

# MINUTES

## Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association

### ACBL Unit 390 - Board Meeting September 11th, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 3:20pm by Cynthia Clark. Present: 09

Present: Ed Lamb, Judy Gartaganis, Roger Bolton, John Sharpe, Brad Bowyer, Delores Hedley, Lois Matton, Cynthia Clark, Paulette McWilliam

- 1) **Call to order and approval of the agenda and Minutes of June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024** –  
Delores moved and Roger seconded

#### 2) **President - Cynthia Clark**

(written report submitted by the President - further action in bold)

The following issues were discussed at the ACBL's Monthly Unit Presidents' Meeting:

- a) Conference Direct – This is an outside service suggested by the ACBL. They provide hotel site searches and negotiate contracts for tournament venues. I do not know what the cost might be but for the Sectionals and size of the facility we require I feel this will only add to the expense of running a tournament.
- b) Pickle Bridge and Bridge War – In the interest of recruitment, this is a program whereby the Unit approaches Pickle Ball Clubs and holds an event that incorporates Bridge and Pickle Ball. Bridge is introduced by setting up a table and playing Bridge War. Interested parties play a trick taking game without a trump suit. The first one to take 7 tricks wins. There is a package with details on how to run the game on the ACBL website.  
**Judy will discuss with Gordon Campbell to examine feasibility.**
- c) Social Bridge Night – This is another program that can be found on the ACBL website that involves casual bridge games with friends. No points are awarded.
- d) In summary, the focus of the ACBL at the Sectional, Regional and National levels is Membership Recruitment and Retention.
- e) The Unit will be voting this month on the election of a new Alberta Representative to District 18. Dan Dover from Calgary and Ray Grace from Edmonton are the nominees.

f) On the National Level, the ACBL is combating on-line cheating using a computer-based detection program call EDGAR (Everybody Deserves a Game Above Reproach). Since Feb.1, 2024, 17,501 players have been examined. 5250 players have been submitted to The EDGAR Assoc. for further screening. 242 players were identified as cheating with another 200+ need further review. Since 2020, 83,000 ACBL members have played in ACBL games held on BBO. It is estimated that all online players will be screened by early 2026. Information on EDGAR can be found on page 28 of the August "Bridge Bulletin". More on EDGAR will appear in the November issue of the Bridge Bulletin.

g) The 5-5-5 program is being reviewed as it has raised many concerns regarding the reimbursements paid back to the Units. Changes to the program will be made. After Sept. 30 which completes the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 5-5-5, recruiting targets will be lowered from 70% to 50% of the 2019 recruitment numbers. The retention scales will also be eased.

**Cynthia will get details from Judy and bring the issues up during her meeting with ACBL**

h) Currently, table fees of \$1.25 are the same for online games and for face to face games. Table fees for **online virtual club** games will be going up to \$4.00 - 4.25 in 2025 but will remain the same for face to face games.

i) The District President has relayed to me that the August Calgary Regional lost just under \$10,000, therefore the next Regional will be scheduled on a three year cycle. This is not a solid commitment as there is pressure for Calgary to hold a Regional every two years. The table count was 751 although 800-900 were expected.

### **3) Treasurer - Ed Lamb**

a) John asked if the district paid for the use of our tables and bidding boxes for the regional... answer is not yet

b) Ed sent two emails to Emelie asking how many tables were in use so he can send her an invoice. There has been no response.

c) Delores commented that the invoice should go to the district rep, who is Steve Lawrence. Ed will send him an invoice for 751 tables and reimburse the Bridge Centre for the tables that were theirs.

d) Discussion that we are light on cash but nothing to worry about.

e) Thanks for the great work that you do Ed.

f) Judy moved that we accept the treasurers report seconded by Lois.

#### **4) Tournament Chairman –Lois Matton**

- a) Lois wondered if there should be some changes to the sectional flyers and Judy offered to help wherever needed.
- b) Discussion about donuts, and Lois will direct them to have a different supplier at least.
- c) Michael Farebrother will also be our director-in-charge for January.
- d) Discussion about free plays for tournament speakers.
- e) Discussion about who we could ask as speakers to have some diversity.
- f) Pens will be handed out again as prizes, Paulette and Ed will distribute to winners.
- g) Should we have an evening event at future sectionals at the Bridge Centre – it was decided not to do so at this time.
- h) Judy will tally results to determine the President's award.
- i) Setup and tear down discussion.
- j) 2025 tournament dates: Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> is booked; April 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> will be booked and for fall Lois is looking at Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> which is Labour day weekend. In 2026 we are looking at January 2 – 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5) Future Masters – Roger Bolton**

- a) Fall 299er tournament - October 26<sup>th</sup> seems the best date. Game times 10 and 3. Approved by ACBL and Bridge Centre is available.
- b) Flyers are done and look fantastic.
- c) Email blast has been done.
- d) Liz will help Lois as director for the day.
- e) Jim Berglund will be the guest speaker for the event.
- f) Discussion as to whether the next tournament should be a limit of 499er instead of 299er.
- g) Roger will investigate dates for 2025.
- h) Arrival at 8:30 day of to get things setup and ready.

There was a vote as to whether or not we award free plays to those who volunteer as guest speakers at tournaments - passed

## **6) Special Events – Brad Bowyer**

- a) Note about booking AGM and Rookie-Master for 2025.
- b) We will keep a noon start and provide lunch and hand records for team game.
- c) Discussion about how the teams should be formatted as to whether a rookie should play with rookie or master.
- d) We can poll the bid and play attendees to see what they would feel comfortable with.
- e) Discussion regarding Erin Berry Rookie-Master game run by Brian Johns.
- f) Discussion for day of 2025 teams Rookie-Master event – Brad will choose similar date as 2024 and confirm with Bridge Centre.
- g) Discussion re: director for Rookie-Master
- h) Discussion re: director for AGM
- i) Speaker purchase was successful and seems to be working fine.

## **7) Secretary – Paulette McWilliam**

- a) No new business

## **8) Membership – Judy Gartaganis**

- a) Judy & Delores have been meticulous about contacting lapsed members but with the 5/5/5 assigned target numbers, our Unit will earn \$0 for contact activity, even though we have contacted everyone on the lapsed list.
- b) 20 new members for our fiscal year.
- c) 33% of our members are Life Masters and 67% are not.
- d) calgarybridge.com domain (through Telus) is up for renewal 19.99/year. It will keep up our ownership of the name. Judy moved that we continue to pay for this, and seconded by Paulette. Carried.
- e) 2023 awards certificates have been successfully distributed, thank you Judy and Delores.
- f) Kibitzer will be ready to go out in October.

## **9) Public Relations – Delores Hedley**

- a) 6 new people at supervised Bid'n Play.
- b) Ray Kittlitz is 100 years old, but doesn't want any recognition from the unit.  
We will approach him to determine if he would be OK with having an article in the Kibitzer.

Some discussion regarding the unit again offering a mentorship program. We agreed to table it for the future.

### **NEXT MEETING -**

Tuesday– October 29th

3:00 pm

Bridge Centre

Cynthia moved meeting be adjourned – seconded by John