

**MINUTES OF UNIT BOARD MEETING**  
**ACBL UNIT 430 – GREATER VANCOUVER**

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**HELD:** Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the Vancouver Bridge Centre

**PRESENT:**

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**REGRETS:**

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. Peter Morse presided.

**CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:** 8 Board members in attendance constituted a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, were approved. (John, Kathryn)

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** The agenda was approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Fred circulated current financial statements, including statements about the Monthly Unit Games (a small profit of \$67) and the Sectionals (a small loss of about \$300 compared to the previous year). Director fees are a major cost item, but this has been discussed with the directors, and cost saving steps produced a substantial drop in that expense item for the November Sectional as compared to the Evergreen Sectional in August (\$4899 v. \$3359). The cost of providing lunch at the November sectional appears to have been break even. The Mentor-Mentee and Future Star games are also basically being carried out on a break even basis.

**NEXT MEETINGS:** The next board meeting dates are: January 8, February 5 and March 5 at the VBC at 7:00 pm.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- DINO Board:** Peter advised Cam about his appointment to the DINO Board for 2015-2017. Correspondence was received from the CBF confirming Angela's appointment as a member of the CBF board as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, replacing Peter as the CBF Zone VI Director, and thanking Peter for his hard work in the service of Canadian bridge and the CBF as a member of the CBF board since 2006.
- Tournament Template Review:** Angela circulated the revised template. There was discussion concerning whether the Future Star events should be included in the template. Tom will work on the formatting of the template and follow up with Angela.  
**Tournament Site Review:** all is on track for the January Sectional at the Queensborough site. Peter won't be able to attend the January Sectional, so announcements will have to be made by the tournament chairs, Angela and Jim.  
**Tournament Directors:** all is on track for directors for the January sectional. Discussion ensued about candidates who were suitable to become club and tournament directors and how best to encourage and help them acquire experience (perhaps by inviting them to assist in the MUG). Peter will talk to Bruce and Matt Smith about this.

**2015 Schedule for Tournaments:** All the bookings have been made for the 2015 tournaments (with a possible exception of the last tournament of the year). The Queensborough site shows every sign of being an excellent location, suggesting that if things do not improve with the level of service provided at the Engineer's Hall, Queensborough could be used for all future tournaments. Some of the problems encountered with the Engineer's Hall might have been avoided by entering into a detailed contract that spelled out expectations and obligations concerning such things as bathrooms, kitchen access and parking. A detailed contract was used to finalize the arrangements with Queensborough.

**November Sectional:** Peter is following up on a complaint that the BDC Swiss played fewer boards than the AX Swiss--this was definitely not the case at the November tournament, and if this happened previously, it shouldn't have. Peter has discussed this with Bruce and will write to Matt about it. Frances advised that few if any people are contacting her for partners, or using the on-line partnership desk, but it was agreed that this was normal for Sectionals (as opposed to Regionals, where a partnership desk is often heavily used).

**Lunch:** the board reviewed the lessons learned from providing the lunch on the last day of the November tournament, and complaints and positive comments that were received. Discussion ensued about how to accommodate people with allergies, steps necessary to provide better variety (not enough whole grain breads, and too many veggie sandwiches this time), options for making sure that the food arrives on time, and set-up options that could make things flow better (such as separating fruit and desert onto a separate table, and allowing access on both sides of the sandwich tables).

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. **MUG:** there were 12 tables at the Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> pairs game. The next MUG is a pairs game on Jan. 10.
2. **Mentor -Mentee Games:** - Kathryn proposed tentative dates for 4 games in 2015: Jan 31, May 9, August 8, Nov 21. Kathryn had received a suggestion to run only 3 games, prompted by a concern that recent events had lower turn-out, and we are not seeing new people coming in, signs that fatigue may be setting, but it was agreed that the games are highly popular, and the small decline in numbers is not at this point any cause for concern. The proposed 2015 schedule was approved (Kathryn, John).
3. **Matchpointer:** John already has quite a bit of material for the next issue, but additional contributions would still be appreciated.
4. **Supplies:** Gray has previously reported that all is good and he and Clay will have everything on site on time. It was noted that there were not enough score sheets for the team games at the November tournament.
5. **Unit 430 website:** Tom will check with Bruce about what is involved in updating the on-line Calendar of events. It was suggested that two calendars on the website would be useful: one for events in the Pacific North West, and another more tightly focused for lower mainland events. Peter will give Tom the history of winners to post on the website, although more biographical info is needed for some of the trophy winners. John has thumbnails of many of the winners, and will follow up with old timers for more input. It would be great if there could also be profiles on old clubs and pictures.
6. **IMP League:** Registration is closed for the A/X League and all entry fees have been received. MaryEllen advised that, thanks to a lot of work by team captains and others, the B/C League is thriving with 5 teams (with 2 more teams in the wings) and held its first game on Monday. Every team has at least 6 players, and some have 7.
7. **STaC/Club Liaison:** Frances reported on clubs that have registered.
8. **50—50 Draw:** Jim and Angela are looking after volunteers to sell tickets for the draw.
9. **Fundraising for 2016 Youth Teams:** the board continued its discussion from the previous meeting of options for fundraising to cover or offset the costs of participants in the youth teams.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

1. **Ev Hodge Charity Game:** This was last held at the November Round Up Sectional. The board discussed holding this event in 2015 as a club game.
2. **School Bridge Program** - Frances advised that a Mentee at the last game, who is a retired school teacher, was very interested in doing a bridge program in schools and that ACBL has resources that can be used for this. The board reviewed the history of these initiatives in Vancouver, which were pursued until the labour situation in BC led to teachers dramatically limiting involvement in

extra-curricular activities. Although it would be wonderful to see a school bridge program again, it would need not only a teacher that wants to do this, but also the approval of the current union-teacher-school board structure.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 at the VBC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Anderson