

**DISTRICT 11
BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2014
Louisville/Lexington Regional**

In attendance:

Officers - Terrell Holt, Cheryl Schneider, Adrienne Netherwood, Maribeth Ransel

Voting Members - Unit 117 Vangie Smith, Kit Overpeck; Unit 122 Larry Jones; Unit 124 Steve Moese; Unit 130 Judy Drejer, Liz Brown; Unit 136 Georgia Banziger, Joyce Dennis (alternate); Unit 164 Sandra Marlin, Sondra Holt; Unit 193 Billie Brown, William Lea.

Members - Beth Reid, AJ Stephani, Brad Bartol, Anita Torrence

Guests - Phyllis Harlan, Hannah Davis

Call to order – Terrell Holt

The meeting was called to order and begun with a minute of silence to honor former board members Nancy Sachs and Jim Reimann, as well as former ACBL directors Bob Wallace and Rick Mueller, all of whom have died in recent months.

Terrell also acknowledged the good work (and meal planning) of tournament chairs, Hannah Davis and Sondra Holt.

ACBL President – Phyllis Harlan

President Harlan was introduced and then commended the tournament staff and all the board for all that they do to promote the game. She gave special kudos to District Director, Beth Reid, for all her efforts.

Minutes – Cheryl Schneider

Minutes were presented from the Dayton meeting, and approved with the following corrections: (1) name corrections (Georgia Banziger and William Lea); (2) Under “Election Committee,” the report should read “was presented by Larry Jones” rather than by AJ Stephani.

District 11 Financial Report – Adrienne Netherwood

- Current bank balance is \$29,033.30.
- Of that amount, \$17,000 is earmarked for future NABC; \$1,800 is earmarked for 2014 NAP awards; \$3,224.00 is earmarked as Grass Roots funds still in the account.
- \$4,900.05 has been transferred from *The Midwest Monitor* checking account to District account.

The Treasurer’s report was accepted as presented, and filed for audit.

District Director Report – Beth Reid

- No new board action taken since our last District meeting.
- Next national meeting is in one week in Providence where budget approval is on the agenda.
- Director’s most recent report can be found on the District website.
- (In response to question) – Columbus is still on the schedule for discussion for future NABC. Competitive hotel pricing makes it more difficult for many sites to be considered.
- The second place finishers in the GNT will be awarded 8 MPS going forward vs zero in the past.

Tournament Coordinator – AJ Stephani

- Recent changes to Gold Rush games for tournaments.
 1. For large tournaments, there is an opportunity to try a new format for 2015 which would allow for three events in Gold Rush instead of just two. New format will allow for the insertion of an intermediate strat event. This is probably not of interest to our tournaments because of their sizes, but if anyone wants to speak to AJ about the possibility of trying this option, they should contact him for further discussion.
 2. This applies to all of our regionals beginning with Indianapolis in 2015. The Gold Rush Pairs will still have three strats but the Open Pairs in Gold Rush will also have three strats instead of the current two. (This decision was made after Indianapolis published their schedule but the tournament directors will use these strats at the Indy regional.)
- **Note:** While the final vote on these Gold Rush changes will take place in Providence, the preliminary vote indicates the proposal should pass without any difficulty.
- Next District regionals are in Indianapolis in February and then in Cincinnati/Evansville (split) in the spring. Since Cincy and Evansville are in different time zones, Evansville has been gracious in accommodating a one hour schedule change to insure the events are concurrent, even though their listed times may be different.
- Entry fees at regionals are determined by individual sponsors. Historically, the game fees within the District have been within \$1 per game of each other. Currently, Indianapolis and Evansville are charging \$13 per game. Louisville, Cincinnati and Dayton are at \$12. If any unit wants to go beyond \$13, it should be brought to the District board.

NAP and GNT Coordinator – Larry Jones

- NAP was up slightly from prior years. Thanks to Cincinnati for hosting a good event.
- 2015 NAP date – November 14 and 15 in Cincinnati (Larry suggests the NAP be continued to be held in Cincinnati, unless they are unwilling to have it.)
- 2015 GNT date – January 24 and 25 in Grass Roots Funds – Larry, Terrell and Adrienne have worked to make certain appropriate reports are filed with ACBL on current and future use of Grass Roots Funds.
- Larry requested that the current amount of the NAP awards be clarified to avoid any confusion with the existence of a variety of documents. To clarify this issue, it was first necessary to clarify the issue of Grass Roots Funds and their application to NAP awards.
 - **Moved and Seconded** – To apply current Grass Roots funds to the District's NAP awards for 2014/15.
(Moese/Smith – Passed unanimously)
 - **Moved and Seconded** – District 11 will make the following awards, per person, for the winners of the District NAP event: Flight A – 1st place \$100, 2nd place \$200, 3rd place \$300; Flight B - 1st place \$100, 2nd place \$200, 3rd place \$300; 4th place - \$100; Flight C 1st place \$100, 2nd place \$200, 3rd place \$300; 4th place - \$100.
(Jones/Moese – Passed unanimously)
- **Note** – (1) These funds are in addition to the funds coming directly from ACBL in the amount of \$700 per person for first place and \$300 per person for second place in any of the three Flights. (2) Larry asked that it be noted that this motion replaces a similar motion passed at the District Board meeting in Cincinnati in 2014.
- Larry would like to rewrite the Conditions of Contest for the GNT to include the WBF IMP scale. There are several items which need to be addressed in the revision but it must be written and sent to ACBL quickly for approval before the January event. Terrell asked Larry to compose a document, and submit it to the voting members of the board for their approval.

Website Coordinator – Steve Moese

- *The Monitor* is online and can be easily accessed from the District website. Additionally, a unit webmaster can put the permanent URL for *The Monitor* on the Unit site and each time a new *Monitor* is added to the District site, it will automatically point to the new edition on the Unit site.
- Icons for future tournaments have been added to the District website.
- Brad asked that it be noted that Paducah is not in District 11.

Education Liaison – Sandra Marlin

- *Learn Bridge in a Day* funds are still available. Stipends of up to \$500 can be applied for by downloading the form from the ACBL website. LBIAD is a great recruiting tool. To be successful in the application, it will be helpful to demonstrate that you will have bridge lessons beginning within one week of the LBIAD program.
- ACBL now has an interactive software program, *Learn to Play Bridge*, online and ready to use. This program is designed for young players.

Tournament Chairs (Louisville/Lexington) – Sondra Holt and Hannah Davis

- Thanked everyone for supporting the tournament. It appears that the tourney has experienced a 3% increase.

The Midwest Monitor – Brad Bartol

- Several people have commented that they would like to print *The Monitor* for their clubs, but would prefer only printing what is pertinent to their units. Brad can re-order pages so that they can be more printer-friendly for the units. Just ask.
- Publication dates for *The Monitor* are January, April, July and October. Deadlines for submissions are always the 15th of the prior month.
- Please tell your writers – DO NOT ADD ANY EXTRAS SUCH AS COLOR, VARIOUS FONTS AND SIZES. Brad has to change all of these when he receives the articles. He just needs the writers to submit paragraphs as they want the story written - - Brad will control graphics.

OLD BUSINESS

Letter of Understanding with Brad Bartol – Terrell Holt

Terrell announced that the Committee and Brad have agreed, in principle, on a contract and that the wording is being re-worked. It should be completed soon so that a contract can be signed.

Membership Charge for *The Midwest Monitor* – Adrienne Netherwood

- Adrienne has worked out a Membership Charge for each unit to cover the publication cost of *The Midwest Monitor*. There will be no charge to the units for tournament advertising. Adrienne will bill each unit quarterly, based on the schedule provided on her November treasurer's report.

STAC – Bill Sentman

- Bill was not in attendance, but he will be in charge of the December STAC.
- STAC games begin the day after Christmas and go to January 1.

NEW BUSINESS

District 11 Treasurer's Manual

- Adrienne has also put together a Treasurer's Manual, which is part of her written report.

Proposed Budget 2015/16 –Adrienne Netherwood

- The proposed District budget is part of the November treasurer's packet. Members were asked to review for a budget vote in February.

Rules of Order Review – Maribeth Ransel

- Members were directed to a handout in their green folders to help them become familiar with the proper way to present a motion to the Board.

Bylaws Review – Terrell Holt

- Potter Orr and Maribeth Ransel have been appointed to assist Terrell with a review of the Bylaws. It is hoped that a first draft will be ready for review by the February meeting.

Alternates to the Board of Directors – Beth Reid

- Beth reported that the various representatives/alternates to the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors are appointed in different years of a three-year cycle. This year, the alternate representatives to the Board of Directors are appointed. Nancy Sachs had already resigned before her death. AJ Stephani will take her place as First Alternate in January, 2015. Cheryl Schneider continues as Second Alternate. District representatives to the Board of Governors are Anita Torrence, Bill Sentman, and Joyce Penn.

District Tax Status – Adrienne Netherwood

- All of the required documents have been filed with the IRS and the District is in good standing. See the written Treasurer's Report for additional information.

Notification to ACBL by Units and Districts

- Terrell reminded everyone that the Units and the District are required to report election results to the ACBL. Current District Bylaws also require that Units report their officers to the District Secretary. This was a surprise to most. Terrell indicated that that reporting procedure would be reviewed when the Bylaws are rewritten, but for now, asked that people continue to forward their new officers to the District Secretary.

District Bidding Boxes - Terrell Holt

- It was noted that the District boxes were used by a sectional tournament team, and that when they were picked up for the Louisville/Lexington regional, boxes were not in their original crates. Some were in cardboard boxes and some were in smaller crates. A District rule needs to be in place as to who can use the boxes. It was suggested that the District boxes be available only to District level events such as regional tournaments, GNT and NAP events, and any future events that might be developed. AJ is writing a tournament guide and will deal with this issue in the document. In the meantime, if your unit has any of the missing crates (large crates which hold 40 boxes), please bring them to the regional in Indianapolis.
- Terrell asked if the District owns other assets. No one knew of any definite assets owned by the District.

Other Questions and Comments by Board members:

- Vangie Smith said some Louisville players would like to see the evening sessions starting at 7 instead of 7:30. Brad acknowledged the problems in setting schedules but also asked that when schedules are tightened, the Directors' need for a dinner break be worked into the equation.
- Steve Moese asked where he could find a current policy on privacy that he could use to adapt to his local unit. President Harlan mentioned that the privacy issue was on the agenda for Providence and that there should be items forthcoming.
- Georgia Banziger announced that Dayton would be sponsoring a NLM tourney the week after the Cincinnati/Evansville Regional in 2015.

Adjournment

- **Moved and Seconded** – to adjourn the November meeting of the District 11 Board.
(Brown/Marlin – Passed unanimously.)

NEXT MEETING: Saturday, February 28th, 2015/Caribbean Cove, Indianapolis, Indiana

Submitted by
Maribeth Ransel, Secretary

ADDENDUM to the MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2014

District 11 GNT Conditions of Contest 2015

Following the regular meeting of the Board, Larry Jones, District GNT/NAP Coordinator, submitted a draft of the proposed GNT Conditions of Contest for 2015 and Forward to the voting members of the Board/officers (12/10/14). Voting members gave their input to Larry and on 12/18/14 the following document was sent to the voting members of the board for their final vote.

Subject: D11 GNT Conditions of Contest

The District 11 Board of Directors has approved these specific guidelines for the district level competition for the Grand National Teams competition effective January 1, 2015.

Each team must name a captain and list all team players before beginning play. Each team will be comprised of no fewer than four players and no more than six players. This list must be given to the director.

The following guidelines determine the specific playing conditions that will apply to all four flights:

1. The four District 11 teams advancing to the national finals will be determined in a Knockout (KO) process after a preliminary Round Robin (RR) or Swiss competition dependent upon the number of teams originally participating in each flight.
2. The ACBL Midchart will govern conventions in the Championship Flight and Flight A. The ACBL General Convention Chart will apply to Flights B and C. These are the charts assigned to the GNT national finals.
3. Each RR and Swiss match will be scored by IMPs and converted to Victory Points using the WBF 20-point Continuous Victory Point scale.
4. If, at the conclusion of the preliminary round, a tie exists, the ACBL tie break regulations will be used. If a tie still exists, one (or more) four board playoff rounds will continue until a winner is determined, and will begin immediately following the verification of the tie.

5. After the RR or Swiss preliminary round, the first place finisher may select either the third or fourth place finisher as their KO opponent for the semi-final round.

6. There will be no imp carryover to the second day of competition from a preliminary RR or Swiss match.

7. All KO matches will be thirty boards unless otherwise noted in these conditions. In case of a tie in a thirty board KO match, one (or more) four-board playoff rounds will continue until a winner is determined and will begin immediately following the verification of the tie. In a sixty board KO, playoff rounds will consist of eight boards.

The specific details for each flight are determined by the number of teams entered in that contest and are as follows:

1. When 2 teams are entered, a sixty board KO match will be played to determine the winner.

2. When three teams are entered, a preliminary RR of thirty boards against each other team will be played. The two highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will play a sixty board KO match.

3. When four teams are entered, a preliminary RR of twenty boards against each other team will be played. The two highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will play a sixty board KO match.

4. When five teams are entered, a preliminary RR of fifteen boards against each other team will be played. The four highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the KOs.

5. When six teams are entered, a preliminary RR of twelve boards against each other team will be played.

The four highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the KOs.

6. When seven teams are entered, a preliminary RR of ten boards against each other team will be played. The four highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the KOs.

7. When eight teams are entered, a preliminary RR of nine boards against each other team will be played. The four highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the KOs.

8. When nine teams are entered, a preliminary RR of eight boards against each other team will be played. The four highest scoring teams from the preliminary round will qualify for the KOs.

9. When ten or more teams are entered, a two-session Swiss format of eight, eight-board matches will be held to qualify the four highest teams for the KOs.

One team from each flight as determined according to the above guidelines will proceed to the national finals.

The District requests that no team that cannot participate in the national finals participate in the district finals. Recognizing, however, that events occur which cannot be predicted, teams which qualify for the national finals may be augmented according to the following guidelines:

1. All changes must be approved by the District 11 GNT Coordinator.
2. The original qualifying team will only be considered intact and eligible for the national finals if three members from an original four-member team or at least four members from an original five-member or six-member team will participate in the national finals. If the original qualifying team is not able to participate in the national event, the second place team from the district finals will be eligible to participate. Likewise, if the second place team is unable to represent the District in the national event, the third place and then the fourth place teams would be approached.
3. Any member of an original qualifying team who does not intend to participate in the national finals may only be replaced if that member agrees to not participate and must communicate that choice to the District 11 GNT Coordinator.

MOVED:

➤ **Moved and seconded**

That the document entitled "District 11 GNT CoC 2015" be adopted as the new District 11 GNT Conditions of Contest effective January 1, 2015.

(Jones/Auer – Passed: Ayes 12, Nays 2, No Vote 1)