

ADBC BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

Call to order: President Larz Smith called the meeting to order at 10:05. Larz Smith, George Morey, Kate Wickham, Wayne Corbett, and Diana Clive were in attendance at the ADBC. Doug Berke and Mary Ellen Stanton attended by Zoom.

Minutes of December 10, 2025 Board Meeting: The minutes were presented by Diana Clive, Secretary. The only change noted was to correct the final revenue number from the I/N tournament held in October to \$1200, now that all expenses have been accounted for. Larz motioned for approval, seconded by George. All approved.

Financial Report for November: George attempted to gain relief from the city of Arlington for our high water bills. This was denied since we are not a residence. Hopefully the leak problem has been resolved and will not recur.

Our lease is up October 31, 2026. According to the lease, our decision for renewal must be made 180 days in advance, or by the end of April. Larz proposed asking for a reduction to 90 days in advance because of a lack of firm income numbers we can expect from our Spring revenue streams, including the Sectionals and the Regional. George will approach our landlords. However, George also noted that we need to assess how many funds we need to continue. We should be proactive about finding alternative sites for our club. This is likely to take longer than 90 days.

Our proposed rent for next year is \$15/month less than this year because of a reduction in estimated shared common expenses for all leases in this commercial unit. This is subject to both assessments and credits as expenses are accrued during the year.

Mary Ellen reported that we were able to get all our sanctions from ACBL that we requested. Some special games offered by ACBL must be preregistered.

Larz confirmed that we will receive \$300 from Dallas for their January Sectional as compensation for closing.

Calendar and Special Events: Kate presented proposed calendars for January and February. All games in January can be part of the Junior Fund Drive. We will have a Unit Championship on Saturday Jan 10th, and an 8 is Enuf on Jan 24th. We are attempting to make it clear on every calendar that upcharge games are so noted.

February also is a Charity month. We have a Unit Championship sanctioned for Sunday February 8th. The 14th will be an 8 is Enuf Valentine's Day game. We have been notified that our awarded Golden Club Championship is ineligible for that date due to the scheduling of a different tournament within 100 miles of us, and within 4 weeks of that date.

An International Fund game will be scheduled for Saturday Feb 7. There will be a Club Championship on Super Bowl Sunday Feb 8. Kate will send out preliminary calendars to all Board Members.

Update on Nominating Committee: George had nothing to report, but requested Wayne and Melody notify him of any intention to run for another term.

Update on Unit Revenue Sharing: Doug reported that planning for the upcoming Regional is underway. Expenses will be considerably pared down from 2 years ago. There will be no boxed lunch, and much smaller coffee expenses for example. Denton also appears to now be on board with revenue sharing among the three clubs.

Our obligations for 2026 are to hold an I/N Sectional tournament in March at our location, to host a local Open Sectional in June, and to host a second I/N Sectional sometime in the fall. The Fort Worth Studio can be used as a location for the Open Sectional but hosted by our club.

Projections for the Regional this year are for revenue profits of hopefully \$8000. The 2024 Regional only made \$4000. Projections for revenue sharing for the year 2026 are anticipated to be in the neighborhood of \$6900-\$7000 per club per year, and represent revenues averaged over 2 years including a single Regional.

Update on 2026 ADBC Tournaments: We do have a sanction for an I/N Sectional to be held on Sunday March 29th to Tuesday March 31st. We again proposed having our local Open Sectional on Thur June 25 – Sat June 27. The Saturday game can be a Swiss Team game and may entice some Dallas players to make the trek to FW. All these tournaments will require a significant number of volunteers from Arlington to be successful.

Doug suggested closing our club for December 29 due to Steve being on a visit out of town to family. Dorothy and Kimmel will cover other games during Steve's absence.

We're hoping for a pretty good crowd for our Christmas party!

Update on Sidewalk Sign: Doug hasn't heard any strong feelings or resistance from our directors about the rolling in and out of a sidewalk advertising sign. George will run the idea past our landlords.

Directors: Doug presented for discussion the need for more directors in the club as a strategic necessity. Are Melody and Kimmel qualified to act in club games or I/N sectionals? Can they 'fill in the gaps' at the club level? At this time, only Doug, Dorothy, and Tom are available for higher sectional games since Steve has requested to play in those. Can we offer any incentive to other members to undergo the qualification process? It is available for free both online and as a one day course at Regionals and Nationals. The test is a 3 hour open book test, but difficult. In addition, qualification following passage still requires mentorship for an unknown number of hours under supervision.

Mary Ellen commented that the biggest obstacle with director training is familiarity with the computer software used at our club. The software interface is variable in how it is implemented at each club location. It is not standardized. We need clearly written SOPs available for future directors.

We also need to recruit a small army of volunteers for our I/N sectionals. At least one extra person besides the session director must be available to set up coffee, maintain food convenience, and assist in cleanup. This can be a single individual or 3 different ones. A committee for each sectional needs to be recruited.

The importance of success or failure of revenue sharing to our club viability must be presented to our membership. This means that we need members beyond the Board to step up and volunteer, especially to the Regionals. Larz will send an email to Ken Javor in Denton to ask if he needs any help with their upcoming Sectional, showing our willingness to help going forward.

We also need to request more help from on-site players for our Sunday, Tuesday and Friday games. Cleanup after the session has ended has been sometimes erratic, putting additional work on the directors of the following day game. It's our club...let's all pitch in to take care of it.

Higher Paying Fees for Non-Members: We discussed whether a higher session fee for open games is appropriate for club non-members. We can wave the surcharge for teaching games, such as occur on Sunday and Tuesday. Steve stated that identifying nonmembers at club sessions is easily done. This incentivizes taking ownership of the club by our members.

Diana motioned that a \$1 surcharge be made for game sessions for nonmembers. Kate seconded the motion and all approved. This will begin in February, following notification to our club.

Old Business: Diana promises the readiness of a club donation website by the February Board meeting. Single or recurring donations modeled after a subscription program will be available.

Larz will also send an email to our email list outlining our prospects for success through revenue sharing, but that this success depends on volunteers.

New Business: None noted.

Date for January Board Meeting: Wednesday January 14 at 10:00 will be the next board meeting

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Clive, Secretary