

SBU Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held: February 1, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., via Zoom teleconference

Board members in attendance: JC, Susan, Tom B, Cliff, Bill*, Scott, Karen, Tom L, David D, Aidan, Jeff, Gene

Board members absent: None

Also present: Ann Romeo, Jeff Ford, Gene Gousie

Board members indicated with an * joined the meeting late and were not present for asterisked votes.

1. SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

Ref	Motion	Moved By	Seconded By	Vote Result
	Approve the minutes of the January meeting as revised	JC	Tom B	Carried*
	Approve use of RealBridge platform permanently for Homestyle Swiss and Sweetheart weekend event	Scott	Karen	Carried
	Approve hiring Director for Sweetheart Teams event capped at \$150.	Cliff	D.Dailey	Carried
	Approve fee for Round Robin event this year to be reduced to \$20 per team with \$5 off per team member that participated in 2020.	Cliff	D.Dailey	Carried

2. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

2.1. ACTIONS ON HOLD

Action	Assigned To
Consider possible increase in entry fee for Unit tournaments.	Deferred until after it is known when sectional can resume
Consider changes to the Round Robin (flat robin) format to allow stratification to be maintained regardless of the number of sign-ups.	Deferred until 2021

2.2.

2.2. ACTIONS CONTINUING (STILL OPEN)

Action	Assigned To
Inspect trailer and its contents for possible damage. Expect msg from Roger re: moving then will go to inspect. Tags expired so Tom B will follow up.	David D/Tom B
Develop recommendations for ways to welcome newcomers to the Unit and to recognize achievements such as rank advancement. Karen to present recommendation at February meeting.	Tom L and Karen
Committee appointed to review Bylaws for possible changes.	JC to schedule mtg by end March
Submit names of master point winners from Round Robin to ACBL. Tried but did not take, so resubmitting manually.	Jeff F
Proposal for dates and content for subsequent virtual tournaments.	unassigned pending participation in Feb event
The remaining action items from January have been completed.	

2.3.

2.3. NEW ACTIONS

Action	Assigned To
Find Director to hire for Sweetheart Swiss event.	Ann Romeo
Unit to be set-up as a club on RealBridge to get MercerCrest out of the loop and documentation as to how to run the game.	Jeff Ford
Obtain BBO report detailing all members not currently playing on the platform.	JC
Establish Mentoring sign up list for inclusion in Welcome Packet.	Ann Romeo
Pulse tournament prospective tournament venues (4+) for 2022 events.	Ann Romeo
Propose virtual tournament schedule for rest of year	Jeff, consulting with Scott, Ann, & David
Continue effort to draft and finalize a Welcome Packet, analyze ACBL in/out report and make recommendations to excite more players.	Karen and committee

2.4.

3. SUMMARY OF AGENDA AND DISCUSSION

3.1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion by JC, seconded by Tom B, the revised minutes of the January meeting were approved unanimously.

3.2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom B sent separate report to Board by email. Received ACBL's quarterly reimbursement which was within \$20 of last January's reimbursement indicating membership is somewhat stable. Trailer bill was received for five months and payment sent. Balance on hand is \$55,870.

3.3. HOMESTYLE SWISS - REALBRIDGE UPDATE

Scott reported that things went well. J.Ford played and directed noting easier to administer so less work than in prior months and only one AV problem. Players liked faster speed (visible clock probably helped.) Motion to use RealBridge platform and absorb costs for future HomeStyle Swiss and possible Sectionals made and passed.

3.4. SWEETHEART WEEKEND TOURNAMENT

Publicity completed and motion made and passed to hire Director for the event. Competing pairs event scheduled at last minute by MercerCrest Club.

3.5. HOSPITALITY PROPOSALS

The committee discussed revitalizing a Welcome Packet for all new and incoming members to the Unit. Ideas shared were inclusion of a coffee mug with Unit info, a deck of cards, a convention card holder or some other token. Preliminary costs were seen as about \$200 for the mailing plus \$3-6 for the token.

How to provide a 'free play' was also discussed with coupons redeemable by club directors or by using the BBO Club account set-up for the Unit to transfer BBO\$ after it was confirmed that a player had played at least one game online. It was noted that the Unit gets \$4 per year per member from the ACBL.

Information noted for inclusion in Welcome Packets: online club game schedules, guide to signing up on BB), club contact info for partnership or assistance, and a list of local or online teachers.

A discussion followed regarding how to activate the 220 Unit members of roughly 1400 that have not played since last March 20th. A report is available from BBO of members not playing. Also, in this vein, two types of mentoring programs were identified...one for tech support and the other for bridge play development.

A newcomers' party, possibly via Zoom, was suggested. In light of nearly 25% job the Unit membership having less than 12 master points, the committee is to analyze the ACBL in/out report and make recommendations. Discussion of an in person annual meeting possibly to include a special game (LM/MLM or mentor/mentee for example), awards ceremony and party is tabled until a better understanding of the return to face to face bridge is in hand.

The use of guaranteed partners at Clubs and Sectionals was identified as less than successful in the past.

3.6. ADDITIONAL VIRTUAL TOURNAMENT & UNIT GAMES

A motion was made and passed to reduce last year's \$60 per team fee, which was to have included a party, to \$20 per team and to offer \$5 off per team member that played in the 14 team event last year for this years event.

3.7. RETURN TO F2F PLAY COMMITTEE

Committee reported that due to existing constraints and unknowns going forward, all 2021 games will be online. It was further recommended that face-to-face games not be reinstated by the Unit until Clubs are up and running successfully. Consideration of hybrid games would be pending ACBL guidance. Tentative target for Unit Sectional would be February of 2022.

3.8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held by Zoom teleconference, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021.

3.9. NEW BUSINESS

Ann Romeo reported that the merger of the two youth bridge organizations was successfully completed and that D.Dailey was the new President. Three weeks of bridge camp for about 100 kids aged 8-17 years old are in place. A proposal for \$1,000 in assistance from the Unit is being prepared by Ann. Work

with kids in schools in the Seattle metro area continues, while schools in Seattle proper are hampered by regs requiring access thru department of Parks & Recreation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for **5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2021.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cliff Feldman, Secretary