

UNIT 361 BRIDGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 19, 2025

Time: Called to Order 9:05 am by Rita Simas

ATTENDANCE

Rita, Judith, Don, Jay, Kevin, Kathy, Gale, Wally, Jennifer, Susan G., Margaret

AGENDA ITEMS

Approvals

(Note: When you see sentences highlighted, it means **add to September Agenda** or **add to an agenda later in the year.**)

Minutes

Discussion: No discussion.

Motions: Unanimously approved.

Further Action: None.

Email Votes

Discussion: No discussion.

Motions: Report of email motion to pay \$275 for chair transport to Metro, for the Robert Todd events. Motion was approved by email and accepted by the board.

Further Action: **Jay is to call Elly to remind her to be present at the appropriate time, and to call the carriers.**

President Welcome Message

Discussion: Rita's message contained in Board Package.

Motions: None

Further Action: None.

Closed Action Items

Discussion: Discussion: Rita requested that board members who have action items, to notify Rita when their Action Items are officially ready to close. The archived Action Items provide the current and future boards a single searchable document to research Motions and Action Items history. Previous to this Board's term, the researcher needed to open many of the Meeting Minutes until the research item was found. She pointed out that motions and action items are highlighted in the minutes, and they are easily copied/pasted into the Archived Action Item file softcopy.

Motions: None.

Further Actions: **All board members/advisors asked to review their open action items and include in your report.**

Committee Reports

Financial Report (Judith)

Discussion: Judith's written report is included. Regional profit was ~\$6000. July sectional and IN regional reports not ready yet, will be in the next few weeks. She thinks that the events will show a profit of ~\$3000.

Motions: Report unanimously approved

Further Action: Judith to report final July tournament(s) financial results.

2025 Sectionals (Jay)

Discussion: Jay's written report is included. Kevin has a contact with the Olive Garden who might be able to get us an employee discount on future orders. The Summit is available for our dates in November, and we don't know yet about later dates. Jeffco is not available for November, is available for our dates in January, not available for March. General discussion: We want to avoid changing tournament dates, if possible. We want to stay in one place as much as possible. Costs of both places are comparable now, but the Summit will be significantly more expensive in July, due to its being wedding season. Susan G remembers hearing complaints about the chairs at the Summit. John Worley will be DIC for our tournaments for the remainder of 2025 and for 2026. Jay requests an understudy for sectional tournaments, so that somebody else can learn the ropes

Motions: The Summit Event Center was unanimously approved for November. Jeffco was approved for January.

Further Action: Jay is waiting to hear from Summit, and is asking for other possible dates from Jeffco for the remainder of 2026. Don to determine if Iliff might work for Unit game.

Communications (Susan M)

Discussion: Susan M's provided written report (attached). Susan was absent and no items were discussed.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Susan M to resubmit board questions in September.

NLM Regional (Kathy)

Discussion: Kathy's reports are attached. Friday and Saturday afternoon both showed a drop-off in table count that was greater than last year's. She has received strong feedback that the lunch break is too long, even with the speakers to help fill the time, and she thinks this is a major reason for the afternoon attrition. If the number of boards played is limited to 24, then it is OK to have less than a 3-hour break for ACBL employees. Kathy would like to start the 2nd session of the NLM Regional next year at 2:30 instead of 3:00. This would mean a different start time for the IN game in the afternoon than the Open Sectional. Kathy does not see this as a problem. There is also an issue with having segregated playing areas for two different start times for the afternoon events at sectional and the NLM regional. Unresolved.

Motions: Move the Fall I/N sectional to September 19-20, 2026. Unanimously approved.

Further Action: Kathy to recommend solutions to 2026 IN Regional as described above.

2026 Regional (Don)

Discussion: Jerry Ranney will be co-chair, and Ed Yosses is running the Pro/Am. The budget and the flyer are both in process. The first iteration of the flyer will go out without name days, and they will be added later if we are successful in selling them. More effort will be given to recognizing the honorees in 2026. After consideration of replacing BAM with a pair-Swiss event, it was decided to keep the BAM and the rest of the schedule as in 2025. Don and Jerry are to continue looking into bracketed pairs. Meetings with the hotel are scheduled, and will include work on contracts for 2027 and beyond. Regionals farther out: There was some discussion about running our regional from Monday through Sunday, rather than Tuesday through Monday. Issue with the current schedule: a lot of people leave early to get to their next regional. Upshot: leave as is. Don is to look into changing the dates of the Denver regional to a time later in the year, as several of the other D17 regionals have shifted around and the first part of the year is loaded.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Don to continue investigating the 2027 Regional timing.

Growing the Game (Kathy)

Discussion: Kathy's reports are attached. Kathy planning to organize an IN team event.

Motions: None

Further Action: Kathy to propose details of IN team event in September.

Mentor Program (Gale)

Discussion: Gale reports are attached. She had a long conversation with Cindy and Jack Shoemaker (Cindy is the Region 10 representative to the ACBL national board) and came away with a number of ideas that she wants to work on. To date, there is a lot of activity with the "classic" mentor structure (mentor and mentee play together), but not so much with the new "mentor a pair" structure. Many people interested in this new option don't meet the minimum masterpoint requirement.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Gale to examine new ideas gathered from others and to experiment with prospective Mentees and Mentors.

Miscellaneous

Discussion: Kathy stated the IN awards will remain the same, but they will be "awards" instead of "trophies." Winners will receive certificates and two free plays to Unit 361 tournaments.

Margaret will work with Susan M to get the redefinition of the JJ Award announced.

As the current vice president is planning to run for re-election, Rita will chair the nominating committee for the 2026-2027 term.

Susan G. distributed updated Conflict of Interest statements to all board members present. The instructions were to read, sign, and return to the secretary (Susan M.). Several people signed during the meeting and Susan G. collected the signed forms.

Motions: None.

Actions: Susan M to send Pianola regarding new JJ criteria. Susan M to follow up on Conflict of Interest Statements.

Hospitality

Discussion: Wally will be taking on the hospitality role upon Greg's resignation. Wally assisted Greg at the July events, and Greg will assist Wally in November. At the July events, ~\$6000 was allocated and ~\$4000 spent, coming in \$1300 under budget. One of the coffee pots burned out. Wally presented several options for purchase, all from Costco, ranging in cost from \$55 to \$250).

Motions: The board unanimously approved Wally to purchase the one that he thought best.

Actions: Wally to purchase coffee pot.

Website

Discussion: Margaret's report of website traffic is attached as information. Margaret to work with Susan M to ensure that the boilerplate at the end of our regular Pianolas contains a pointer to the unit website.

Motions: Board approved to purchase the upgraded security/backup package from GoDaddy (our web hosting platform), and the dynamic tiny URL/QR code service at Margaret's request spreadsheet and distribute.

Actions: Margaret to purchase upgraded tools and will update the credentials.

Around the Room

Discussion: Rita will send the notes of the most recent ACBL unit presidents meeting to the board.

Rita and Judith are working to align the budget structure with the unit's QuickBooks setup. Jennifer commented that D17's budget was somewhat more streamlined but adequate for their purposes.

Susan G reported partnerships going well.

Motions: None.

Actions: Rita to send notes of most recent ACBL unit presidents meeting to board.

Adjournment

Unanimous decision to adjourn at 11:12

NEXT MEETINGS: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 (changed due to Boulder Sectional)
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20 (if changed, it conflicts with Palm Springs)

from 9-11:15 AM at Denver Metro Bridge Studio.