

ADBC BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

NOTE: By unanimous Email vote (concluded on February 22, 2026), the Board elected George Morey as Chairman of the Nominating Committee and Margot Hirsch, Dorothy Moore, Barbara Odom and Cathy Tolliver to serve as members of the Committee.

Call to Order: President Larz Smith called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Larz Smith, George Morey, Kate Wickham, Melody Gann, Wayne Corbett, and Diana Clive were in attendance at the ADBC. Doug Berke, and Mary Ellen Stanton attended by Zoom.

Minutes of January 14, 2026 Board Meeting: Diana presented the minutes from the December Board Meeting. One minor correction was noted, and Diana has attached a new schedule of game fees to the minutes. George moved to accept them as corrected, seconded by Wayne. All voted to approve.

Calendars and Special Events: Kate presented the calendar for March. Larz has noted that the District 16 calendar sometimes changes during the year. Larz raised a question on whether we should add recently offered District 16 Charity Games in replacement of Club Championship games during the first week of March. George commented that we have made a commitment to our members to offer as many extra point games as possible. However, the costs of those games along with other questions we have cannot be answered at this late date. Larz motioned, seconded by Wayne, to table that type of game and calendar changes for the time being, and consider the March calendar finalized. All approved.

The ADBC will still be hosting a NLM tournament on Sunday March 29-Tuesday March 31. The March 30 Open game is cancelled. The annual Membership Meeting is still scheduled for 10:00am on March 28, followed by an open game. Members will play for free. The April calendar will include Royal StaC games on April 1-4. Mary Ellen will preregister us for them.

Kamal Das has requested his Life Master party to be held on Saturday April 4. We will hold a Golden Game on April 11, where players can earn ACBL Gold Points. Because of the attraction of the Gold Points, this game will be priced at \$12pp for everyone.

Update on Nominating Committee: There is no update from George at this time.

Update on 2026 ADBC Tournaments: Doug presented an update on the upcoming NLM tournament. We still need volunteers to provide lunches for the Monday and Tuesday games. Doug will create a Sign-Up Genius form for signups. We are hosting a full local Sectional in June (June 25-27), planned to be held at the Fort Worth Studio. Larz will confirm that we will not be charged fees for its use. However, we will reimburse Steve Shirey \$50 for games that he has to close during the tournament days.

Update on Landlord Communications: The renewal of our lease can be postponed until July 31, allowing us to collect data and shared revenue that will occur before then from Sectionals and the summer Regional.

The posting of the sign outside our club during game days is also cleared by the landlord. Kate will design it, and her printer can print up to an 18in wide format. The directors have agreed to wheel it in and out of our studio. Diana proposed using a similar design for a flyer that she can tack up at coffee shops, local bulletin boards, etc.

Director Concerns: Doug noted that there has been no negative feedback from players to our directors about the player price increase from \$10-\$11 for members, and \$12 for nonmembers.

Financials: Larz presented the results from recent revenue sharing. Denton did send us a \$1303 check for our share of their Sectional. We also received a check for \$300 from Dallas for our closure during their Sectional. Melody suggested that we formally ask Dallas for their support and their attendance during our June Sectional.

George discussed our revenues from this January versus the previous January. We did much better this year, losing half of what we lost last year. We have also taken in membership dues for 2026, adding to our finances. However, we only have received 61 membership dues by the end of January. We had 84 members for 2025. This is a significant decline, and is reflected in table counts as well.

Our rent after lease renewal will increase 3%, or \$58, locked in for another 2 years. We have two components to our total lease expenses: the rent (\$1920.67) and the common expenses (estimated at \$770). Together these have added up to a total rent of about \$2960 per month. We haven't yet received our 2025 common expenses adjustment. We currently have \$28,500 in cash in our bank account.

Which members haven't renewed their membership? Let's track and ask Why not?

Preliminary 3-year Projections: George has projected our expenses for the next three years. He projected out a decline in both F2F and online games. There will be NABCs next year held in Dallas, requiring a closure of our club for up to 10 days (loss of revenue). There will also be NABCs in Austin in 2028 with similar effects. Other projections hope for continued donations as needs occur.

Steve Kornegay has arranged with Spectrum for a significant decrease in our Wi-Fi and telephone bill - \$85/month down from \$145/month. Yay Steve!

The most significant projections for the next 3 years rests on the success of tournament revenue sharing, as well as dues rebates from ACBL. Together these may add up to an additional \$25,000 in income to our club that we have not had in the past. This can greatly mitigate the negative cash flow we have had the last several years. There are no guarantees – but the health and vitality of all three clubs helps us all. Our best projections will be presented to the membership at large.

We will have to have a special membership meeting in July to determine whether we renew our lease.

Donations Programs: Diana presented a spreadsheet of information on potential donation software packages that can be used by small nonprofit organizations, and the software fee structures. The donation presentations vary depending on the communications systems used by the NGOs, clubs, charities etc. - such as websites, email, newsletters, or mailers. The engine or Payment Service Provider under the hood for most of the donations is handled by either Stripe or PayPal. Software systems such as DonorBox exist to help clients create a slick donation campaign for their organization, charging additional fees over and above those required by Paypal or Stripe. By far, the most common system I found (used by small nonprofits) is PayPal. Money flows into their 'holding cell', then the client or nonprofit requests transfers of those held funds to their home bank accounts. They charge 1.99% + \$.49 per transaction., or about \$0.69 per \$10 donation. Most of us have interacted with PayPal at some point. They are recognizable and trusted, and easily implemented into whatever communication system we choose to use for the ADBC. A number of other bridge clubs around the country already use it, with a donation button readily visible on their websites. Their websites offer single time, or recurring donations on monthly basis. This could create a positive cashflow in donations for our club as well.

Larz suggested that we move forward with creating a PayPal account, link it to our bank account, and allow for trial donation transactions to take place. This can be completed, active, and tested prior to presenting it to the membership meeting. Doug volunteered to setup the PayPal account.

Bridge Club Website: Tom has expressed some concern on whether D16 will continue to host our website. Diana will work with Tom as to how to plan future hosting or web design, possibly with a software module predesigned for bridge clubs such as BridgeWebs. It is already in use by most of the bridge clubs around us.

Old Business and New Business: None noted.

Set Date for March Board Meeting: The meeting will be held on March 11, 2026 at 10:00.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.