

## Minutes of a General Meeting of the Board of Directors - Draft

District 2, ACBL

April 19, 2019

MINUTES of a General Meeting of the Board of Directors of District 2 of the American Contract Bridge League held at the Sheraton Centre, 123 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario on April 19, 2019, at 1:15 p.m.

Directors present:

Ontario 166	David Halasi, Andy Risman, proxies for Carol Bongard, Sharon Berghaus, David McCrady
Manitoba 181	Shirley Galler, proxy for Douglas Fisher
Sault International 212	Arlene Smith, Bruce Richmond, proxy for Ian McKay
Northwestern Ontario 228	Francis Gaudino, Shirley Bent
Northeastern 238	Marc Langevin
Trent Valley 246	Linda Lord
Southwestern Ontario 249	Tom Ramsay, Jed Drew, Jennifer Verdam-Woodward proxy for Hazel Hewitt
Niagara 255	Wiebe Hoogland, Muriel Tremblay
Bermuda 198	no member present

Being a quorum of Directors of the Corporation.

Also present:

Paul Janicki, ACBL District 2 Director  
Gary Westfall, District 2 Auditor  
Graham Warren, Tournament Coordinator  
Flo Belford, District 2 Executive Assistant

The President, David Halasi took the Chair, and Flo Belford acted as Secretary of the meeting.

The Chair stated that in accordance with the by-laws of the Corporation, notice of the meeting had been e-mailed to all members of the Committee and a quorum of the members of the Committee being present (in person or by proxy), he declared the meeting properly called and constituted for the transaction of business.

David Halasi welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made.

### 1. Minutes of 2018 Meeting

**Moved** by Linda Lord, seconded by Tom Ramsay

***That the minutes of the General Meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 30, 2018 be approved.*** **Carried**

## 2. Business Arising from the Minutes

### a) Grassroots

- Paul asked the ACBL to allow the Canadian clubs to pay the additional \$1.00 in Canadian funds instead of U.S. Management did not want to do this.
- We feel there would be more participation if additional fee was in Canadian as easier for players to pay

**Action:** Paul Janicki will again ask the ACBL to allow Canadian clubs who are participating in the Grassroots games to charge the additional \$1.00 fee in Canadian funds.

## 3. President's Report

David Halasi, President gave his report. His full report is attached to these minutes. Some of the highlights included:

- Thanked all the hard working volunteers
- Bylaws have been updated
- Novice reimbursement for tournaments was successful
- Unit 249 showed almost a 50% growth in I/N attendance

## 4. Treasurer's Report

Gary Westfall gave a recap of the statements. The novice promotion to Kitchener, Sudbury, and Toronto totaled \$5887. This promotion is creating a loss for District, but it is very successful.

**Moved** by Shirley Galler, seconded by Shirley Bent,  
***That the Financial Reports for 2018 be accepted.***

**Carried**

### a) Support for northern regional tournaments

- Arlene Smith, Unit 212 asked that the District provide support for the northern regionals
- If you do a split regional outside of your District then you are both charged with a regional
- Point was made that it is very difficult to run regional with only one director
- Unit 212 has sufficient funds at the moment to run a regional
- Unit 212 lost their 2018 tournament because of the Toronto NABC
- David Halasi felt we do not want to set a precedent
- Decision was to table this item for further discussion to next year

**Action: Add support for northern regional tournaments to the 2020 agenda.**

### b) Extending novice support program for Regionals

There were two suggestions to raise funds to cover this program:

- hold a special game at each regional that would give more master points and there would be an additional fee – this means tournament players are supporting tournament novice program
- hold an additional STAC; Graham Warren, Tournament Coordinator will look into this; we have a very busy schedule so not sure where we could schedule it, STAC generates about \$6000.

**Action: Graham Warren will look into holding an additional STAC to raise funds for the Novice Support Program.**

**Moved** by Francis Gaudino seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,  
***That if we cannot run an additional STAC to support the Novice Support Program then we look at the option of holding a special game at each Regional.*** Carried

**Moved** by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Linda Lord,  
***That we extend the Novice Support Program for one more cycle until 2021.*** Carried

Requests for the funding need to be sent to Gary Westfall, Tom Ramsay, and David Halasi prior to the tournament. The funds do not cover reduced entry fees. Trophies, speakers, refreshments, and give-aways are covered.

Steve Overholt, Unit 166 advised that he offered low master point games, speakers (45 people at every lecture), enhanced prizes, and supervised games with 12 – 15 boards.

c) Webpage

The need for the District website was discussed at the Agenda Planning meeting. It was felt that we should keep it for another year and see if we use it more. The webmaster is Al Houston. Please send any information to be posted through David Halasi, Tom Ramsay, or Flo Belford. Encourage your units and clubs to put a link to it.

d) 2020 Budget

Shirley Galler presented the proposed budget for 2020.

**Moved** by Shirley Galler, seconded by Muriel Tremblay,  
***That the proposed 2020 budget be approved.*** Carried

**Action: Flo Belford will send out the 2020 budget.**

5. Honorariums

**Moved** by Muriel Tremblay, seconded by Linda Lord,  
***That the following honoraria be awarded for 2018:***

<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	<b><i>700.</i></b>	
<b><i>Executive Assistant</i></b>	<b><i>1,600.</i></b>	
<b><i>NAOP Coodinator</i></b>	<b><i>500.</i></b>	
<b><i>GNT Coordinator</i></b>	<b><i>500.</i></b>	
<b><i>Tournament Coodinator</i></b>	<b><i>250.</i></b>	
<b><i>Webmaster</i></b>	<b><i>250.</i></b>	<b>Carried</b>

**6. North American Open Pairs, Flight A, B, and C**

The report was included in the meeting package.

Each club can hold 2 qualifying games in June, July, or August.

ACBL needs to market the NAP to the clubs.

Martin Hunter, Coordinator suggested we give 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes some compensation. There was no interest in compensating 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Final for NAP is November 17, 2019.

**Action: Paul Janicki will contact the ACBL regarding marketing the NAP to clubs.**

**7. Grand National Teams**

The report was included in the meeting package.

Final is tomorrow at the Toronto Regional.

Martin Hunter has agreed to coordinate the NAP and GNT next year.

**8. 2018 Tournament Reports**

**Moved** by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Tom Ramsay,

***That the 2018 Regional Tournament Reports from Toronto 166, Kitchener 249, and Sudbury 238 be accepted.*** **Carried**

**Action: Shirley Galler will send out Winnipeg 181 report.**

**9. 2019 Tournament Budgets**

The following budgets were received: Toronto, Sault Ste. Marie, Niagara, and Toronto.

**Action: Linda Lord will send out the budget for the Orillia Regional.**

**10. Tournament Scheduling**

Wiebe Hoogland had submitted a motion to have the District approve Regionals 6 years ahead. Currently the policy is to approve for 3 years ahead.

The rationale is that Units can strengthen their negotiating position and secure the playing venue. This will result in significant benefit to the players attending the tournaments from out of town by keeping their costs lower for the rooms as well as containing the cost of entry fees.

**Moved** by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Tom Ramsay

***That Regionals be approved for a window of 6 years ahead.***

**Carried**

In the discussion regarding this motion the point was made that we would need to change the policy so that new units could not have a tournament for 6 years.

**Moved** by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Tom Ramsay,  
***That new units cannot have a Regional Tournament for 6 years.*** Carried

**Moved** by Bruce Richmond, seconded by Francis Gaudino,  
***That the following Regional Tournaments be approved:***

**2020 166, 249, 181, 238,**  
**2021 166, 255, 249 SS, 246, 212 SS**  
**2022 166, 246, 238, 166**  
**2023 166, 181, 249, 255**  
**2024 166, 166, 246, 238**  
**2025 166, 255, 249, 246**

**CFB Regional** – Unit 255 would like to host the CBF Regional every other year. September 2020 would be available in Niagara.

Ottawa Unit has requested to hold a non-life master regional the same week as Unit 166 summer regional. Unit 212 objects as this will interfere with their regional.

**Action: David Halasi will advise them of our objection.**

## **11. ACBL Director's Report – Paul Janicki**

Paul's report included the following items:

- The ACBL is looking at reorganizing the Board of Directors
- One suggestion is to have nine members on Executive Committee, each unit would have two reps on the Senate
- Concern of whether the Senate would have enough power to speak for District
- The nine members would not be geographic representation, but selected for their skills
- The financial savings is not clear
- The Board of Directors is split on this
- Paul is looking for guidance on this
- The Board of Directors has cut expenses by 52% over past years
- Hawaii Regional – ACBL lost a lot of money on it, when approved it was pointed out that they did not plan on making a profit at every NABC, but did not feel they would lose that much at the Hawaii Regional – people went to Hawaii but did not play much bridge
- Paul advised that he had voted against holding the NABC in Hawaii
- There were two issues that have resulted in the high costs for the ACBL
- The CEO Bahar left and this cost us ¾ million. He was spending a lot of money he was not authorized to spend
- Mr. Blakely, ACBL Director received a settlement because it was found that the ACBL did not treat him properly – he received 1/2 million – 1/2 from insurance, 1/2 from ACBL – part of settlement is that he must take sexual contact training

- ACBL is no longer the Zone 2 representative to the WBF. A new Zone 2 organization, North American Bridge Federation (NABF) has been formed and they decided that the 5 WBF reps will be 2 from US, 2 from Canada, 2 from Mexico, and 1 from ACBL

David Halasi expressed his frustration that the ACBL is losing and spending a lot of money and nothing is being done to monitor or control this.

## **12. CBF – No Report**

## **13. Educational Coordinator Report**

This report was sent out, but apparently everyone did not receive it.

**Action: Flo Belford will resend the Educational Coordinator Report.**

## **14. School Bridge Report**

- Unit 166 will be holding a Youth Cup on Saturday of the Toronto Regional.
- Unit 246 had a school bridge tournament for three schools

## **15. Recorder – no report**

## **16. Webmaster Report**

Francis Gaudino urged Units to get info to the Webmaster so he can post it.

## **18. Election of Officers 2019 – 20**

**Moved** by Muriel Tremblay, seconded by Francis Gaudino,  
***That David Halasi be nominated for President.***

There being no further nominations, David Halasi was declared President.

**Moved** by Muriel Tremblay, seconded by Shirley Galler,  
***That Tom Ramsay be nominated for Vice-President.***

There being no further nominations, Tom Ramsay was declared Vice-President.

**Moved** by Shirley Bent, seconded by Arlene Smith,  
***That Shirley Galler be nominated for Treasurer.***

There being no further nominations, Shirley Galler was declared Treasurer.

One rep from each Unit was appointed to the Executive/Planning Committee. The reps for 2019-20 are: Tom Ramsay, Shirley Galler, Shirley Bent, Linda Lord, Wiebe Hoogland, Bruce Richmond, Marc Langevin, and David Halasi.

**Action: Tom Ramsay will ask Jennifer Verdam-Woodward if she would take on the role of Educational Coordinator and will advise Flo Belford.**

**7. New Business**

a) Tournament Directors

We have a shortage of tournament directors. Greg Coles one of our directors has been transferred to ACBL Head Office. We have two tournament directors - Nancy Strachan and Joel Shapiro. We need to make people aware that we are looking for directors. Suggestion that Units approach clubs and players to see if players are interested, encourage them to take the test. It takes 2 to 5 years to get directors up and running. If we need to bring directors in from out of province it will be more expensive for us.

**Action: Reps will contact Units and Clubs to encourage players to look at becoming directors.**

b) Ace of Clubs Winners

**Action: David will look into a certificate for Ace of Clubs Winners.**

c) Bylaws

Wiebe Hoogland put together a proposed revision of the District By-laws. These were distributed to members.

During the discussion a number of revisions were proposed and approved.

**Moved** by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Tom Ramsay,  
***That we accept the proposed by-laws with revisions.***

**Carried**

**Action: Wiebe Hoogland will do the approved revisions and send to David Halasi and Francis Gaudino so they can proofread them.**

**Action: David Halasi and Francis Gaudino will proofread them and David will send them to the Board of Directors.**

d) Policy Manual

**Action: Wiebe Hoogland will review the District minutes and put together a policy manual.**

Next year's meeting is Friday, April 10, 2020 at the Sheraton Centre, Ballroom A.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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Chairperson

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Secretary of the Meeting

