

8/19/23 Unit 361 Bridge Board Meeting

Attendees: Carol, Don, Rita, Paul, Ed, Kathy, Kevin, Julie, Margaret, Susan

Missing: Vivian, Kathleen, Jennifer

9:07 Meeting called to order.

Minutes from last month: Suggested to change wording on election for people to 'run again' vs 'renew' for board members. This has been done.

Financials: Ed sent out in an email. Julie suggested we create and approve an annual budget and the board agreed. Kathleen should provide Sectional budgets, Kathy will do I/Ns. Rita will have a committee with Ed, Kathy, Kathleen.

Next board meeting: Decided to keep the meeting on Sept 16 (even though Jewish Holiday). Susan and Carol will not be there. Margaret will take minutes.

Unit games and ACBL D17 accountability: Julie indicated that ACBL is going to want more accountability for money they give us for education and retention. Even though we give education grants to teachers, none have applied. We should get a handle on mentor payments due to some errors being seen. Rita will include this in the budget and accountability committee. Suggested giving out Mentee free play cards for their mentors so we can control 4 per mentor/mentee and track usage. Our current budget is \$2k but we have only spent around \$830.

Unit games are held in Boulder and discussion was on whether we should do something similar such as a pot luck with a cash bar, run a Sam's game as a unit game, Holiday party game (Boulder has one so might step on their game), Longest Day Unit event to build retention (could it be at Metro, we'd prefer a new special site). Does ACBL have rules about 'the Longest day' ? e.g. 3 sessions, give money to charity. Boulder and Co Spgs do one. Revisit ideas at next month's meeting.

Volunteer Coordinator: Decided to go forward with identifying a Coordinator (unanimous vote). Does not need to be a Board member. Don will ask around suggested names such as Mary Lyn Darcy, Susan Marshall, Jean Sundling, Nancy Rainwater. Put an article in Table Talk regarding Volunteers, that we are developing a group (Bridge Boosters?) and that we give out free plays, including a 'Volunteer of the year' appreciation to Bob Murphy.

Front Range Challenge: Ed. Boulder (Susan) is leading it. Will be at Metro. Deadline for teams is Oct. 1. So far, some difficulty or each location to get 2 teams for 4 brackets, plus that is a lot of teams. Suggestions were made such as combining bracket C and D, scoring as Swiss teams with handicaps. Kevin is designing a spreadsheet showing various numbers of teams and will share it with Ed.

Lapsed member report: Carol will report results to District. Liz was told by Julie that many people did not get postcards and Liz will investigate this. Please make your calls by Tuesday and then report to Carol. Rita had one person with an old and a new ACBL number and needs help deleting the old number and transferring points to the new. It costs \$49 to renew annual membership.

Table Talk: Julie

Comes out by Sept. 30. Julie and Margaret will create it. Carol will distribute via Pianola.

Contents of Table Talk:

Slate of people per nominating committee. Get Bios to Vivian and Julie for the article.

President article (Julie)

Budget

Top 100 Masterpoint holders.

I/N tournament article (Kathy)

In Memorium – Julie will look through past membership reports and find any ‘deceased’ members (e.g. Cal). Will send list to Board to review and add to, as needed.

New ranks – from Bridge Bulletin.

Volunteer Coordinator and Volunteer of the Year – Rita. Bob Murphy is Volunteer of the Year.

Director’s initiative – describing Unit’s support (e.g. pay fees for tests and materials) for anyone advancing their Director level. Approved by unanimous vote.

Parking at Iliff School – download and use the Parking app since it contains validation that you paid.

Regional: Schedule has been approved by D17. Budget is in process (Julie and Jennifer). Phoenix has 1 experienced caddy each day. We should plan for half of the team games to be Round Robin and only need caddy for half. Caddy tip jar was mentioned, as well as caddy aprons (apparently we have these in a crate but they are not used). Games are \$16 per session. Hotel gives us some money per room rented to be applied to food. Don is meeting with the hotel on various items. One of our big problems is the need for local Directors to avoid high expenses for travel, etc. (See Directors’ Initiative in Table Talk.) Need more flyers for Taos (Julie will take them). Kathy will take some to Co Spgs. Jennifer needs some ProAm flyers to be ready and distributed at the I/N tournament in September.

I/N Sectional: Kathy. Robert Tood event went well, seats were full. I/N sectional is Oct 7-8 at Denver Metro Bridge Studio. Elly is the Director. Approved using Pianola tracking information on next mailing. Sally Kneser will send out information to her mailing list (no charge to us). Budget for lunch is \$7/person. Kathy is getting Volunteers for cleanup. I/N trophies – Kathy has 2 which is all that is needed.

Conflict of Interest: Rita will rewrite the COI. Margaret made changes to a version and put it on the website. Rita will review and update for us to approve.

D17: Jennifer. Nothing to report. FYI – Region 10 has only 1 district, District 17.

Sectional: Encourage people to use the parking application on their phone to ensure evidence of payment. We should not assist people with Kiosks since it is their responsibility and we have helped for 2 events already. H1 lot permits are now \$14. Therefore, we agreed that we should have parking directed to the B (handicapped) and Lot 304 until they are full (50 slots). Then we will collect \$10 for parking permits to the H1 lot (we will subsidize the additional \$4). Our July event used 34 permits. We will now call it the ‘overflow’ lot. Signs are in the crates. Wind and rain blew them over. Probably still are ok if put into the wire stands to hold them in place (rather than tape).

Photography flyer for tournaments: should say for winners of their ‘event, flight, section, or bracket’.

PA system: Costs \$100 to rent it from Iliff School. Sally Kneser lent hers to us and it worked well. Kathy will get more information and we should investigate purchasing our own unit.

Signs for Stanchions – Kevin will look into getting the Section signs and colors ([officedepot.com/yard signs](http://officedepot.com/yard-signs)). Planning to have ready for November tournament.

Miscellaneous:

Flyers: Send any flyer or information posting issues with ACBL to Julie and Cindy Shoemaker (D17).

Awards: Discuss at September meeting.

Holiday event: Decided not to have one. December meeting is often quite busy.

I/N Regional: Kathy still working with other units to address this. Bonnie Bagley suggested a shared tournament (½ in Denver, ½ in Co Spgs). We did not like that idea. No meeting date set yet.

Julie – Elly will trade plastic board holders (that do not open for her use with her hand machine) for some of our metal boards (for her chair rail around the room). Julie will follow up on that but we thought it was a good idea. Julie was going to give 2 boxes of boards to Vivian to clean up. Update – Vivian was readmitted to the hospital.

Missing Boards: Elly told Ed that she found half of them. We do not know yet if there are more in crates.

Cowboy storage: We spend about \$120/month for storing our crates. Hospitality probably has some with items we no longer need and can be streamlined into fewer crates.

Kevin bought new cards for team games. Board members should initiate replacing decks as needed during team games.

Still have requests for team games on Friday at Sectionals. Will discuss in the future.

January Sectional flyer needs to be ready before the November Sectional so they can be given out there.

11:20 Meeting adjourned.