

**AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2002
NORTH TAHOE COMMUNITY CONFERENCE CENTER
KINGS BEACH, CALIFORNIA**

Executive VP Syl Lulinski called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll call was taken. Present were: Paul Barnes, Joe Bernard, Dwight Christiansen, DeLynn Colvert, Heidi Glashan, Larry Hassett, Rollie Heath, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Jim Hornbacher, Lea Hornbeck, Bob Julian, Al Lindner, Syl Lulinski, Ron Morgan, Cathy Perkins, Jim Ready, Joan Rein, Larry Samet, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt and Jeff Shimp. Absent: Pat Barrett and George Bickford
Also present: Fred McGibney, Treasurer

Jack Shumate, Grand National XXI tournament director, gave a brief report how things were progressing for tomorrow. He noted that there were 411 presently registered. John Hassenplug and Norma Schwartz from the North Lake Tahoe Business Association each spoke welcoming the ACC and thanking us for choosing Kings Beach for the Grand National tournament.

In his opening remarks, Syl asked us to remember his talk about harmony at the last BoD meeting; that there will be disagreement over issues, which is fine, but to consider a proposal upon its merit, not upon the individual making it. He mentioned that there will be controversial items on the agenda, but hoped that we could come to a resolution on them.

The minutes of the last meeting held on January 24, 2002 were accepted with no corrections. Larry Hassett handed out new BoD roster, which he had made up. Jeanne asked that if there were any changes to contact her. Jeanne moved to accept minutes, seconded by Sharon Hejtmanek.

Fred McGibney presented the financial report: He stated that this summer he spent a lot of time merging the Grass Roots accounts into the ACC system. Therefore, some of the reports he mailed out and handed out today reflect Grass Roots operations for 2001-2002. Also the 2003 budget he handed out today reflects the Grass Roots budget. The financial statement prepared by the outside auditor was mailed out to us later than normal because there was no BoD meeting in September 2001. He explained reasons for minor accounting discrepancies between this report and his. The balance sheet for the fiscal year ending June 2001 on the outside auditor's report affirms that the assets and liabilities of the ACC are properly stated. The income statement has only been compiled, not confirmed. Fiscal year 2001 was the first year showing the combined net assets of the Grass Roots with the ACC. \$30,500 was forwarded to Joan Rein from the GR Inc., which was then forwarded to the ACC. The auditor eliminated an entry for \$5000, which the ACC authorized to be given to the Grass Roots, because it is now the same organization. However, Fred will show Grass Roots and ACC portions separately on his records. An increase in equity of \$77,000 for FY 2001 is shown, which includes the \$45,000 from Grass Roots and the recovery of \$30,000 from Jeff Monroe. This essentially means that the ACC broke even for the year, but showed a profit with the \$30,000 recovery. The Grass Roots started up in FY 2001 because around \$7000 in items were capitalized, but have been written off in 2002 for \$9300 (mostly for software development).

Fred then discussed the report issued by the auditor of "Reportable Conditions and Advisory Comments": First was the centralization of the function of the administration of the ACC. Second was the segregation of duties in terms of financial control, mainly involving the treasurer and the membership secretary. Recommendations included requiring two signatures on checks written over a certain amount, and someone else receiving the dues and transmitting the information to the membership secretary. Fred requested that the executive committee address these issues and make recommendations for actions. Bob Julian said that he does receive monthly reports from membership secretary (Larry) and quarterly reports from treasurer (Fred) and he does cross check them, so there is a system in place. Fred discussed the filing of the 990T tax return, involving unrelated business income, which is from advertising in Cribbage World. This was filed for 2001, accounting firm said that we should have been filing this all along.

Fred then discussed the FY 2001 Profit and Loss Statement. The ACC income was \$130,000; the GR income was \$56,000. The ACC had \$101,000 in expenses resulting in a \$30,000 profit, which is attributable to the \$30,000 loss recovery. The GR (because they received \$5,000 from the ACC and \$30,000 from the dissolved GR Inc., and because part of the year's expenses were paid by GR Inc., and because they capitalized about \$7000 which could have been expensed) only had about \$4000 in expenses resulting in a profit of \$ 52,000. The result is a profit of about \$80,000, which he said is highly unusual, and when you adjust all of this out, we have a \$4000 gain for the ACC and a \$9600 gain for the GR.

In 2002 the ACC had \$91,000 in income and \$110,000 in expense. The ACC had a loss of \$18,400. The GR had \$ 26,000 and expenses of \$38,000, a loss of \$12,000. The combined organization lost almost \$31,000. He said that these issues were highlighted in a report which he distributed at the beginning of this meeting. Some of the major items are: advertising is \$2100 under budget, dues \$2700 under budget, interest income \$1400 under budget, postage \$2300 over budget, printing \$1000 under budget, promotion was \$4000 over budget (due to new banners & bumper stickers being printed).

Fred recapped the equity position of the organization for a two year period:

June 30, 2000, The ACC had \$100,000 in equity
June 30, 2001, The ACC had \$182,000 in equity
(Due to large income from loss recovery & assimilation of GR)
June 30, 2002, The ACC had \$151,000 in equity

Fred then discussed the FY 2003 Budget he had handed out. He explained that he was keeping the ACC and GR division as separate entries. Projected income for ACC is \$93,724 and GR \$25,462. Projected expense for ACC is \$106,185 and GR \$28,150. Projected loss is a total of \$15,149. He wanted approval for \$4000 for an audit of FY 2002. He also suggested that a pricing committee be established by the executive committee. He noted that the Cribadier General fund had a balance of \$7547. Bob Julian questioned two items on the budget; \$4000 for the life master award watches and \$4400 GR software development and maintenance. The amount for the watches was larger than it will be in the future as it reflected the cost of past recipients. Bob questioned if this \$4400 was in addition to the already approved \$16,000 (half of which was to be paid by the ACC and half by the GR), and if it was going to be a yearly expense. Joan said that this was for some additional development charges, but that there will be continuing maintenance charges if the program stays with this developer. She also said that she has the source codes for the program and it can be moved. Roy questioned the amount to be spent yearly on the software maintenance. Joan said that it should not exceed \$2000 and would probably be less. Fred said that the BoD will be able to approve this item in the budget. Jeff discussed the auditor's advisory comments. He volunteered to work with the executive

committee to establish some internal control implementing financial protection. There was some discussion regarding this, Syl then stated that the executive committee will work with Jeff and Fred to come up with suggestions for the next BoD meeting. Bob asked about the filing of the 990T tax form for advertising, and Fred said that we will file according to the auditor's recommendations. At this time there was an aside by Paul Barnes asking Bob Julian about Jeff Monroe's probation. He said that there was a betting site on the internet involving "Lucky Elf", which was Jeff's internet name, and suggested that Bob contact the California authorities to alert them to this. Fred then moved that the BoD authorize \$4000 for the FY02 audit by the outside accounting firm. Seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion approved. Fred then moved that the BoD accept the budget for FY2003 as presented. Seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion approved.

Executive Officer's Reports & Committee Actions:

Delynn Colvert reported that there was a record number of tournaments during the last year. Three items from 2/02 through 10/02 had been implemented: purchase of 200 vinyl banners, \$150 for booth at Lassen County Fair in California, Bob Wikstrom's resignation from BoD, replaced by Lea Hornbeck. VP Policy position vacated was not filled because of short time between his resignation and the next BoD meeting, when the new Executive committee was to be elected.

Syl reported that he is in touch with Joe Bernard regarding the Ethic's Committee and that it is operating effectively. He stated that he would like to table Agenda item #18 at this time, but asked that BoD members keep and study the proposals he had sent out for the next meeting. He stated that GN XXI looked to be very successful and that Scott Kooistra would be reporting on GN XXII (Sioux Falls-2003), and Dave O'Neil would be reporting on GN XXIII (Atlanta-2004) later during the meeting. He has sent notice for the October CW to DeLynn for requests for bids for the 2005 GN in the Western Region. He said that Joan Rein would be reporting on the upcoming TOC and ACC Open later also.

Bob Julian reported that he would be canceling agenda item #17 for a comparison of systems of reporting GR information. Larry Hassett is developing a system, but is not yet finished with it. Bob and Joan have picked out a committee of GR members to compare them. Larry said that his system will be simpler than the current system and would be given to the ACC. He hoped to have it available for the February meeting. Bob said that other areas of his responsibility are running smoothly.

Members took a five-minute break at this time.

When the meeting reconvened, Dave O'Neil was present to report on GN XXIII in Atlanta. First he thanked the BoD for awarding the bid to Atlanta. The tournament will be held at the Westin Airport Hotel, which has 24/7 service to the airport and rapid transport system. He has signed a contract with them. They have a logo designed now, and are progressing with T-shirts, etc. He was asked if there were going to be activities for non-players, and said that they were planning them now. Three GR clubs in Atlanta are involved with the tournament. He is representing one; Gene Bradshaw and Bobby Stuart are each representing the other two. The tournament will be held the third weekend in September. The room rates will be \$77. He will give a list of BoD members to the Hotel, and ask that rooms be held for them until he notifies them. BoD members will then be responsible for making their own reservations. He mentioned that he works for the Atlanta Braves and gives tours of the Stadium and may be able to set up a tour for the BoD.

Next was the Election of Officers. Joe Bernard stated that he had sent out nominations but there was only one candidate for each office. Voting went as follows:

President: DeLynn Colvert. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeff Shimp moved that nominations be closed, seconded Heidi. Elected with no nays
Executive Vice President: Syl Lulinski. There were no nominations from the floor. Jeanne moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Sharon. Elected with no nays
Vice President of Operations: Bob Julian. There were no nominations from the floor. Syl moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Sharon. Elected with no nays
Vice Present of Policy: Larry Hassett. There were no nominations from the floor. Syl moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Jeanne. Elected with no nays
Executive Member At Large: George Bickford. There were no nominations from the floor. Joe moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Syl. Elected with no nays.

Standing Committee's Reports were next:

Jim Ready/ Rules: nothing to report

Paul Barnes/ Public Relations Marketing: nothing to report

Jeff Shimp/ Judges: Reported on inappropriate judging calls, suggested that we may have to develop a decertification process for judges whose actions are called into question, and he would welcome any suggestions. He will be working on this and hopes to have something ready in the next year. Much discussion followed with suggestions. Syl suggested that until something is in place tournament directors should name the judges at their tournaments hopefully eliminating marginal judges. Jeff asked that documentation be collected of poor judgements so he can have some data to work with.

Joe Bernard/Ethics: Currently one member is suspended for suspected cheating, with the possibility of expulsion, as he has not responded to a letter. Another member has been suspended for 6 months for leaving a GR session before it was finished. Joe also asked for a manual change in the Ethics section regarding the requirement of "notarization" when writing a letter of possible ethics violations, as he feels that this is unnecessary. Roy made a motion that the "notarization " requirement be eliminated from the ethics section of manual. Seconded by Ron Morgan. Accepted with no nays. Since this wording appears in at least three different places, Joe will do a rewrite and submit it to the BoD. Joe would also like to include "leaving a GR tournament" in the manual section about leaving a tournament before its conclusion, and receiving a six-month suspension. Joan said this would also be included in the GR manual. Joe made a motion to include this in the ethics sections of both the ACC policy and GR manuals. , Seconded by Jim Ready. Accepted with no nays

Joan Rein/Grass Roots: Joan reported that there are about 160 GR clubs currently playing and that 95% of them are reporting their statistics on line. She did note that there was some overspending on the software program, but feels that things are working well now. She introduced Kristi Haught, the new national GR statistician. She will be replacing Annett Eifert as the GR national tournament director at her request. She has appointed Valerie Sumner as National Grass Roots Secretary. Joan noted that there will be a GR meeting tomorrow at 4:00 after the qualifying round of the main tournament. She said that this is a general meeting, that the GR meeting in Reno in February is limited to BoV members. Jeanne asked her if it would be possible to reverse the meetings, as more members participate in the JPW/ACC Open making it possible for more GR members to attend a GR meeting, which Joan then suggested be brought up at

the Reno meeting to the BoV. Roger Wilson has now replaced Terry Hurtgen as Region #4 commissioner. She said that the cost of GR awards will be going up. And she has also made a contact for someone to be a back up for her position, which she will bring to the Executive Committee.

Joan then addressed the GR Manual. She said that she had made changes as discussed at last February's BoD meeting. She did ask that if anyone was aware of anything she had missed to bring them to her attention. She said that the manual is now available on the GR web site. She also said that GR stats and other GR information are available on line. Roy questioned some differences in the manual she sent out and the one on the Web site. After some discussion it was noted that the wording about the GR Commissioner and GR National Statistician making "major decisions regarding policy, administration, financial, ethics and other important issues" should include bringing such decisions before the ACC Executive Committee or the ACC BoD for approval. Another difference was regarding GR National and Regional tournaments. The on-line manual did not have the change about being able to choose the official tournament and the \$3 charge for unofficial participation. Jeanne asked about the ethics section, Joan said that there was wording on that page that stated it was still in need of review by the ACC BoD. She said she did want to include some guidelines for ethics, as some directors were uncomfortable making such decisions by themselves. Jim Ready made a motion to accept the GR manual with the changes that have been discussed. Seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion accepted no nays. Larry Hassett made a motion that the statement on page 10 of the GR Manual regarding "no cash prizes for youthful tournament participants" be amended to include only the GR Regional and GR National tournaments, as it is legal in some states for youths to receive cash prizes in weekly GR tournaments. Seconded by Larry Samet. Motion accepted with no nays.

Meeting adjourned for lunch break at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Membership Secretary's Report: Larry distributed new "Cribbage Anyone?" pamphlets with new addresses and other changes. He has printed up about a year's supply and does have some with him if anyone needs them. He asked for any questions about the report he mailed out. At this time the ACC has 7154 members. He thought that based on the current consumption of rulebooks, we will probably need to print new ones in about one year. He needs to print up new post cards for membership renewal because of a change of address. There was some discussion of cost of foreign memberships, as Fred gets a bill from Lightning Printing with an entry of \$100 for foreign mailing. There was some question about this so Fred is going to contact them to find out what it is for. Larry said there are about 150 members in Canada and 5 in other countries. Syl made a motion to accept Membership Secretary's report. Seconded by Larry Samet. Motion accepted with no nays.

Membership retention/Paul Barnes: Paul said there has been no action of this committee. Dwight Christiansen and Larry Hassett said they have been doing some work on this and will discuss it at the next BoD meeting in February.

Regarding the apportionment of the extra \$3000 added by the Sands for the February 2003 tournament: Scott, Joan, Roy and Jeanne have decided to put this extra money into the prize fund for the ACC Open, so it will be available to more entrants, and to distribute mainly to the lower brackets. This met with the general approval of the BoD.

Joan reported on the ACC Open and ToC: the Reno/Sparks/Tahoe Convention Center has contacted her and asked if we wanted to put the 2005 tournament out for bids. She said yes, and received one bid back from the Reno Hilton. She said that they have a wonderful facility, but are not offering what we get from the Sands. Also they are not as centrally located to the downtown area as the Sands, which makes it easier for entrants to get to other hotels and casinos. Joan also reported that the Sands is enlarging the Bingo Parlor area making it possible for us to locate players in fewer locations for the Open. Ron Morgan mentioned that the Sands also has contributed \$500 to the youth cribbage program. Also mentioned was the help we receive from the Sands with advertising and internet costs. We will vote on the location for the 2005 JPW/ACC Open and ToC at the February meeting. Joan requested the \$1000 "up front" for ToC expenses, and will send a letter to Syl requesting it. Jim Hornbacher discussed the way deal was decided in last year's ToC playoffs, Joan said that they not be doing it that way this year. Fred suggested that there should be a financial report from the ToC and the JPW/ACC Open. Syl said that they could discuss that at the Executive Committee meeting.

Syl presented the proposed constitutional amendments that he had sent out earlier, noting that Bob Wikstrom had done a lot of this work before his resignation. He asked that any changes that are passed be effective 10/1/02.

Article IVa: there are two basic changes; one regarding the age of voting members and the other regarding the commencement & expiration of elected BoD members. Syl made the motion that the amendment be accepted as proposed. Seconded by Jeff . Motion passed with no nays.

Article V: change is in wording of time of majority vote of BoD from "Annual meeting held in conjunction with the GN Tournament" to "annual meeting". Syl made a motion that the amendment be accepted as proposed. Seconded by Larry Samet. Discussion followed regarding changing the officer's terms to two years. Syl said this could not be done at this meeting, but could be discussed at the February meeting. Motion passed with no nays.

Article Vb: additions to order of succession of officers and add Vc to be more specific on the authorization to appoint acting officers. Syl made a motion that the amendments be accepted as proposed. Seconded by Roy. Cathy suggested changing the amendment to state that authorization to fill any vacancies will be made "with the approval of the Executive Committee", but any changes to the proposed amendment could not be made, it had to be accepted or rejected as is. The motion passed with no nays. Syl will present the proposed change at the February BoD meeting.

Article VIIc: change to enable committees to be reorganized following election of BoD members. Syl made a motion to accept the amendment as proposed. Seconded by Roy. Motion passed with no nays.

Copies of these amendment changes, as they will be stated in the Constitution, are attached to these minutes.

Ethics violations amendments were tabled to the February meeting.

Dwight Christiansen presented a proposal to eliminate cutting for the deal during the qualifying rounds of tournaments. He stated that he would like to promote fairness, and asked that members keep an open mind while listening to the proposal. He presented statistics to back up his proposal. He said that having the first deal helps win the game

by a 56 to 44 ratio and it helps to earn skunks by a 2 to 1 ratio. He stated that eliminating the cut would give equal opportunity to every player to gain the extra points for skunks. Discussion brought up the point that the more skilled player would gain an advantage by getting the cut 50% of the time, that two highly ranked players had kept statistics that showed they won 64% of the games when they won the cut, so that an average player actually has a better chance of qualifying when he wins more than half of the cuts. Also brought up was the difficulties of player movement in a qualifying round of one game per opponent with equal cuts. Paul Barnes said the results of his poll on the internet was 50/50 regarding elimination of the cut. After a great deal of discussion, Dwight made a motion to accept his proposal of eliminating the cut. Seconded by Phyllis Schmidt. Motion defeated. Dwight requested a hand count of the vote. The count was 6 ayes and 14 nays.

Rollie Heath presented his proposal for Hall of Fame selection. He read a letter from Pat Barrett, hall of fame committee chairman, endorsing the proposal. He read the definitions of the Hall of Fame posted on the internet and the policy manual. He said he has had the input of from many people to help him put this proposal together. He said this proposal is 65% playing ability and 35% contribution to the ACC. He said that this proposal was designed to delete the bias and personalities in the current method of selection of the Hall of Fame. His proposal would establish a 7-member committee, with the Chairman being a member of the BoD, and be composed of 2 members each from the Eastern and Central Regions, and 3 members from the Western Region. This committee would receive nominations and investigate and verify information about the nominee. The chairman would present the successful nominees to the BoD at its annual Reno meeting. Nominees who meet the requirements and have earned 75% of the maximum points available would automatically be inducted into the Hall of Fame, unless the BoD overturns the nomination by a 75% negative vote. The BoD will still be able to induct a nominee to the Hall of Fame by a vote as is done currently, even if he has not received the necessary amount of points. He then discussed the point system he was presenting and mentioned that this could be changed by the BoD. The point system is based on 100 points covering participation in both the ACC and GR program. A nominee would need 75 points for automatic induction into the Hall of Fame. After much discussion and many suggestions the proposal was tabled until the February meeting. Rollie will get a committee together to make some changes to the proposal. He asked any BoD members that were interested in the committee to talk to him about it after the meeting. Syl also suggested that BoD members send their suggestions to Rollie for consideration.

Paul Barnes suggested that we need an internet director to write up a proposal for a system for ACC internet play. He has been talking to Lois Fosdal, who runs internet tournaments. She can set up her website to use the ACC scoring system. He said that internet tournaments use a system of single elimination, usually 2 out of 3 game matches. He suggested that we get our foot in the door and work out some sort of point system. DeLynn suggested that we allow Lois to use the ACC logo on her site. Al Linder said that he had 4 internet directors at his last tournament. Larry Samet mentioned that there should be a link from her website to the ACC website, but that we need to investigate any site before we endorse it. Paul thought we would need an Internet commissioner to make sure people running the websites are on the up and up. He suggested Bob Milk, who spends a lot of time playing internet cribbage and evaluates these sites. Paul, as part of the internet committee, was asked to present ideas to the BoD at the next meeting about setting up ACC sanctioned internet play.

Agenda item #17 about the computer systems comparison was discussed earlier in Bob's executive report. Joan said that Kristi was here and had a computer set up so BoD members could see how the program works. Bob said that since the other program was not yet ready, that this could be put off until the next meeting.

Agenda item #18 had been tabled earlier in the meeting.

DeLynn reported that Paul Gregson has written that he is happy to do the job of Webmaster without compensation. DeLynn still felt that Paul is a valuable asset to the ACC and we should make some effort to reward him. Discussion followed on how to compensate him. Fred mentioned that \$800 had been authorized to pay Paul for something, but had never received a bill for it. Syl said that this would be discussed in the Executive meeting to be held after the BoD meeting.

DeLynn said that the National Champion award is on its way from Montana, and he is sure it will be here for the banquet.

Scott Kooistra reported that GN XXII will be held at the Holiday Inn City Center, which is a change of venue. He said that 500 players can be comfortably accommodated there, that the hotel rooms are quite nice, and that the hospitality, banquet, and BoD meeting rooms are arranged, and that the hotel has airport shuttles that run every 15 minutes. He promised a great weekend of cribbage, to be well organized and with excellent paybacks. He said that T.J. Lewis and Joan Rein will be helping with the tournament. Hotel rates are \$79-\$89 for up to 4 people per room. The banquet cost is \$25. BoD members will need to make their own reservations.

At this time the National Champion award had arrived and was shown to the BoD.

The next BoD meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 30, 2003 at the Sands Regency in Reno, Nevada.

Omissions: Jeff Shimp reported that Roger Lueschow has been named as a senior judge. Phyllis Schmidt asked about the reduced membership/one CW question. Larry Hassett said that if they send in for a joint membership with the same address that would take care of it.

Meeting adjourned by Syl Lulinski at 4:08 p.m.