

# DINO

## The District Nineteen Organization of The American Contract Bridge League

### District 19, ACBL, Board Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2023, Victoria, B.C.

1. President Karen Rise called the meeting to order at 9 02 a.m. She declared a quorum with the following Board members present: Dean Altschuler, Don Bladow, Ray Miller, Marv Norden, Marilyn Olson, Marla Patterson, Karen Rise, Ann Romeo, Nick Stock, and J.P. Weber. Also present were Tim White, ACBL Region 13 Director, and Dudley Brown, Secretary.
2. **Romeo moved, and Patterson seconded to approve the Agenda with the addition of Item 8i, A request for a grant for the Anchorage Unit if their 2023 regional losses money.** Motion passed unanimously.
3. **Bladow moved and Patterson seconded to accept the minutes from the January 19, 2023, Internet Board Meeting as presented.** Motion passed unanimously.
4. The following occurred under Reports:
  - a. The Treasurer's 2022 year-ending reports were received.
  - b. Elections Chair Brown reported that announcement for filing for the Board for 2024 through 2026 terms have been made for the following Board positions: Eastern Washington at Large and Western Washington at Large. The Seattle and Vancouver B.C. Units have been notified their units need to elect someone for the same term.
  - c. John Weinberg, Judiciary Chair, David Binney, Recorder, and Steve Hosch, Appellate Chair, reported no activity.
  - d. Altschuler presented a 2023 District Budget and accepted suggested modifications which then showed an expected net yearly shortfall of approximately \$32,284 (U.S.).
  - e. Romeo Reported on the partially completed District GNT Finals. **Patterson moved and Norden seconded to continue to give a subsidy to GNT winning and second place teams only, who will be going to the National Finals. Teams elevated from a lower finishing position to going would not receive a subsidy.** Motion passed unanimously.
  - f. Olson distributed forms for Board members to name 2023 District 19 Goodwill members.
  - g. For their information Bladow furnished Board members with a redesigned letter awarding free plays to District members advancing to Sectional Master status and said he had made 30 some awards this year to date.
  - h. Olson reported that Nick Stock was the Kirkwood Trophy winner for 2022 for winning the most master points at 2022 District regionals. Stock related that his unit had not yet had a presentation party.
  - i. Tournament Administrator Brown requested that Liaisons for the 2023 Penticton and Lynnwood Regionals furnish him with a signed, printed copy of space contracts.
  - j. District Web Master Weber gave a briefing on the District Web Site and furnished statistics on how many hits occurred. Bladow moved and Romeo seconded to continue to provide units with one free Email Blast per sectional promoting these events. Motion passed unanimously.

- k. Olympiad Fund Chair Stock reported that the previous chair had submitted remaining funds to the District Treasurer.
  - l. Region 13 Director White told that the ACBL Board had hired a new Executive Director, Bronia Jenkins, effective May 10, 2023. He further discussed his involvement with the developers of Edgar, an internet model to find online cheaters, and his other actions to revise disciplinary procedures.
5. Unfinished Business:
- a. The District did not receive a payment from ACBL for a conflict between a Tournament at Sea with the District Lynnwood 2022 Regional as the Tournament at Sea did not occur.
  - b. Altchuler outlined his review of District financial records and made suggestion which would make District Financial Statements on an accrual basis. He also said there was no plan to get access to district Quick Book accounts if the Treasurer should become incapacitated.
  - c. Stock told that the Vancouver B.C. Unit Board had identified several prospects to fill the vacant District Board position and would be electing someone shortly.
  - d. The desirability and necessity of setting up a 501(c)3 corporation in Washington to request grant money in support of regional tournaments was discussed without a decision reached.
6. New Business:
- a. The desirability of having an NABC in Seattle or Vancouver B.C. was addressed. White stated that ACBL's selection process has been updated but that neither city would probably be chosen.
  - b. **Bladow moved and Weber seconded to grant Bridge for Youth a 2023 grant of \$1,000 and a free Email Blast to encourage participation in this summer youth bridge camps.** Motion carried unanimously with Romeo recording her abstention.
  - c. Rise announced that committee positions have been created for District STaC Coordinator and Graphic Design (for magazine ads and posters). Tournament Liaisons should work with the committee rather than paying an outside vendor. Romeo has been appointed to both.
  - d. ACBL headquarters has made it the responsibility of each tournament sponsor to determine the Covid policy for their events. **Norden moved and Patterson seconded that effective May 1, 2023, the District will recommend but not require players be vaccinated.** Motion passed unanimously. Weber will update the policy on the District website.
  - e. A sign-up sheet was circulated for board members who need a District name tag. TournTables will create them. Distribution will begin in Penticton.
  - f. Rise presented a review of Koltnow's status as District Tournament Coordinator explaining that his position there is as a "private citizen" and is not dependent on his geographical assignments with the ACBL.
7. Tournament actions:
- a. **Bladow moved and Olson seconded approval for an April 8-14, 2024, regional at the Croatia Cultural Center in Vancouver contingent upon receipt of an acceptable contract.** Motion passed unanimously. **Norden moved and Paterson seconded to appoint Nick Stock Chair and Margaret Pattison as Co-chair.** Motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Discussion regarding the fall 2024 regional included a report from Norden that the Chateau Fairmont in Whistler has come back to us with a much lower hotel rate (From \$219 + \$30 = \$249 previously to \$179 + \$30 = \$209 now). However, heeding Koltnow's prediction that the 2024 fall NABC in Las Vegas may reduce local table counts by approximately 50%, the board will wait and look at Whistler for 2025.

A fall 2024 regional in Ocean Shores, WA, was proposed. A regional has not been held in that area since 2017. The venue is inexpensive and grant money is available so even with reduced attendance there should not be a large financial deficit. Olson moved and Miller seconded to approve a regional at Ocean Shores, Washington, November 4-10, 2024, with Rise Chair and Olson Co-Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Bladow moved and Patterson seconded to approve a grant of \$500 for an I/N Reception at the 2023 Lynnwood Regional. Motion passed unanimously.
8. The next scheduled meeting will start at 5:00 p.m., October 22, 2023, at the Leavenworth Fire Hall.
9. There being no further business the President adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DUDLEY BROWN  
Secretary

Approved Oct 22, 2023, at Leavenworth Board Meeting