

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016
10:00 AM EST
ORLANDO

Directors Present: Marty Fleisher, Bob Katz, Brad Moss, Josh Parker (by telephone), Sue Picus

Others Present: David Caprera, Jan Martel, McKenzie Myers, Joe Stokes, Stan Subeck, Howard Weinstein, Marcin Waslowicz

From WBF: Gianarrigo Rona, David Harris, Yves Aubry, Eric Laurant, Josef Harsanyi

ACBL Representatives: Paul Cuneo, Bob Heller, Al Levy, Merlin Vilhauer (part of meeting)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Howard Weinstein at 10:00 am EST.

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. The president welcomed & introduced the representatives from WBF and ACBL and David Caprera, USBF Board member-elect, and noted that this was Sue Picus' last Board meeting and thanked her for her service on the Board.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 7/25/16 & 10/26/16

The Minutes of 7/25/16 & 10/26/16 were unanimously approved.

IV. FUTURE USBC SITES

For 2017 we will be in Schaumburg, and for 2018 in Houston. Both sites have agreed to give us individual playing rooms for the entire tournament, so we will have good security and also can set up screens, cameras, & computers at the beginning and not have to move them.

Jan proposed that we hold future USBCs in Schaumburg in all years except the Rosenblum years when we have only the Open Trials. Schaumburg has been a good location for us. The hotel people are cooperative, local players are supportive, O'Hare is an easy location to get to. After discussion, the Board agreed to authorize Jan to negotiate with the Schaumburg Hyatt for 2019, 2020 & 2021.

V. TECHNOLOGY

Tablets for bidding – We are working on these, but they are not yet ready for testing. If they can be tested in the next 2 months, and work, we will use them in 2017; if they cannot be adequately tested, we will have to wait for another year.

Recording the play: The Board discussed methods for recording play. That is something to be developed for the future.

VI. D&O INSURANCE

We have upgraded our D&O insurance from \$1 million to \$5 million. We all hope it won't be required. The policy covers claims that are made from the time it went into effect, so covers us now.

VII. DISCIPLINE

ACBL is working on re-writing their CDR. We may want to consider what they do in connection with our ByLaw revision.

Because of the fact that ACBL doesn't accept Olympic rules about discipline, other countries can't accept ACBL decisions about discipline. The Board discussed the extent to which USBF should accept disciplinary findings or specific discipline imposed by ACBL and agreed to consider this further.

VIII. 2018 WORLD CHAMIONSHIPS

Chris Compton & Lindsey Weinger are working on fund raising. They plan to make a major push about a year from now.

Al Levy reported that he visited the hotel at which the event will be held yesterday and it is a good site. The District will be running a Regional in conjunction with the World Championship.

The tournament schedule is still being developed, but the plan is to start the event with the Rosenblum – 3 days Swiss qualification to a Knockout Round of 32, with full day 56 board matches. The Open Pairs will start opposite the KO round of 32. The Women's & Seniors, which have been less well-attended than the Open, will start on the second day of the Rosenblum, with 3 days of Swiss to reduce to 16 teams for KO play. The Women's and Senior Pairs will start opposite the KO rounds of 16. The Mixed teams (4 days, 2 qualifying, 2 final) will be at the end, with the Mixed Pairs probably opposite the final 2 days.

IX. JUNIORS

The Board discussed that there has been an informal expectation that a team that doesn't qualify for subsequent stages of the main championship should continue to play in other events and agreed to make that requirement more clear to players.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be by conference call at a time to be scheduled online.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Howard thanked the ACBL Board members who attended for their interest and participation. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 pm EST.