

## **ACBL Unit 143 Board Meeting Minutes, January 13, 2021**

**Location:** The meeting was conducted on-line using ZOOM due to risk of COVID-19 Virus

**Attendees:** Dennis Abeln, Maureen Curran, Terry D'Amato, Diane Deutch, Estella Lau, Ken Obrecht, Jan Potts, John Welte, Kelly White, Mark Zellmer. (Mark joined the meeting at 8:16 pm)

**Absent:** Mark Boswell

The meeting was called to order by President John Welte at 7:05 PM.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the December board meeting were submitted by Dennis via e-mail. The minutes were approved as submitted.

### **President's Report:**

John reported that ACBL has cancelled the March National tournament in St Louis. ACBL has cancelled all tournaments through April 30, 2021. ACBL has indicated they will make a decision on cancelling subsequent tournaments by March 1. John advised that ACBL is considering scheduling a replacement National in St Louis in March 2026.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kelly had submitted the monthly treasurer's report via email. The report was approved as submitted. Kelly advised that the annual financial report shared at the January 7 annual meeting has been revised to add some detail and was distributed to the board members by email. The revised report has been posted on the unit's website. Kelly advised that the income tax return is finished and would be submitted this week.

**District 8 Report:** Mark B. Absent, no report.

**Tournaments:** Mike C. Absent, no report.

### **Committee Reports**

**Awards:** Mark B. Absent, no report.

**Bidding Boxes & Time Clocks:** Mark B. Absent, no report.

**Caddies:** Maureen. No activity.

**Datebook:** Dennis. No activity.

**Membership:** John hadn't contacted Jay to check on whether he was willing to send welcome packets to new members. Jan agreed to contact new members by phone as part of the New Player Services effort. Kelly will send the monthly in-out report to Jan so she knows who the new members are.

**Publicity:** Estella. Discussion about how to handle e-mail blasts for next tournament. Kelly said he could send emails 500 at a time if gmail is used. Kelly asked if the Unit has gmail account and no one was aware of one for the unit. In the past, ACBL sent the emails and used a 200 mile radius for sectionals, 500 mile radius for regionals. Kelly can get email lists from ACBL, using the same procedure followed for postcard address lists, where prior permission from the other units is required. (Per post-meeting correction, we have to request these mailing lists from other units, not from ACBL.) All agreed we can stop sending tournament postcards if we have email addresses.

**299r Tournaments:** No activity

**Unit Electronic Contact:** Kelly. Kelly agreed to update ACBL's officers list to show Jay Shah as membership chairman.

**Unit Games:** Mark B. No activity.

**Website:** Terry. The website has been kept up to date. Terry has added a link so non-board members can join the monthly board meetings. Terry is now monthly updating the membership list used to provide data for the website's membership directory. Terry has also taken steps to prevent anyone from easily copying the membership directory.

**Hospitality:** Diane. No activity.

**Camp Scholarships:** Jan. Terry sent Jan the 2019 scholarship flyer. .

**Education:** Mark Z. No activity.

**Outreach:** Dennis questioned the scope of this committee now that we're doing the New Player Services thing. John said the Outreach committee will be dropped.

**New Player Services:** Jan. No activity.

**District 8 Advocate:** Debbie: No report. (Debbie has emailed a request to board members earlier this month seeking ideas for an article in the District 8 Advocate.)

**Finance:** Ken O. John asked how often the treasurer's report should be reviewed by the finance chair. We agreed to quarterly. John suggested adding a committee member, possibly off-board. Kelly agreed to seek a candidate. (Kelly subsequently reported that Steve Russell has agreed to serve on the committee.)

**Nominations:** Mark Z. Mark will contact a candidate that had expressed interest in joining the board.

**Bylaws/Rules Review:** Dennis. No activity.

**Photographer:** Diane agreed to be photography coordinator.

#### **Old Business:**

John reported that Mark B contacted the StL Bridge Center about obtaining their old BridgePad scoring machines - not resolved yet. Discussion about who would repair them, what software or hardware is required to make them communicate - all unresolved. Mark B is expected to follow up.

John reported we're still looking for place to store the duplicating machine and boards owned by the Unit. John will follow up.

Discussion about who will duplicate the boards ahead of each tournament. Chris Patrias or Rick Beye had been doing that. John will follow up.

#### **New Business:**

The board voted to drop the in-person monthly meetings and instead conduct future meetings via Zoom.

Dennis inquired whether we should be doing anything now to prepare for the May tournament. John agreed to contact Debbie Romero to see if she would help develop a time-line of the required activities.

Mark Z offered his opinion that the May Sectional will most likely be cancelled due to the Corona virus. Unit 143's first face-to-face tournament would be the August Regional soonest, and that we're very likely to have the Fall Sectional. He said we should start thinking about what requirements we might impose on players, such as masks, vaccinations, etc.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2020 at 7 pm and will be conducted via ZOOM.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.