

Unit 361 Bridge board meeting minutes

Date: July 20th, 2024

Time: Called to order @9:05 by Julie Clark to 11:30 am

Julie, Don, Jay, Paul, Margaret, Kevin, Rita, Kathleen, Susan, Jennifer. Ed online

The minutes from the May meeting were approved unanimously

AGENDA ITEMS

Financial Report – Rita

- May Treasurer's Report was approved [8-0]
- Regional Tournament made ~\$5,900 + \$1,000 (support from D17 for supporting the I/N). This includes \$3k donations. We are still working through some issues with 4 nights hotel to finalize the tournament financials.
- I/N Regional ~(-\$3,300)
- Open Sectional - +~\$1,000 {some costs were split between the two tournaments, but this is our current estimate
- June/July Treasurer's Report was approved [8-0]
- CD Account – Rita, Jay, and Jennifer will recommend what to do with our bankable money. Approved [7-1]. Susan will confirm our legal position.

Regional Tournament for 2025 – Julie and Don

- The 2025 Regional Committee has compared the 2024 Regional to past Regionals and will make recommendations on the best approach to the 2025 Regional.
 - There were 155 fewer tables in 2024 than 2023
 - There were some concerns with access to playing areas and facilities at the Doubletree
- People will be allowed to purchase naming rights for a specific day of the Regional for \$400. The name of the day is to base on a current or past bridge player and will be approved by the board. All names should be turned in by Dec 31st. Approved [7-1].

New Board Member – Julie

- Susan Marshall has agreed to join the Board as the Communications Coordinator.
- Jay will assist in Susan's on-boarding
- It will help with Susan's work if the board assists with timely and quality review and editing comments.

5/5/5 Report – Jay

- As of Thursday we had 48 lapsed and 17 at risk members.
- It will take ~30 minutes to contact our individual 6 person list
- Discussion of ways to find new people who would be interested in learning bridge and active recruiting
 - High School Clubs
 - Student Unions, College clubs/groups
 - Retirement Communities
 - Non-sanctioned games at residential areas or community Centers
 - 4H, Boys/Girls Clubs, Boy / Girl Scouts

- Paul will look into some options and make a recommendation at a future meeting

Front Range Challenge – Ed

- We (FRC committee) failed to check the other tournament schedules when we set September 22, 2024 as the date. It conflicts with the Taos Regional so had to be changed.
- The new date is October 27, 2024, 10:30 in Boulder. No apparent conflicts.
- The event will be 3 brackets, with 2 teams each.
- Brackets as follows: 0-750; 750-2500; 2500+. The main reason for these brackets is to accommodate Ft Collins, which has many newer players (and few top flight players interested in the event). *[After the meeting, it was clarified that the points are not for each individual, but as an average for each team. A team member(s) can have points outside of the range as long as the team meets the average.]*
- Colo. Springs will supplement the Ft Collins top flight team with what is needed to field 2 teams. (Boulder was not interested joining Ft Collins to form a single N Colo unit for this event.)
- Future host/locations areas follows (independent of who wins future events): 2025-Colorado Springs, 2026, Denver, 2027-Ft Collins.
- 2024 entry fee to be set by Boulder.
- Pending proposal - Drop the pro rata sharing of net income. (I indicated Denver does not favor this).
- Ed sent out emails to the qualified teams on Friday morning.

July Sectional/ IN Regional Recap

- Table count increased in the open to 27.5 and by 2 tables for the I/N.
- Parking is still a minor issue. We would like to recommend that everyone use the Park Mobile App as the kiosks are difficult to use.
 - It would be beneficial for board members and others, at Club games, talk about the Park Mobile App and suggest that people download the app as we get within 2-3 weeks prior to the November Sectional.
- Question for future – Do we want to offer food on site both Friday and Saturday. We sold 80+ for Subway on Friday and 90+ for Pizza on Saturday.
- We need additional volunteers for the start-up especially but could use them for tear down too. We will investigate options on how to improve this situation; Don will take the lead.
- We had a ZERO tolerance issue on Saturday. There needs to be a player memo sent to the ACBL. This memo needs to be sent by a person at the table where the Zero tolerance occurred.
- Contracts have been signed for November and January with Iliff. They will be raising their rates slowly to pre-COVID rates, eventually to \$1,400/day.
- We are looking into other options and negotiations with Iliff to keep the prices under control.

Mentor Program – Ed

- Q2 report-27 pairings, total for 2024 (Jan-thru June)-67 pairings.
- -Although we are fewer than 2023, 2023 was a huge increase over prior years.
- -Ed will ask for mentors at the game Saturday. We have a few mentees looking for mentors. If any board member is interested, see a few names on the door at Metro or see Ed.

Member Roster Purposes – Susan

- It is in the by-laws that we cannot support events that are only @ one club.
 - By-laws are on the website under Admin.

Discussion on newer member tournaments – Jay

- Is it OK for LM <499 MP's to play in our I/N Sectional and Regional?

- It was the recommendation of both Kathy and Jay that we continue with the current process of allowing all players with <500 MP's to play, regardless of their Life Master status.
- Jennifer will check with D17 to define what we can do.

What do we want to do with some of the money that we have in the bank – Everyone

- We are a not for profit organization and we have a considerable amount of money in the bank
- We could have a single session catered event Unit game, IMHO
 - Don & Paul will recommend a day and location at our next meeting
- Purchase a microphone - \$40. It was voted on and approved unanimously.
- Board to think of options and come to the next meeting with some ideas

District 17 Update - Jennifer

- The flight C team has made the semi-finals of the GNT. Mark Benford, Richard Blumberg, Mike Crimmins, Anne Schuster, all of unit 361.
- The flight A team has made the semi-finals of the GNT. Brad Moss is the only Unit 361 member.
- The All Western 99er Club is closing down
- ACBL Charity is now a stand alone organization.
- NAP & GNT point levels, starting in 2025, will be: Open, 6,000, 3,000, & 750.

Website – Margaret

- We have no pictures from the July tournaments
 - We can try to find winners and other interesting pictures
 - We might leave it to the winners to supply their own picture if desired.
 - We need to decide how we want to handle pictures for tournament winners
- Margaret will calculate the points for the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd places for the Colorado trophy.

Other Agenda Items

- The nominating committee met and identified 10 possibilities for new board members.

- WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21ST FROM 6:30-9:00PM ZOOM/ONLINE