee Reports

District Director's Report

Dan Morse reported that more than \$550,000 was raised by ACBL members on the "Longest Day" in support of the Alzheimer Association. In our District, the Bridge Academy of North Dallas (Unit 176) and Bridge Center of Austin (Unit 207) were among the top donation collectors. With respect to the \$14,000 raised by the Grass Roots games, Morse clarified that the funds are restricted; they are usable for the GNTs and NAPs, e.g., for advertising and for player subsidies, but the use must be designated by the District. At Melody Euler's suggestion, Ms. Smith appointed a committee to recommend the use to be designated for the funds. The committee members are Dan Morse, Paul Cuneo, Melody Euler, Jim Thurtell and Lew Levy. Suggestions were made as to appropriate uses, including payment of additional subsidies and GNT entry fees. Mr. Morse also announced that our District is #4 in the Nation, with just under 9,000 members. If we reach 9,000, we will qualify for another Regional.

Awards

No report.

North American Pairs

Melody Euler reported that some Units have not provided dates or sanction numbers.

Charity

Carol Schoenhals reported that the District-wide charity game will be held on October 1, 2013.

STaC

Tomi FitzGerald reported that the District STaC games were held May 6-12, 2013 and went well, thanks in no small measure to the assistance of DIC Peter Marcus. Units generated more than \$9,000 in revenue for the ACBL. Next year's dates are May 7-12, 2014.

Education

Paul Cuneo reported that TAP will be offered at the Houston Regional, along with the Director's Course. There is consideration being given to offering a Summer Youth Camp. Jim Thurtell and Bob Morris will work with Paul Cuneo on this opportunity, which will be offered at a convenient location.

GNT

Jim Thurtell stated that more than \$10,000 was raised, which will be used to give \$1500 per team. All teams which qualified will go to Atlanta, though the number is one fewer team than last year. Discussion was had about the desirability of offering an extra qualifier. For example, allowing SuperFlight and B-Flight to qualify in Houston, A-Flight and C-Flight in Dallas, so that A Flight players can try to qualify with the SuperFlight and then in A, while B's can play in A, etc. AX Flight (5,000-10,000 points) is still being considered. It was suggested that some of the Grass Roots fund money be used to advertise the additional opportunities to qualify.

Intermediate/Novice

No report.



Internet, Membership

No report.

Tournaments

No report.

Scorecard

Ira Hessel reported that he and Ellen are procuring advertising from other Districts and have been successful in securing more advertising of bridge cruises.

Board of Governors

Dewitt Hudson announced that with 3200 clubs in the ACBL, it is best to send reports electronically.

Old Business

None.

New Business

VICTORY POINT SCALE

Betty Starzec moved that the applicable Victory Point scale should be 20 points for all team events at Regionals within the District. Carol Schoenhals seconded the Motion. Discussion ensued to inform that 17 Districts use the 20 point scale; 8 use the 30 point scale. A friendly amendment was suggested that conditions of contest for Swiss team events be amended to require the 20 point scale. Jim Thurtell seconded the amendment. Paul Cuneo suggested that the discussion and vote be tabled until all the Units could be surveyed as to preference. There was a renewal of Ms. Starzec's original motion to recommend, rather than require, the application of 20 point scales for all Regional team events, effective January, 2014, with the final decision residing with the applicable tournament host Unit. Second by Carol Schoenhals. Motion carried.

PETITION TO AMEND BY-LAWS

With notice duly given, the members considered the Petition to Amend By-Laws regarding the audit requirement. Paul Cuneo moved to approve, Jim Thurtell seconded. Motion carried.

NABC GAMES

Discussion was had about whether to schedule stand-alone club games, which would be sectionally rated, revenue from which would be used to defray the expenses associated with hosting an NABC tournament. Tomi FitzGerald offered to consult with Scott Humphrey about available dates, e.g., the first week in December, mindful of the Scorecard deadline for inclusion of advertisements in advance of the events.

DISTRICT PURCHASE OF DEALING MACHINE

Paul Cuneo moved that the District purchase a dealing machine at an approximate cost of \$4400, to be used on a first come, first served basis by Units. While Units would be encouraged



to use pre-dealt boards for all their sectionals, they would not be required to do so. Motion carried.

DISTRICT PURCHASE OF BILL COUNTING MACHINE

Paul Cuneo moved that the District purchase a bill counting machine, with the selection of the specific machine to be at the discretion of the Directors. Second by Gay Roach. Motion carried.

EXTRA GOLD POINT EVENT AT REGIONALS

It was suggested that the District petition the ACBL to allow the scheduling of an extra Gold Point event on the Monday afternoon at the start of every Regional. Don Mamula, ACBL President, agreed to present our District's recommendation for consideration at the Phoenix NABC. Paul Cuneo and Dan Morse will work with Mr. Mamula to craft a recommendation.

Unit Reports

None.

Host Unit

Unit 172, represented by Roxana Tom, President, was thanked for hosting a wonderful regional tournament.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved without opposition at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Rebecca Brown, District 16 Executive Secretary

