

# **District Twenty-Two Organization of Bridge Units, Inc.**

## **San Diego Minutes**

### **District Twenty Two Board of Directors Meeting**

Friday, April 5, 2012

Town and Country

San Diego, CA

Presiding: 2012 President, Warren Cederborg

Representatives:

Area I: Teri Atkinson, Warren Cederborg

Area II: Patrick Page, David Lodge

Area III: Andrew Loh, Bill Grant

Area IV: Fran Schwartz, John Kissinger

National Representative: Ken Monzingo

Guests: Sharon and Roger Anderson, Alice Leicht

Note: Presentations by Ken and certain other pertinent discussions took place before the official Call to Order. These are included in the body of the minutes as if they had taken place during the meeting.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Approval of Riverside minutes. Minutes were approved as corrected.

#### **II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

A. Sharon Anderson, the president of the ACBL, discussed that she has focused on longer term strategic efforts to insure the growth and health of our organization. She continues to organize and attend small group talks with members from around the country to get input about the needs, likes and dislikes of our current constituency. She pointed out that the largest bridge club is BBO and that 80% of the people who play on line are not members of the ACBL. While much of this is due to the fact that many online players are not from North America, it demonstrates that there is a

large population of potential members.

- B. President Cederborg reviewed the situation with District 23 (see Representative Atkinson's report below). District 23 has gone through significant contraction. Cederborg pointed out that District 23 units may elect to affiliate with another district, furthering District 23's decline. This would ultimately be detrimental to our district in that District 23 regional/sectionals would be reduced in number and there would not be a corresponding increase in District 22 tournaments. He strongly urged the board to consider what, if anything, our District can or should do to promote the health of District 23.

### III. **TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Page presented preliminary results from the Riverside Regional.

### IV. **SECRETARY REPORT**

The terms of Cederborg, Area I Representative and Kissinger, Area IV Representative will expire at the end of 2012. The election process will start near the beginning of July with the notification to all unit presidents.

### V. **NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### A. General information about membership

1. Membership is approximately 166,000. Of these, there are 1203 Junior members, a number that remains relatively unchanged. Several continuing initiatives exist to encourage new members to join, e.g., juniors are given coupons to allow them free play at NABCs. Attendance at regionals are up but those at sectionals are down.

2. New marketing programs to increase membership include significant publicity, test marketing a "new player" reduced membership fee program and using "Groupon".

- B. Strength of Field-this is an endeavor by the National Board of Directors to alter the formulae for awarding masterpoints from a "number of table" basis to a basis which depends on the strength of the competition. The new method is being tested with the hypothetical results being compared to the actual results using the current method. Results are expected by the time the Philadelphia NABC concludes.
- C. ACBL Score will be available in 23 months. It will cost approximately \$1,200,000 to complete. There is no information about ACBL Score being available on IPAD.

### VI. **Tournament Report-Director in Charge, Gary Zeiger**

- A. Zeiger reported that excluding the results of tonight, April 5<sup>th</sup>, we had 1187 tables in play. Last year the total count for this tournament was 2,240 and while it appears as if we will not quite reach that number, we should go over 2000, still a significant increase over 2010.
- B. The Board also discussed the issue of equitability when there are 17 tables in an Open pairs event and 34 boards in play. It was recommended that

under such circumstances, a web movement be used. The Board approved the recommendation and Zeiger agreed to implement.

## VII. AREA REPRESENTATIVES ISSUES

- A. Andrew Loh-described the contents of the District 22 website and how the information is organized. The board voted to eliminate all contractual information with tournament hotels/convention centers. The board is considering whether certain information (e.g. alleged unacceptable player contact) belongs on the site.
- B. Fran Schwartz reported on UC Irvine's program "Bridge and the Brain". presentation about how bridge stimulates brain processes.
- C. John Kissinger-The national ad-hoc GNT/NAP committee met again at the Memphis. They continue to work toward a plan to present to the ACBL Board of Directors which will result in a comprehensive reform to the competitions. However, there is not an agreed time within which this plan will be presented or adopted. The GNT appears to be the "step child" when compared to the NAP. ACBL receives \$200,000 per year from the NAP but only \$10,000 for the GNT. Suggestions to improve GNT participation include reducing the GNT from 5 days to 4; paying for the entries; changing the masterpoint awards. Kissinger also noted that the attendance at our NAP finals in Palm Springs were down, especially for flight C which had only five pairs. Kissinger proposed moving some, if not all of the District 22 final to some other date and location instead of holding them at the Palm Springs Regional. It was subsequently decided that the NAP finals for all three flights, normally held at the Palm Springs regional, would be moved to Irvine.
- D. Teri Atkinson-The Great Western Conference is composed of Districts 17, 21 and 22. The main purpose of the organization is to produce the Forum newspaper that is received by each of our members every month. District 23 has applied to be readmitted to the Western Conference. This would allow them to participate in the Forum publication. Not only would the District 23 members receive the Forum, but the District would have favorable advertising rates and have greater publicity about and visibility into their tournaments.  
John Van Ness is an attorney and past president of the Great Western Conference and past president of District 17. On behalf of the conference he has undertaken to assist in the consideration of the application. He has reviewed information about the financial health of District 23 and there is some concern. He has written a preliminary report to the board of the Great Western Conference. He will be issuing a final report along with his recommendation by the time of the board's next meeting in Irvine.
- E. Bill Grant-Tournament Chair  
He reviewed the situation regarding the 2013 Riverside Regional. The Convention Center will be undergoing renovation and will be unavailable.

The Board is split as to whether to cancel the tournament for next year only and reconvene in 2014 versus securing an alternate site for 2013. Efforts to secure an alternate site have been unsuccessful. The Board agreed that if within 30 days they could not identify a likely site, the tournament will be cancelled for 2013. Inasmuch as these minutes are being produced after the 30 day period and no site has been found, the Board has agreed to cancel the 2013 tournament.

**OLD BUSINESS**-not discussed

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**- Contained in presentations above

IX. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting Irvine Regional, Grand Hyatt, Irvine, September 7, 2012