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The District Nineteen Organization of The American Contract Bridge League

District 19, ACBL, Spokane Board Meeting Minutes
Spokane, Washington, Monday, April 4, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. The President declared a quorum with the following Board members present: Chris Cookson, John Demeulemeester, Cam Doner, Kathie Hoehne, Steve Kasner, Ron Krueger, Marv Norden, Gay Parrish, Karen Rise, Don Wallace, Tim White, and Ralph Wilhelmi. Also present were Dudley Brown, Secretary, and for part of the meeting Matt Koltnow, ACBL Field Supervisor, and Jackie Biel, Spokane Regional Chairman.
2. Review of check cashing policy was added to the Agenda as Item 7d.
3. **Krueger moved and Wilhelmi seconded to approve the minutes from the Leavenworth 2015 Board meeting as presented.** Motion passed unanimously.
4. The following occurred during reports:
 - a. **Wilhelmi moved and White seconded to accept the treasurer's year ending reports as submitted to board members by email.** Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Wilhelmi presented a modified budget for 2016-2017. Discussion ensued on what exchange rate to use, and when the Board should suggest changing Canadian funds to U.S. funds, and what projection the Treasurer might make as to when to exchange funds. Per telcon during the meeting, the Treasurer did not see an immediate need to exchange funds.
 - c. Tournament Oversight Committee Chairman Parrish stated that tournament contracts for Regionals through 2018 were in place except for the fall of 2018. She had proposals for both Leavenworth and Tri Cities for the fall of 2018. **Cookson moved and Krueger seconded to have the fall 2018 regional at Leavenworth October 29th to November 4th.** Motion passed unanimously. The President requested that the Secretary reply to the Tri City request stating that their proposal was reviewed and to suggest applying for 2019 after space negotiations were completed.
 - d. Tournament Administrator Brown passed out updates to the District Manual and Tournament Handbook.
 - e. Norden reported on the Reno National Board meeting. A committee has been appointed to suggest how to reduce District Directors. It has not been suggested to consolidate Districts.
 - f. White presented a written report on Grand National Teams and North American Pairs. He stressed the importance of communications with club managers and the value to the District of Grass Root fund games. He requested permission and was granted authority to adjust sanction or surcharges in view of the imbalance of Canadian-U.S. exchange rates. **Doner moved and Kasner seconded to pay GNT and NAP subsidies to U.S. qualifiers in U.S. funds and to Canadian qualifiers in Canadian funds.** Motion passed unanimously.

g. No Judiciary, Recorder or Appeals activity was reported by John Weinberg, David Binney or Steve Hosch, respectively.

h. Koltnow reported that the regulations on whether the District is entitled to a 5th regional were ambiguous but that he felt the District was currently entitled and that in 2019 a September time frame was reasonable.

i. Election Chairman Brown reported that new terms (2017-2019) for Alaska at large , British Columbia at large, and Vancouver Island at large will be announced and that the filing period is open until July 15th. An announcement will be paced in the Spokane Regional Daily Bulletin and letters sent to area units involved.

j. Hoehne passed out forms for Board members to appoint individuals to the District Good Will Committee. She led a discussion on the possibility of having a morning brunch at a regional for the Good Will Committee.

k. Hoehne reported that Board members should give her their current appointments to the District 19 Good Will Committee.

l. Intermediate/Newcomer Hospitality Chairman Vivian Thickett sent a report on the new program of giving free plays to members that advanced to Sectional Master status (50 M.P.).

m. Spokane Regional Chairman Biel reported on preparations for the regional and requested an additional 50 free plays for volunteers as she was not planning to take a hotel room for herself and that unit members have donated many items to the tournament. **Norden moved and Rise seconded to authorize her the additional free plays.** Motion passed unanimously.

5. The following actions occurred under Unfinished Business:

a. The Board took no action to change Regional entry fees and fees will remain at \$13 U.S. per session in the U.S. and \$14 Canadian per session in Canada for 2016.

b. Communications Chairman Norden reported he had terminated Chris Class as District Web Master and has asked J.P. Weber to assume the position on a trial basis. Board members and officials will be allowed to submit directly to him and he will be advised to accept submissions and to place them on the District Web Site. Norden will email Weber's contact information to the Board shortly.

6. The following actions were taken during New Business:

a. President Parrish listed committee members and officials.

b. The Board discussed the necessity of having proofs of regional flyers approved prior to printing.

c. President Parrish led a discussion on having the Treasurer use credit cards to pay for regional expenses. Rather than using credit cards, **Cookson moved and Doner seconded to amend the District policy on establishing a petty cash fund for a regional as follows:**

A Petty Cash Fund up to \$500 can be established for required purchases prior to the tournament. The Chairman can request an advance from the District Treasurer. A full accounting supported by receipts must be furnished the District Treasurer. Unused funds at the end of the tournament must be promptly returned to the District Treasurer. Receipts must be provided before any replenishment of the Petty Cash Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

7. The next Board meeting will be at Whistler at 9:30 a.m., November 7, 2016.

8. There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DUDLEY BROWN
Secretary

Approved November 7, 2016, at Whistler B.C. Board Meeting