

**ACBL DISTRICT 11
BOARD MEETING
June 16, 2018
Cincinnati Regional
DRAFT**

In attendance:

Officers – Terrell Holt, President; Cheryl Schneider, Vice President, Potter Orr, Treasurer; Maribeth Ransel, Secretary

Voting Members – Unit 117: John Van Cleve; Unit 122: Cheryl Schneider (alternate for Bob Jiobu); Unit 124: Steve Moese; Mike Lipp; Unit 130: Rebecca Marcus (alternate for Liz Brown); Maribeth Ransel; Unit 136: Georgia Banziger; Joe Camillus; Unit 164: Andra Gyor; Sondra Holt; Unit 193: Jeff Chapman; Billie Brown (alternate for Donna Chapman).

Members – AJ Stephani, District Director; Ryan Schultz, GNT/NAP Coordinator; Isaac Stephani, Youth Coordinator.

Guests –Shawn Stringer (D6 President, Washington DC); Margot Hennings (ACBL Board Member); Bill Lea (Unit 193)

Call to order – Terrell Holt

- The President recognized these guests and new faces: Shawn Stringer (D6 President) and Margot Hennings (ACBL Board Member); Bill Lea guest from U193; Rebecca Marcus (Alternate U130) and Joe Camillus (new representative from U136).
- Thanks to all those who make the work of the District possible. Thanks to Steve for excellent work on the website; and to Potter for completing all the work of the treasurer’s office.

Secretary’s Report – Maribeth Ransel

- Reminded members that the items sent with packets for amending Bylaws and the Standing Rules were just the sections dealing with those proposed changes. In November, when new board manuals are given to each member, a full copy of all the current board documents (as amended) will be included;
- New roster that was included is already outdated because we have a new member, but the roster will be updated again;
- Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report – Potter Orr

- Profit and Loss statement shows a loss of 34 cents. This is primarily a timing issue. GNT proceeds are recorded, but the corresponding expenses won’t be noted till after the NABC. With NAP, the revenue came last fall, but the expense has just recently been recorded;
- Total checking account is \$30,915.20;
- Unit 130 was presented with a check for \$432. At the time of the Indpls. Regional, ACBL was still doing the Reach program and some monies accrued from players’ table fees as part of that program;
- Treasurer’s report accepted and filed for audit.

District Director’s Report – AJ Stephani.

- Successful NABC in Philadelphia;
- Former CEO is gone; unable to share information right now because of pending litigation;
- Interim CEO is Joe Jones; was in the position of CFO before interim position; search committee is underway; no restrictions about Jones applying for the permanent position, but there is no information that he will or won’t at this time.

Tournament Coordinator Report – AJ Stephani

- There may be some moving parts in the schedule as some units need to make changes. Indianapolis will be losing their site for sectionals for '19 because of significant rate increase. Columbus may have similar issues. May need to give each other some flexibility. 200 mile radius rule says 2 sectionals should not be scheduled at same time if they are within 200 miles of each other. If there is a need to bypass this rule, it has to be done with permission of both chairs.
- Most of dirty bidding box cards are gone. Some stop cards still remain and can be removed when you see them;
- D11 owns two clocks (timers). Jackie Merkel has one which she will bring to regionals where she is working. One might be in trailer in Louisville, but it might be broken. AJ may want to buy clocks in the future;
- Unit 136 Bridge Center will have new address as of July 23: 4555 Marshall Road, Kettering, OH 45459. Sectionals will be held at new club site.
- Thanks to AJ and to Indianapolis for assisting Louisville in rearranging some tournament dates.
- Kaleidoscope weekend will be in Cincinnati in September; silver on Friday; red and gold on Saturday and NAP for flight C will be held on Sunday.

NAP and GNT Coordinator Report – Ryan Schultz

- Grassroots survey now completed with reports in from Dayton, Louisville and Indianapolis. Others should be sent to Ryan;
- Updated awards chart showing what gets paid and by whom (it is already on website). Any money units want to provide will be in addition to these District monies. Ryan will approve awards before Potter sends checks to participants;
- GNT was held in Louisville; up five tables from last year;
- Feedback from GNT participants who wish to change to different time of year: want to avoid holiday season and perhaps move to spring. Ryan will work with AJ to make the change.

Webmaster Report– Steve Moese

- Steve has added [ACBL District 11 Proprieties & Ethics Handbook](#) to the website with highlighted sections to indicate recent changes in the rules from ACBL. Please read the document and be ready to vote on it at the Dayton Regional.
- Brad has given Steve a thumb drive with more than 2000 files and folders; still missing files for two plus years. Brad is supposed to put files in PDF format so that they can be read by the webmaster. He has also dropped off several hundred pounds of old Midwest Monitors that go back to 2008 or so. If any unit wants copies to take back, please go today; Terrell will take one copy of each issue to give to secretary.
- Rank Change Letters that have been sent from/to AJ now have a Library page on the website so people can enjoy the responses of those who have changed ranks;
- Need links for websites for Evansville and for West Virginia;
- **Q.** What news from units should go on District website? **A.** If there are articles of importance send them to Steve and they will be posted. Concentrate on human interest stories and on intermediate/novice players. Send a link to any interesting stories on your own unit's site;
- Request that Potter send quarterly report on web statistics to Steve who will post them on the website;
- Secretary will send new board member names and final copies of minutes to Steve for posting.
- **Q:** Did anyone talk to the Pianola representative at NABC? **A.** No one saw him at the tournament.
Q: How long will we still have the ability to mail through Pianola? **A.** Need to find out from Pianola.
Q: Brad was supposed to do one final edition of the MWM (it was supposed to combine January and April into one). Has he complied? **A.** He has not addressed it at this point. Terrell will follow up to see if there will be a final edition.

ACBL Board of Governors Report – Steve Moese

- Teacher and Club Manager Committee charter ends December, 2018. Does this board feel that this committee of the BOG should continue? **Q.** Aren't teachers and club managers very different groups? **A.** Questionnaire was sent to about 500 people and in about half the cases, the respondents said they were both manager and teacher;
- Steve has sent information about Bridge Winners for Club Owners/teachers; lots of people venting, but a lot of good info for people who are reading;
- **Q.** Is anything being done to review master point chart? **A.** It is always under review, and it is a very complicated issue. Formula change has probably contributed to the decrease in KO participation. Gold Rush has also complicated issues and contributes to KO decline.
- Board had no questions to be raised at BOG meeting in Atlanta.

Recorder Report – Potter Orr

- No player memos on file for this tournament;
- No outstanding issues prior to tournament;

Education Committee Report –

- Vangie Smith has accepted the position of D11 Education Chair; she would like to return to the roundtable format that was begun a year ago. She would like to look at “best practices” that can be shared by other clubs/units. She hopes to resume the roundtables in Dayton.

Youth Coordinator Report – Isaac Stephani

- Silicon Valley has a large not for profit organization that supports youth bridge. Isaac wants to explore the possibility of having an NFP for D11 to support youth bridge within our district. Board suggested Isaac look into it and have more discussion in Dayton. Steve suggested Isaac seek information from Joseph Blas who has experience in this area.

Cincinnati Regional Report – AJ Stephani

- Table count is up about 7 or 8%;
- Hotel is working out fairly well; the tournament team understands that the hotel is dated but it is supposed to eventually become a Marriott and then it should be upgraded.

OLD BUSINESS:

Columbus 2020 NABC – Cheryl Schneider

- Has started coming up with budget; a large amount of the funds that come from ACBL will go for hospitality and registration gifts;
- About one year out, ACBL will give Columbus \$11.50 for each table that is expected (probably between 9 to 10,000 tables);
- ACBL expects that about 5-7% of funds will support I/N programs;
- Need to get logo – ACBL is working on it, but they don't want a local logo;
- Must find caddies, but ACBL will pay for them;
- Would like personal letter to go to players at each club so they understand that NABC's have something for everyone;
- Downtown Columbus has 5 neighborhoods that run down High Street; there is a free bus that will run up and down and take you to all the dozens of restaurants on the route;
- Volunteers will be needed from all the District units;
- Five hotels will be participating and ACBL negotiates the rates;
- Larry Jones will be partnership chair and Judy Williamson will be in charge of volunteers;
- ACBL will allow any corporate fund-raising that Columbus wants to do;
- We are waiting for ACBL for the budget. Margo Hennings suggested that ACBL has an estimated budget already and Cheryl should be able to get that information now. Also look into getting the Welcome to the NABC booklets which can be ordered through ACBL.

Progress on College Teams - Unit Presidents

- It was agreed that this is a VERY DIFFICULT task. Some have been turned down already. Youth player John Taylor will be going to UK and will try to get a team started there. Indianapolis is working with Butler University – no students yet, but we will keep trying.

NEW BUSINESS:

D11 Bylaws Update Approval

The Bylaws Committee has proposed the following amendments to correct language in the most-recently adopted bylaws:

1. **Section 5.4. Election of Officers: End of second sentence changed from each year to biennially.**
 - Section 5.4. Election of Officers: Election of Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) shall take place at the annual meeting (fourth [4th] meeting) of the District Board of Directors ~~each year~~ **biennially**. The newly elected officers shall assume their official duties at the first District 11 Board Meeting following their election which shall be the first meeting of the District Board of Directors in the next calendar year.

2. **Section 6.8. Nomination and Election of Officers: Sixth sentence; strike (3rd meeting of year).**

- Section 6.8. Nomination and Election of Officers: The election of officers shall be held during the annual meeting (the fourth [4th] regularly scheduled meeting) of the Board of Directors that occurs at the fourth (4th) regional tournament of the calendar year or at such other time and place as designated by the District 11 Board of Directors. The President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) voting members of the Board and who are not members of the same unit, at least forty-five (45) days prior ~~(3rd meeting of year)~~ to the election meeting. No member of the nominating committee shall be eligible for nomination. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate, submitting the name of at least one (1) person for each office to be elected, after having secured the consent of each nominee to serve if elected. At the time of the election, additional nominations may be accepted from the floor.

⇒ **Moved and seconded to approve the amendments to the bylaws for Sections 5.4 and 6.8, as written (Van Cleve/Banziger, passed unanimously).**

Standing Rules Update Approval

The Bylaws Committee recommended the following changes to the District 11 Standing Rules:

- 3. The District 11 Board meetings that take place at the regional tournaments shall be held on Saturday afternoon between the afternoon session and evening session or at a time and location designated by the tournament chair, or the District 11 Board President as may become necessary. **Board members will not schedule Saturday night games in order to ensure that sufficient time is available to conduct all business of the agenda.**

After discussion, the proposed wording was changed to:

Board members shall not schedule games that conflict with Board meetings at Regionals.

- 4. To reserve a meal for the Board meeting a member must respond to the secretary with attendance plans no later than the designated deadline. No dinners will be ordered other than for those who have responded. If it is necessary to cancel a dinner reservation, it must be done by the designated deadline or the dinner will be billed to the member's unit.

⇒ Moved and seconded to approve the motion, as amended (Moese/Lipp, passed with 2 abstentions).

Distribution of Charity Funds

- ACBL gives Districts the opportunities, on a rotating basis, to give \$30,000 to the charity of the District's choice. Board was asked if we wanted to do this in the same way this year that we did with prior large grant, or would we rather give to just one charity, as a District, to make a big impact. **Q.** Can units give to several charities in their units? **A.** No. If we choose the unit option, each unit must choose just one charity;
- Board chose to have grants given to each unit as we did in the past. AJ will send information to request needed documentation from each unit. We should also try to get local publicity to show that bridge players make a difference in their communities.

Friday Evening Workshop Update

Wording on Flyers

- People are getting different information about what must go on your flyers about tournament pricing. What must we put on the flyer? AJ suggested that if you put information on pricing on your flyer, you will have to put complete information. If you don't include information about pricing, you won't have to include all the extra verbiage. You could also put it in the Day 1 Bulletin at regionals.

Other Items for Discussion

- Sondra said that the State of Kentucky has now enacted a sales tax that affects all games held at clubs and tournaments in Kentucky. Managers should be aware of the issue and adhere to the state laws/guidelines.

Adjournment

⇒ Moved and seconded to adjourn (Moese/VanCleve, passed unanimously).

Next meeting: Louisville/Lexington Regional; Saturday, November 10, immediately after the afternoon game.