

DISTRICT 11 BOARD MEETING
March 25, 2023 Evansville Regional
Approved Unanimously June 7, 2023 by the board of Directors

In attendance:

Officers – Billie Brown, President; Maribeth Ransel, Vice President; Steve Moese, Secretary

Voting Members - **Unit 117** Dotty Losey; **Unit 124** John Altman, Michael Purcell (alternate); **Unit 130** Maribeth Ransel, Pam Strack (alternate); **Unit 136** Bob Stitt, Dallas Moore; **Unit 164** Robert Korten, Terrell Holt; **Unit 193** Stephen Brouillette, William Lea.

CALL TO ORDER – Billie Brown at 4:25 PM CT

Billie called the meeting to order and welcomed members and alternates. She reminded everyone that those with a yellow name card were voting members (eligible to make motions and to cast votes.) and that the meeting will be recorded (audio) with the recording published to the google drive and the draft minutes to the website. Billie also reminded those present about the best way to make a motion.

RECOGNITION OF LIZ BROWN FOR DISTRICT 11 BOARD SERVICE –

Billie Brown acknowledged and thanked **Liz Brown** for over twelve (12) years of service to the Board of Directors and wished her well going forward.

MINUTES –

The Board approved the minutes for the Louisville/Lexington meeting in November 2022 as written by unanimous consent.

Steve Moese confirmed that a quorum was present.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT –

Billie Brown discussed the several tournaments she has attended in our district since becoming Board President. Billie reported that the September 2022 downtown regional had 253 tables. This tournament had 322 tables. If we welcome people and show them support, they will come back and support us.

The Board congratulated and thanked all the volunteers and the tournament organizers for a well-run successful tournament this week.

NEW BUSINESS

VACANCY – D11 REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ACBL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Steve Moese confirmed that the Board may appoint a replacement for Bill Cook who resigned. Steve asked the Board to get nominees to Billie who will appoint Bill’s replacement.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Steve Moese presented [changes to the District Bylaws](#) caused by the merger of Unit 227 (West Virginia) into Unit 164 (Lexington). Most changes reflect a reduction of 8 units to 7. Steve asked to change the language enumerating the number of board members to reflect members who hold more than one role. The Board is asked for input and changes to the proposal. We will vote on accepting the changes at the June meeting in Cincinnati.

The changes by the ACBL to regional governance does not eliminate Districts who continue in their roles.

Lexington has not changed their name to reflect the merger with West Virginia. We will change if the Unit decides to change their name. Unit 197's name (Southern Indiana) was agreed correct. Maribeth Ransel pointed out a change from district to regional director accepted by the motion maker.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING RULES –

Steve Moese proposed several [changes to the standing rules](#). The Board reviewed and discussed the changes.

MOTION: Stephen Brouillette –

To approve the changes to the standing rules as proposed.

Seconded: Bob Stitt

Passed Unanimously

Maribeth Ransel requested we all use a code (D11) in the title line when we communicate with each other to help flag genuine emails from spoofing emails.

RECOGNITION for DISTRICT ACE OF CLUBS AND MINI MCKENNEY WINNERS

MOTION: Dallas Moore

To create District certificates to recognize all District Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenny Winners

Seconded: Mike Purcell

Passed Unanimously

Discussion:

Recommend making the presentation at the June Regional.

Does ACBL print district certificates? No.

Maribeth Ransel will create the certificates.

Proposal to make the event newsworthy with publicity and emphasis – however the tournament volunteers are who will have to complete this task. Steve Moese will follow up with Arun Goyal about what is feasible for Cincinnati in June.

VACCINATION POLICY FOR THE GNT FINALS April 15/16

MOTION: Dallas Moore

To require proof of vaccination for the GNT Finals in Cincinnati in April 2023 because the ACBL requires proof for the NABC finals in Chicago.

Seconded: Dotty Losey

Passed Unanimously

Discussion:

Maribeth Ransel suggested that the current policy applies to tournaments only and not before May 15, 2023.

Dotty says Louisville will require vaccinations in June

Robert Korten says the May tournament in Lexington will not require vaccinations.

DELEGATING TOURNAMENT VACCINATION DECISIONS TO LOCAL ORGANIZERS

MOTION: Robert Korten

To delegate the decision to require vaccinations to the tournament organizers.

Seconded: Dallas Moore

Passed Unanimously

DISCUSSION TOPIC – NEW LOCAL SECTIONAL

The Board discussed the benefits to small tournaments from using this sanction type to better manage costs. Trained local directors may direct without the need for an ACBL Tournament Director when table count is 25 or less per session and only one-session events are run. Awards are 100% Sectional Rating - 20% black and 80% silver points.

GNT/NAP COORDINATOR: Ryan Schultz

Ryan's [District 11 GNT/NAP Report](#) to the Board to Directors is incorporated in the minutes.

MOTION: Mike Purcell

That the Board approve existing stipends with no change for the GNT and NAP for 2023.

Second: Robert Korten

Passed unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORT –

Potter Orr's [District 11 Year End Report](#) and [Treasurer's Report](#) are incorporated in these minutes.

EDUCATION CHAIR - Dallas Moore for Siraj Haji

Dallas Moore - Sandy Spears in Louisville using the new **BOOST program from the ACBL** got 88 prospects from which they have 27 students. She has 94 students in classes. Campaign 3 just started yesterday. ACBL has slimmed down the reporting. Students must become guest members at no cost. Dallas is participating in wave 3. Bob Stitt has a Wednesday zoom meeting. 19 people have committed to a class beginning in April. Steve Moese shared his learning that the prospect list has value over time – those who don't sign up right away can be approached for a new class offering with good success. Dallas Moore – the BOOST class has to be face to face, but additions can incorporate online learning. Robert Korten asked about requirement for teachers to qualify for the program. Steve Moese mentioned that success a recruiting is an expectation. Dallas Moore mentioned that there is an application process with a 30-minute zoom interview. BOOST is still a manual process and doesn't scale – why the pilot is still in waves. The ACBL is working to automate this. Dotty confirmed success in Louisville with at least 3 tables a week from newbies, some of whom are playing in the open games.

ACBL ADVISORY COUNCIL –

Steve Moese reminded the Board that detailed reports from the Advisory Council meetings are on the D11 Website. The decline in membership continues at 6+%. Steve asked the Board to read the summaries for details. Steve acknowledged the work that Vangie Smith is doing on the Membership Growth and Retention Committee for the Advisory Council, and Ryan is doing on the Advisory Council Bridge Committee for their efforts.

REGION 7 DIRECTOR REPORT –

Larry Sealy our Region 7 Board of Directors Representative will hold a town Hall Zoom Conference for the Region on Tuesday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m. EDT for all interested D8, 10, and 11 members on. Larry will discuss recent Board activities and take questions. Anyone is welcome but Larry's Zoom license is limited to 100 people. Here are the details:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9204388112?pwd=RENIOTRGNWw0TWdrYUkxUThlTkVsdz09>

Meeting ID: 920 438 8112

Passcode: 509009

DISTRICT 11 VACB GAME TO SUPPORT LOUISVILLE FUNDRAISING –

Bob Stitt polled the Board about a free evening when the District might offer a District wide VACB game that would donate 75% of their proceeds to the 2024 Louisville fundraising effort. Bob volunteered to run the game, and explained plans to stratify it as Open, some medium level limit and U299. This proposal assumes that the ACBL will permit the District to place all District members in the game's include list. Bob will work that with Larry Sealy to enable this fundraising game. Dallas mentioned Dayton's existing Wednesday VACB game. Discussion revealed that there are evening games on Monday through Thursday throughout the District. Dotty Losey will talk with the director of Louisville's Wednesday games. Need to get a clear view of the evening games in District 11 as input to Bob and Dallas so they can choose the best night. Bob and Dallas do not want to distract from daytime games played face-to-face.

MOTION: Dallas Moore

That the District and Bob Stitt pursue running an evening VACB game for the purpose of raising funds for the 2024 Louisville NABC.

Seconded: Bob Stitt

Passed Unanimously

Steve Moese mentioned:

- 1) District Board nametags are reusable. Get the nametag from your predecessor. Steve has the name inserts if you need one.
- 2) Going forward we will assume all 21 Board Members will attend. Steve will prepare a Google Form to express regret and to name an alternate (with their player number please). The link to the form will be posted in the Google Drive.
- 3) Billie Brown asked us to wear our name tags everywhere we go.
- 4) Steve will attempt to publish draft minutes quickly and post them to the website.

OLD BUSINESS

MERGER OF UNIT 227 AND UNIT 164 –

Robert Korten reported on the successful merger to the existing Unit 164, completed March 1, 2023.

DAYTON COLUMBUS TOURNAMENT –

Bob Stitt reported on the tournament scheduled for the Tuesday after Labor Day September 5-9, 2023. The new site, Sinclair Community College is spacious modern and a major improvement over the Hope Hotel. Catering and two hospitality rooms are available. It is a non-smoking campus, but smokers will be allowed to smoke outside the building. The location is conveniently located right off I-675. The current proposal is to hold the Board meeting over breakfast on Saturday Morning September 9, 2023.

INDIANAPOLIS 2024 REGIONAL TOURNAMENT –

Maribeth Ransel – Indianapolis is still looking, and are in the process of negotiations. We expect to have a decision in the next several weeks. Indianapolis is extremely expensive. Billie Brown mentioned that If Evansville is an option, because of the Louisville NABC they would have to change the dates.

The Board discussed entry fees for upcoming regionals for awareness.

Bill Lea asked what happened to the funds collected for Columbus in March 2020. Steve Moese mentioned that they were returned to the Units as per agreement.

LOUISVILLE/LEXINGTON REGIONAL TOURNAMENT –

Dotty Losey - Andrea Gyor and Bill Cook are co-chairs. We will hold the Regional at the Louisville Bridge Club. The tournament team is looking for overflow space options. The club can hold 50 tables. The Board agreed that the local organizers should decide the Board Meeting details including time of day and menu. Pizza and salad would be fine if that's what the organizers recommend.

CINCINNATI REGIONAL TOURNAMENT –

Steve Moese mentioned that the Board meeting will be Wednesday June 7, 2024. The tournament hospitality will order the pizzas for us (our expense) and we will have a separate room for our meeting.

LOUISVILLE 2024 NABC TOURNAMENT –

Dotty Losey reported that the ACBL Events Coordinator, Assistant Events Coordinator and Operations manager visited the tournament site at the Galt Hotel. East Tower will hold the "GR I/N" events in one area, and the West Tower will hold the NABC and Regional events.

Joann Traver (Tournament Chair) and Dotty went to New Orleans to gain contacts and ideas. NOLA had lots of volunteers. The NOLA prizes were \$5 certificates for future play at the NABC – useful, easy to manage, easy to do. NOLA served a breakfast every morning.

Dallas Moore will be the Partnership chair. Joann has all committee chairs recruited and work is underway. Planning for sponsorships is also underway. The Tournament Board will meet in April. We can expect a request for volunteers to our several Units to support the NABC schedule.

Dotty confirmed the special fund raiser weeks (on the D11 website) She also shared buttons and the new Louisville logo for the NABC. Dotty will send Steve Moese an electronic copy of the logo for the website.

Dotty reminded us to send funds raised from tournaments and club games to Chuck Fassler, the tournament treasurer. Please send all fund-raising checks to Chuck made out to:

Louisville 2024 NABC
c/o Chuck Fassler Louisville Bridge Club
9870 Linn Station Road
Louisville, KY 40223

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 PM CT with no objection.

The next meeting will be in Cincinnati at the Delta by Marriott Hotel on Wednesday June 7, 2023 after the second session (approximately 6:00 PM).

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Moese, Secretary