

**DISTRICT 11
BOARD MEETING
February 27, 2016 – Indianapolis Regional**

In attendance:

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

Voting Members - Unit 117 Vangie Smith, Kit Overpeck (alt.); Unit 122 Mary Kay Fletcher (alt.), Cheryl Schneider (alt.); Unit 124 Steve Moese, Mike Purcell (alt.); Unit 130 Liz Brown, Maribeth Ransel; Unit 136 Georgia Banziger, Joyce Dennis (alt.); Unit 164 Sandra Marlin, Sondra Holt; Unit 193 Billie Brown, Bill Lea.

Members - Beth Reid (District Director), AJ Stephani (Tournament Coordinator), Isaac Stephani (Youth Coordinator), Kit Overpeck (NAP/GNT Coordinator)

Guests – Brad Bartol (Editor – *Midwest Monitor*)

Call to order – Terrell Holt

- Meeting called to order by Terrell Holt;
- Thanks to all those who completed tasks to bring meeting together;
- Special thanks to AJ and Steve for a great deal of work between this meeting and last;
- Welcome to all the alternates and guests;
- Congratulations to Isaac Stephani who made the National Youth Team which will play in Italy this summer;
- There will be items added to the agenda - Steve will be addressing the Ethics Handbook and the Pianola Project.

Minutes – Maribeth Ransel

- Beth Reid's new email is breidwillow@gmail.com;
- Original draft minutes were clarified prior to the meeting with regards to (1) the NAP/GNT motion; correct wording now says: *That existing (2016/2017) and future Grass Roots funds will be used to fund current and future awards until further notice from the board.* (2) AJ had also asked that under discussion of Unit 154, "154" be added within the paragraph instead of just saying "the unit";
- Minutes were approved with the clarifications, as stated.

District 11 Financial Report – Adrienne Netherwood

- Current checking balance \$28,526.50;
- Dinner charges to the units are being billed once a year and were done recently which causes the checking balance to look greater than usual;
- Budget had projected an \$1175 deficit, however with the inclusion of the Evansville Regional, there is a \$332 surplus;
- Budget figures for 2016 and 2017 have been determined; figures have been lowered a bit because of changes in Grass Roots funds anticipated;
- Report filed for audit.

District Director Report – Beth Reid

- Full report of most recent board activities is available on the District 11 website;
- After much hammering out, the upcoming ACBL budget is projected to be balanced;
- With the need for constant technology updates and the demand of players to create protections from cheating, there is a need for increased revenue. There will be an increase in STAC fees; after April 1, clubs will pay \$7 per table for STACs and other special games; Beth favors raising dues; she prefers keeping same dues for current members and changing dues rates for new members;
- Terrell asked that AJ put the information on fee increases in writing and send it to those who need to know at clubs, etc.

Tournament Coordinator – AJ Stephani

- AJ was asked at last meeting to look at strats for STACs. Recommendation is that the strats should be 750/2000/Open (this moves lowest strat from 500 to 750); in non-life master section, upper limit should be 750;
- ACBL voted that split-site regionals will NOT have reduced MPs for shared games;
- Maribeth asked AJ, at a future date, to review strats for our district tournaments and fees for regionals. Increased costs from ACBL and increased venue costs can create a budget crunch for regionals and some would just like to see if there should be some flexibility on fees when needed.

NAP and GNT Coordinator – Kit Overpeck

- Kit asked about the fee structure for GNT/NAP – Adrienne said that the District pays the Unit a flat fee of \$1600 for the NAP and in the GNT the District pays the Unit \$12 per table to run the event. (Terrell said that in Lexington, they took out their expenses and gave all money back to the District.) The District collects all the revenues and then reimburses the Unit. Kit thinks that there might need to be an increase in table fees from \$12.50/person to \$15/person. He would also like to see a couple of hundred dollars from the Grass Roots Fund be set aside for marketing for NAP and GNT. (This would need to be by motion since the Board already voted on how the GRFs were to be distributed for the coming year.) Dayton in 2017 is the last confirmed date for the GNT. Kit needs proposals for 2018, 2019, 2020 from units that wish to host one of these events. These proposals are needed by the Dayton meeting. Would like to have discussion on all these items on the agenda for the next meeting (Cincinnati);
- AJ asked that all units consider taking a turn hosting these events.

Website Coordinator – Steve Moese

- Links to all District and National tournaments now available on our site;
- Needs to have ability to access the website activity report from the site provider so he can understand what is taking place on an immediate basis; Adrienne asked to work with Potter to get permissions from provider (and a login).

ACBL Board of Governors – Steve Moese

- Steve distributed report from BOG meeting including an upcoming motion which requests that the BOD send their motions to the BOG at the same time they are sent to the BOD so that concurrent discussion can take place.

Education Liaison – Sandra Marlin

- Had LBIAD at U of Kentucky (had 4 tables), and they have asked that another session be held; first session had all faculty and no students in attendance.

Youth Coordinator – Isaac Stephani

- ACBL has changed the stipend they give for the teacher running a youth camp. The new rate is \$350 regardless of how large the enrollment for the camp is;
- Indianapolis will hold another youth camp this summer.

Tournament Chairs (Indianapolis) – Liz Brown/Maribeth Ransel Table count was up 113 tables by Saturday afternoon. Seemed to be helpful to start on Monday afternoon. Although there is a requirement to conduct charity events if you start in the afternoon, the increase in the early attendees was high and the cost of the charity games was reasonable. The results justified the effort. Positive response to this new site and we will be back here in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

Update – Evansville Regional Request – AJ Stephani

- Evansville had lots of support and excitement for last year's regional. Attendance was up 140 tables;
- Evansville wants to have a regional every other year (split with Cincinnati or Dayton); Dayton still feels that it has a negative impact on their regional which is already a small regional; several remarked that the people who come to Evansville come from different areas than those who normally go to Cincinnati or to Dayton; Cincinnati feels the competition may have caused them a loss of about 12 tables; Evansville is happy to do the split with Dayton in 2018 and asks that there be a second split allocated in 2020; there is an additional issue that is created because Cincinnati is required to coordinate their date with the date of the Toledo tournament in even number years;
- Moved that Evansville be permitted a split regional every other year, alternating being paired with either Cincinnati or with Dayton/Columbus. (Moese/Smith – withdrawn for further discussion pending more research

by Cincinnati and discussion with Evansville re calendar issues.)

- Terrell asked if everyone agreed to the concept of having a split regional every other year pending the outcome of the research/discussion. The board was generally in favor of the concept as assessed through a straw poll.

Update – Unit 154 Northern Indiana – Terrell Holt

- Unit 154 still seeking a home; District 8 will keep the regional that is assigned to Unit 154 if the Unit moves to a different District; Terrell has already let 154 know that they will not have a sanction for a regional if they join District 11.

Upcoming NABC in Columbus 2020 – Cheryl Schneider

- Has received all information that she needs to assign chairs and has most of main committee appointed;
- AJ will be looking at dates for other tournaments in the District to see if anything else needs to be moved to accommodate the National event.

NEW BUSINESS

Midwest Monitor – Brad Bartol

- Some units are still not getting their reports for the *Monitor* in on time. The deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month prior to the first month of the quarter. (Deadlines are December 15, March 15, June 15 and September 15.) Brad has a contract to get the magazine online per the dates set in his contract and he cannot do that if our local editors don't get information to him on time and in a ready-to-go format;
- There is generally no need to send tournament flyers to Brad. He merely links to the flyer on the ACBL site. If your flyer has NOT been posted on ACBL, then it must be sent to Brad directly;
- If there is anything that we want from the magazine that we are not getting, we should advise Brad to see if it can be done.

Tournament Director University – Beth Reid

- At the last TDU, three of the 12 invitees were directors from District 11 - - Brad Bartol, John Nichols and Jackie Merkel were in attendance. We should be proud to have these talented directors in our District.

Asset List – Terrell Holt

- Terrell prepared and distributed an asset list to show what is owned by District 11. List can be added to or subtracted from as time goes on. Large timer clocks are still in Terrell's basement. He would entertain ideas on what might be done with these clocks.

Unit164 Non-Life Master Regional – Sandra Marlin

- Unit 164 requests permission to hold an NLM Regional in 2017. They are putting a plan together. They are looking at dates in September of 2017. They would like to have a permanent sanction for this tournament.
 - **Moved and seconded** to approve an NLM Regional for Unit 164 based on a date being worked out by the chairs and the tournament coordinator. (Motion-Marlin/B. Brown – Unanimous approval)

Ethics Handbook – Steve Moese

- Has created an Ethics Handbook based on ACBL ethics guidelines. Would like to post online so that he can seek input from clubs and units. All agreed.

Pianola Project – Steve Moese

- Pianola is a communications organization that has tools to help units/districts do a better job with communication with their players. It is available free for 24 months and then units/districts can purchase services. It offers the District opportunities to send specific communications to targeted groups about District events.

Monitor Contract – Terrell Holt

- Terrell posed the question to the board about whether we want to continue with the contract we have for Brad at the same rate we have been paying. Board agreed to continuing the contract, as written, for the next two years.

News from the Board AND CHEERS

- Board member Judy Williamson became a life master at this tournament!
- Mike Purcell is our newest Gold LM from the District Board!

Directors' School – Sandra Marlin

- Unit 164 is providing a one-day class for directors in their unit, with instruction provided by a retired ACBL Director. She will keep us apprised on how the project plays out.
- Board members asked if this could be done at some of our regionals. Agreement it would be a good thing to do, but no motion for action.

STAC Game Motion – ACBL – Beth Reid

- Beth said the current rule for STACs is: *If you run a limited game, when you have a STAC game, the game must remain limited. It cannot be an open game.* The issue has been returned to the ACBL Board for further discussion. Beth asked how District members felt. Many pro and con thoughts were considered, but time expired before a final agreement could be had.

Adjournment

➤ **Moved and seconded** - that the meeting be adjourned. (Lea/Marlin- unanimous)

Next Meeting: Saturday, June 4, 2016, Cincinnati.