

July 23, 2022 Bridge Unit 361 Board Meeting:

Attendance: Julie Clark, Susan Grauer, Carol Gumpert, Rita Simas, via Zoom- Kathy McMahon, Kathleen Kelly, Vivian Heggie, Ed Yosses. Jennifer O'Neill, Margaret Devere

9:11 Call to Order

Last Month's minutes=approved.

Financial Report, Ed: Sent out report to everyone. Waiting for \$3500 from ACBL., July Sectional will be a small loss. \$200-\$300. No or low Colorado Springs attendance due to mask requirement. A memo about the Regional was sent by Jennifer and Ed answer all her questions.

I/N Regional:

Kathy is Chair and will work with Kathleen. Both should meet with Julie to do planning. It will be held with the July Sectional.

Venue – Verify with Lexi due to County Fair. Kathleen will get with her this week. Can the space be divided? We could use our crates as a divider (cover with sheets?).

Regional will require an additional Director. There are TAs, Tournament Assistants, that can be used at a lower cost. Club Directors can become TAs by taking a test. We should start talking to club Directors about becoming qualified (e.g. Linda Harder, Rob Vetter, Sally from Boulder.)

Flyers – take off 'give aways' so we are not required to have them. Otherwise, it is good to go. Carol needs to send to ACBL asap once she gets final version from Vivian.

Speak with Lucille Steiner about the Ft. Collins Regional held this year. Find out details of what they did. She marketed it well by doing in person visits or phone calls. How many tables did they have?

Discount coupons were discussed. Used to give \$2.00 off coupons at Regional for next Sectional, and at Spring I/N Sectional for Regional. Discussed whether it would increase attendance? No

Gold points – must be a 2 session event, could be Day 1 and Day 2 vs both in one day. Some felt I/Ns not that interested in gold points but need red points. Tabled this until planning meeting with Julie.

I/N Sectional:

Kathy should coordinate with Elly.

Rita will do hospitality (ask Elly if we can use her carafes).

Vivian- get flyers to clubs asap. Get them ready to print and/or mail. Julie will take to Arvada, Carol will take to Heather Gardens and Castle Rock (btw, they are changing their name to Denver Tech Bridge). Sally Knesser only wants the online pdf and will distribute it. Carol will email or mail copies to other clubs.

Determine costs – Hospitality, supplies, Facility rental and Director costs.

Directory: It was put up about 2 weeks ago. Working on search function to start typing in a name and display matches. Security issue discussed. Decided to leave it up (7-yes, 1-abstain) and have Margaret pursue solutions and let us know if there is any cost involved.

Website – waiting to get I/N sectional flyer and November Sectional flyer to put on website.

Wall of Fame/Honor Wall – Discussed how often it would be updated. Decided to add people once a year. Start now with people who had awards and Regional games named after them. Determine the future process later. Discussed website name with no final decision. Margaret will put up the page and post it for us to see.

Free Plays Discussion: Options discussed were 1) not having them anymore, 2) limiting the number of free plays to be 50% of the available games. 2022 costs were \$1400 each for the Regional and Sectional. Decided to restrict November Sectional free plays to be 50% of available games (i.e. 3 if there are 6 sessions), and decide the rest later (7 yes, 1 abstain).

Sectional Recap:

Nobody took food coupons at lunch which may have resulted in some taking lunch that should not have. Also, was an exact count for amount of food so didn't allow for any extra late-comers/payers. Julie heard good and bad remarks about the pizza. Cupcakes were good for morale and afternoon delight! We should go back to having a dessert cake.

Chairs: Still a big issue. Are there any others available from Arapahoe County Fairgrounds? To any venue complainers we should ask "if you know of a better alternative venue, please let us know".

Attendance was down a little.

Crates organization was good. We should put contents sheets on the inside too. Use a staple gun to attach the contents sheets more securely. Jim Calhoun fixed the crates. Bungees work better than the ratchets. Need 8 bungees per crate (look into buying longer bungees so it is easier and may be less expensive. Rita will check on Grainger website). Kathleen went there yesterday to put the tarps on. The crates were stored the wrong way and she had to move them around. Kathleen – how many crates need bungees?

Friday – team game vs pairs. Co Spgs wanted a team game. We don't feel we can do that until there is more attendance. Decided to leave the November Sectional schedule the same as July's.

Discussion – do we want to do away with the January sectional. If so, we would be aligned with having a sectional every 4 months. We think we have a contract with Summit for Jan '23 that we will keep. **We should think about it.** What about combining with Boulder, their's is Oct 20. Or combine with another unit, we'd split the money proportionately to the numbers attending from each. We need to keep November due to it being our Unit meeting per our bylaws. Can we use Elly's rooms? **Think about different things we can do for the sectionals.**

Focus on 300-1000 points players: Decided to postpone discussion until full board is in place (7 yes, 1-abstain).

Front Range Challenge: Susan.

Northern Colorado (Ft. Collins), Boulder, Colo Spgs, and Denver are all in. The event is October 16. If there are not 8 teams per unit, we can still work it out. Elly will be Director. Susan has 1 3000+ team in place. Other teams to be arranged (points are the average for the team, so can be some above and some below):

3000+ - Susan

1500-3000 Julie

750-1499 – Vivian

0-749 – Kathy.

Price is not determined yet. Need to finalize costs from Elly for the room and Director, Rita will do pizza lunch. Expect it will be similar to \$132 used at sectionals.

Regional:

Jennifer and Julie have worked up a budget and sent to Don/Wayne and Ed. Then it goes to the Board and District 17.

Schedule: Discussed eliminating evening games on Saturday and Sunday. There were very few tables (5-6) and it will save Director fees (about \$5000). Motion to eliminate Saturday and Sunday nights was unanimously approved.

Venue – started looking for 2024 alternatives for cost savings and as leverage for Renaissance contract. Jennifer went to 1 hotel.

District 17 news: No decision yet on youth National location for 2025 (or 2026?).

D17 Candidates: Will attend August 20th board meeting via Zoom. We all got a letter from Rob Gordon. This election is for the D17 representative to the ACBL board, similarly to how Jennifer is our Unit Representative to the D17 board. Cindy will speak at 9:10, Rob at 9:40. Please come with a question. The Electronic vote starts on 8/15 but we should wait until we hear them speak. Arjun and Eric can vote so Julie invited them to the meeting. Decided we should all be on Zoom for the meeting to be handled the best way (6-yes, 1-abstain).

New Board members:

Arjun's replacement is up for election in November 2022. Eric's goes for another year (to November 20, 2023). Discussed whether to get 2 new people now, given the requirement, or just fill 1 position now. , Decided to try to get 2 people now and explain the November election situation. Also, agreed that the 2 new members should be men for diversity (and to help with crates). The slate for the election goes out in the September Table Talk with the election procedure (if someone beyond the 5 slated wants to be included). Board authorized Julie to speak with Kevin Stansbury (update: he has accepted) for Eric's position and Steve Lehman for Arjun's position.

Other: Elly has a Sam's game on 7/31. We should be available as Mentors if needed.

Julie achieved her Gold Life Master. Congratulations.

11:29 Meeting adjourned.