



ACBL Unit 174 Annual Meeting Minutes

Draft pending approval

April 9, 2017

Houston Marriott Westchase

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by acting President of Unit 174 Bill Riley.

Financial/Treasurer's Report

Copies of the December Treasurer's report were available at the meeting of the members to approve by Gary Hercules, Treasurer.

Gary gave a short overview of the 2016 Unit's financial statements. The gross revenue for 2016 was \$287,047 – a slight decrease from 2015 gross revenue of just over \$300,000. The Lone Star Regional (LSR) tournament revenue was 60% of the Unit's total revenue and the LSR had a net profit of \$23,438 which subsidized the losses in other services that the Unit provides. The unit's net income for the year was \$8,411. The year-end bank balance was \$56,491. Gary was available to answer any questions.

Motion – To approve the financial report as submitted.

Petition to change By-Laws of Unit 174

A valid petition was presented to the Board and the Board then addressed the petition to the members-at-large to vote on passing the petition. The petition was as follows:

Change Article VI Unit Board of Directors, Section 3 to:

The Board of Directors, within a reasonable time prior to the annual membership meeting, shall select a Nominating Committee composed of five (5) persons. Said Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the mailing of notices of the annual meeting, and shall prepare a slate of Nominees equal to the vacancies to be filled. Incumbent elected Directors shall be automatically re-nominated for a second term of



office at the expiration of the first term to which they were elected, unless the Board of Directors shall be informed, either in writing or orally at the Board Meeting when the Nominating Committee is selected, that such Director chooses not to be so nominated. Said slate is to be placed in nomination at the annual meeting of membership to fill the vacancies existing on the Board of Directors.

The names of the persons nominated by the Nominating Committee shall be made known to the members in the notice of the annual meeting.

Additional nominations for Directors may be made by the membership, but such nominations must be submitted in writing, signed by at least fifty (50) members in good standing, to the Secretary to the Unit, by mail, not more than 10 days after giving notice as provided in the preceding paragraph.

Change Article IX Standing Committees, Section 1 to:

This committee shall be composed of five (5) members in good standing, appointed by the Board of Directors, within a reasonable time prior to the annual meeting of the members: its duty shall be to prepare a slate of Nominees for election to the Board of Directors for the open board positions of the Unit. Nominees for regular elections will be submitted at the Annual Meeting at the Election Sectional.

The petition was put to a vote by the members and it did not pass.

Old Business

State of the Union Unit 174 and 2016 Year in Review

Bill reviewed the state of Unit 174 and presented graphically the liquid assets (cash) monthly balances. The cash balances ranged from just under \$40,000 prior to the LSR to almost \$140,000 just after the LSR. The cash balance at the end of February 2017 was just over \$80,000. Director tournament costs in 2015 were \$98,531 and fell to \$88,158 for 2016 thanks to the work by Kevin Perkins and the Unit Board. Caddy costs also fell from 2015 to 2016 – from \$13,635 to \$6,811 thanks to work of John Caudill and Nancy Strohmer and Randy and Sue Simpson. The cost of the Sunday tournament meals went from \$29,239 in 2015 to \$17,566 due to better estimates of the number of Sunday meals provided by the Tournament Chairmen. The Unit is trying out the idea of no Sunday meal at the August Sectional. The sectional tournaments hosted by the Unit saw the table count number fall from 2,855 in 2015 to 2,411 in 2016 resulting in \$17,760 less in fee income. The fall sectional incurred the biggest loss due to lack of attendance and the August sectional incurred a minimal loss due to no Sunday meal provided.

Bill outlined the challenges and choices for the coming year:

Prevent continued losses at the sectional tournaments, increasing tournament playing fees, stop providing the Sunday meal and stop providing free coffee. Bill was open to input and ideas from the members on these topics.

Unit 174 had the highest number of members in history - at the end of March 2017, the number of members was 2,630 up from 2,517 at the end of March 2015. The challenge facing the unit to continue to increase its membership facing the aging demographics of our members.



Bill provided information on distribution of members by masterpoints – 20% of our members have more than 1,000 masterpoints and 80% have less than 1,000 masterpoints. Being able to better serve the members with less than 1,000 masterpoints is a critical factor in growing the number of players in our tournaments.

The total number of tables in our regional, sectionals, I/N games and STAC games was 7,353 in 2016 vs. 7,590 in 2015. There was a small decrease in the number of tables played at the regional, a 14% decrease in the number of tables played at the sectionals from 2015 to 2016 and almost a flat number of tables played in the I/N games and STAC. The challenge for the Board is to get over 3,000 tables at the upcoming regional tournament and to reverse the falling number of tables played in the sectional tournaments. One of the major emphasis areas in 2017 will be new member recruitment and retention.

New Business

Recognition of Achievements

Bill thanked the current Board for all its hard work and wonderful efforts.

Bill thanked Bob Armstrong for his 3 years of service as a unit 174 board member

Bill welcomed Carol Winograd as the new webmaster

Bill recognized Catherine Miller as the Communication chair and Carol Wilson as the Scorecard editor and Al Fortier as the unit's photographer.

Dan Morse was recognized for his 24 years as the national board of director's representative for District 16 and announced an upcoming Dan Morse day at the 2018 LSR.

Paul Cuneo was recognized as the new District 16 representative to the national board of director's.

Betty Starzec appointed to ACBL educational board of trustees.

Susan Stubinski and Bruce Wick were winners in the Rockwell Mixed Pairs Spring 2016 NABC.

Shawn Quinn was part of the winning team at the Women's Pairs event at 2016 Fall NABC – her 23rd national title.

Eddie Wold was named ACBL Honorary Member of the year.

Paul Cuneo was awarded the District 16 2016 Oswald and James Jacoby Award for service to district. This award is for volunteers who have worked diligently at the Unit level and risen to recognition at the district level after many years of service



Gary King won the 2017 District Goodwill Award = to recognize and honor district 16 players who exhibit spirit of courtesy, kindness and tact at the bridge table.

Kay Johnson was the 2017 recipient of the Texas Star Award for recognition of members of Unit 174 who are worthy volunteers at the unit level for exceptional service performed.

Toni Snow and Ann Brinker Schwall earned Emerald Life Master status

Marsha Bernstein Ronald Brown John Erickson David Henke Ida Morrow Bill Smith Bruce Wick earned Diamond Life Master status.

Then the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs awards were presented.

Bill announced the Election results naming the winners in alphabetical order and hearty congratulations were extended to all:

Nancy Guthrie, David Henke and Daniel Jackson

Adjourn

Motion: That the 2017 annual membership meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded and approved all present.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Hudson, Unit 174 Secretary

