

Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League

Jan 28, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League was held in Houston live and on the Zoom meeting platform on January 28th, 2023. In attendance were:

Executive Officers

Betty Starzec	President
Ken Monzingo	1 st Vice President
Dave Ticen	2 nd Vice President
Tom Trudeau	Treasurer
Kristen Onsgard	Executive Secretary
Nancy Strohmer	Immediate Past President

Voting Board Members (Unit Representatives)

Ed Rawlinson	Unit 172
Sue Gerard	Unit 173
Karen Nussbaum	Unit 174
Scott Nason	Unit 176
Steve Shirey	Unit 183
Dave Ticen	Unit 187
Helen Lauderdale	Unit 197
E. W. Sweeney	Unit 201
Neil Perlman	Unit 204
BJ Sanders	Unit 207
Jo Smith	Unit 224
Gay Roach	Unit 225
Marsha May	Unit 353

Non-Voting Board Members

Representing District 16 on ACBL Board of Directors

Paul Cuneo, Director

Representing District 16 on ACBL Advisory Council

Tomi Storey
Betty Starzec
Nancy Strohmer

Committee Chairs

Betty Starzec	Awards/Honors
Nancy Strohmer	Charity
Rebecca Brown	Disciplinary
Sam Khayatt	I/N Coordinator
Lauri Laufman	I/N Newsletter
Rachell Jackson	Marketing/Publicity
Scott Humphrey	Tournament Coordinator
Sandy Potts	Membership
Tomi Storey	STaC Coordinator

Standing Positions

Jack LaVigne	District Recorder
Scott Nason	GNT Coordinator
Evie Gilbert	Scorecard Editor
Betty Starzec	D16 Board of Governors
Nancy Strohmer	D16 Board of Governors
Jonathan Ernest	District Appellate Chair
Stefanie Scott	NABC Correspondent
Kim Brinkman	I/N Director
Patricia Herrera	Education Coordinator
John Maryari	Webmaster

Guests

Kathy McDougall

CALL TO ORDER AND QUORUM

President Starzec welcomed everyone. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM CST and a quorum was confirmed. The Presidential "Extra Mile" award was presented to Nancy Strohmer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/CONSENT AGENDAS and Financial Report

The board received both, with no questions and were approved.

ACBL Board of Directors' Report

Paul Cuneo submitted the report summarizing the following:

1. ACBL marketing: 1) Project Boost has worked with about 60 teachers so far, 2) BBO is funding advertising reduced ACBL membership via its site and 3) negotiating a collaboration with Element3 Health to subsidize membership for Medicare members.
2. Board rejected Budget in Phoenix. Paul presented a new budget with a small surplus, assuming no further attrition for NABCs.
3. NABC update to alleviate cost: 1) playing space in hotels not convention centers, 2) cease using a housing bureau for reservations, and 3) perhaps use a consultant to help negotiate.
4. Increase consequences for cheating by deploying EDGAR system

Discussion

Tom Trudeau brought up the high price of NABC games.

Advisory Council

Tomi echoed Paul's report but stated the purpose of the council as advocating for players.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards

Twelve Star and 4 Goodwill awards will be presented today. 2023 Jacoby awards will be presented in Sept 2023. Betty asked for a volunteer to take over Awards.

Charity

Nancy Strohmer submitted the following:

District 16's charity games will be **March 27, 29, 30 and 31** and will be offered by many of the Clubs. The March 27 and 29 games will be "Grassroots" games. This means that you can play in club games and win additional masterpoints while supporting games that fund the winners of the NAP and GNT at the District level. The ACBL disburses at least 80% of the collected funds back to District 16 and the funds are used to augment the subsidies paid to District winners.

The March 30 and 31 games are "local unit" charity games. Prior to 2018, the money for these games went to the District charity fund. But, in 2018 the Board voted to funnel the money to the Units directly so that the charity decision would be made and given locally.

If you have meaningful stories of Charity in your unit, please send them to Nancy Strohmer, nastrohmer@yahoo.com so that it can be included in a *Scorecard* article.

District 16 is the only district with a charity committee.

Education

Conducting successful lectures in both English and Spanish. Patricia H. requested assistance for the moderator function.

GNT Report

GNT Championship and B will take place in Dallas in March with A&C to follow in April in Houston. Requiring pre-registration. No unit qualification.

NAP

President Starzec read the recommendations of Larry Davis (NAP Coordinator) and his recommendations were carried.

I/N

Sam Khayatt suggested a ZOOM call with all the I/N coordinators may be useful.

49er Club

Kim proposed that the Denton club take over this game – it has agreed to do so. The motion carried.

TOY

2022 Award presented to Sally Sassen. 2023 award will be presented at the Jan 2024 Houston Regional, Friday between the sessions.

Tournament coordinator

Two Royal STaCs planned for 2023. Per vote from Sept 2022 meeting, Tomi sent notices to all clubs informing them that any clubs not paid up will not be eligible for STaC games. May 8th – 14th will be the first. Fall STaC will run from Oct 16th – 22nd.

I/N newsletter

Lauri L. introduced a section called Highlights about I/N players. Asking that Units contribute stories for this newsletter – about students, from teachers about declarer play, defense, etc. or from directors about rules.

Membership

Betty asked that the website be updated. Sandy P. to work with John Magyari.

Scorecard

E-mail has been changed to D16editorscorecard@gmail.com

OLD BUSINESS

CAP Program

Motion made and approved that one \$250 grant be available per quarter (s.t. total of \$1000 a year) for any unit or club.

NEW BUSINESS

Scorecard

To address the issue of non-deliverable email addresses, Betty printed address labels for each in-valid email address and asked each unit rep to mail a postcard to each of these people requesting a contact update on the ACBL website.

Action Item Review and Meeting Critique

The next meeting will be held at 8:30 AM on Jul 8th, 2023 at the San Antonio Regional IN PERSON and on Zoom. Please mark your calendars.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Onsgard
Executive Secretary, ACBL District 16