

## ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, Wednesday December 14, 2022

Location: The meeting was conducted on-line using ZOOM.

Attendees: Sandy Bigg, Mark Boswell, Don Chase, Terry D'Amato, Diane Deutch, Ken Obrecht, and John Welte

Absent: Dennis Abein, Steve Russell, and Mark Zellmer

The meeting was called to order at 7:07. Seven board members were in attendance, satisfying quorum requirements.

### President's Report:

John thanked the board for being fabulous to work with and reflected on his term as President.

### Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes prepared by Dennis from the November 9, 2022 board meeting were approved as submitted.

### Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was approved. Pianola was explained as the company that handles our email blasts.

### Report From Debbie Romero:

We acknowledged receipt of Debbie's summary of meetings with the ACBL and District 8. John mentioned that while the ACBL had approved changes, they weren't being implemented yet, so they don't affect us at this time.

### August 2022 Regional Report from Mike Carmen:

The Board discussed the report from Mike Carmen. We commented that the loss wasn't huge and was better than expected. John shared his observation that there appeared to be more caddies hired than were needed.

### January Sectional:

We acknowledged receipt of the coordination sheet that Dennis had sent out with a list of tasks for the January Sectional. John noted that some roles still needed to be assigned.

John said that he made one change: Steve is assigned to get the list of people who earned their life master pins [May 22-Jan 23] and should also inform (email) recipients to let them know when the pins will be presented [before the Saturday afternoon event at the Sectional].

A motion was passed to reduce the number of free plays for board members at Sectionals to zero. Mark B. said that free plays for Regionals will be dealt with separately.

John shared the difficulty Sandy had getting caddies for the Friday Swiss because it fell during school hours.

#### May 2023 Sectional:

Different approaches were discussed related to the May schedule: possibly flipping Friday and Saturday's schedule to make it easier to get caddies, or returning to the old schedule of having a Friday night Swiss. There was consensus that we should wait to see how the January Sectional goes before finalizing any schedule and venue decisions for the May Sectional.

John mentioned that Jay Shah had offered to come back on the board. We wondered if he would be willing to become the caddy chair. Mark B said that he would ask him.

#### August 2023 Regional:

The proposed schedule of events for the August Regional was discussed, with varying opinions on the elimination of knock-outs voiced. John and Mark B proposed forming a committee to look at the schedule. In addition to Dennis and other board members who might serve on that committee, Mark B proposed seeking input from someone who attends a lot of Regionals, such as Jack Bryant.

Other agenda items pertaining to the August '23 Regional were postponed since Dennis was unable to attend the meeting.

#### Sectional Attendance:

John commented that attendance had dropped from the May Sectional to the October, despite special efforts to accommodate requests made by novices at the May Sectional. John felt we really need to talk up the tournaments.

Don commented that he had sent a letter prior to the May Sectional that received a great deal of response and wondered if that letter may have been a factor that boosted May attendance. (He did not send a letter prior to the October sectional.)

#### COVID:

Don brought up that as the COVID monitor he has concerns about the rising number of cases.

#### 499 Tournament:

Terry asked if we might go back to calling it an I/N tournament (too many different number names). John shared that the name had been changed out of concern for people not wanting to be called a *novice*. No decision was reached for the future.

The flier was revised to clarify language about fees. "Guest members and" was omitted from the second sentence in the section on fees. A motion was passed to approve the flier.

#### Old Business:

John shared that we now have approved sanctions for the 499er tournaments in 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Because Dennis was not present, discussion of the Standing Rules was tabled to January. Contracts have been executed for our moving and storage company, McGuire, and also for the Renaissance Hotel for 2024 and 2025.

The unit's storage materials were moved to McGuire in November, 2022.

#### New Business:

The board approved the additional expense of \$99 to enable Dennis to read the responses he received from his Regional survey.

#### Election of Officers:

Mark Boswell was voted in to be President.

Mark Zellmer was voted in to be Vice President.

Steve Russell was voted in to be Treasurer.

Sandy Bigg was voted in to be Secretary.

Someone needs to notify the ACBL about the new officers; John said that he could do this.

#### Communicating with our new President:

Mark B said that he is slow to respond to emails and that the best way to reach him is by phoning or texting him.

#### Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

#### Next Board Meeting:

January 11, 2023