

MINUTES OF THE ACBL UNIT 547 BOARD MEETING
Thursday, April 28, 2016 11:15 A.M

Board Members Present: Rose Buckley, Dennis Charles, Tom Kline, Judy Kupperman, Susan Lang, Dagmar Ragnow, Ken Thompson
Invited Guests: Tom Ciacio

1. President Dennis Charles called the meeting to order at 11:15 PM
2. The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of our last meeting.
3. Dagmar distributed the Treasurer's Report for March 2016. The loss is March, due to advance expenses for our April tournament, will be offset next month with the revenues received from the tournament.
4. Since it is not yet the end of the month with input still outstanding, Tom Ciacio had no Manager's Report. He reminded tournament chairs to fill out ACBL's recap survey found on their on-line site, Tourney Trax. Rose will handle the Feb 2016 sectional and Susan, the April 15-17 Sectional.
5. Susan reviewed the April 15-17 Sectional expressing concern about Friday's lower table count than last year, especially attendance from local players. It was suggested that, in the future, we may want to schedule our Sectional after tax season. Also suggested that although publicity was great locally, rumors were that LA players, in particular West LA and Valley players didn't get the word although folks interested can always look up local tournaments on the ACBL site.

The hot Tri-Tip sandwiches, from CJs in Ventura, on Saturday were popular, selling out. 40 were ordered. Some general food suggestions for future: more diet cokes, distribute small treats to tables in afternoon sessions. The donations from Driscoll were very generous (4 flats of strawberries – very sweet this year), 4 flats of blueberries and 4 flats of raspberries. All were consumed over the 3 days. A thank you note to Driscoll for their generous donation is in order. Rose will do that. Players should be reminded at these events to save cups -- perhaps have a marker by the cups so that players could write their name on them.

There was good attendance and feedback on the Swiss Pairs Sunday game. Approximately 28 tables (14 am and 14 pm) which paid for itself. We should send feedback from our unit to ACBL via Tourney Trax and the Bulletin on how much we enjoyed this new game. Susan will send it to Tourney Trax and Rose will handle the Bulletin. There was a suggestion to hold a Swiss Pair at one of our Thursday games.

6. Next year's Sectional is scheduled for April 7-9th. Discussion that it could be moved to post-tax season on 21-23 although no official consensus reached. Consider possibility of holding the Sunday game at PVSRC in "Skylight" room for possible lower rent. Also suggestion to hold entire tournament at PVSRC in their large auditorium. It can easily hold 32 tables. Tom Kline will look into it with PVSRC and report back.
7. Awards Game (Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney 2015 winners), scheduled for noon. Date changed to May 5. All winners have been notified. Dagmar – cake, Tom C. supplies, Dennis present awards, Rose photos and build post-event display board. Susan Lang will be on vacation.
8. Our Fall 1-day Sectional is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, in Camarillo, Sanction #1610196. PVSRC has reserved the room – large Skylight room all day and smaller TV room for morning

session. Rose will be tournament chair. It was agreed to have the same games / card fees as the February Sectional this year. However, Life Masters with less than 500 points are included. Tom C. mentioned Rose needs to send in our tournament schedule to ACBL as soon as possible. To entice players to stay for afternoon session perhaps we can offer players a lunch for purchase.

9. Rose polled her players' list on changing game times for the Intro to Duplicate Saturday game in Camarillo. Majority wanted to keep it at the same time (9:30 am to 11). She proposed changing it to a more casual game, called a "Duplicate Chat" game. Tips will be on broad bridge subjects. Players can ask questions. Right now we have two "regular" tables. Possibility of master points being awarded if there are sufficient tables. Tom C. mentioned he can't find a director for the 9:30 game for 5/21. It needs to be cancelled so only the 5/7 game will be held in May.
10. The board thought it a good idea to look into a "Pro-Am" mentoring game at the club to help entice players into playing games for master points as well as promote camaraderie between I/N and expert players. This was also suggested by members at our last Annual Meeting. We would need a "point person" to investigate and organize it. Dennis Charles will look into possible candidates, such as Rosemary Reitz.
11. The 0-1250 Wednesday game, Susan reported, seems to be staying robust at 7 to 8 tables. The 0-49 game has reduced attendance though – to 3 tables, although this is vacation time someone remarked.
12. Publicity. Susan shared her draft of our new monthly email to club members, "Bridge Buzz". She will send it to Ken for distribution before she leaves Wednesday. She also sent out a more focused email targeted to 0-1249ers and John is in charge of the 0-49er targeted emails. Rose heard that ACBL can reimburse part of the cost of publicity, up to \$1000. The board has not approved any budget for publicity to date.
13. The Board of Equalization request for further information. Dennis and Dagmar will respond to their request.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm. Our next board meeting is Thursday, June 2 at 11:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose Buckley
Recording Secretary