

ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, Monday, April 8, 2024

Location: The meeting was conducted on-line using ZOOM.

Attendees: Dennis Abeln, Sandy Bigg, Mark Boswell, Don Chase, Terry D'Amato, Ken Obrecht, Jay Shah, Steve Russell, John Welte, and Mark Zellmer

Absent: Dian Brazier

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 and met quorum requirements.

President's Report

Mark B reported that each month there is a meeting of all the presidents of the units.

Approval of the Minutes

The Board unanimously approved the meeting minutes from February, 2024. The March board meeting was cancelled.

Treasurer's Report

The Board unanimously approved the corrected Treasurer's Report.

Tournaments:

March I/N

John reported that it lost about \$949. The table count was close to what it was in 2023. There was a discussion about dropping the September 499r tournament, but the board agreed it should continue. Efforts will be made to not schedule I/N events at same time as the National. Mark B promoted the GNT with the I/N players.

May Sectional

Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinney awards will be announced but not online awards. The board voted unanimously to skip the medallions this year; the ACBL does not have them, and they won't be ready on time.

Steve will look up new life masters to get list to Mark B. Mark B will send emails to the recipients about the plans to hand out the pins before the first session on Friday.

Assignments for Tournament Clean-up Duties: (please note that John W and Sandy switched duties after the meeting; this list is up-to-date)

Friday morning: John W, Mark B

Friday afternoon: Jay and Terri

Friday night: Sandy

Saturday morning: Mark Z and Ken

Saturday afternoon: Steve & Mark Z

Sunday: Mark B, Mark Z, and Dennis

Sandy will take winner photos. She will remind Mark B to make an announcement to tell winners to come find Sandy to get their photos taken. (Dennis mentioned after the meeting that we should ask tournament directors to remind players at the beginning of each session.)

August Regional

The board unanimously approved \$500 to be spent on the purchase of a PA system.

Dennis raised the issue of what can be done when players misbehave at our events and proposed following the ACBL's Zero Tolerance Policy. Mark B pointed out that ACBL's policy is too strict. Dennis will send a link to the board members that covers the ACBL Zero Tolerance policy and will propose a less severe policy. The board should read the policy and be prepared to discuss/vote on this issue at the next board meeting.

Dennis also discussed the Conditions of Contest (COC) for the Regional. He will draft a copy that he will share with the board before the next meeting; he asks everyone to read it and be prepared to discuss it/vote at our next meeting.

Mark B and Sandy created a sign to promote improved behavior at the hotel; Mark B needs to hear back from District 8 President, Debbie Romero, about using this. Dennis will get signage made.

Mark B has drafted a letter to put into the President's message on the website addressing the behavior issue at the hotel and will be in touch with the hotel to see if it is okay to send this letter to bridge players who are registering as guests for the tournament.

The board discussed having lessons take place in the corner of the big room; Dennis can get names from the hotel reservation list to find out what pros are coming. He can share names with Sandy (in case she knows any) as well as Mark Z, as head of the education committee. Mark Z will take care of making sure we have speakers lined up.

October Sectional/NLM Regional

Dennis will finalize the flyer and distribute it to the board for approval at the next meeting. The schedule is the same as October, 2023. Entries for NLM will be \$10; the Open event will have \$15 entries. There will be no Bridge Bulletin advertising, just the flyers.

Committees:

Nominating:

Mark Z reported that an effort to work on filling the vacant board position had not succeeded. John W will follow up with approaching another prospective and get back to Mark Z and Jay.

Membership

Jay emailed his report.

Caddies

Jay requested that we raise the caddy compensation from \$40 to \$45 per session. The board unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Next Meeting: May 13, 2024