

**MINUTES**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**4/6/2005**  
**8 PM CST**  
**VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Jan Martel.

**II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Present: Jan Martel, Rose Meltzer, Bill Pollack, Steve Beatty, Shawn Quinn,  
Bob Hamman

Also Present: Peter Rank, Gary Blaiss, Mike Becker, Joan Gerard and Chris  
Compton

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MEETING OF 3/2/05**

The minutes of the 3/2/05 meeting were approved with the addition of Joan Gerard as among those present.

**IV. PORTUGAL ROOM RESERVATIONS REPORT**

We have reserved 21 rooms at the Palacio Estoril (expensive (185 Euro double), nearby hotel) and 6 rooms at Londres (\*\*\*, less expensive (77 Euros double), 10 minutes walk). All of the rooms were reserved through travel agent channels, required 1 day deposit and have a 72 hour cancellation.

The Board agreed to reserve 7 more rooms at the Palacio Estoril, so long as we cancel if people don't want rooms.

**V. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BY JACEK PSZCZOLA**

After reviewing the application filed by Mr. Pszczola and an email detailing when he last played for Poland, the Board discussed Mr. Pszczola's application. Motion by Hamman and seconded by Pollack to accept Mr. Pszczola's application was passed, 4 in favor, 0 against and 2 Abstaining.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Augmentation Committee**

After discussion of the comments of the ITTC and WITTC on the Augmentation Committee's report, it was moved by Pollack and seconded by Meltzer that the

General Conditions of Contest should be amended to reflect the spirit of the recommendation of the WITTC. Motion passed, 5 in favor, 1 against. Jan will prepare an amendment to the General Conditions of Contest and distribute it to the Board for approval. General Conditions of Contest Augmentation Section as revised is attached to these minutes as Exhibit A.

## **B. Marketing**

Steve Beatty and Shawn Quinn will work on a proposal for an additional class of membership and other marketing matters.

## **VII. SENIOR CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

On motion made by Meltzer and seconded by Pollack, the 2005 USSBC Conditions of Contest were approved unanimously.

## **VIII. USBC & HOUSTON REGIONAL**

The Board discussed the issue of potential losses from the Regional and directed President Martel to sign an agreement to assume those losses in a form to be drafted by Peter Rank and accepted by the Houston Unit, with no dissent or abstention. The Board further expressed its appreciation for the support of the Houston Unit for this Regional.

## **IX. USWBC**

The Board discussed the possible need for monitors at the USWBC and directed President Martel to arrange for a monitor or monitors to be available on-site during the entire tournament, to be used at the discretion of the Director.

## **X. "RYDER CUP" PROPOSAL**

The Board discussed Paul Hackett's proposed bridge Ryder Cup and expressed interest in participating. President Martel was directed to inform Paul Hackett that we'd be interested but that we would need more information about the proposed lodging to be provided and also that we believe in order to be attractive to US players, the event would have to offer prize money in the \$60,000-\$120,000 range.

## **XI. OLD BUSINESS**

President Martel reported on her presentation to the ACBL Board of Directors. Peter Rank and Joan Gerard reported on feedback they have received. The written material distributed to the ACBL Board is attached to these minutes as Exhibit B.

There was a discussion of the new ACBL regulation concerning special games at clubs to benefit the International Fund. Since these special games may be

conducted to benefit the Charity Foundation or the Junior Fund in most months, it was decided that the USBF should draft a letter to be sent to the USBF membership. The letter should ask the membership to become involved with the local clubs to encourage them to hold IF games when possible. In return, the member should offer to give lectures before games to encourage attendance that would benefit the club owner or provide some other incentive. Rose Meltzer "volunteered" to write the letter.

**XII. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for May 25, 2005 at 8 PM CST

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.