



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

May 6, 2019

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to order

Lauri Laufman

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. Directors in attendance: Cindy Cox, Nancy Guthrie, David Henke, Daniel Jackson, Lauri Laufman, Jack LaVigne, Kathleen Malcolmson, Clif Rice and Sheryl Thomas. Also present: Treasurer, Gary Hercules.

Approval of Minutes

Lauri Laufman

The meeting minutes were prepared and emailed to the Board.

Motion: That the April 2019 Minutes be approved.

The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Gary Hercules

The April 2019 Financial Statements were prepared and emailed to the Board. Financial statements were verified by the new Unit 174 Verifier, Patrick Tourais.

Motion: That the April 2019 Financial Statements be approved.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie; seconded by Sheryl Thomas; and approved unanimously except for one abstention, Kathleen Malcolmson.

Gary explained the expense reimbursement process to the board, for the benefit of the all board members.

Gary observed that the Mentor/Mentee games reimbursement to clubs should be 1/8 the Mentor/Mentee table fee, up to \$1.75 per pair. It was further clarified that the amount due each club will vary based on each club's table fees at these games. An adjustment will be made moving forward, where appropriate, to reflect the formula.



Old Business

Election Sectional

Nancy Guthrie/Sheryl Thomas

The Election Sectional financial results seem better than expected but final numbers are not in. Expect the final report at the June meeting.

ABA/ACBL Championship Game

Sheryl Thomas

The final report was submitted. A net income of \$128 is reported, to be distributed evenly to ACBL Unit 174, the ABA, and Westside Academy.

The Board thanks Westside Academy's owners and directors and Gloria Cooper from the ABA for helping to make the event a success.

There were 27 ½ tables this year, which is down from 38 tables in 2018. The ACBL Regional in Gatlinburg and a new ABA team game introduced on that date were seen as possible reasons for the decrease.

Nearly Summer Sectional

Sheryl Thomas/Kathleen Malcolmson

All preparations are on schedule and going smoothly.

August 2019 Sectional

Daniel Jackson/Clif Rice

Small changes to the flyer were discussed and agreed upon.

Motion: That the August 2019 Flyer be approved.

The motion was made by Sheryl Thomas; seconded by Nancy Guthrie; and approved unanimously.

November 2019 Sectional

Jack LaVigne/Cindy Cox

A 0-49 game bracket was added.

Motion: That the 0-49 bracket addition to the schedule be approved.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie; seconded by Kathleen Malcolmson; and approved unanimously.

The budget for the tournament was presented. Cindy stated that if the agreed upon room bookings are filled, the meeting spaces will be at no charge. Additional Director's fees are budgeted for travel to Galveston. It was mentioned that it should be added to the budget that the Head Caddy be comped a room (~\$300) because of the distance to travel.



Motion: That the presented Budget be approved as discussed with an allowance for the head caddy to opt in for a room on Friday and Saturday nights at this tournament.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie; seconded by Sheryl Thomas; and approved unanimously.

The proposed tournament flyer was presented and discussed. Small changes were proposed including adding the statement that masterpoints will be regionally-rated, silver points.

Motion: That the flyer be approved as discussed.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie; seconded by Sheryl Thomas; and approved unanimously.

Cindy Cox presented a plan to have tour buses available for transporting players to the November Tournament in Galveston. She had made and presented a survey to gauge interest among Unit members. After discussion, a Thursday pickup schedule was considered best. The flyer and survey will be taken together to clubs around the Unit. The tour bus must be booked by August because of high school events taking place on the same weekend. Bob Dowlen and Dianna Gittelman are assisting Cindy and Jack with this project.

Lone Star Regional 2020

Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne

There will be complimentary self-parking for this event, as per the Marriott contract.

The schedule will include A/X & Mid-Flight Pairs alternating with A/X/Y Pairs Tues-Sun. The Mini Soloway will be scheduled as last year. The Co-Chairs will be adding a Tues-Sat 299er side series morning and afternoon. This offers more master points, but not gold, only red available. An evening Bracketed Swiss, with handicapping, will be scheduled.

Motion: That the LSR 2020 schedule be approved as discussed.

The motion was made by Cindy Cox; seconded by Sheryl Thomas; and approved unanimously.

New Member Recruitment / Retention

All

No report.

STaC

No Report.

Sheryl Thomas



GNT

Daniel Jackson/Cindy Cox

No Report.

NAP

Daniel Jackson/Clif Rice

No Report.

Committee Reports

Club Connection

Nancy Guthrie

The next Club Connection will be at Galveston DBC, Moody Methodist Church, on May 24th. Fourteen in total (seven Board Members along with their partners), are planning on attending. Galveston will be having a Club Championship game that day in appreciation of the board members' visit.

Charity Report

Nancy Strohmer

The Unit Charity Report was submitted by email. Gary Hercules has received the funds.

Unit 174 Charity Report-

District Charity games that were held on Feb 19 and March 15 benefited our local charity, *Make-a-Wish Foundation*.

The following Clubs participated: Apple II, Bridge Club of Houston, Clear Lake, Star & Westside Bridge Academy.

I am in the process of collecting money from the Clubs. The total amount will be **\$760** from this round of charity games for Make-a-Wish Foundation. As I reported previously, Apple II's contribution at \$4/table would have been \$142, but they doubled their contribution (\$284) to *Make-a-Wish Foundation*—true generosity!

We truly appreciate the participation of Apple II, Bridge Club of Houston, Clear Lake, Star and Westside Bridge Academy!!! If you have the opportunity, I encourage all of you to thank these Clubs for participating in the Charity games.

The following Charity games have been sanctioned for 2020:

Thurs, Dec 3, sanction # UC2012174A – Unit Grassroots Charily game;

Fri, Dec 4, sanction #UC2012174B – Unit Charity game for designated local charity;

Tues, Dec 8, sanction #UC2012174C – Unit Grassroots Charity game;

Wed, Dec 9, sanction #UC2012174D - Unit Charity game for designated local charity.



Education**Betty Starzec**

Betty (not present) sent an eblast to teachers and the Unit Board for a reception with Robert Todd on May 11th.

Aces /Knives movie is still being arranged. The cost has not yet determined.

Membership**Catherine Miller**

Catherine (not present) still needs volunteers for a monthly commitment of an hour or so. Her request and contact information are posted on the Unit 174 home web page.

Intermediate/Newcomer**Cindy Cox**

Cindy thanked the board for their feedback on the I/N stratification question that was presented via email (0-49 vs 0-100).

She proposed that the tournament I/N table include “Runners” to assist new players find their way to the different areas of the tournament. Cindy will be asking for more volunteers than previously.

Directory**David Henke**

Jack LaVigne suggested that profile photos be included in the online version of the directory. He will look into the possibilities and report in July.

Other**Bridge in Schools****Kathleen Malcolmson**

Duchesne Academy’s registration for a summer class continues. Minimum not yet met.

Bridge as a Sport**Nancy Guthrie**

Nancy has spoken to Patty Tucker, past President of the ABTA and creator of Bridge-In-A-Day. Patty will assist by contributing verbiage to the Board’s June 11th presentation to the UIL (University Interscholastic League).

Supplies**Clif Rice**

Reordering for tournament supplies is in progress.

Awards**Sheryl Thomas**

Report delivered via email. All Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards have been distributed.



New Business

District Report

Kathleen Malcolmson

Nothing to report.

Golden Age Master Certification

Lauri Laufman

Patsy Edwards at the ACBL was contacted by Lauri. There is no official procedure to obtain a Golden Age Master Certification. It is ideal for ACBL members who can't attend tournaments to obtain all the required colored master points, but are deserving of an acknowledgement of their service to furthering the game of duplicate bridge.

Tournament Pair Events # of Boards Played (24 vs 26/28)

Lauri Laufman

Twenty-four boards are now being played at tournaments. It was concluded that playing 24 boards per session fills up the schedule, allowing a minimum of time between sessions. Twenty-four boards will continue to be played. 0-5 games may have fewer boards, to be determined by the director.

Approved By-Law Update

Lauri Laufman

The Webmaster has posted the recently approved By-Laws.

Procedure Manual

Lauri Laufman/Kathleen Malcolmson

Nancy Strohmer has been requested to write a procedure for the Charity Chair.

Tournament Contracts/Future

Lauri Laufman/Jack LaVigne

Paul Cuneo was asked to go to the Marriott to secure more information on the pending parking project and request that the upcoming parking fee be waived for the August Sectional, if affected, since there was little warning given. He will also be working with the Marriott regarding parking for our already scheduled 2020 Sectionals.

Jack and Lauri visited the Arabia Shriners Center. They want to explore this site further. Paul Cuneo was asked to assist with negotiations for 2021 Sectionals. The Unit is actively looking for more potential alternate sites.

Executive Session

The Board did not enter Executive Session.



Adjournment

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was made by Nancy Guthrie; seconded by Clif Rice; approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Board Meeting on June 3rd, 9:30 a.m. at Tracy Gee Community Center.

The July Board Meeting will be July 8th, 7:00 p.m. at Westside Academy.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Malcolmson, Unit 174 Secretary

