



Memorandum of Discussion

ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors Meeting

July 1, 2013

Tracy Gee Community Center

Call to order

Chuck Ensor

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am. Directors present were: Beverley Cheatham, Paul Cuneo, Chuck Ensor, Joyce Gore, Kathy Hughes, Errol LeCesne, Tom Martinsen, Bill Riley and Nancy Strohmer. Jim Woodward, treasurer, was present.

Approval of minutes

Bill Riley

MOTION: That the June minutes be approved with two changes: To remove name of professional in the section discussing handicaps and not to include the guidelines for having board meetings in the minutes but to move that section to the unit board web document site

The motion was seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Woodard / Chuck Ensor

The treasurer's reports from both May and June were presented by Jim since he was unable to attend last month. These were sent by Email to the board for their review prior to the meeting.

One notable transaction here is \$9000 to Shawn Quinn for the Top of World event. May 4-5 supplies delivery bill received and paid - \$170.29

MOTION: That the May treasurer's report be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

MOTION: That the June treasurer's report be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

District Report

Paul Cuneo

No report—no meeting until July San Antonio Regional. Prior to the meeting the tournament directors were in favor of getting bill counting machines and dealing machines for the district tournament directors. These will be addressed at the July meeting.



During the meeting Paul was requested to inquire at the District meeting about any interest in a joint Bridge Camp for youth next summer.

Old Business

2014 LSR

Beverley Cheatham

The flyer has been completed. The schedule for the teaching topics and teachers is not complete – waiting for replies.

After a presentation of the previously agreed gifts for the welcoming package and further discussion, the board decided by acclamation that we should use the convention card holders instead.

Pen and Pencils will be used for awards.

The committees are set up.

The hospitality committee is discussing some options at the regional.

Chuck suggested that we have a meeting with the directors at the August tournament to discuss the room arrangement, particularly for the KOs and Swiss team events and other issues that have been brought to our attention. Several suggestions for arranging the entry table and partnership desk were made by Paul and Chuck. Beverley, Chuck and Paul will meet with the directors.

June Sectional

Chuck Ensor / Joyce Gore

Tom discussed his attempt to change out cards that were dirty at the sectional. Everyone agreed that this was a great idea and that we should continue and that it was better than trying to change out the cards before the tournament.

August Schedule

Beverley Cheatham / Nancy Strohmmer

The flyers are ready and will be distributed at the July regional. Tom discussed free play for those players with less than 5 MPs. Bill discussed how some of the other ACBL tournaments give out free plays. The board recognized that the flyers had been printed. Nancy suggested using constant contact.

MOTION: That players with less than 5 MPs will be given free play on Friday and Saturday

The motion was seconded and approved.

NAP/GNT

Beverley Cheatham / Tom Martinsen

Tom has clubs signed up and directors assigned. NAP November 9th and 10th – Still needs to be sanctioned through the ACBL.

Bridge in Schools

Errol LeCesne

Errol reported that there was no interest in summer camps at the June tournament – only 3 inquiries and 1 Email. Dan Morse suggested that the Youth could be housed on a college campus.

Chuck reported that there is a teacher teaching bridge in school. He suggested that the teacher be contacted.



Nancy reported that Illinois has a state wide camp which is completely underwritten by the state. The board suggested that this could possibly be done at the district level and Paul was assigned to present to the district board.

Unit Sponsored Lessons

Errol LeCesne and Bill Riley

Discussions with several pros have been held – will try to develop another one soon.

Marriott Contracts

Paul Cuneo

Paul reported that there is still no final contract – awaiting minor administrative issues to be resolved.

Team Games at Sectional

Chuck Ensor

Chuck presented some of the feedback from the players for the KOs. The board discussed the KOs and the possible use of the bracketed Swiss.

MOTION: That bracketed Swiss games will be held on Friday and Saturday and the KOs will not be held at the October Sectional.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Tournament Stratification

Chuck Ensor

Chuck presented a concern from one of the players about the stratification. Paul discussed the history of stratifications and current ACBL recommendations to use team average. Unit 174 changed to team average in 2011. Bill discussed the strategy used at other Texas sectionals to allow directors the discretion to change the cutoff in the A/AX.

Since the flyers for August have been made, this change will be reflected in the October Sectional. The cutoff will be set the same but allow director's discretion to balance the number of teams in the A/AX bracket.

October Sectional

Errol LeCesne / Bill Riley

Bill presented the budget. There were some issues but after discussion the number of meals was found to be incorrect. With that correction the budget is within reasonable expectations. The corrected budget will be sent by Email for the next meeting.

Errol presented the flyer. The Humble sectional will be called the Spooky Fall Sectional tournament. Hospitality and Awards committee has been combined into a host committee headed by Donna Mann. This needs to be sent to the ACBL.

Youth NABC

Paul Cuneo / Nancy Strohmer

No one qualified for the support to Nationals –everyone agreed that it was a good idea but need to publicize earlier.

Membership Attraction and Retention

Group

The board had a discussion of the 0-5 playing free on Friday and Saturday at August Sectional – see above.



New Business

Update of Procedures

Paul Cuneo

Paul received a few comments and will send the final out for the sectional tournament and give everyone another month for the Regional. The next section to be reviewed will be the officers. There was a discussion about a position for the person responsible for negotiating with the Marriott.

Meeting with ABA

Nancy Strohmer and Errol LeCesne

They met with the ABA unit secretary Gloria Tapscott. They proposed a joint unit championship in 2014, possibly a two session event on one day. They were very excited about the game and will present to their board. Site is to be determined. One issue to be resolved is how the ABA members will be able to get points for the ABA or ACBL. The point conversion has been a issue that has hampered more joint efforts nationwide.

There was a discussion about the use of the Tracy Gees and that early March is best.

Special Membership Meeting

Nancy Strohmer and Joyce Gore

The proposal to present a proposal to change the bylaws was discussed. This was discussed extensively. At the last meeting the proposal was tabled until the exact wording could be presented at the next meeting.

Since the initial proposal, the board has reviewed the history of the current voting procedure, analyzed the implications of allowing a member to vote for only one candidate and had now several extensive discussions of the proposal. The conclusion is that *it would be the recommendation of the board that in the best interest of our unit we should not change. The board did not feel that we should proceed any further.*

Tournament Schedule for 2014

Chuck Ensor

Chuck presented the proposed schedule for 2014 sent prior to meeting by Email. Only issue is the two 299er tournaments in September. The board felt that two tournaments held so close together was not in the best interest of the unit and players.

MOTION: That the proposed schedule be approved with the exception of the September 299er's tournament at the Studio (9/25-9/28). The Studio is free to propose other dates as long as there are no conflicts and approved by the Board.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Boards and Carts

Chuck Ensor and Tom Martinsen

There is a need for a new cart for the new boards. The board suggested that a proposal for our needs be submitted.

New Verifier Announced

Chuck Ensor

Chuck announced that Mike Hofmann has accepted the role as verifier for the unit.

Executive Session

The board was not in executive session.



Future Meeting dates

The next meeting will be held on Monday, Aug 5, at 9:30 AM at Tracy Gee Community Center.

Adjourn

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded and approved at 11:19 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Riley, Secretary

