

Minutes of a General Meeting of the Board of Directors

District 2, ACBL

April 4, 2015

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 4, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Directors present:

Ontario 166	David Halasi, Wiebe Hoogland, Carol Bongard (proxy)
Manitoba 181	Shirley Galler
Sault International 212	Arlene Smith, John Robertson
Northwestern Ontario 228	Francis Gaudino, Tracey Fuhr
Northeastern 238	Marc Langevin, Shirley O'Neil
Trent Valley 246	Linda Lord, Chris Chambers
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
Martin Hunter, NAP, GNT Coordinator
Nader Hanna, CBF
Graham Warren, Tournament Coordinator
Jonathan Steinberg, Board of Governors
Ina Demme, NABC Toronto 2017 Chair
Flo Belford, District 2 Executive Assistant

The President, Tom Ramsay 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.

Tom Ramsay welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made.

1. Minutes of 2014 Meeting

Moved by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Linda Lord,
That the minutes of the General Meeting of the Board of Directors held on April 18, 2014 be approved. Carried

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Motion made at April 18, 2014 meeting regarding lowering of table fees at Regionals when Nationals are held in Toronto (this motion was tabled at the 2014 meeting)

This item was discussed at the Executive/Planning Committee meeting. We will consider this motion in 2017.

b) Template for regional reports

This report was previously distributed. Jed Drew will create a second page to be used for submitting the report to the District

Action: Jed Drew will create a regional report document to be used for submitting the report to the District.

3. President's Report

Tom shared his President's Report with the Board. (Report was included in the meeting package) Some of the highlights were:

- In 2014 overall attendance at ACBL tournaments was down. However, District 2 regionals were up. The biggest growth was in the 0 – 299 section.
- A new event, mid flight pairs was added to Toronto regional
- Concerns – how will 2017 NABC effect regional attendance, how can we increase attendance in the NAP and GNT events, how do we continue the growth in the 0 – 299 segments

David Halasi, Toronto Regional Chair reported that the new mid flight pairs events have been very successful, bringing people back to the tournament. This was a test for the ACBL and we were allowed to offer it at one tournament this year. 60 tables are required to offer the event.

Tom Ramsay asked Paul Janicki to work on acquiring approval to offer this event at the Niagara Falls Regional in the fall.

Action: Paul Janicki will work on getting approval to offer mid flight pairs events at the Niagara Falls Regional in the fall.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was included in the meeting package. A corrected Statement of Income and Expenses was distributed at the meeting. Shirley Galler, Treasurer and Gary Westfall, Auditor were available to answer any questions.

Our expenses were under what we projected. Cost of Directors meeting was down. Income from Grass Roots was \$2000 more than we anticipated.

Paul Janicki encouraged members to get clubs involved in Grass Roots games. The ACBL moved this event to April from January. This benefits us as the snowbirds are back.

For NAP, we subsidize the 2nd place finishers by giving them \$400 Canadian to make up the difference between the award ACBL gives to 1st and 2nd.

For GNT, we pay the entries for the National Final, held at the Summer NABC. Starting this summer, entries for the first and second day will be paid by the ACBL for all flights except "Open".

Note: We have refunded entries in Canadian dollars over the past few years, although the participants pay in U.S. dollars.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Francis Gaudino,
That the Financial Reports be accepted. **Carried**

a) Shirley presented the proposed 2016 budget figures.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Francis Gaudino,
That the 2016 budget as presented be approved. **Carried**

Action: Flo Belford will send out the 2016 budget.

b) Honoraria for Treasurer and Secretary will be dealt with later in the meeting.

5. a) 2014 Regional Tournament Reports

The 2014 Tournament Reports were reviewed.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Linda Lord,
That the 2014 Regional Tournament Reports be accepted. **Carried**

5. b) 2015 Regional Tournament Budgets

The 2014 Tournament Budgets were reviewed. The Barrie Regional budget was sent by e-mail.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Francis Gaudino,
That the 2015 Regional Tournament Budgets be accepted. **Carried**

5. c) Tournament Scheduling

Moved by Shirley O'Neil, seconded by Hazel Hewitt,
That the Regional Tournaments for 2018 be awarded to Winnipeg, London, Unit 238, Toronto, and Bermuda. Carried

Francis Gaudino expressed concern regarding the 2018 CBF Regional September 11 – 16 in Toronto. There was a discussion regarding conflict of regionals. We need to work with other Districts so that we notify each other regarding upcoming regionals. District 1 and the District covering Buffalo are two that we need to communicate with on a regular basis.

6. ACBL Director Report – Paul Janicki

Paul shared his Director Report with the board. (Report was distributed at the meeting)
Some of the highlights were:

- If you would like to nominate someone to be appointed to the Goodwill or Charity Committees please let Paul know
- A Technology Committee was formed to decide how to proceed on developing a product to replace ACBL Score, partnership desk, teacher portal, club portal
- 2 million was lost over the ACBL Score program development. Some of the modules may be used when the Committee proceeds with developing the program. This may enable us to recover some of the lost money
- Suzi Subeck (Chicago, District 13) was elected President for 2015
- Each unit will be permitted to hold one Progressive Sectional per calendar year. Paul will send info to board members
- On all printed lifetime Masterpoint lists, online Masterpoints will be included next to the total
- Convention Charts Modifications were made (please see Paul's written report for details)
- Toronto was awarded the 2024 Nationals and will receive \$50,000.

Concern was expressed that the lower masterpoint awards for KO's is resulting in fewer teams playing in the events. Question was asked as to why this decision was made. Paul Janicki responded that the ACBL felt it is more difficult to win a pairs event than a KO event.

Action: Paul Janicki will send information to the Board Members regarding the Progressive Sectional.

7. CBF Report

Nader Hanna's report was included in the meeting package. Some of the highlights were:

- Two fully subsidized teams represented Canada at the 2014 World Youth Championships
- They have started a mentoring program in Toronto area for ages 11 – 16
- Allan Graves and John Caruthers were elected to the CFB Hall of Fame in 2015
- George Retek of Montreal is the first recipient of the CFB Lifetime Achievement Award
- In 2014 the CBF Charitable Foundation donated \$20,000 to Canadian charities that assist and improve the life of seniors
- Toronto may be considered for 2020 World Championships

8. North American Pairs

The NAP report was included in the meeting package. Martin Hunter highlighted the following points:

- NAP participation up from last year
- We received thank you card from Charles Smith and Gaye Villa, recipients of subsidy
- Planned date of October 24-25/15 was in conflict with Buffalo
- Will be held on November 1 – one day event

Moved by Linda Lord, seconded by Shirley Galler

That the North American Pairs Report be accepted.

Carried

9. Grand National Teams

The Grand National Teams 2014 Report was included in the meeting package.

- This year the event is being held at the Toronto regional on Saturday/Sunday
- ACBL will be sending e-mails to advise you have qualified
- Jed Drew thanked Martin for a job well done

Moved by Jed Drew, seconded by Shirley Galler,

That the Grand National Teams Report be accepted.

Carried

Moved Jed Drew, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,

That Martin Hunter be appointed NAP and GNT Coordinator for 2016.

Carried

10. Education Coordinator Report

Flo Belford reported that the School Bridge Tournament was held on Monday, March 30, 2015 at the regional tournament site. There were 472 students participating. Many thanks to the numerous volunteers who helped for the day. This event could not happen without them.

11. Recorder

This report was included in the meeting package.

12. Webmaster Report – no report

Discussion regarding what information we want on our webpage. Information about the following should be included: NAP, GNT, Directors, meeting minutes, bylaws. We need the webpage to be kept current.

Action: Tom Ramsay will speak with David Cohen, our current webmaster outlining our expectations and see if he wants to continue in the role.

13. Board of Governors' Report

The Board of Governors' Report was e-mailed and distributed at the meeting. There was a discussion regarding Jonathan's motion to the Board of Governors. Motion: For all ACBL lifetime masterpoint lists, points won online be separated from points won face-to-face. There would be two categories of lifetime lists: Online points and face-to-face points. This would apply to the ACBL Lifetime Top 500, Canadian Top 100, Mexico Top 50, Bermuda Top 25, and any other ACBL lifetime lists.

This motion was moved, seconded and carried at the July 20, 2014 meeting and again at the March 15, 2015 meeting.

After the July 20, 2014 motion, the Board of Directors passed a motion to separate the points on printed lifetime masterpoint lists. This did not include online lists or e-mailed lists.

Since the motion was presented again, it will again go to the Board of Directors' meeting for their consideration.

Further discussion resulted in the suggestion that District 2 send a letter to the Board of Directors supporting Jonathan's motion.

Moved by Wiebe Hoogland, seconded by Linda Lord,
That we send a letter from the District 2 Board of Directors to the ACBL Board of Directors advising that we support Jonathan Steinberg's motion regarding separating masterpoints and recommend they approve it. Carried

Action: Tom Ramsay will send a letter to the ACBL regarding the motion to separate masterpoints.

14. Honoraria

Motion by Francis Gaudino, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland,

That the following honoraria be awarded:

Treasurer 700.

Secretary 1600.

Auditor 500.

NAP Coordinator 500.

GNT Coordinator 500.

Tournament Coordinator 250.

Webmaster 250.

Carried

15. Other Business

a) Increase in I/N Tables at London Regional

Unit 249 had record attendance at their tournament. They are leading the District in new member growth.

Hazel Hewitt outlined the work she did and strategies she used to increase the participation of I/N players at the tournament.

- Visited classes and clubs to promote tournament
- Presold entries, gave discounts
- Presold passes for several games
- Presold for tournament – meant they got one game free
- Provided discounts for I/N players

Hazel distributed an article regarding her “Clever Approach”.

15. b) NABC Toronto 2017 Report

Ina Demme reported that she has the initial committee in place and they have been meeting. She shared the tournament logo which celebrates Canada’s 150th birthday. The ACBL designs it with input from us. Fundraising will include STACs and selling games.

Hospitality is expensive as you have to purchase through the convention centre. Will be looking for volunteers as we get closer to 2017.

16. Election of Officers for 2015-16

Flo Belford assumed the Chair and called for nominations for President.

Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Arlene Smith,
That Tom Ramsay be nominated for president.

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

Tom Ramsay assumed the Chair.

Nominations for Vice-President were requested.

Moved by Shirley O'Neil, seconded by Shirley Galler,
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 Linda Lord,
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	Shirley O'Neil 238
David Halasi 166	Linda Lord 246	Francis Gaudino 228
Arlene Smith 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

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Tournament Coordinator	Graham Warren
Legal Counsel	Jordan Cohen
Educational Coordinator	Hazel Hewitt
School Bridge 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, March 25, 2016.

The General Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, March 26, 2016

19. Moved by Shirley Galler, seconded by Hazel Hewitt,
That the meeting be adjourned. **Carried**

Chairperson

Secretary of Meeting