



American Contract Bridge League District 16



Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors

August 30, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League was held at the Renaissance Richardson Marriott Hotel on August 30, 2014.

Board members, Committee Chairs, and others present:

- Jim Thurtell,.....President, GNT Coordinator, Disciplinary Committee
- Paul Cuneo.....Unit 174 Representative and 1st Vice President
- David Pennington.....Unit 233 Representative and 2nd Vice President
- Rebecca Brown.....Executive Secretary
- Ira Hessel.....Unit 172 Representative
- Tomi FitzGerald.....Unit 176 Representative
- Steve Shirey.....Unit 183 Representative
- Greg Loran.....Unit 197 Representative
- Carolyn Worsham.....Unit 201 Representative
- Virginia Noelke.....Unit 204 Alternate
- Larry Davis.....Unit 207 Representative
- Jo Smith.....Unit 224 Representative
- Gay Roach.....Unit 225 Representative
- Dan Morse.....District 16 Director, ACBL Board of Directors
- Chris Compton.....1st Alternate District 16 Director, ACBL Board of Directors
- Dewitt Hudson.....District 16 BOG Representative
- Jonathan Ernest.....Appellate Coordinator
- Nancy Strohmer.....Charity Coordinator
- Scott Humphrey.....Tournament Coordinator
- Melody Euler.....NAOP Coordinator

Call to Order

President Jim Thurtell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present.

Past Meeting Minutes

Paul Cuneo moved to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2014 meeting. Dan Morse seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report update, along with a Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss statement, dated August 26, 2014, were presented. After the payment of the GNT subsidy of \$10,000., the District's year-to-date net income is approximately \$8,000. Paul Cuneo made motion to approve the Treasurer's report (with accompanying Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss statement through August, 2014), seconded by Tomi FitzGerald and approved without opposition.

Committee Reports

District Director's Report

Dan Morse reported that the ACBL is now publishing a new magazine, "Bridge Life," which will be distributed free of charge. It is meant for new players and non-players. ACBL has also established an updated website and resource center. There is a new program ("Teach Bridge") with the possibility to earn scholarships. Also, ACBL is giving grants to Units who offer Learn Bridge in a Day. The national organization is also offering advertisement reimbursements to Districts and Units (over \$85,000 reimbursed thus far.) It is also anticipated that the ACBL will launch its nationwide online partnership desk soon. Tournament table count is trending lower; there are more tournaments but fewer tables. The ACBL is considering allowing Regionals to be 7 days, instead of 6 ½.

Awards

Scott Humphrey announced that the Jacoby Award would be given during the afternoon session of the Regional. Texas Star and Goodwill nominees' names and write-ups are due by the end of the year to scott.humphrey1961@att.net.

Charity

Nancy Strohmer reported that there had been surprise presentations made to the recipients of grants, with two presentations yet to be made.

Disciplinary

None.

STaC

STaC week is set for May 4-10, 2015. Almost all monies have been collected for the 2014 STaCs. May other districts join ours to combine our STaCs? Dan Morse believes it is allowable. There was discussion about the possibility of having District 10 join us.

Education

Paul Cuneo suggested that Units should consider having teacher education programs at all Regionals, especially given that the ACBL will help with the costs. Please contact Paul Cuneo for more information.

NAOPs

Melody Euler announced that there is an additional qualifying spot for both C and B flights, for a total of four each, to go to the NABC. Melody made a motion to add \$200 per person (from the Grass Roots Fund) as a subsidy for each fourth place pair in C and B. Paul Cuneo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tournaments

Scott Humphrey circulated a proposal pertaining to Units combining for STaCs. He proposed establishing regions within the District for allowable Unit combinations. (Please see attached for details.) Paul Cuneo moved to adopt Scott's proposal, Jo Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Regarding the use of Fast Results: the DIC or tournament coordinator should coordinate with Jay



Whipple three weeks in advance of a tournament to arrange for Fast Results. The hand records will be downloaded in advance. All those whose email addresses are set as “public” with the ACBL will get Fast Results (or you can sign up directly with Fast Results.) Scott offered to write about the program for the Scorecard. The District will pay the Fast Results fee for Regionals (\$100); Units should pay the fee for use in Sectionals (\$25).

Board of Governors

Dewitt Hudson reported that the presentation made at the last meeting was excellent. It included a video of Donna Compton and the Longest Day.

Unit Reports

1. Carolyn Worsham (Unit 201) raised the issue of arranging help for severely disabled players. It is suggested that such players advise the Tournament Chair of their special needs (e.g., caddy, card-turner.)
2. Unit 183 announced that the ACBL President will be attending its upcoming tournament.
3. Jo Smith reminded that Abilene will be hosting a Sectional in October.

Old Business

1. Compensation of Treasurer. Chris Compton moved to adopt the recommendation of the Finance Committee, pursuant to which the Treasurer, Scorecard Editors and Webmaster shall each receive 20 free plays per year for use at Regionals. Gay Roach seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. Purchase of Defibrillator. Discussion included issues of: training; specific equipment; notice required for local personnel; necessary record keeping; District training ACBL employees; ACBL policy/interest; tournament directors’ interest in participating. Chris Compton suggested that Houston acquire a machine and try it out for a year. The motion to purchase the equipment failed for want of a second.

New Business

None.

Host Unit

Jim Thurtell recognized the outstanding job done by Dallas Unit 176 in hosting the Regional.

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

