

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

Aug. 31, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of District 16 of the American Contract Bridge League was held in the Canyon Creek Room of the Dallas-Richardson Renaissance Hotel in Richardson on Aug. 31, 2019. In attendance were:

Executive Officers

Rebecca Brown	President
Nancy Strohmer	1 st Vice President
Dan Leightman	Executive Treasurer
Tomi Storey	Executive Secretary

Voting Board Members (Unit Representatives)

Rebecca Brown	Unit 172	
Sue Gerard	Unit 173	(alternate for Guillermo Poplawsky)
Kathleen Malcomson	Unit 174	
Jim Bauer	Unit 176	
Steve Shirey	Unit 183	
Dave Ticen	Unit 187	
Helen Lauderdale	Unit 197	
Marilyn Adams	Unit 201	(alternate for Carolyn Worsham)
Neal Perlman	Unit 204	
BJ Sanders	Unit 207	
Gay Roach	Unit 225	
Lynn Sykes	Unit 233	

Non-Voting Board Members

Representing District 16 on ACBL Board of Directors

Paul Cuneo, Director

Committee Chairs

Scott Humphrey	Awards
Nancy Strohmer	Charity
Jim Thurtell	Disciplinary
Lauri Laufman	Intermediate/Novice
Sandy Potts	Membership

Scorecard
Tomi Storey

Jim Bauer
Tournaments

Standing Positions

Scott Nason
Scott Humphrey

GNT Coordinator
Tournament Coordinator

Call to Order and Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM and a quorum was confirmed. Introductions were made around the table by all attendees.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously. Written reports also were received from the Charity chair and I/N as part of the consent agenda

Financial Report

Dan Leightman distributed the Financial reports at the meeting. Revenue is good. The last Scorecard revenues are not included, nor several checks still outstanding from the District STaC. The financial impact of the new electronic distribution is not reflected in the current statements and will not be determined until after the end of the year. Grass roots monies are being spent on NAP and GNT. It will also be used to cover the 2nd Flight B team for GNT, if participation levels are met.

ACBL D16 Board of Directors Report

Paul Cuneo presented his Director's report. He is excited about a new effort being launched this fall – a collaborative effort between the ACBL, the ABTA and the Educational Foundation to launch a new website and FB advertising aimed at bringing in new players. This will be called TryBridge.org and has a planned launch in mid-September. The club committee of the Board of Governors is also joining in. Robert Todd from the EF created a survey that went to a population 45 years and older with some college education. Currently, about 2/3 of the ACBL membership has a college degree and 1/2 of those have advanced degrees. The results were very encouraging.

President Brown did not want the moment to go by without by acknowledging that Mr. Cuneo has thrown his hat in the ring to run for ACBL President in 2020. She recognized his hard work and the praise from his peers. The District Board wishes him all the best.

OLD BUSINESS

GNT Conditions of Contest

BJ Sanders presented the 2020 GNT Conditions of Contest. Other than the change of dates, it is almost identical to 2019. The only other change is the notation that if 8 or more Flight B or C teams enter, both the 1st and 2nd place teams will compete at the National level. This additional team was approved at the last meeting, but a motion was made and approved to add it to the official conditions of contest.

President Brown announced that since BJ has a very full plate with Unit 207 and serving as the Austin NABC chair in 2021, she has appointed a new GNT Coordinator. She stated the importance of bringing new people into the District level and presented Scott Nason to the group as the new GNT Coordinator. She also thanked BJ for her past contributions to the GNT.

Unit 176 Request to join the NAP rotation

Jim Bauer stated that that Dallas would still like to be added to the NAP rotation with Austin and San Antonio. He understands that hotel commitments have already been made in Austin through 2023. Dallas will now go back to the drawing board and refine exactly what their new proposal will be. President Brown reminded us that this is not a decision that will be made by the units, but by the District Board. President Brown shared that the GNT used to be in Dallas, but it was moved to Houston because of costs for the event rooms. At the time, Dallas was offered the opportunity to subsidize the loss, but they turned that down. This request would be for the NAP rotation only. This was tabled until a future proposal from Unit 176.

NEW BUSINESS

Charity Updates

Nancy Strohmer congratulated 18 clubs for their participation on The Longest Day but gave special recognition to Granbury Bridge Club for raising \$14,225 and to Westside Bridge Club in Houston for contributing \$13,263. All clubs are to be commended for their participation.

Board of Governors Vacancy

President Brown announced that all vacancies on the Board of Governors are full for the next 3-year term. Betty Starzec will continue in her current capacity and Bob Morris and Dan Leightman will fill the new remaining slots. They will serve for the term of 3 years. Tomi Storey commented that this is excellent since some districts operate with only 1 or 2 BOG representatives and some even have none. With the increased duties within the Board of Governors, President Brown has recognized additional opportunities

for us at the National level. Mr. Cuneo said more of the Bridge-related work will fall to the BOG, freeing the BOD to handle strategic governing issues. Last year they created a Masterpoint Committee. Hopefully 5 more Committees will be added at the Fall NABC in San Francisco to be staffed by the Board of Governors.

District Star Awards

President Brown announced at the last meeting that Lauri Laufman will be handling the District Star Awards, although Scott Humphrey remains the Award Chairman. Lauri presented several options for the new pin that will represent the entire district and not just Texas. A pin was selected and agreed upon by the Board.

Additional Business

Sue Gerard (alternate for Guillermo Poplawsky) asked about the 60-40 split between Unit 173 and 254. President Brown explained a brief history of the Regional and the recommendations made by the Mexico committee, that were ratified by the District Board. Tomi Storey, as chairman of the Mexico Committee, suggested that this should only be revisited if conditions change substantially in the future.

Action Item Review and Meeting Critique

President Brown was congratulated for setting the new land-speed record for a meeting. President Brown thanked Unit 176 and Tournament Co-Chairs Tomi Storey and Ed Yetter for a successful and well-run Regional event.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 9:13 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomi Storey
Executive Secretary, ACBL District 16