

**ACBL DISTRICT 11
BOARD MEETING
February 3, 2018
Approved**

In attendance:

Officers – Terrell Holt, President; Potter Orr, Treasurer; Maribeth Ransel, Secretary

Voting Members – Unit 117: John Van Cleve; Beth Dlutowski (Alternate); Unit 122: Jim Bachelder (alternate); Unit 124: Steve Moese; Mike Lipp; Unit 130: Liz Brown; Maribeth Ransel; Unit 136: Georgia Banziger; Joyce Dennis (alternate); Unit 164: Andra Gyor; Sondra Holt; Unit 193: Jeff Chapman; Donna Chapman.

Members – AJ Stephani, District Director; Ryan Schultz, GNT/NAP Coordinator.

Guests – Brad Bartol, Editor Midwest Monitor

Discussion prior to meeting – AJ talked about the declining attendance at regionals and the related concern about number of regional tournaments being held across the country. He suggested that at some point, we discuss the number of tournaments that take place in D11. Steve also suggested that we establish quality standards for our regional events. There is a need to look to see what a quality regional tournament looks like. (What is a good schedule of events? What is an acceptable number of tables?)

Call to order – Terrell Holt

- Thanks to all who made the meeting possible including Liz and Maribeth for arranging dinner, and all who prepared other information for the meeting.
- Brad will be here to make comments and suggestions about the MWMonitor sometime during the meeting.
- Welcomed Jeff Chapman, new president of Unit 193; Donna Chapman, new rep from Unit 193; Beth Dlutowski, alternate Unit 117; John Van Cleve, newly elected President of Unit 117; Jim Bachelder, alternate from Unit 122.

Secretary's Report – Maribeth Ransel

- Correction has already been made to earlier draft: Rainbow Weekend was changed to Kaleidoscope Weekend.
- No other additions or corrections; minutes stand as written.

Treasurer's Report – Potter Orr

- Confusion about why the Lexington/Louisville regional is shown as not paying fees when chairs say the fees were paid. Potter will check to verify.
- GNT net proceeds were down about \$700. Table count was about the same but expenses were up.
- NAP awards were up a bit this year due to some confusion on the award amounts but should return to normal next year.
- Tournament supplies were up which includes expenditures for new bidding box cards.
- We paid out \$17,000 to Columbus for the NABC from funds being held for that purpose by the District.
- Cash is down about \$8700 (due to Columbus NABC payout);
- Additional \$3728 from Grassroots money is still available. (Received \$7728 from ACBL but \$4000 was moved to GNT line.)
- Some outstanding bills still to be paid.
- After Louisville situation is understood, treasurer's report will be posted to website.
- Potter would like audit committee appointed sometime this year.
- Report accepted and filed.

Midwest Monitor – Brad Bartol

- Brad expressed thanks for the time he has been allowed to do the publication.
- Late on publishing this edition but it will be out soon.
- For about ½ the price, we could do the front half of the Monitor which would include the calendar and AJ's report and similar items. He is willing to do that.
- Question about where are the copies of past Monitors that are not yet published to the Website. Brad said they are on an old computer and would require a lot of work to bring them up for the archives. Terrell pointed out that the past editions are intellectual property of the Board. Brad said he didn't think the contract covered him doing that work, but he will eventually get to it and provide the material.
- Terrell asked that Brad send a formal proposal to look at covering his earlier comments on a reduced sized MWM.

District Director's Report – AJ Stephani

- AJ urged members to look at Pianola reports which include ACBL reports from the Board.
- Question arose about how Pianola works. Many different options depending on what is provided.
- Jim Bachelder asked reconsideration of giving points for on-line play. AJ will bring it up to chair, but the committee is exhausted from past discussion of the topic.

Tournament Coordinator Report – AJ Stephani

- Sanctions are ok for next couple of years.
- Still a roundtable pending on tournaments. We hope to have this roundtable in Cincinnati. (NOTE: This roundtable will be postponed because the education chair will not be present at the tournament. More information at a later date.)
- Please make certain you continue sending your tournament fees for NABC to Judy Auer after each Sectional and Regional. Judy should not have to contact tournament chairs for payment.
- Bidding boxes: The new bidding cards for 90 boxes have been exchanged and the worst of the former cards have been discarded; additionally, about 50 more boxes have had cards combined to bring them to acceptable levels. All of the good boxes have 2018 written on the side. Pass and Alert cards are in very bad shape in many boxes which would be otherwise acceptable if these cards were replaced.
⇒**Moved that: The Board should purchase 360 pass cards and 60 alert cards to replace bad cards instead of purchasing additional full sets of cards. (Gyor/Lipps – passed unanimously)**
- There will be a new system of qualifying for KOs in Cincinnati. AJ will report on the success of the experiment at next meeting.

NAP and GNT Coordinator Report – Ryan Schultz

- Ryan distributed template for making proposal to host GNT. Georgia asked that it be placed on website.
- NAP table count up a little.
- Survey is final and up on website. Already has a few responses back. Copies available for each rep to take back to Unit. Please advertise and encourage responses. Survey period will run till Cincinnati. Bring any additional responses with you to the next District meeting.
- We have two sources of revenue in this area – one source is from ACBL which is significant; we also receive money from the profits from the events (this is usually about \$2500 from the two events combined.) We are not always using all of this money. We can afford to increase the payout for GNT qualifiers. (Question: Would an increase cause units not to contribute the amounts they currently give? Answer: We should encourage units to understand the cost factor and ask them to continue their current contributions, even if the District stipend is higher than in the past.)
⇒**Moved that: D11 pay \$1000 to each winning team from the District and that we provide their entry fees starting 2018. (Lipp/Moese – approved unanimously)**
- Ryan and Steve will update the current matrix for payouts for the website and will send to Maribeth.
⇒**Moved that: Starting with the GNT in 2018, the per team entry on day one is \$100, and the per person entry on day two is \$25. (Moese/Lipp – approved unanimously)**

- Consideration of moving the entry fee for NAP to be in line with the cost of an entry in a D11 regional event took place, but there was no interest in pursuing a formal motion at this time.

Webmaster Report– Steve Moese

- ACBL has changed their system of listing tournaments so that the schedules will now load automatically on the D11 Website if changes are made.
- Website is up and running. The site provider lost his access to the GIF software which allows for creating moving items on the website. This should be corrected soon.

ACBL Board of Governors Report – Steve Moese

- Core group of governors who want to see the group be more active and really help the ACBL; there are others who seem to just want to occupy space. The upside is there is now much more transparency between the Board and the Board of Governors. Thanks to AJ and the Board for the changes.
- ACBL is working toward having a permanent file where there is access to all minutes and reports of the BOG that would be available for review.

Recorder Report – Potter Orr

- Only one recent activity in this area and player was dealt with at the table by the Director. Individual appealed to another Director who gave him an additional penalty. No further matters pending.

Education Committee Report – Joyce Penn

- Joyce was not at the meeting. Terrell said there are two or three items that are still pending. After first meeting of the group last year in Cincinnati, there were many ideas placed on the table for discussion. Steve created a list of all ideas and placed them on the Website. Managers should look at that Website to discover new ideas and to find names of individuals who might share more by phone. Steve brought memos re starting a rubber bridge program that some clubs may want to explore. People who start at bridge usually don't START with duplicate. We need to encourage people to begin playing bridge at whatever level they wish so their interests are developed.
- Meetup.com is a social network where you might develop groups of people who want to get together to learn bridge. Also, some individuals have had great success using Facebook to invite new members.

Youth Coordinator – Isaac Stephani

- No report.
- A team partially consisting of three players from Cincinnati came within 5 IMPs of being Junior National Champions.
⇒ **Moved that: The District Board expresses their congratulations to these Junior contenders Isaac Stephani, John Taylor, and JD Kurtzman, and that information be placed on the Website.**
(Moese/Lipp – approved unanimously)

Indianapolis Tournament Report – Liz Brown and Maribeth Ransel

- At the beginning of the week we had a lot of worry because of flu epidemic which caused an immediate cancellation of about 45 rooms at the hotel. However, by tonight we are only down 17 tables and by tomorrow, we think we will be just a few tables from last year's numbers.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 Columbus NABC – Jim Bachelder

- There are badges ready to advertise the tournament. Please wear them to advertise the event. Still early and so we don't have a lot to report. All the committee chairs are in place. He doesn't believe a projected financial report is currently available.
- Throughout the week people have asked questions about the NABC because of their interest. Many board members were not here the last time the District held an NABC so members are unsure about home unit responsibilities and how everything works. What are the unit responsibilities, the District responsibilities, and the ACBL's responsibilities? Terrell suggested a timeline that would help us all see what the

expectations are in terms of the time to be completed. AJ asked if the “ownership” of the \$17,000 the

District sent to Columbus has ever been nailed down. What happens if the tournament spends more than it takes in? Who is responsible for paying what is not covered? What if there is a large profit made? What happens to that money. Seems there should be something in writing that states what is expected. After Louisville, the extra money was spread throughout the District. If the members will send questions they have to Maribeth, we will prepare a list of those questions so that Cheryl can address them at the next meeting.

Communication in the District: Midwest Monitor – Terrell Holt

- Terrell asked, “Does the Board want to continue with MWM in the same way that we publish now?”
⇒ **Moved that: The District Board discontinue the Midwest Monitor as currently published after the current contract ends June 30, 2018. (Moese/Lipp – approved unanimously)**
- The next question is, “What will we do in the future?” Agreed that most information can be distributed through the Website. We also need to explore Pianola to see what is available to us with their mass mailing program for future mailings. Steve and Mike plan to speak with the owner, James Worth, of Pianola at an upcoming tournament in Philadelphia and they can ask questions about its future availability.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bylaws – Terrell Holt

- Two or three Bylaws corrections need to be made to make a couple of sections consistent with each other. These will be prepared for the Cincinnati meeting for approval.

Purple Pass – Terrell Holt

- This system for credit card payment for tournament games will be tried out at Cincinnati and at Louisville. ACBL will cover the cost for the trial period, but after that, units will be responsible for paying for the use of the program at their tournaments.

Adjournment.

- ⇒ **Moved that the meeting be adjourned (Lipp/VanCleve – passed unanimously).**

Next Meeting: Cincinnati Regional, June 16th, 2018, immediately following the afternoon game, at Vincenzo’s Restaurant.