

**DISTRICT 11 BOARD MEETING**  
**November 8, 2024 Louisville Lexington Regional**  
**Approved March 1, 2025**

**In attendance:**

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

**Voting Members** - **Unit 122** Tom Bishel, Daniel Loveland; **Unit 124** Jim Barrett, Bill Brewer; **Unit 130** Susan Spickelmier; **Unit 136** Bob Stitt; **Unit 164** Terrell Holt, **Unit 193** Jeffrey Chapman, William Lea.

**Alternates:** **Unit 124** Judy Ruehl; **Unit 136** Stephani Stitt; **Unit 164** Sondra Holt;

**Absent:** **Unit 122** Tom Bishel; **Unit 124** Jim Barrett; **Unit 136** Robert Zangri; **Unit 164** Ken Katen **Treasurer** Potter Orr; **GNT/NAP Coordinator** Ryan Schultz; **Education Chair** Siraj Haji.

**CALL TO ORDER** – by President Billie Brown at 6:03 PM

**President Billie Brown** welcomed alternates to the meeting. Billie mentioned that all Board documents for the meeting are in the D11 Google Drive (these are for Board members only).

**Steve Moese** confirmed that a quorum was present.

**President Billie Brown** reminded everyone to address the chair to be recognized, that only voting members are 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 and second a motion. Two additions were offered to the agenda under New Business: Proposed Changes to the D11 GNT and NAP Finals, and Longest Day Recognition.

**MINUTES** – The Board approved the September 2024 Dayton Columbus meeting minutes by unanimous consent. Moved: Dan Loveland Unit 122, seconded Terrell Holt Unit 164.

**President Billie Brown** reminded the Board that our objective is to finish business in a timely manner. All members were asked to view Unit updates on the Google Drive.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** –

**President Billie Brown** discussed D11 Priorities. She reviewed 2024 success in the District.

**Next Board Meeting is Saturday March 1, 2024 ~10:00 AM at the Indianapolis Regional.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**LouLex Regional** - Andra Gyor reviewed the LouLex Tournament week. Players are happy but attendance is down slightly likely due to election day. Bill Cook recognized Andra Gyor for her efforts and noted that several other nearby regionals were also down in table count. Steve Moese read in the congratulatory email sent to Larry Sealy about how well the tournament was run. Billie mentioned that she received feedback about playing 32 boards in a 7-8 table section. This means too many boards are not played by all players. Bill cook mentioned that whether a web was used was not the decision of the Tournament Chair. Billie asked that Tournaments use web movements in the future to avoid this issue. The Board congratulated Tournament Co-Chairs Andra Gyor U164 and Bill Cook U117, and all the tournament volunteers for their work making the tournament a success, and thanked the Louisville Bridge Club for hosting the tournament.

**Report to D11 by Larry Sealy** (Steve Moese reviewed Larry’s slides in his absence. The slides and report are in the D11 Google Drive for this meeting). Key Topics:

- 1) Financial Solvency – BBO price increase have driven income \$915K.
- 2) Changes to NAP/GNT
  - a. Added 0-6000 Flight A to NAP

- b. Changed Flight B to 0-3000 MP
  - c. Changed Flight C to 0-750 MP, No Life Masters (Successful Reconsideration motion by Advisory Council. Steve noted D11's message to NLMs this year was GOLD POINTS at CBC for NAP play. Got 13 Tables this year!
- 3) Online bridge future under planning. Management is unlikely to accept any exclusive contract with any vendor for ACBL master points
- 4) Strategic Goals: Membership Recruitment and Retention, Start a Social Bridge Initiative, Refining Direction for Online Bridge (no exclusive contracts in the future for ACBL Masterpoints), Clean up the Game, Modernize IT Infrastructure
- 5) Tournaments require a minimum of 4.5 Hours between sessions but limited to 24 boards.
  - a. 5 Hour difference in start time allows more boards for session.
  - b. Food must be available on site for Directors.
  - c. Bob Stitt Unit 136 asked if this was a result from the law suit they lost. Steve Moese replied that a link is unclear.
  - d. Marsha Callahan asked if the Director's per diem reduces if we give them food. Steve said the requirement is not free food but having food available.
  - e. William Lea asked about 21 boards with a sit out. Steve mentioned that the limit of 24 boards is a maximum/
- 6) Major CDR changes on the way. Details are in the Meeting Folder. Fast Track Discipline (FTD) has 7 Tiers, and everyone is eligible for FTD now.
  - a. Some penalties have been reduced, and will be made retroactive to those already under penalty as the changes apply.
  - b. 17265 members who played online since January 2020 have been assessed with 242 flagged as red.
    - i. Edgar assigns three colors: Red is conviction, Yellow is unsure; Green is clear.
    - ii. There are 189 Yellows, for a total of 431 Red and yellow.
    - iii. 44 People have been served FTD. 36 have gotten Negotiated Resolutions.
    - iv. 11 Cases are pending in the Institute for Bridge Arbitration – the final say in ethics cases.
    - v. Scanning stopped in July, will resume shortly.
    - vi. ~83000 total will be scanned.
    - vii. Expected completion is 18 months from today.
    - viii. Everyone on this Board has been tested twice.
  - c. Steve asked the Board to read Larry's long report with his comments. Steve posted the current Members Under Discipline (MUD) list and an analysis of penalties by District. Florida has the most at 46 but might be proportional based on number of members. D11 is among 5 districts with 8 each.
  - d. Marsha Callahan U130 said Indianapolis views the information about penalties as confidential. Bill Cook U117 has posted who gets caught on the Club bulletin board. Steve Moese mentioned that the judgment reports and MUD list are public knowledge. We are not allowed to discuss any details about the proceedings. Doing so risks expulsion. Bill published the information as a warning to online players that if they cheat, they will be caught. Dan Loveland U122 mentioned the Bulletin letter complaining that EDGAR was taking away their players. There are impacts to F2F bridge caused by suspensions. Steve Moese mentioned conversation that online cheaters might be allowed to play F2F. Steve's preference is to allow F2F club play, but not tournament play.

#### **GNT/NAP Change Proposal (Steve Moese for Ryan Schultz)**

Steve highlighted Ryan's North American Pairs report (see the Google Drive) where we had 75 total tables across 2 days and 4 sessions. Open Flight 13.5; Flight B 11 Tables; Flight C at 13 - up sharply from last year.

Proposed changes were read and the Board decided to address them in parts as follows:

- 1) Reduce the length of the GNT Finals.

- a. Barriers include speculative overnight hotel stay for some players.
  - b. Flights B and C will be a one-day Swiss.
  - c. Flight Open and A will have the first day qualifier online, followed by an in-person F2F one-day final session. Online managed by either the GNT Coordinator or a qualified director. This affects cost and what Masterpoints can be earned.
  - d. The Open and A KO Finals played on same day to reduce rent and Director cost.
- 2) Adding the New 4<sup>th</sup> Flight A (0-6000) to the NAP. Recall Flights are now Open, A, B, and C.
- a. Split 4 flights consistent with enabling people to play up
    - i. Day 1 Open and Flight B; Day 2 Flight A and Flight C – This allows people to play up ONE flight but not two.
  - b. Anyone playing 2 flights gets a ½ price discounted entry fee for the second flight. This will encourage people to play up in the next bracket.
- 3) Ryan is still interested in tying these events to existing tournaments.
- a. Details and logistics as well as finances need time to be worked out.
  - b. Table action on combining event for a later meeting.
- 4) A Conditions of Contest Change document for D11 GNT Finals is submitted for our approval.

**Bob Stitt Unit 136** – Talk about the first part of the change. Need to know if Cincinnati will remain the site for the finals. 100% opposed to have Open and A online for the D11 Finals. Need to be playing our best bridge. We cannot play online because people can have convention card and notes in view and other things.

**Steve Moese** – reminded the Board that we need to reach a decision by April. Ryan suggests there will be a \$500 savings in cost if he runs the GNT for us. What happens if Ryan is not here? The question about a hotel sounds real, and is dealt with for Flights B and C eliminates their hotel concern. For A and Open there is another way to do it – play two separate weekends.

**Bob Stitt U136** – Are we locked into Cincinnati all the time? I’m 100% in favor of Cincinnati all the time. Its centrally located for everyone.

**Steve Moese** – There is no change to the location in these proposals. Will Cincinnati want a one-day finals?

**Bill Brewer U124** – We can manage a one-day event. Strongly against online play for a precursor to an NABC Championship. Running it in the non-competitive section is unacceptable. Most cheating is occurring online. If you want to compete in an NABC, you do it F2F.

**MOTION:** Unit 124 Bill Brewer;– moved that the Board Change Flight B and C finals to a one-day Swiss/Round Robin format (This does not include number of boards). Seconded Bob Stitt Unit 136. Passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Unit 124 Bill Brewer– moved the Board reject online play for GNT Open and A Flights. Seconded Bob Stitt Unit 136. Passed unanimously.

Steve Moese – Since the Board rejected online play, we reject 1-day qualification for Open and Flight A.

On the NAP: **Marsh Callahan U130** – If we have Open & A on day one, won’t people have to play up first then at their level? Bob Stitt U136 – Dose this apply to GNT? No.

**Bill Cook U117** – This is \$34/pair for whoever plays two events. If you are coming and staying overnight and it’s a premier event this discount is meaningless. People who want to play up want to play up.

**MOTION:** Unit 124 Bill Brewer – moved to reject the entry fee discount for the second flight played in the NAP by any pair. Seconded Unit Terrell Holt 164. Passed unanimously.

### **GNT Condition of Contest Changes -**

Steve Moese – discussed the proposed reduction in number of boards across Flights and field sizes for the GNT.

If we keep the same number of boards as current, we will have to move to the 10 and 3 schedule as mandated by the ACBL. We need to affirm changes for April 2025.

Bill Brewer Unit 124 – Why change the time to allow selection of the second day opponent by the first seed?

Steve Moese – That applied to the online qualifier. We are not doing that. So that change will not apply. The changes to Flights B and C still apply. The change to item 4 on the second page about opponent selection is moot.

Bill Brewer U117 – Requires a minimum of 7 against any one team.

Steve Moese – introduced the current conditions of contest for Open and A. They are the same. The ACBL has to approve the CoC prior to the event in April. What exists has been so approved.

Bill Cook U117 – What's the driving force for reducing the number of boards?

Steve Moese – to increase attendance.

Bill Cook U117 – That's unlikely for Opena and Flight A players. In general, more boards are better.

Bill Brewer – If the rationale is that people want to play fewer boards, to qualify for an NABC, That's unacceptable.

Stephani Stitt U136 questioned online game ownership.

Steve Moese – ACBL wants to promote competition for ACBL Masterpoint play and incentivize innovation. No more exclusive contracts for Masterpoints.

**MOTION:**– Bill Cook Unit 117 moved the Board accept only the changes to Flights B and C Conditions of Contest for the D11 GNT Finals. All else remains unchanged. Seconded Unit 124 Bill Brewer. Passed unanimously.

### **Longest Day Recognition – Maribeth Ransel**

Evansville and Indianapolis Units are in the top 20 for Longest Day contributions. We will promote a recognition event in Indianapolis at the Regional.

**MOTION:**– Dan Loveland Unit 122 moved to ask Maribeth Ransel to create a recognition event for Evansville and Indianapolis Units at the Indianapolis Regional. Seconded Unit 124 Bill Brewer. Passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**D11 Charity Distributions** - Billie Brown referenced the charity distributions from District 11 on the website. Jeff Chapman mentioned the recognition and publicity their charity distribution got Evansville. Steve Moese suggested publicizing the contributions in community newspapers and electronic bulletin boards.

#### **5/5/5 Plan Status**

Bob Stitt U136 – Dayton got a check from the ACBL in August that was bigger than the check from all of last year. Bigger than any we have received in a long time.

Terrell Holt 164 – We got a check almost 2 grand.

Cincinnati and Columbus did not have updates.

Marsha Callahan U130 - Indianapolis has not gotten into the 5/5/5 tracking system yet.

Bob Stitt U136 – We paid for the first year for all our guest members following what Indianapolis does.

Bill Brewer Unit 124 – We pay for their first year if they played in a game at the club.

Steve Moese – pointed out the links to district tools in the 5/5/5 document on the google drive for this meeting.

There appears to be a lag in reporting data to the online tools.

Bill Brewer Unit 124 - Is anyone using their Return to the Fold Tool? That's what they use to track results and give us money. Must use the tool to get the money.

Jef Chapman U117 – We do this monthly.

## BOOST UPDATES

**Unit 122 Columbus – Dan Loveland** Siraj is getting 4 tables at Lifetime fitness.

**Unit 130 Indianapolis – Marsha Callahan** Indiana's 501c3 Bridge Education Fund will pay for early 2025 classes for people who took free classes in the summer.

## UNIT REPORTS

You can add reports to the Google Drive at any time.

We discussed the impact that the EDGAR Program (cheating detector for online bridge) on D11.

**Unit 136 Dayton - Bob Stitt** – 7% increase in tables. \$2000 in the black compared to \$13000 in the red last year.

**Unit 130 Indianapolis – Marsha Callahan** – We held an I/N Regional with 48 tables this fall. Many are very new players. We had very few people from outside Indy for the I/N Regional We were disappointed. Indy is trying to support other tournaments. Steve Moese suggested using the District Pianola account to publicize the I/N Regional to NLMs. Would cost about \$9 per send to D11 NLM members. Bill Brewer suggested using 200-mile radius. Steve mentioned regional emails can reach 500 miles. Steve asked Marsha to send the I/N Regional email text to him so he can email all NLMs in the District. We have a Mentor Mentee game. The Club gave 6 free plays – three on defined days and three for any time they can.

**Unit 124 Cincinnati - Bill Brewer** – We had a 22% increase in tables for the Cincinnati Spooktacular Sectional. People from Indy, Louisville, Dayton and Columbus attended.

**Unit 117 Louisville – Bill Cook** – Led by Sandy Spears There were two or three 5<sup>th</sup> chair games that were well attended. Saturday, we expect 22 tables in our Mentor Mentee game.

## Secretary's Report – Steve Moese

Attendance - We have a lot of absences for this meeting with many happening after the close for reporting regrets. Please respect the deadline. Steve reminded the Board that any member who appoints an alternate is responsible for ensuring the alternate has access to the key documents for that meeting.

## Pianola Charges

Steve Reviewed the new charges accrued since our September Meeting:

Charge	Payee	Purpose
\$112.60	U117	LouLex Regional (reaching ~12000 members times 2 sends)
\$24.57	D11	NAP promotion (2 sends)
\$15.12	Steve Moese	Email for Matthew Granovetter Charity game in support of a Cincinnati Yeshiva School.

We have enough credits on the Pianola account for Indianapolis Regional but will have to refill the account soon after that. Steve confirmed that the Board allows him to refill the credits as needed.

## Treasurer's Report – Potter Orr (Steve Moese in Potter's absence)

Operating loss \$1900 bigger this year than last. Unclear why not paid 2023 NAP subsidies. Ryan and Potter are investing. Have not received table fees from Evansville, Cincinnati and Dayton/Columbus Regionals. Jeff Chapman will get the Evansville treasurer contact information to Potter.

The District received \$2669.66 from ACBL Grass Roots funds. D11 cash account balance is \$1321.04

### **Tournament Report – Tom Bishel (Absent)**

Indianapolis Tournament details are now in the ACBL Tournament Calendar. Tom Cook U117 - confirmed 2025 LouLex will be sanctioned for the Louisville Bridge Club. The District Tournament Calendar Page is updated.

### **DISTRICT 11 TOURNAMENT CALENDAR**

### **DISTRICT 11 TOURNAMENT LIST**

### **Advisory Council Report – Jeff Chapman**

Steve Moese is running for the Chair of the Advisory Council. It's a great opportunity for District 11. We will be voting for Steve.

Steve Moese – will stay on as Secretary to District 11 if the new job allows. If not, he will make support an effective transition.

### **DISTRICT 11 Elections – Bob Stitt, Election Committee Chair**

All officer candidates are unopposed. No alternative nominations were made for other candidates from the floor.

<p><b>MOTION:</b>– Terrell Holt Unit 164 moved to accept the slate of candidates. Bill Brewer Seconded. Passed Unanimously.</p>
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District Board Officers for 2025 are:

President – Billie Brown U193

Vice President – Maribeth Ransel U130

Treasurer – Potter Orr U124

Secretary – Steve Moese U124

**Next Board Meeting is Saturday March 1, 2024 10:00 AM at the Indianapolis Regional.**

There being no more business before the Board, on motion and second, Billie Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Moese, Secretary