

MINUTES OF UNIT Board MEETING

ACBL UNIT 430 – GREATER VANCOUVER

HELD: Thursday, June 08, 2017, at the Vancouver Bridge Centre

PRESENT:

Peter Morse	604-831-8445	pamorse@shaw.ca , Past President
Kathryn Shannon	604-984-4167	kathrynshannon@gmail.com
Don Guichon	778-839-7782	parklanedon@gmail.com
Tom Anderson	604-987-6001	andersonstg@shaw.ca
Cia Van Horne	604-837-2927	vanson@shaw.ca
Gray McMullin	604-987-8684	graystar50@shaw.ca
Nick Stock	604-809-9875	ngstock@telus.net
Larry Pocock	778-389-5966	ycwood007@gmail.com
Eda Kadar	604-738-6466	ekadar@telus.net
Brian Yager	604-986-6862	b.h.yager@gmail.com
Lauren Cockcroft	604-594-4749	jlcockcroft@shaw.ca

REGRETS:

Rhoda Tafler	604-273-6980	rtafler@shaw.ca
Angela Fenton	778-386-4343	angelagf@telus.net
Margaret Pattison	778-873-6420	ppatt@telus.net

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Peter Morse presided initially and then, upon the election of Larry Pocock as president, Larry presided.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM: 10 Board members in attendance constitute a quorum.

Peter welcomed Eda, Larry and Lauren to the Board!

Kathryn advised that she would not be able to continue on the Board and submitted her resignation.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Larry Pocock - President
Nick Stock - Vice-President
Cia and Brian - Co-Treasurer
Rhoda - Secretary, subject to her acceptance

The Board wished to record formally its appreciation and thanks to Corrine Tapley, Jim McKenzie, Kathryn Shannon and Peter Morse, who are leaving the Board, for their contributions to Unit 430 and to its members. Special note was made and thanks extended to Peter for many years of service to the bridge community. Peter will still be attending Board meetings, as Past President, as his schedule permits.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of May 11, 2017 were tentatively approved, although Board members who had not yet had a chance to review them can still request changes. (Nick, Gray)

NEXT MEETINGS: The following dates for Board meetings were approved: **July 6, Sept. 7, Oct. 5th, Nov. 9th and Dec. 7th** at the VBC. **Note: There will be no August meeting.**

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Cia circulated financial reports for various recent events and a cumulative balance sheet. It was noted that, as is typical, there was a loss for the Mentor-Mentee game, but there was agreement that these costs are an important part of growing our game. The Spring Sectional had the largest income in recent sectionals, but the overall profit (about \$300) was on the low side. The year end for Unit 430 is June 30th. Final figures are not yet available, but the cumulative net to date is about \$4300 (which is low based on historical records, almost all of the shortfall due to the losses generated by the November tournament at Sunbury Hall). Discussion ensued about the subsidy fund and current allocations. It was agreed unanimously to allocate \$5000 from general revenue to cover the anticipated costs of payments from the subsidy fund for the current year (Gray, Larry). Cia recommended that a subcommittee of the Board should meet to review the fund and bring back recommendations to the Board for its next meeting. Eda and Gray offered to take part on the subcommittee. It was agreed unanimously to accept the financial report circulated at the meeting. (Don, Kathryn)
2. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**
As requested, Cia researched the question of the Board acquiring a defibrillator and advised that it would cost between \$1300 to \$1700, plus taxes, and there is quite a range of function between the low and high end versions. Discussion ensued, and it was observed that, even if the Board purchases a defibrillator, there are liability issues that arise concerning operation, and it may be necessary to have a trained nurse available for tournaments. Another issue is the cost of battery replacement. While this may be a reasonable safety precaution, it was also observed that for all of the playing sites we are currently using, emergency response by fully equipped trained staff is within blocks (and minutes) if any medical issues arise. In light of these considerations it was agreed unanimously that the Board not purchase a defibrillator.
3. **SUBCOMMITTEES FOR BOARD PROJECTS**
Nick provided a history of the Pre-Registration project. The system will be introduced in phases. Nick will begin work on this in July and, after he has had an opportunity to spend some time on the programming, Nick has suggested the subcommittee meet to review the project with a view to providing a further report to the Board for its September 7th meeting.
4. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

a. Sectional Tournaments:

It was agreed that Angela would be responsible for the open sectionals. Eda expressed interest to assist with tournaments, but her schedule may not permit her to help with some of the tournaments and she will pursue this with Angela. Don, Lauren and Margaret (subject to her willingness to assist in this respect) would be co-chairs of the MM games, the Future Stars and 199er Sectionals. Discussion of the Evergreen Sectional (September 1-3) was tabled to the next Board meeting, when Angela could attend to report and a request was made for Angela to confirm the location of the November Sectional. Discussion ensued about the level of hospitality to provide at tournaments, in light of the expense and work required, the cost of hiring assistance and the extent to which caddies can provide help. One problem at the Spring Sectional was that Corrine was ill, so not available to coach the caddies. It was noted that a substantial portion of the cost of a tournament goes to hospitality. In other areas, sectionals are held with minimum hospitality, or food is contributed by volunteers. At the Spring Sectional, hospitality was limited to cookies, candy and coffee. Although there have been positive comments for the non-open sectionals, Board members indicated lots of negative comments about hospitality at the open sectionals. For the non-open sectionals, the tournament co-chairs look after the hospitality.

Discussion then turned to starting times for tournaments, whether it would be useful to survey members, or base the decision on experience with different start times. It was observed that structuring a survey is something that must be done very carefully to produce useful results. Peter has conducted research of other tournament start times in North America and will provide that information to the Board for its next meeting. Tom and Eda will put together draft questions for the survey for the next meeting.

b. Monthly Unit Games

The next MUG is July 8, (pairs), which will be held at the VBC at 7pm. Kathryn was looking after obtaining sanction numbers and negotiation with Ken about dates. All arrangements are in place up to the end of December, 2017, but a Board member will have to look after arrangements for games after that date.

c. Mentor Mentee Games

The next Mentor Mentee games are scheduled for August 12 and Oct. 21. Elgin Hall may not be available for the Oct. 21st game. Don mentioned alternative sites and will be assessing best options. Don observed that in some cases the number of boards played has been reduced by the Director if there is slow play, so that the MM or FS tournament ends at a specified time. It was agreed that 24 boards should be the target for FS tournaments.

d. Matchpointer

Nick discussed logistics for the next edition. Articles are welcome for future editions.

e. Supplies

Gray advised that, in packing everything up after the last tournament, we ended up taking home the Queensborough coffee maker, which Gray returned. There are some missing pieces from the equipment, which Kathryn will order. Problems were reported about the computer screen dimming when generating deals and one possibility is that it's due to the cards. The Director requested new cards be purchased. One person asked Tom why Time Clocks were not being used for any of the events. This question should be followed up with Angela next meeting.

f. Unit 430 Website (vancouverbridge.com)

Work continues to keep Unit Board minutes current on-line. Monthly event calendars up to and including September are now on-line. Please review and let Tom know if the calendars are useful, and pass along any suggestions for increasing their legibility and utility. Work continues on moving the website over to the new Canadian host. Ryley Breiddal assisted in porting over all of the databases. The relocation must be completed by June 22nd. To update online information about Board members, Tom needs phone numbers and e-mail addresses for new members.

g. Trophies

Peter is working on this.

h. DINO/CBF NEWS AND CBF Update

Angela e-mailed an update for review by board members and will provide more info next meeting. District 19 – 2018 + 2020 Vancouver Regionals will be at the Villa in Burnaby. Whistler has been scheduled for the week of Oct. 30. It was observed that, to date, no flyer is available for the Whistler event.

i. STAC/Club Liaison

STAC fee to Clubs is to be reduced compared to last year (by charging fees in Canadian dollars - some clubs were pulling out because they found it too expensive to pay the fees in US dollars). The Board's role in administering the STaC has changed. Most of the administration is done directly by ACBL, which then provides us with a list of the participating clubs, and a statement showing our share of the STaC fees, less the sanction fees (which are our responsibility). We pay ACBL their share, but our co-treasurers must follow up to identify clubs that have not paid their STaC fees and collect the outstanding amounts. For example, in the June STaC, one club still owes us fees of about \$100 (CAN), although we have already paid ACBL their share of those fees.

j. IMP League - Eda Kadar volunteered to be the IMP League commissioner.

k. By-law changes: this topic was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:30

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Anderson