



# American Contract Bridge League District 16



## Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors

### July 4, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League was held at the Omni Hotel, San Antonio on July 4, 2015.

Board members, Committee Chairs, and others present:

- Paul Cuneo..... President and Unit 174 Representative
- Tomi FitzGerald.....1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Unit 176 Representative
- Greg Loran.....2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Unit 197 Representative
- Lew Levy.....Executive Treasurer
- Rebecca Brown.....Executive Secretary
- Ira Hessel..... Unit 172 Representative
- Steve Shirey..... Unit 183 Representative
- Dave Ticen..... Unit 187 Representative
- Neal Perlman..... Unit 204 Representative
- Larry Davis..... Unit 207 Representative
- Jo Smith..... Unit 224 Representative
- Gay Roach..... Unit 225 Representative
- David Pennington..... Unit 233 Representative
- Dan Morse..... District 16 Director, ACBL Board of Directors
- Betty Starzec..... District 16 BOG Representative
- Scott Humphrey.....Awards and Tournament Coordinator
- Melody Euler..... NAOP Coordinator
- Jim Thurtell..... GNT Coordinator

### Call to Order

President Paul Cuneo called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present.

### Past Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda

Tomi FitzGerald moved to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2015 meeting, along with the other items on the Consent Agenda. Dan Morse seconded. Motion carried

### Committee Reports

See Committee reports submitted and previously distributed. No action requested or taken as a result of any report.

### District Director's Report

Dan Morse reported that funds raised during this year's Longest Day are on track to exceed last year's, though the tally is not yet official. He reported that the entry fees for the three flights of GNT players will be paid from Grass Roots Funds. Please note that the low revenue from the Grass Roots Funds Reconciliation will be adjusted by revenue realized in 2016 (due to a calendar change).

Additionally, Dan Morse confirmed that he will not seek re-election as District Director when his term expires in 2017. He informed that there are five strong candidates for the position of 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate District Director: Chris Compton, Paul Cuneo, Ira Hessel, Betty Starzec and Jim Thurtell. The ACBL will make a strong push for electronic voting by Unit Boards of Directors. The voting will take place in the last two weeks of August and during September. Each Unit Board member has a vote, though votes are calculated on a weighted scale by unit membership (i.e., each 100 members of each unit gets 1 vote.) Only those Board members who are listed as serving as of July 15 will be permitted to vote; Morse urged all Unit representatives to ensure that ACBL has an up-to-date listing of board members.

## **Old Business**

### ***District Meeting Time***

After discussion about possibly changing the meeting to be held at the Ft. Western regional to 6 p.m., rather than 8 a.m., it was agreed to make no change for the upcoming regional. The Board will continue to consider the suitability of a different meeting time in 2016, bearing in mind the regional schedules and locations of the upcoming meetings.

## **New Business**

### ***STaCs***

STaCs held in May will yield approximately \$4,000. Tomi FitzGerald moved to change the applicable stratifications, currently 0-500, 500-1500 and open, to 0-750, 750-2,000 and open. Second by Larry Davis. Friendly amendment by Dan Morse (accepted by movant and second) that caps for the stratifications should be based upon the average of the pair. Motion carried, as amended.

### ***I/N Tournaments***

At its meeting at the NABC held in Providence, the ACBL voted to limit Units to no more than three NLM one day tournaments per year. Tomi FitzGerald observed that the District does not need to limit multi-day NLMs at this time, since most Units have no more than 6 or 7.

### ***Membership Attraction and Retention***

Paul Cuneo visited 12 of the District's Units and noted that District 16 has dropped in success at attracting new members and is last nationally in membership retention. Betty Starzec reminded us that the ACBL offers a workshop on Unit Growth and also stated that we should focus on pre-member recruitment.

### ***I/N Newsletter***

Paul Cuneo proposed developing and circulating an I/N newsletter, which everyone present considered a good idea. Betty Starzec reminded that the Education Department of the ACBL may be a good resource. Starzec also suggested that Paul Cuneo draft an article about the newsletter to be included in the Scorecard. Dan Morse moved to implement Cuneo's proposal as outlined in his written report. Tomi FitzGerald seconded. Motion carried.



## ***NAP/GNT Committee***

President Cuneo appointed Ira Hessel, Melody Euler, Jim Thurtell, Jim and Jennifer Breihan and Tomi FitzGerald (chair) to a committee charged with reviewing issues pertaining to the NAPs and GNTs, including schedules, use of Grass Roots Funds, qualifiers, noise factors, etc. FitzGerald may add NAP/GNT players to the committee at her discretion.

## **Host Unit**

Paul Cuneo recognized the outstanding job done by San Antonio Unit 172 in hosting the Regional. He also thanked Jeri Tribo, tournament chair, and the Unit for collaborating in the successful presentation of both TAP and Director Refresher courses.

## **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved without opposition at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Rebecca Brown, District 16 Executive Secretary

