

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Board of Directors

District 2, ACBL

April 18, 2014

(Agenda C)

MINUTES of a General Meeting of the Board of Directors of District 2 of the American Contract Bridge League held at the International Plaza Hotel, 655 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario on April 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Directors present:

Ontario 166	David Halasi, Wiebe Hoogland, Andrew Risman (proxy), Shirley Berghaus (proxy)
Manitoba 181	Shirley Galler, Doug Fisher (proxy)
Sault International 212	David Chiasson, Gunnar Kristiansen
Northwestern Ontario 228	Francis Gaudino
Northeastern 238	Marc Langevin (Shirley O'Neil), Brian Thomas
Trent Valley 246	Linda Lord
Southwestern Ontario 249	Tom Ramsay, Jed Drew, Hazel Hewitt
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
David Cohen, Webmaster
Martin Hunter, NAP, GNT Coordinator
Nader Hanna, CBF
Graham Warren, Tournament Coordinator
Jordan Cohen, Legal Council
Flo Belford, District 2 Executive Assistant

The President, Brian Thomas 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.

Brian Thomas welcomed everyone to the meeting, and shared his President's Report with the Board. Some changes he noted were: including a representative from each unit on the Planning Committee, reducing annual meeting costs by reimbursing only one member from each unit for his/her travel and per diem expenses, and empowering the Executive Committee to transact pressing matters on line. The Executive Committee used this process to deal with the issue of funding CBF teams to Bali.

1. Minutes of 2013 Meeting

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Linda Lord,
That the minutes of the General Meeting of Directors held on March 30, 2013 be accepted. **Carried**

2. Business arising from the minutes

- There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was included in the meeting package. Shirley Galler, Treasurer and Gary Westfall, Auditor were available to answer any questions.

Income from Grass Roots was \$2300.00 this year. Last year it was \$480.00. Members need to be made aware of where these funds are going.

Action: Paul Janicki will provide information to the Kibitzer regarding the Grass Roots event.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by David Halasi
That the Financial Reports be accepted. **Carried**

a) Shirley presented the proposed 2015 budget figures.

It was noted that we have reduced the meeting costs by only covering the travel expenses for one rep from each unit. The other reps from the unit are welcome to attend, but the units would have to cover their expenses. Hotel expenses are not covered.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,
That the 2015 budget as presented be approved. **Carried**

Action: Flo Belford will send out the 2015 budget.

b) **Honoraria**

Moved by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Francis Gaudino,
That the Treasurer be awarded an honorarium of \$500.00 plus \$200.00 expenses for the preceding year. **Carried**

Moved by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Francis Gaudino,
That the Executive Assistant be compensated \$1600.00 for meeting preparation services for the preceding year. **Carried**

4. a) 2013 Regional Tournament Reports

The 2013 Tournament Reports were reviewed. There was a discussion regarding the need for a standard reporting form. Jed Drew agreed to create a tournament reporting form and send it out to all board members.

Action: Jed Drew will create a tournament reporting form and send it out to all board members.

Moved by Jed Drew, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That the 2013 Regional Tournament Reports be accepted. Carried

4. b) 2014 Regional Tournament Budgets

The 2014 Tournament Budgets were reviewed.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen
That the 2014 Regional Tournament Budgets be accepted. Carried

4. c) Tournament Scheduling

Graham Warren reminded the members that sanctions need to be in 3 years ahead for regionals and 1 year ahead for sectionals.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by David Halasi,
That the Regional Tournaments for 2017 be awarded to Niagara Falls, Barrie/Markham, Sault Ste. Marie, Toronto, and Bermuda. Carried

Moved by Linda Lord, seconded by David Halasi,
That Graham Warren be awarded an honourarium of \$250.00 for his work as Tournament Coordinator. Carried

5. CBF Report

Nadar Hanna distributed his report, and highlighted some of the information. The focus of the CBF is to attract more regular players. The Bridge Canada Magazine has been improved. Chartwell Retirement Residences is their new corporate sponsor. Mini Richmond Awards will be presented on Saturday at this regional. They have been working on strengthening some policies re zero tolerance, slow play, and electronic devices. Last year the CBF donated \$19,564.00 to Canadian charities that assist and improve the life of seniors. CBF was instrumental in ensuring the funds raised in Canada from "Longest Day" events were received by CFB Charitable Foundation. Nader has begun a mentoring program for junior players. He attended the school bridge tournament and recruited some students there and asked that members refer other junior players to him who are interested in the mentoring program. There are two

Canadian junior teams in the World Juniors. The CBF 2014 Regional is in Toronto September 16 – 21. In 2015 it is in Kingston. The 2014 CBF Bridge Championships are in May in Calgary, CWTC is in Edmonton in August. CBF would like to see the District, units, and CBF working together to support players representing Canada in international tournaments. Our players are at a disadvantage due to expenses. Teams from other countries receive financial support from government and sponsors. Bridge is not considered a sport in Canada so there is no government support. They had enquired about tax receipts for donations, but government said no. CBF would like to hold 2018 regional in Toronto.

Moved by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That the CBF be awarded a regional tournament in Toronto in 2018. Carried

Unit applies for sanction.

6. North American Open Pairs

The North American Pairs 2013-14 Report was included in the meeting package. The finals are scheduled for November 23, 2014 at multiple sites across the District. Any unit may apply to hold one of the multi-site finals. A minimum of 5 tables are required. A player must have qualified at the Club level to be eligible to play in the District Final. Top 3 pairs in each flight qualify for the National Final in New Orleans. 1st place receives \$700. subsidy from ACBL, 2nd place receives \$300. subsidy from ACBL and \$400. from District 2. These subsidies are paid upon participation at National event.

Moved by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That the North American Pairs Report be accepted. Carried

Moved by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Jed Drew,
That Martin Hunter be awarded an honorarium of \$500.00 for his work as North American Pairs Convenor. Carried

7. Grand National Teams

The Grant National Teams 2013 Report was included in the meeting package. All three teams did well at the Nationals. Jed Drew advised that Martin Hunter was great to work with.

Moved by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That the Grand National Teams Report be accepted. Carried

This year the Finals will be held on May 24, 2014. The National final will be in Las Vegas.

Discussion re dates for 2015 were discussed. The suggestion was made that we hold this event at the Toronto Regional, and Martin Hunter agreed that he would like to try this venue. Participants in the game would be required to pay additional charge if they want to be a GNT qualifier.

Moved by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Linda Lord,
That Martin Hunter be awarded an honorarium of 500.00 for his work as Grand National Teams Convenor.
Carried

8. Education Coordinator Report

Flo Belford reported that the School Bridge Tournament was held on Monday, April 13, 2014 at the regional tournament site. There were over 400 students participating. CBC news attended and the report was shown on the television show "Our Toronto" numerous times.

9. Recorder – no report

10. Webmaster Report

David Cohen reported that tournaments and results are on the website. He would like to create a subsite for the 2017 Nationals. Web hosting and domain renewal are due at a cost of \$101.00 U.S. for two years.

Moved by David Halasi, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,
That the District pay the \$101.00 hosting and domain two year renewal fees for the District 2 website.
Carried

Moved by David Halasi, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,
That David Cohen, Webmaster, create a subsite for the 2017 Toronto Nationals.
Carried

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Linda Lord,
That David Cohen be awarded a \$250.00 honourarium for his work as Webmaster.
Carried

11. ACBL Director

Paul Janicki's report was included in the meeting package. He highlighted some of the information. The 2014 Goodwill Committee appointments are: Doug Fisher, Jim Brimner, Carol Bongard, and Alex Kornel. The 2014 Charity Committee appointments are Hazel Wolpert and John Caruthers. Paul advised that we should be educating clubs about the special games.

12. Board of Governors' Report

Jonathon Steinberg has been appointed District 2 Board of Governors rep. Barry Harper passed away. He was one of our reps.

13. Other Business

a) Disciplinary Appeal

Jordan Cohen reported that an appeal is underway. The committee members are Stephen Cooper, George Burton, and Jordan Cohen. The expenses will be for travel, parking for the committee members, and the cost of the transcript. Jordan asked for the expenses of the Unit Disciplinary Committee rep also be covered.

Motion by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That the travel and parking expenses for the Disciplinary Committee rep from Unit 249 involved in the appeal be covered. Carried

b) Effect of Nationals on Tournaments

The issue of the effect on table count at Sectionals and Regionals in District 2 when the Nationals are held in Toronto was discussed.

Motion by Gunnar Kristiansen, seconded by David Chiasson,
That the District lower the table fees for those Regional Tournaments which are normally scheduled within 2 months of a Summer National in Toronto. The dollar amount would be determined by the drop in attendance from the previous tournament and limited to a maximum of \$1,000.00. Tabled

Attendance at Sectionals and Regionals is down when the Nationals are held in Toronto. Paul Janicki advised that he will check to see if the Nationals could give the table fees to the District. The Nationals effect two tournaments.

Motion by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Hazel Hewitt,
That the motion regarding lowering table fees at Regionals when the Nationals are held in Toronto be tabled. Carried

c) North American Pairs

There was a discussion regarding the number of sites for the NAP event. Suggestion that we have multi sites for B & C and two sites for A. Consensus was that we have multi sites for all strats.

Motion by Tom Ramsay, seconded by Hazel Hewitt,
That the NAP event be held at multi sites for all strats, with a minimum of 5 tables at a site. The scoring will be across the field. If only two sites for A, Winnipeg and Toronto, then there will be 1 winner from each site. Carried

Martin Hunter will set the date.

d) Web Movement

The suggestion that the web movement be used at tournaments was discussed at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors on April 17, 2014.

Action: Linda Lord will send out information to the board members regarding the web movement.

14. Election of Officers for 2014-15.

Brian Thomas called for nominations for President.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Gunnar Kristiansen,
That Tom Ramsay be nominated for president.

There being no other nominations for President, **Tom Ramsay was declared President.**

Nominations for Vice-President were requested.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by David Chiasson
That Francis Gaudino be nominated for Vice-President.

There being no further nominations for Vice-President, **Francis Gaudino was declared Vice-President.**

Nominations for Treasurer were requested.

Moved by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,
That Shirley Galler be nominated for Treasurer.

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

15. Appointment of Executive/Planning Committee

The following members were appointed to this Committee.

Shirley Galler 181	Tom Ramsay 249	Brian Thomas 238
David Halasi 166	Linda Lord 246	Francis Gaudino 228
Gunnar Kristiansen 212		

Paul Janicki, ACBL District 2 Director and Gary Westfall, Auditor are invited to the Executive/Planning meeting.

16/17. Appointments

The following appointments were made:

Appellate Chair	Paul Cronin
Disciplinary Chair	David Colbert
Recorder	Paul Cronin

Tournament Coordinator	Graham Warren
Legal Counsel	Jordan Cohen
Education Coordinator	Flo Belford
Conditions of Content	
Webmaster	David Cohen
Executive Assistant	Flo Belford
GNT Coordinator	Martin Hunter
NAP Coordinator	Martin Hunter

18. The Executive/Agenda Planning Meeting, Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors (Agenda A), and Annual Meeting of the Members (Agenda B) will be held on Friday, April 3, 2015.

The General Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2015.

19. Moved by Gunnar Kristiansen, seconded by David Halasi,
That the meeting be adjourned. **Carried**

Chairperson

Secretary of Meeting