

**Dallas Bridge Association Board of Directors
Minutes of Meeting 08/07/24**

Attendees: Connie Scott, Bill Driscoll, Mary Chaffin, Milt Neher, Paul Taylor and Truett Cates were present. Bill Higgins, Bob Holliday and Cheryl Rider were absent. The August meeting was held at the King of Glory Church prior to Valley View's Wednesday game.

The June minutes were approved. There was no July meeting.

Ed Yetter provided the financial reports, which were approved.

As of July 31, 2024 the unit has total cash assets of \$63,035.32. There is \$18,176.64 in the checking account and \$44,858.68 in the Fidelity investment account. As of July 31 the unit is missing the 2024 budget by \$24,874.94. This month's financials are impacted by two significant events:

- Expenses for the Labor Day Regional are starting to be booked. So far a total of \$2475.50 has been spent. This expense is budgeted in August.
- The unbudgeted expense related to theft of the large trailer is now \$5156.93, an increase of \$980.74 over the May amount.
- The unit spent \$2,000 purchasing boards and cards from a bridge club in Albuquerque, NM.
- Ed Yetter and Bob Holliday met with Fidelity to set up a transfer of \$10,000 from the Fidelity account to the Bank of America checking account to ensure there is adequate funds in the checking account cover early regional expenses.

Ed Yetter reports that planning for the Labor Day Regional is going well and that with the \$4,000 reimbursement from the Renaissance and several other expenses from last year that will not be incurred this year, we have about a \$7500 head start on meeting or exceeding our net income from 2023. It all depends on table count participation.

Bill Driscoll and Bob Holliday presented the member communications report for June-July via email.

Date	Reads	Percent Read	Clicks on Links	Unsubs	Spam	Bounces	Email Theme
06/06/24	664	57.90%	44	0	0	1	June Unit Game and Labor Day Regional
06/12/24	633	56.30%	51	0	0	1	June Unit Game and Labor Day Regional
06/26/24	642	56.30%	32	0	0	1	July Unit Game and Labor Day Regional
07/01/24	628	55.10%	84	1	0	1	July Newsletter
07/10/24	617	54.20%	44	0	0	1	July Unit Game and Labor Day Regional
07/10/24	645	56.60%	32	1	0	1	Unit Game Start 12:30
07/13/24	621	54.60%	42	0	0	1	Unit Game Start 12:30

07/18/24	396	54.20%	48	2	0	0	Labor Day Regional I/N Program
07/22/24	531	54.60%	33	0	0	164	Labor Day Regional
08/01/24	501	51.30%	67	1	0	1	August Newsletter
08/05/24	512	52.40%	13	0	0	0	Bridge Rate at Hotel for Regional

The large number of bounces on 7/22/24 is due to the global CrowdStrike outage, that shut down email across the world.

The July 18 email was only sent to a targeted list of I/N players.

Bill noted that the number of recipients on our main email list declined by about 160 after the CrowdStrike outage without any explanation, and has remained lower ever since. He is working with Greenrope to figure out what happened but it may be necessary to recreate the list from a new unit roster.

August Membership Report

The unit currently has 1314 members, a reduction of 1 member from June.

Mary Chaffin reported that our unit's participation in the Return to the Fold (5-5-5) program is exceeding our targets. We received the full 15% reimbursement for the 2nd quarter. Half of the guest memberships obtained by non-members at our tournaments are converting to paid memberships.

Ed Yetter led a discussion on the April trailer theft.

Ed reports that we won our administrative hearing by default because the other party did not show up to contest our claim. The trailer has been returned to the Uhaul storage facility and will be available for the Labor Day Regional.

The claim against Public Storage is ongoing. Leonard Epstein is providing valuable assistance in this matter. Public Storage has until August 20 to respond to our claim, per the contract.

Ed Yetter led a discussion about the 2024 Labor Day Regional.

Planning for the Labor Day Regional is underway. Ed and Tomi have met with the staff at the Courtyard to finalize the food & beverage order. Set up will be Monday, August 26. Hotel pickups are doing well and will meet or exceed the number from last year.

Milt Neher presented a Unit Game report.

All future unit games will be held at King of Glory Church and will be run by either Friendly Bridge Club or Valley View Bridge Club. . Unit games are scheduled for the following dates;

September 15

October 6

November 17

December 8 – STAC Unit Game

There will not be a Unit Holiday party this year due to the time restrictions required by King of Glory church. The clubs will have their own Holiday events and the unit board will consider making a contribution to these events.

The board discussed the 2025 tournament schedule.

There will be 3 sectional tournaments and one regional tournament in 2025. All the sectional tournaments will be held at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church. Sanctions are approved and contracts are signed.

The dates for 2025 tournaments are;

1/29/25 – 2/1/25 – Winter Sectional

4/30/25 – 5/3/25 - Spring Sectional

8/26/25 - 8/31/25 – Labor Day Regional

10/29/25 – 11/1/25 – Fall Sectional

Truett Cates presented an Intermediate/Newcomer report.

Truett reports that he is not going to be producing the District I/N newsletter, as this publication is redundant and unnecessary. The Mentor-Mentee program is in limbo as well. The weekly online game run by the Houston unit is still an option for our unit.

New Business

Bob Holliday will chair the election committee this year. He will put together a committee and submit a slate of potential candidates to the board.

The September meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 10:00 AM, at King of Glory Church, prior to the Wednesday Valley View game.