

6/18/2022 Unit 361 Board Meeting minutes:

Attendance: Julie Clark, Rita Simas, Susan Grauer, Carol Gumpert, Vivian Heggie, Kathy McMahon, Wayne Eckerling, Don Boyarsky: Jennifer O’Neill, Margaret Devere. Zoom: Ed Yosses, Kathleen Kelly. Missing: Eric Mead, Arjun Singh

9:11 Call to Order.

May meeting minutes approved.

Financial Reports: no updates beyond the files Ed submitted via email. Got some ACBL money but there is still a small amount owed to us (\$250).

Regional: Wayne/Don

Hotel bill is wrong. Was \$13,500 but should be \$11,500. Credit of rooms is not correct. Spent \$12,975 + 300 parking – room credits (\$2k)+lunches (240). Meeting with hotel on Monday.

Regional loss is about \$4500.

Comments: Positives - Schedule was good, I/N was down the most (55%) Gold Rush wasn’t as big as it used to be. 780 Hotel rooms was more than 2019. We had highest tables attendance (1100) of recent Regionals. Hospitality and Vaccinations went well (except 1 woman who refused to show vaccination card). Soloway knockouts – people liked the format. D17 staff were very helpful and we appreciated their efforts.

Negatives – Side games were not populated enough. Some were 5 tables. Hotel problems – Major issues related to food not being available, and even if it was, there were few alternatives (e.g. \$20 breakfast and lunch buffets). Homelessness in the area, garage scary, problems leaving the garage late at night (one night gates were down). Coupons only allowed at Grab and Go, which had poor food quality and poor choices.

Photography – wasn’t always someone available to take pictures. Need someone to be there when the event ends. White background washed out faces. Will be easier to use cell phones. Can then email the photo to Vivian who can print it on the photo printer. That way, anyone can take the photo. Board members should sit at the Hospitality desk whenever they can, e.g. before games.

ProAm was great, but was too crowded, ProAm food was eaten by side game people. Should be in a separate room so this doesn’t happen. Director wanted it all in same room. Ams came at 12-12:30 but Director didn’t arrive until later so they had less time to check in and be with their Pro. Suggest Prepay and pickup nametag and go in. Express entry being developed by ACBL (ok as long as people can get refunds e.g. if they go Covid). Also, Ams did not stay to play in other games, need to try to encourage them staying. Survey Ams on how often they played, why or why not? What would help them stay to play more days?

Empty chair – Very well received. Would like to continue it each year.

Partnerships: Was a little difficult to staff it before each game. May need more help next year.

How to save money in future: Maybe cut hospitality prizes (e.g. don't put year on mugs so extras can be reused). Directors travel and hotel costs were high. Some flew in for a day and left while others flew in for a different day. Need to try to have ACBL coordinate this better so we are not over budget.

Jennifer: Ask D17 to help pay for our losses (there is precedent for this where they have helped fund other Regionals). Also, D17 should investigate how many Regionals there are (seems like too many).

Planning for next year:

Voted to have Wayne and Don be Co-chairs for 2023 Regional.

Look into other hotels as leverage when finalizing contract with Renaissance, even though we have 1 more year on contract. **Identified Regional Committee – Don, Wayne, Kathy M, Julie, Vivian, Jennifer, Jerry Ranney.** Suggest Regional committee to start on schedule and budget (Julie will start this). D17 approves budget and schedule.

Directory Update: Don and Margaret have a little more to do on it but should get it done soon.

I/N Regional: Ft. Collins is having it next weekend. **Voted to have it in Denver next year.** Julie will speak to Lucille. Arjun and Kathleen will be chairs. We can combine it with our July Sectional. Need Flyer, Sanction # (Kathleen will call ACBL for that). D17 will pay for 1 Pianola email to advertise it.

Other I/N business: Board would like Kathy to cochair the I/Ns with Arjun, if ok with Arjun. Susan will talk to him.

300-1000 Committee: Susan feels we should focus on the I/Ns. **Voted for Kathy to create focus groups, including Arjun.** What is keeping them from playing – not advertised well? We once discussed and think we should do Personal phone calls for I/Ns and returning players. Colorado and friends 0-499 online games on BBO has Colorado clubs playing together.

Free Plays – discussed this again. We used 96 for the Regional for about \$1400. Suggested to eliminate this to help on budget. We need more information in order to review this issue.

July Sectional:

Kathleen met with Lexie , changed to Main Hall from Exhibition hall. She will also review the number of Set up tables we get.

Crates will arrive Thursday – Eric. **Everyone should be there Thursday at 3:30 to unload and set-up ,** and to look for missing timers (from Boulder).

Vaccinations: Julie will print 2 copies of vaccination lists, one for each entrance. Volunteers are:

Friday – Carol, Julie, Vivian

Saturday – Carol, Don, Ed, Susan

Sunday – Carol, Jennifer, Julie.

Hospitality will be Coffee and water. Also, ice buckets (bowls) to hold leftover pop but we will not be buying any more. We will have access to refrigerators but we are not paying for kitchen access. Rita is still looking for a Pizza place in our price range. Will sell lunch tickets – next to vaccine check-in. Cash or check (\$8.00). Rita will make change available (\$300). **Need Ticket-taker at lunch. (Carol can do it).**

Partnerships – online partnership desk is set up.

Vivian will reprint area map of restaurants. Also, prepare November flyer and send for out for review. If we have it ready in time, bring to July Sectional. (means we need to have an answer on location – see below).

Organize Crates: **Don will be the Crate Organization Manager.** Margaret will bring computer to use to write up inventory. We will establish crate numbers, inventory on computer and 8x11 sheets attached to each crate (bring Paper, Sharpies, Tape). Especially important that Sunday reloading must be managed to put items in proper crates.

Awards review: Margaret put together a list of the awards and what we know about them. Suggests naming them for what they award rather than a person's name, e.g. Most I/N points at a club, rather than Susan Ditmer award where there may be little continued knowledge about the person. Discussion was tabled for now, but **HOMEWORK Is to review Margaret's email, think about recommendations on how to combine, rename, eliminate or not.**

Jan J award: Bonnie is interested in revamping the award so it is not as subjective for committee to select a winner. Margaret, Julie, and Donna will meet with Bonnie to discuss. Look towards creating objective criteria for contributions to Denver Bridge.

Front Range Challenge: Susan spoke to Colo Spgs. They will contact Boulder and Ft. Collins. Can do it any Sunday in October (2, 9, 15, or 23). Food will be pizza. Cost is included in entry fees. How to invite teams? Flights used last time are : 3000+=A, 1500-3000=B, 750-1499=C, <75=D. 2 teams per level per unit. Units can define their ranges as needed with agreement the Units participating. Invite winners at July Sectional as a start to getting our teams. It is a travelling trophy.

Other:

Conflict of Interest form. Susan has withdrawn her original draft and is submitting a new one after some comments. **Need to review and approve.**

299ers I/N discount coupons were used in the past to give I/N players at the Sectional for discounts at I/N sectional, and at I/N sectional to discount Unit Sectional. **Notes on whether to do this or not was a tie. Tabled for future discussion, no decision made.**

HOMEWORK: Look at job descriptions on our website and use that as a basis for creating detailed Work Instructions (e.g. In case I die memos) with details on how to do the job. Due at August meeting.

Summit vs Arapahoe for future Sectionals: Arapahoe costs us \$4010 – 900 deposit = @3100. Summit will give us \$400 discount for November (\$4100 instead of \$4500). We are doing Summit for January. **Voted to use Summit for November, subject to not losing money by cancelling Arapahoe.** Kathleen should check on this and arrange it.

Next Meeting: 9:00 July 23 (instead of original 7/16 because of people attending the National), Eloise May Library.