

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20, 2013
11:24 PM EDT

Directors Present: Cheri Bjerkan, George Jacobs, Bob Katz, Ralph Katz, Sylvia Moss, Howard Weinstein.

Others Present: Joan Gerard, Jan Martel, Joe Stokes, Robert Hartman, Don Mamula, Ken Monzingo, Michael Becker, Chip Martel

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President, George Jacobs at 11:26 pm.

II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM

The president noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 16, 2013

The January 16, 2013 Minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. COMMITTEES

President George Jacobs announced the following committees for 2013:

Juniors: Chair Joe Stokes; Members Bryan Delfs, Jason Feldman, Bob Katz, Jan Martel, Sue Picus.

Tournament Planning: Chair: Joan Gerard; Members: Bob Katz, Jan Martel, Sylvia Moss, Barbara Nudelman, Suzi Subeck.

ITTC: Chair: Henry Bethe

SITTC: Chair: Bob Katz

WITTC: Chair: Beth Palmer

Nominating: Chair: Sylvia Moss; Members: Peter Boyd, Robb Gordon, Steve Landen, Peggy Sutherlin

Election: Chair: Ralph Katz; Members: Danny Sprung, Eddie Wold

Appeals: Chair: Joan Gerard; Members: Howard Weinstein, Chris Moll

Sponsorship & Fund Raising: Chair: Jade Barrett; Members: Bob Blanchard, Joan Gerard, Bob Hamman, Debbie Hyatt, Shawn Quinn

Bylaws: Chair: Marty Harris; Members: Sylvia Moss,

Finance: Chair: Cheri Bjerkan; Members: Barbara Nudelman, Stan Subeck

Hospitality: Chair: Lisa Berkowitz; Members: Bob Katz, Martha Katz, Barbara Nudelman, Suzi Subeck

Stipend: Chair: Sylvia Moss; Members: Ralph Katz, Jan Martel, Barbara Nudelman, Jonathan Weinstein

SportAccord: Co-Chairs: Howie Weinstein & Cheri Bjerkan. **NOTE:** on the website I called this “Team Selection Committee” since it will deal with events other than SportAccord if any arise.

Decorum: Chair: Jonathan Weinstein; Members: Cheri Bjerkan, Ralph Katz

Vugraph: Chair: Jan Martel; Members: Peggy Kaplan, Danny Sprung & Joe Stokes.

Credentials & Grievance: These are unchanged – listed on website.

V. JUNIOR COMMITTEE REPORT

Joe Stokes reported that we have started our training program. There are currently about 42 players in 6 groups. The groups practice online every week and discuss hands they have played. The Junior Committee decided to try to get some feedback from the players about what is working and what isn't. Joe is planning to do that when he returns from St. Louis. The Committee considered recruiting more mentors, both so we could sometimes have 2 mentors for each group and in case we have additional players apply to participate.

The committee is also trying to develop face to face training. We hope to have something before the Atlanta World Youth Open Championships, where players may be able to meet possible teammates for Atlanta as well as have “live” training. Ralph suggested that if possible we include practice behind screens as part of the in person training.

The Junior Committee asks that the USBF offer matching grants for whatever a player can raise from Units, Districts or Clubs, up to a total maximum of \$5000. It was moved that the USBF Board will match support that Juniors obtain from their Units, Districts or Clubs up to a maximum total amount of \$5000 and with a reasonable limit per person (to be decided by the Junior Committee). The motion passed unanimously.

VI. SPONSORSHIP

George reported that the Sponsorship Committee will approach people and try to raise money either to support individual events or for naming rights for the Trials.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported on the income statement for 2012 and the Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2012.

VIII. DAVID GRAINGER

A motion was made to allow David Grainger to participate in the 2013 USBC even though he played in the CNTC in 2011, subject to WBF waiving the normal 3 year waiting period. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. DECORUM COMMITTEE

The decorum committee is working on revising the agreement that players sign when they represent USBF in a World Championship.

X. VUGRAPH FOR 2013 TRIALS

It was moved that USBF pay airfare and hotel expenses for up to 3 senior Vugraph operators for each of the 2013 Trials. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. ACBL REPORT

George reported that he appeared before the ACBL Board and had very positive discussions with the Board and all agreed that we all want to promote bridge. Ken Monzingo, Don Mamula & Robert Hartman spoke briefly.

XII. 2014 TRIALS

Joan reported that she expects to have a contract next week from the Embassy Suites in Phoenix for 2014.

XIII. BALI

Based on the current US State Department per diem, it would cost from \$165,000 - \$280,000 in per diem for our teams. The Board discussed whether to fund airfare as well as per diem for the Bali World Championship, and decided to wait for a report from the stipend committee.

XIV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April ? (was it 1 or 8) at 1:00 EDT (12:00 Central, 10:00 Pacific) by conference call

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 am CDT on March 21.