

UNIT 361 BRIDGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 24, 2025

Time: Called to Order 9:10 am by Rita Simas

ATTENDANCE

Rita, Jay, Kathy, Wally, Susan M, Jennifer, Gary, Susan G, Judith

AGENDA ITEMS

Approvals

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

Minutes

Discussion: No discussion.

Motions: Wally moved to approve minutes; Jay seconded. Unanimously approved.

Further Action: None.

Email Votes

Discussion: None.

Motions: None.

Further Action: None.

Committee Reports

Financial Report (Judith)

Discussion: Judith's written report is included. She predicted that the January Sectional may make \$300. The net loss in the 2026 budget was \$2,957.

Motions: Kathy move to accept the Treasurer's report, Jay seconded. Unanimously approved.

Further Action: None.

Sectionals (Jay)

Discussion: Jay's written report is included. Jay stated that while the snow and the Albuquerque Regional starting the day after the Sectional impacted the January Sectional attendance, the event profit was due to having a tournament assistant to the two directors rather than paying for three directors. Jay suggested that Margaret develop a "lost and found" page on the unit website, which Margaret executed prior to the January board meeting. March tournament planning is coming along. The Events Committee discussed having 9:30am and 2:30pm start-times, but no decision/proposal has been made. Iliff contract is almost done. The NLM Regional start-times will be 10am and 2:30pm with 24 boards on Friday and Saturday. Jay needs help on Friday and Saturday so that he doesn't have to spend up to 12 hour days—help should be either morning start-up or end-of-day closing.

Motions: None.

Further Action: None.

Hospitality (Wally)

Discussion: Wally will talk to the pizza store close to the Summit for March and look for cheaper options for Saturday. Lesson learned: don't sell tickets after the 10am deadline so that we don't run out of food.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Wally to follow up with food suppliers.

Communications (Susan M)

Discussion: Susan M's provided written report (attached). Susan brought up two questions of behalf of Margret and the website. Do we want the Director Initiative to continue through 2026? Answer, yes, but clarify we are looking to develop tournament directors only and there is no end date. Does the board want to continue the Mentor Program through 2026? Yes, but Gale is currently revising.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Margaret and Gale to discuss verbiage once Gale has approval for new Mentor Program. Margaret to add "tournament director" clarification to website as discussed above.

Regional Game (Don/Jerry)

Discussion: Jerry Ranney attended and spoke on behalf of Don. He shared that Joan Curran will lead the staffing of the hospitality desk. He's acquiring 600 patches, 600 convention card holders, and is in charge of the caddies. Ed Yosses needs to work with Jennifer to make more PRO progress. Sheryl Siegel is joining to work on the AM portion of the PRO/AM. Charity games on Tuesday: one will benefit the ACBL foundation and one is TBD. Don and Jerry discussion possibly increasing the entry fee in 2027. They want to designate one day as "IN Day". Supply needs to be determined. Lastly, they will try an incentive to speed up the Fast Pairs games on Wednesday-Friday, but will need to promote.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Ed to report progress on PRO/AM event. The Board to determine charity for the second charity event. Gary/Don/Jerry need to meet at March Sectional or at Cowboy Storage to determine supply needs (mostly paper supplies). Don/Jerry to determine specific actions to speed up Fast Pairs games. Don/Gary/Jerry will meet with Taos Regional Tournament leadership to purchase needed supplies for their next Regional; Unit 361 will be reimbursed for the purchase and storage of materials.

Growing the Game (Kathy)

Discussion: Kathy's report is attached. Kathy wants to create more Meet 'n Greets at board members' homes. She is also encouraging Board members to participate in Sam's Game on February 15. Kathy brought up that the directors only had 1 tablet at the January tournament which resulted in some people waiting in line for an hour to get entries. This caused the start time to be delayed by 30 minutes. Jay was aware of the problem and said they will bring 2 tablets to accommodate two lines in the future.

Motions: None.

Further Action: None.

Mentors Membership and Marketing

Discussion: Gale's report is attached. Gale's proposed sponsorship program of financial and in-kind sponsorships was discussed with general enthusiasm. The board decided to further discuss in February when Gale is present. Gale's report also talked about the change to the 5+5+5 program – achievement and payout is based on results (retention and new members), and we don't get credit just for making contacts. Gale will be looking at the new program. Jay reported on the changes to the 5/5/5 program in Gale's absence. Susan M thanked everyone who is working on 5/5/5 assignments—at Gale's request.

Motions: None.

Further Action: Gale to evaluate changes to 5/5/5 program and report in either February or March.

D17 Activity (Jennifer)

Discussion: Jennifer's report is attached.

Motions: None.

Further Action: None.

Adjournment

Unanimous decision to adjourn at 11:11

NEXT MEETINGS: **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28**
 SATURDAY, MARCH 21
 SATURDAY, APRIL 4
 SATURDAY, MAY 16
 SATURDAY, JUNE 20

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