

**ACBL DISTRICT 11
BOARD MEETING
September 14, 2019
Dayton Regional
DRAFT**

In attendance:

Officers – Steve Moese, President; Ryan Schultz, Vice president; Maribeth Ransel, Secretary

Voting Members – Georgia Banziger and Joyce Dennis (Dayton); Liz Brown and Maribeth Ransel (Indy); Terrell Holt and Andra Gyor (Lexington); Billie Brown and Bill Lea (Evansville); Michael Lipp (Cincy); Vangie Smith and Kit Overpeck (Louisville); Trish Jones (Columbus).

Members – AJ Stephani, District Director; Siraj Haji, Education Chair;

Guests – Cheryl Schneider (NABC Chair); Mike Roberts (Director, guest of Dayton); Joe Camillus (guest of Dayton)

Call to order – Steve Moese welcomed all members and guests. Special recognition was given to returning member Vangie Smith (Lsvl); new member Trish Jones (Col); alternate Kit Overpeck (Lsvl), Joyce Dennis (Day), and Bill Lea (Evans), and to guests: Director Mike Roberts, and a past board member from Dayton, Joe Camillus.

President’s Report: Steve Moese

Board members were reminded of these three priorities: 2020 Columbus NABC; membership growth; best practices.

- June data from ACBL shows D11 is 23rd out of 25 districts in terms of growth;
- Kudos to Indianapolis which currently has the best performance in terms of growth out of D11 units;
- Need to find creative ways to attract people to bridge;
- Cincy has been offering a supervised bridge program which is very popular;
- Bylaws – no report at present.

Dayton Tournament: (Schneider/Banziger)

- It appears that the Dayton tournament tables are up about 50 from last year, and it is hoped that by Sunday, the table count will equal the count of the year before last;
- Reminder that next year’s Dayton tournament will be in August.

Lexington: Just finished Learn Bridge in a Day; just finished the 5th OWLI Class; Eight is Enough is most attended game each month (20-25 tables a month); continuing to do Mentor/Mentee program.

Cincinnati: Active teaching program; many classes take place at country clubs, but many of those people come to the bridge club eventually - - they pay \$5 to come in and play either duplicate or rubber bridge.

Louisville: Mentoring/mentee program; players commit to six or eight games in a 3 month period; a few days a week they have ½ hour after game program where advanced players will work with newer players to answer their questions from the hands they played; Kit gives Saturday classes on critical thinking.

Dayton: OWLI class has 32 people; these people can come in on Saturday mornings for guided play; will also offer open play for anyone who wants to come in and play; club is also going to also have a supervised play at the library.

Evansville: Richard Sarles is teaching a beginners’ class at Owensboro; also had classes this summer in Evansville and will have Q/A series that will start soon and go through November.

Indianapolis: Sharon Austin, IBC Manager, offered an eight-week free class program for anyone wanting to learn about bridge. Nearly 100 people came, and most stayed till the end of the eight weeks; there was very little attrition (about 85 people at the end). About six tables are continuing lessons. Also, our unit has done a special outreach to all of our clubs. Our unit board has gone out to each club and held a party to thank these clubs for the work they do and to encourage their participation in unit events. Our clubs cover 39 counties so they each have a special personality. There are just a few clubs who did not respond to our invitation, so in the end, we will have thrown about 10 parties with the unit paying table fees, and bringing food for the events. It gave us a chance to do a little program on how the units-districts-ACBL are organized and what each does. Our players and directors were very appreciative.

Secretary's Report: Maribeth Ransel The minutes prepared by Potter Orr from the Cincy Regional were accepted as written. The secretary is trying to put together a roster. If you are ready to have an election, please get the names of your new reps to me so we can update the roster.

Treasurer's Report: Potter was not at the meeting but submitted his report. We will wait until November for him to comment on his report, if it is needed. Otherwise, the report is accepted and filed for audit.

Tournament Coordinator: AJ Stephani

- Tournament calendar will be out in next day or two;
- You can start filling in your tournaments for the next several years;
- ACBL is getting back to local tournament coordinators about potential conflicts for tourneys; these have usually not identified many problems that we should be concerned about;
- Indianapolis has requested to host I/N regional on weekend of October 24/25;
⇒Moved and seconded that Indianapolis host I/N Regional October 24/25, 2020. (Smith/Banziger)
Approved unanimously.
- With Cincy/Evansville splitting a regional in June of 2020, and with the Dayton/Columbus regional taking place in August of 2020, all should be aware that when the NABC is in the district it may have a negative effect on subsequent regional counts for the year;
- AJ will investigate credit card processing for regionals;
- Evansville may have to move the place of their split regional in 2020 because of construction taking place at the proposed site; they wanted to hold golf events the week of the tournament as well and that will not work. Billie will look at the USI this coming week and will let us know the availability.

Education Chair: Siraj Haji

- Has not been able to rally the troops yet; has had an unusual amount of travel but hopes to start bringing the teachers together to see if they can share ideas, etc. It also seems we have some overlap with the Stakeholders' Meetings. We might try to have something at a Friday meeting at a regional for teachers. Anyone who has any comments or advice, please send comments to Siraj. Kit suggested we establish a clearing house which describes teaching programs that are currently taking place throughout our district then market the clearing house to clubs as a place teachers can get information and talk to people who are successful using a certain approach. Maribeth also suggested that the people whose names Siraj has may not be the actual people involved in teaching and that we need to revise our idea of who it is we are trying to reach.

Kudos to Mike Roberts: Mike will soon be stationed in Toledo and will be working many of the D11 tournaments. AJ stated that we are very lucky to have the directors we have in D11. They are the best. We should be appreciative.

GNT/NAP Coordinator: Ryan Schultz

- NAP will be coming up in October. Steve will have a list of qualifiers on the District site; the list may not be complete, but players should be able to check with their club owner to see if they have qualified;

- Encourage everyone to push club members to play, especially Flight C players who may not understand the process;
 - There is an FAQ on the website which players can be referred to;
 - Ryan will send more reminder messages in the next week;
 - Ryan presented proposals for rotating GNT to other units;
 - The President asked the Board to allow Siraj Haji to be the second vote from Columbus for the purpose of the vote on the following motion. (Approved)
- ⇒ **Moved/Seconded** : *That GNT Flights A/B remain in Cincinnati, and that Flight C be allowed to move from unit to unit according to which units volunteer. Units will bear extra expenses and will retain the money for the event. (Clarified that District is essentially giving up the expense and the earnings of Flight C event.)* (Overpeck and Lipp) 7 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstained – motion carried.
- Clarified that these events require an ACBL director;
 - Contact Ryan if you are interested in hosting - - we will continue with this process until we see a compelling need to change; would allow C players to play in both events, if they wish.
 - In Louisville we should talk again about where we might get additional funding. Ryan will work with Potter to look at alternatives.

Youth Coordinator: No report.

Webmaster: Steve Moese No report.

ACBL Board of Governors: Steve Moese

Steve has been asked to join the Liaison Committee. They will be looking at how to recruit non-bridge players to play bridge. The Committee will be headed by the Education Foundation of ACBL.

District Director: AJ Stephani

- February will now be ACBL Education Fund month;
- The temporary membership program has been scrapped in favor of a guest membership which is free and allows you to earn 5 MPs free, but doesn't include perks like the magazine, etc. Will try it out for awhile to see what happens. The players will get a permanent player number. This will be implemented as soon as the computer system is compatible with the proposed program.
- A number of high-level players were convicted of cheating. Board voted to strip them of every title they had ever earned in the ACBL.
- At present every district and unit have a recorder and a discipline chair. As of January 1st, the unit recorder and discipline chairs will be removed. District's will keep these positions. If a unit wants a recorder, Potter can deputize a person to serve in that capacity, but it is hoped this will not be needed. No local disciplinary committees will be in operation. All committees will be at the District level.
- The President stated Bob Sulgrove does not want to serve in the job of disciplinary chair any longer. Steve asks that anyone who has a nominee for the position to contact him.
- ACBL Live has been implemented for clubs.
- If anyone still has a nominee for District Goodwill or Charity Committee positions, they should get that to AJ immediately. AJ has received nominations from Indianapolis and Dayton.

2020 NABC: Cheryl Schneider

- Registration gifts have been decided; stickers are being designed; buttons and shirts are being sold.
- ACBL is working on the schedule, Columbus does not create the schedule;

- People have complained there are not enough mid-flight games at the nationals, so this has been suggested to those creating the schedule;
- Still a lot of information to understand about accommodations at the hotels and about parking and transportation options. There is a free bus that runs between early morning until midnight. These issues will be answered at the information desk.

Motion to make Education Chair a non-voting member of the Board:

The President stated that this motion was moved and seconded at the Dayton meeting, but required a one month period of time to pass before it could be voted upon by the Board.

⇒ **Moved and seconded:** *That the Education Coordinator position be made a permanent non-voting member of the District 11 board, and that the Bylaws be amended to read, “The officers and members of the District 11 Board shall be comprised of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer; eight (8) Unit Presidents, eight (8) Unit Representatives, the District Representative to the National Board, the District Tournament Coordinator, the District Recorder, the GNT/NAP Coordinator, the District Youth Coordinator, and the District Education Coordinator; for a total of twenty-six (26) persons.”* Passed unanimously.

Adjournment

⇒ **Moved and seconded** to adjourn the meeting so that Steve could conduct a training on the use of the board member Google drive. (Holt/Lipp) Passed unanimously

NEXT MEETINGS: Saturday, November 9, 2019 Louisville/Lexington Regional
Saturday, February 1, 2020 Indianapolis Regional