



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

August 4, 2020

Go-To Meeting Video Conference/Phone-In

Call to Order

Jack LaVigne

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm.

Directors Present: Joyce Gore, Lauri Laufman, Jack LaVigne, Greg May, Kathleen Malcolmson, Kathleen McDougall, Karen Nussbaum, and Sheryl Thomas.

Absent: Clif Rice

Others Present: Gary Hercules-Treasurer, Paul Cuneo, and Nancy Strohmmer.

ACBL Up-Date

Paul Cuneo

Paul said the Board met the week of July 13th for its second regular meeting. The Board Restructuring Motion was passed on the second go. It was ratified by the Board of Governors on Sunday at their meeting so will now take effect. Implications for our District is we will have an election next year. We will be known as Region 9 coupled with District 15. A Regional Director will be elected for a 3 year term and in 2022 the 1st and 2nd alternate positions will vanish leaving 5 members of the Board of Governors from each District. In 2021 there will be 8 out of 13 elections with the potential of reducing a total of 8 members. A Restructuring Task Force was set up and they have been at work since the first of the year to move the bridge related work to management.

A strength of field measure for masterpoint calculations will go into effect for Swiss teams and pairs games at tournaments.

ACBL's financial situation continues to improve due to Virtual Clubs and Silver Lining growth.

Tricky Bridge is rolling out in a couple of Scandinavian countries. This is an App for teaching and playing bridge on-line and should be released here by late summer.

Social Bridge on-line website is sponsored by the Foundation with links to BBO is in production and should be set-up by the end of August.

Jack asked if there were any 0-49 games, tournaments or special games for newer players on BBO. Paul said the Board turned down Units and Districts running online tournaments. A Unit Club could hold any game they want as a normal club game, but not as a tournament. He went on to explain how



this could be done on Virtual Clubs. Greg asked about having 0-49 tournaments at clubs. Paul said it would be a regular club game open to all Unit 174 but not a tournament. He also said he thought ACBL is not holding enough games for new players in their regional events.

Approval of Minutes

Joyce Gore

The July minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board.

Motion that the July 2020 Minutes be approved was made by Karen Nussbaum - Seconded by Sheryl Thomas. **Motion Carried**

Treasurer's Report

Gary Hercules

Gary asked if the June Report had been verified. Jack confirmed they had. Jack said he had not received the July Treasurers' Report Gary wasn't sure if he had sent it so Gary would resend them and it was tabled until next month.

Jack asked, at the Annual Meeting how do we present the Treasurer's Report to the members. What he needed to know is do you give the members a different format? Gary said he made 15-20 copies and set them around the room. Lauri suggested putting links for the 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes and the 2019 Treasurers' Report on the website for the members to review.

Old Business

New Member Recruitment/Retention

**Clif Rice/Greg May
Kathleen Malcolmson/Kathy MacDougall**

Greg said he, Kathy and Kathleen are putting a questionnaire together to send out to all potential teachers. They are also in the process of identifying all teachers who would be interested in teaching on-line. Greg thought the Board needed to be thinking about what incentives we could give them. Greg mentioned that in the next 2 weeks ACBL is giving absolutely free memberships for 3-4 months. He thought this might entice new members, who, once they earn masterpoints, to renew the membership. There was a discussion on ways of retaining new members.

Kathy agreed they need to find out which teachers would be interested in teaching online. Lauri suggested she contact Betty Starzec for a list of teachers who would be willing and available to do so.

Kathy said she had contacted a few of the people on the list of who was and who was not playing on-line. She said some of them did not think they were of the same caliber of online players. They were also deterred by the cheating that goes on. Some did not even know of the Virtual Games or their schedules. There was discussion on how to better display all games and times of the different clubs on the Unit 174 website. It was agreed it is already in the Events and Classes Newsletter and all Clubs have their games listed on the Unit 174 website. There was a discussion on how to improve information on the Unit Website.

Publicity Chair

Dave Becker

Committee Reports

Club Connection

No Report

Kathleen Malcolmson

Charity Report

Nancy Strohmer



Nancy said the Charity Process Selection would be in August.

Education	No Report	Betty Starzec
Member Communication	No report	Jeanne Phelps
STaC	No report	Karen Nussbaum
GNT	No report	Kathleen McDougall
NAP	No report	Greg May
Intermediate/Newcomer	No report	Nancy Guthrie
Supplies	No Report	Clif Rice
Technology		Greg May

Greg said he received the Go-to-Webinar program today and that we need to setup a practice session sometime in the next week. We have a Free Trial and it will run out in less than a week. Greg went on to tell of all that Webinar allows us to do, i.e. raise hands, create polls, record meetings, has a 3000 log- in limit and much more. Nancy said there are a lot of options and expounded on them. Greg said we only purchased this for a month at a cost of \$400.00 but is much more horsepower than we need for Go-to-Meetings.

The new software that ACBL is designing for team events at tournaments is not favored by the ACBL Directors. Greg said he talked to Melody Euler and the Directors are down about it. She said we have too many sections. You need a computer, a server and a different type of pad to operate. The bridge pads we have do not do what the other ones will do. The Directors want to be-in-charge of this program. Gary asked if we would need to buy a different type of bridge pad for each table. Greg said we would need a different type of pad and possibly more servers.

Awards

Sheryl Thomas

There were no new Life Master this month. Grand Life Master Star Awards have been mailed to Sally Wheeler & Ira Chorush.

New Business

Lone Star Regional

Jack/Karen

Jack informed the Board that ACBL wanted one change in the conditions to the Mini Soloway on the LSR Flyer. This was done and the Flyer has been posted.

Karen said she had several things she was working on for the LSR such as gifts and restaurants. Sheryl will be assisting her for the restaurants.



Karen asked if the Board is able to offer suggestions for groups to join an Event Naming. Nancy said she would not encourage naming specific people as it could cause hurt feelings. Lauri advised Karen to collect the entire amount for each event.

Annual Meeting

Jack set Thursday August 13th at 3:30 pm for the practice session on Webinar. Jack asked Lauri to send him the links for the 2019 Board minutes and Treasurers' Report.

By Laws/Procedure Manual

Lauri Laufman

By-Laws- Lauri said there were 4 changes/corrections for the By-Laws. She explained the corrections and up-dates on each of them.

Procedure Manual- Previous web links that Nancy noticed, and another one that Lauri found was not working have all been corrected.

Tournament Contracts /Future – Lauri said the Board was sent an email to discuss future Regionals at the Marriott with regards on how we would like to position expectations from the Marriott for Paul Cuneo & Jack. We have no dates for Sectionals moving past 2021, we have Sanctions for 2022 but no location at this point. She said she had contacted the Shriners and asked them to pencil in these dates for us. We need to set dates for Sectionals past October 21st for future Sectionals.

Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 2:08 pm, exiting at 2:12 pm.

The September Board Meeting will be Tuesday, September 8th at 1:00 pm on Go-To Meeting Video Conference/Phone-In

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Kathleen Malcolmson - Seconded by Karen Nussbaum **Motion carried**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Gore Unit 174 Secretary

