

ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, Wednesday November 9, 2022

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

Attendees: Dennis Abeln, Don Chase, Diane Deutch, Ken Obrecht, Steve Russell.

Absent: John Welte, Mark Boswell, Maureen Curran, Terry D'Amato, Mark Zellmer.

President John Welte had planned to run the meeting via Zoom but was out of town and did not have a suitable phone or internet connection. Dennis ran the meeting due to the absence of both John and Vice-President Mark Boswell.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm. Five board members were in attendance, satisfying quorum requirements.

The minutes from the October 12, 2022 board meeting were approved as submitted.

Board Member Appointment

Sandy Bigg had been nominated as a new board member and had accepted. Her job will be Publicity Chair. Sandy's appointment was approved without objection.

President's Report:

Dennis relayed an announcement from John Welte that Maureen Curran had resigned from the Caddy Chair position effective after the October Sectional. Dennis asked Sandy to handle Caddy Chair duties for the January 2023 Sectional, as the publicity work for that event was complete and someone needed to cover the caddy chair job. Sandy agreed but for the January Sectional only. Sandy will get with Maureen for details.

Treasurer's Report:

Steve Russell previously emailed the November 2022 financial report. The report was approved as submitted.

Dennis led a discussion about the annual financial report required by the unit's bylaws. The report should show the gain or loss of each tournament. Previous annual reports have matched the unit's fiscal year ending September 30, where the results of the August Regional are not complete. Dennis proposed making the annual report follow the calendar year. The board approved the proposal without objection.

August 2022 Regional

Dennis reported that Mike Carmen had not completed the final report for the August Regional, but expects to have it for the next board meeting.

Dennis reported that District 8's board decided at their October 22, 2022 board meeting to waive their fees for all 2022 Regionals held in District 8. This decision will reduce the unit's losses for the Regional.

October 2022 Sectional

Dennis had previously distributed the final October Sectional financial report by email. The report showed the table count was 49.4% of 2019's October Sectional and lost \$2,357. The report was approved as submitted.

Dennis reported that Diane had removed all of the unit's hospitality supplies stored at Blanchette.

January 2023 Sectional

Dennis submitted a report on November 2 with a financial projection showing a break-even result if attendance is 50% of January 2020's Sectional. The projection was based on reducing the 499er event entry fees from \$14 to \$12, a change made by Dennis with John Welte's support. The lower entry fee is reflected on the flyer which have been published, printed and distributed. The report was approved as submitted.

Dennis's report included a proposal to reduce free plays for board members from 2 to 1. This proposal was not specifically discussed or voted on and should be considered at the next board meeting. Other key details from the report follow.

Dennis cancelled Blanchette for the January Sectional without any penalty. Other reservations remain in place.

A Save-the-Date Pianola email blast was sent October 31 to ACBL members living within 150 miles of Olivette. A follow-up Pianola email blast will be issued in late December.

Flyers have been printed and distributed to local clubs. Flyers will be mailed to clubs within 150 miles of Olivette in mid-November.

Postcards will not be used. Flyers will be mailed to those rural individuals who attended the October Sectional.

August 2023 Regional

Dennis reported on the status of the hotel contract addendum. It was signed by John and Dennis. A copy of the executed contract addendum was been emailed on October 13 to all board members.

Dennis has started working on the game schedule. He intends to submit a proposed schedule and seek Unit 143 board approval at the December board meeting.

August 2024 and 2025 Regionals

Dennis had asked the Renaissance Hotel to submit contracts for the 2024 and 2025 regionals with the same terms as the 2023 Regional except for normal room rate increases and the addition of zero penalty cancellation by October 1 of the preceding year. The hotel agreed to these terms and submitted proposed contracts. Dennis emailed the proposed contracts to the board for review and comment on November 2. The board voted to approve these contracts as presented. Dennis will execute the contracts and distribute same to the board members.

I/N Tournaments

Sanctions have not yet been approved for Unit 143's I/N (499er) tournaments in 2023 or 2024. Dennis reported that John has been working on this.

Old Business

Dennis had submitted emails on Oct 31 and November 1 reporting on alternatives to using Frisella Moving and Storage, triggered by Frisella's announced 50% rate increase beginning January 2023. Dennis obtained competitive pricing from McGuire Moving & Storage and Cord Moving & Storage. McGuire offered the lowest rates. Dennis's recommended change to McGuire was approved as presented. Dennis will make arrangements to have the unit's materials moved before year-end.

Dennis had proposed three new Standing Rules at the October board meeting. The proposed rules were included in the October meeting minutes. Due to the absence of key officers, detailed discussion and approval was tabled until December.

New Business

The bylaws call for officer elections at the November board meeting. Due to the absence of so many board members including candidates for the key offices, the elections were postponed until December.

Dennis led a brief discussion about the St Louis Bridge Center's efforts to arrange a Unity Game with the ABA. No specific Unit 143 action was proposed or approved.

The next board meeting will be December 14, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Submitted by Dennis Abeln November 22, 2022.