

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2013
1:00 PM EDT
BY CONFERENCE CALL

Directors Present: Cheri Bjerkan, George Jacobs, Bob Katz, Ralph Katz, Howard Weinstein, Jonathan Weinstein

Others Present: Jan Martel, Joe Stokes

Excused Absences: Sylvia Moss, Martin Harris, Robert Hartman, Barbara Nudelman

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by George Jacobs, president, at 1:03 pm EDT.

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 MARCH 20

The Minutes from March 20, 2013 were unanimously approved as submitted and corrected.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Cheri reported that other than WYOC there hasn't been any significant financial activity. George & Cheri have the information about the ACBL check-off contributors this year. There are 28 pages of contributors, adding up to a total of about \$3500.

George & Cheri are working on having more people receive information about financial matters and have check-writing & credit card ability.

The treasurer's report was unanimously accepted with thanks.

V. WYOC FUNDING

Alaska group: USBF is contributing \$2500, and we have collected \$7500 from other people to support this group. The group has also raised support locally.

WBF: USBF has sent \$20,000 to support the WYOC.

VI. JUNIOR COMMITTEE REPORT

Joe reported that the online training program is doing extremely well, thanks in large part to Debbie & Michael Rosenberg's work on recruiting mentors. Most of the mentors have 4 people in their groups and the groups play weekly and then the mentors comment both during the play and afterwards. There are about 55 players involved.

Regular Mentors are:

Leo Bell	Steve Bloom	Tom Carmichael
Migry Zur Campanile	Joshua Donn	Fred Gitelman
Barry Goren	Michael Kamil	Bob Katz
Brady Richter	Jennifer Richter	Karen McCallum
Debbie Rosenberg	Michael Rosenberg	Barnet Shenkin
Gabrielle Sherman	Stan Subeck	Sheri Winestock
Dan Wolkowitz	Joel Wooldridge	Kit Woolsey

We will have a face to face training camp July 10-14 at the St. Charles Regional, where we will be able to have hand records and hands on computers so we can go over hands after they are played. Our plan is to have a session after each session of play to discuss the hands that the juniors played.

Junior committee is working on budget for 2014 to present to the ACBL at the summer NABC meeting.

The Board thanked Joe for this great report and suggested that we should thank the mentors both on our website and in the ACBL Bulletin.

VII. VUGRAPH REPORT

Jan reported that six experienced operators will be coming to Orlando to help with the first few days of the USBC. We will be able to cover 6 tables from the first half day of the Round of 16 (there are 12 teams in the R16), 8 tables from the second day of the R16, all of the USA1 tables from then on, all of the USA2 tables from the R8 on, as well as at least 4 tables in the Rounds of 32 & 16. If there is a particularly interesting match in the Round of 64 (opposite USA1 R8, we will try to cover that as well.

Andrew Gumperz has generously volunteered to organize commentators and has actively solicited new commentators and hopes to have at least 2 good commentators at each table.

VIII. ACBL LIAISON

Robert Hartman didn't have anything to report.

IX. KEN MONZINGO LETTER

Ken Monzingo wrote an article in the District 22 FORUM which stated that while he is still generally against the ACBL and the USBF supporting the WBF as only a small portion of members benefit from this, he is not asking the ACBL Board to vote on this issue. In addition, he really appreciated the openness and fresh approach the USBF has chosen to take, even presenting the ACBL Board with their first financial statements. He also attended the USBF meeting in St. Louis.

X. FUTURE TRIALS

2014 – Jan reported that we are very close to agreement with the Embassy Suites Scottsdale. Dates will be May 9-17.

2015 – For the Open & Senior we are looking at hotels in the Chicago area.

Women’s will be in conjunction with the Bahia Mar Regional, 4/28-5/4.

2016 – For the Open & Senior we are looking at Baltimore, with strong support from the local unit.

XI. CELL PHONE POLICY AT TRIALS

The Board agreed to continue to enforce the cell phone rule at the USBC. The Board also encouraged more frequent use of wandering to enforce the policy.

XII. HONOR JOAN GERARD

George suggested that we should honor Joan in some way. We have not yet received an answer from WBF about our suggestion that they name a Junior event for Joan. The Board agreed to look for a way to honor Joan for all of her work for USBF.

XIII. CHRIS COMPTON REPORT

Chris had asked to address the Board but wasn’t available.

George reported that Chris has been raising money for the WYOC, and wanted to discuss fund raising.

XIV. WBF JUNIOR COMMITTEE REP

Joan was on the WBF Junior committee and needs to be replaced. The committee meets at WBF championships and the representative needs to attend meetings. George will ask Al Levy for more details about expenses to attend meetings.

XV. ITTC CHAIR

Henry Bethe's health is such that he has to resign as ITTC chair. Howie will chair a search committee to look for a new ITTC chair: George appointed Jonathan & Ralph to the committee.

XVI. FUND RAISING & SPONSORSHIP

Jade Barrett is chair of Sponsorship committee. He is looking into trying to get corporate funding.

XVII. BALI STIPEND FOR PLAYERS

Sylvia was not at the meeting. Jan reported that the committee has not yet met, but will send a report by email soon.

XVIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for August 5th at the Summer NABC

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm EDT