

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
FEBRUARY 5, 2004  
THE SANDS REGENCY HOTEL/CASINO  
RENO, NEVADA

Executive Vice-President Syl Lulinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call was taken. Present were: Pat Barrett, Joe Bernard, George Bickford, Kathy Blough, David Campbell, Dwight Christiansen, DeLynn Colvert, Larry Hassett, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Tom Lewis, Al Lindner, Syl Lulinski, Herschel Mack, Bob Milk, Ron Morgan, Cathy Perkins, Joan Rein, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Jeff Shimp, Jack Shumate and Fred White. All present, no absences.

Joan distributed gift clocks from the Sands to all BoD members.

Syl's opening remarks were that this should be a relatively short meeting as the regional competition will be held in this room later today.

Jeanne asked for corrections to the minutes of the last meeting, there were none. She also asked for corrections and additions to the roster.

Syl said that because Bob McCabe had a late flight the Financial Report would be moved to later in the meeting.

Syl asked Bob Julian about the proposed formation of a two or three person Financial Committee that had been discussed previously to review information provided by Bob McCabe. There had been no action on this, so it was passed over.

Jeff Shimp reported no action regarding Audit-On Line Access of Bank Account, but that Bob McCabe had said the bank could do this. Bob Julian reported that his name had been taken off the account so he is not receiving the statements any longer. Further discussion of these matters is deferred until Bob McCabe gives the Financial Report.

Cathy Perkins said there were several items to discuss regarding the Compensation Committee. The first item was in regard to the Webmaster, Paul Gregson. She said that Paul had requested to be compensated for his position as Webmaster. This was approved at last February's meeting and referred to the Compensation Committee. She said that she had written to him last summer asking him to give a list of how much time he was spending, what he was doing, and what he considered to be fair compensation, and that it would be covered at the September meeting. She said that she only received replies from Paul saying that he would get to it. She never received the information from him so she again wrote to him in October asking for the information again. He replied that he would need to be spending more time with his family as they are having a baby, and he would need to be compensated for his time. She wrote to him again for the information and he answered both her and DeLynn on 1/8/04 saying that he puts in 15-20 hours per month and if compensated he would put in 15 to 20 hours more. He wished to be compensated at the rate of \$500 per month. She then gave a review of the compensation



process and it's history for the benefit of the new board members. She said that the committee is asking the people receiving compensation to keep track for the next 6 months to a year of what they do. Then the committee can review this with the idea of decreasing or increasing compensation. Getting back to the Paul Gregson issue, she asked Pat Barrett for his comments. Pat said that he knew Paul was busy, and that he had done a great job. But he felt that the website has been sort of ignored lately and that he had been unable to establish contact with Paul also. He also noted that Paul had originally not wanted compensation and that the BoD had given him \$1000 as a one-time gift. He recommended that we look elsewhere for a new Webmaster. Cathy said the Compensation Committee recommends establishing the position of Webmaster, but not with Paul Gregson, because of his unresponsiveness. DeLynn suggested Jim Bailey as Webmaster, he is very knowledgeable, and has offered his services for \$200 to \$300 a month. Bob Julian suggested that we ask for volunteers for the position. Syl recommended that we drop Paul Gregson and talk to Jim Bailey. Both Larry and Jeanne both gave recommendations regarding Jim's skills and abilities. DeLynn and Sharon also mentioned that Jim would be willing to establish a place for ads on the Website, and that would probably cover the cost of his stipend. Bob Milk and Joan thought that we could use several volunteers for the different functions of the Website, but others felt it was important to have a Webmaster control their access. Several members reiterated they wanted to seek volunteers for the position and so it was decided that DeLynn would ask for them in Crib World.

Agenda item #9, Joe Bernard went over Rule 4, Section 4, subsection d (13) as presented. Syl said that the Rules Committee spent a long time on this rule and feels that they have come up with the proper solution. Joe made a motion to accept the rule as presented, seconded by George Bickford. Approved with no nays.

Agenda item #10, Syl wanted to recognize Dave Aiken for his help in editing, rewriting, and coming up with ideas and suggestions for the new rule book. He has done this at no charge and is getting it all type set for no charge. Dave has also said that he can get a good price for the printing. Syl said we must decide who will get the bid for printing, also how to distribute them, how are we going to sell them, cost, etc. as the new rules are going to go into effect on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

The following members are going to submit bids to the Executive Committee for the printing of 10,000 books in the same format as the current one: G. Bickford, D. Campbell, K. Blough, D. Colvert, F. White, B. Milk, and S. Lulinski. Bids should be sent to DeLynn, and should include shipping to Larry. The Executive Committee will make the decision by March 15. Both Syl and Joe Bernard will proof it after it is type-set. After some discussion it was decided to charge \$1.00 per rule book for the first six months of availability and \$2.00 thereafter. For distribution, a sheet was sent around so that each BoD member could request the amount of rule books they wanted from Larry, with the tournament commissioners getting 500 each. Syl will send the significant rule changes to DeLynn for publication in Crib World, and to Al Miller for the Judge's tests. Also, tournaments held in late June and July should have announcements that the new rule books will go into effect in August. Judges will be responsible for learning the new rules as there is no longer a re-certification process.

At this time we departed from the agenda to Item #15, as Rollie Heath, director of the 2005 GN in Lincoln City, OR. was here to give an update. He said that all the contracts are signed and Chinook Winds casino is going to give an added \$1000. They will also give at least 10 trophy boards, pop, coffee, tea, and water, meeting room and playing rooms. He talked about motels and mentioned the free shuttle that operates to the casino. He said that the cost of the banquet was probably going to be about \$26.

Kathy Blough said that she had spoken to Mark Santillo of GAMA. There is a four day consumer show, held at the Columbus Civic Center on June 24-June 27, which normally draws between



15,000 to 16,000 attendees. Game manufacturers have booths on an exhibit floor, and they have "event rooms". There will be several organizations holding sanctioned tournaments there, such as bridge and chess. They will give us exhibit space for free if someone is willing to give a seminar on Cribbage, or run some tournaments. They are willing to supply cards and boards, and prizes. After some discussion it was thought that a format such as is done at the Puyallup fair (attendees "challenge" an ACC member to a game) rather than a tournament would be preferred. They need a commitment by next week so they can publish it in their literature. Fred White said that he had also talked to Mark Santillo and he was led to believe that there would be lodging and meals provided for 2 to 4 people. Cathy Perkins volunteered herself and her husband, Kathy Blough volunteered, and so did Fred White. Kathy was to talk to George Bickford about this, and he would talk to the Executive Committee about setting this up.

Bob Julian said that our Directors & Officers policy had expired on November 25, 2003. After making various inquiries he talked to his own agent, who did offer this policy. Bob McCabe said that the previous company had charged \$1800 for the last year and expected it to go up by 25%. State Farm is willing to write the same policy for \$1122, and has approved the policy for the ACC, so if they get the check by next Thursday, we will be covered. He said if we approved it today, he would make the payment when he returned home. Bob Milk made a motion that we approve getting the D&O policy from State Farm, Cathy Perkins seconded. Motion carried with no nays.

Back to Agenda item #5: Bob McCabe was now present to give the Financial Report. The period he covered was 6 months ending 12-31-03. We had an operating loss of \$12,070, but cash remains healthy at \$124,210. He expects the second half of FY 2004 to show improvement, as we will not be spending nearly as much on awards. (\$15,000 was spent on awards for the 6 month period ending 12-31-03). He does not think we will break even on the budget and foresees a loss in the \$5000 range.

Agenda item #13-to be discussed later in the meeting.

Agenda Item #14-Pat Barrett said he had nothing else, as we had already discussed the Webmaster situation. Bob Milk had sent out a report to BoD members regarding the progress of ACC internet cribbage. He had two items he wanted to discuss and get approval for. The first was that he would like to extend the experimental ACC internet tournament program through July 2005. He said that the ACC had picked up 32 new members, and that 165 ACC members had participated in the tournaments. He said that about 50% to 75% of the tournament players are ACC members. He said they are testing a software for a point system that they are developing. He also recognized Mike Schell for doing much of the work on the report. Joan made a motion that we authorize the internet cribbage program to continue through July 2005. Seconded by Tom Lewis. Motion carried with no nays. The second item Bob wanted to discuss was allowing the top 10% of the internet tournament players to get invitations to the TOC. He said that the top 10% at this time were all ACC members, who had been the ACC for some time and play in Grass Roots or ACC tournaments. Discussion brought up some points of concern such as players who have only played on the computer where their hands are counted and pegged for them and playing a game in 15 minutes. Bob said that players are expected to play 3 games in 25 minutes in the internet tournaments. More discussion addressed the other concerns and the general agreement was to give it a try. Bob Milk would get the information to Joan. Bob Julian made a motion that we award the top 10% of the internet players an invitation to the TOC during the approved period. Phyllis Schmidt seconded. Motion carried with no nays. Bob Milk added that there would be an ACC internet meeting in the Atrium at 8:00 tonight, and that anyone interested could attend.

Lunch break, meeting to resume at 1:00 p.m.



At this time DeLynn presented Barbara Woodward with a custom cribbage board signed by the BoD members as a token of appreciation for the help she has given the ACC over the past 20 years.

Agenda item #19, Scott Kooistra gave an update for this weekends ACC/JPW Open.

Agenda item #20, Scott introduced Josh Solt, and Chris Pappas from Edge TV, a company that is launching a new cable channel. The idea of the new channel is to be the authority in the education and entertainment of games of skill, strategy and chance. Before they go to the cable and satellite providers, they need to acquire television rights to tournaments. They are interested in working with the ACC and gave a presentation to the BoD. Also, they are going to have a games website. They would like us to sign a letter of intent, then work on a contract, that would give them the rights to film the 2005 JPW/ACC Open. Syl suggested that they talk to the Sands also, as we have a contract with them for 2005.

Agenda item #16, Syl read an e-mail from Tom Gallagher to Jeff Shimp which stated that he was interested in hosting the 2006 Grand National in Green Bay. He said he was waiting to hear from the Oneida Casino for a commitment. Syl said that it was pretty certain that GN 2006 would be held in Green Bay, and that Marlene Lazachek was willing to host a tournament in Milwaukee as a back-up, in case the tournament could not be held in Green Bay. There were no other bids for the tournament. Syl said that instead of voting now, we could hold off until the Atlanta meeting when Tom would have his proposal finalized.

Agenda item #13, Joe Bernard said that at this time there was not a lot going on with the Ethics Committee. Two members had been suspended, and the committee was working with one more possible suspension.

Agenda item #17, DeLynn reported on Executive Committee actions: he said that it had been a very quiet period with no expenditures. The only action taken was authorizing the search for a liability policy with State Farm Insurance.

Agenda item #18, Joan Rein reported that there were 542 entries for the 2004 TOC. She has 2 stand-by players and it should be the biggest TOC ever. She mentioned that the last two rounds of the playoffs would start on Saturday night at 4:00 p.m. Joan made a motion to hold the 2006 ACC Open and the TOC at the Sands. Seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried with no nays. Joan also mentioned that the Cribbage Bowl will start at about 3:30 on Friday.

Agenda item #21, Joan had distributed copies of an "Oath of Office" that she had created. She thought that each BoD member should understand their responsibilities and duties toward the membership of the ACC. She moved for acceptance of the Oath of Office, seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion carried with no nays. The Oath of Office will be published in CW prior to the nominations for election to the BoD.

Agenda item #22, George Bickford reported that he formed a committee with Charlie Finley and Phyllis Schmidt to discuss the proposal for a consolation sanctioning fee. They recommend that no sanctioning fees be charged for the consolation tournaments. George brought up the problem of not having certified judges during the last playoff rounds of Consolation tournaments, as most players have left by then. He made a motion that all tournament directors must be certified judges, seconded by Roy Hofbauer. After discussion Cathy Perkins amended the motion to: a tournament director would insure that sufficient certified judges be available for all sanctioned matches. Vote on amendment: defeated. Vote on motion: defeated (7 ayes, 18 nays)



Agenda item #15, Grand National update by Dave O'Neil: He said that the Westin Atlanta Airport was guaranteeing the "cribbage rate" of \$77 for Wednesday through Sunday nights during the tournament. All BoD members must make their own arrangements. The hotel phone number is 1-888-627-7211. He has negotiated special airfares with three carriers, the information is available on his club web-site: [www.mariettacribbageclub.com](http://www.mariettacribbageclub.com). The stadium tour for BoD members will probably be on Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Parking at the hotel will cost \$2, it is normally \$8, and shuttles from the airport run every 15 minutes around the clock, with a handicapped accessible van, when requested. There is RV parking available, but without hook-ups. He is currently in the process of negotiating for sponsorships with some major corporations.

Syl said that we had neglected to vote on the proposal recommended by the Tournament Rules Committee regarding charging a sanctioning fee for Consolation tournaments. George Bickford made the motion to charge a Sanctioning fee to anyone playing in a Consolation event only. Motion defeated.

Agenda item #23, DeLynn said that he has checked with Larry Hassett and a list of points for new players can be printed in 12 minutes. So DeLynn thinks that the "Rookie of the Year Award" is a great idea for keeping new players interested, and would like it to be a yearly award, with no minimum points. This would be for players in their first full season after joining the ACC.

Agenda item #24, Bob Julian reported that he has formed a restructuring committee. The members are himself and Jeff Shimp from the Central region, George Bickford and Dave Campbell from the Eastern Region, Larry Hassett, and Jeanne Hofbauer from the *proposed* "Northwest Region", and Ron Morgan and Herschel Mack from the *proposed* "Southwest Region". The committee met this morning for about 40 minutes and discussed various aspects of Jack Shumate's proposal. An informal vote was taken of the committee members with the outcome being 6 against the proposal as presented, 1 conditional, and 1 for the proposal as it stands. The consensus was, that since a restructuring would have such a large impact on the membership, the proposal needed further modifications and further study before the committee could make any recommendations. This was followed by a general discussion by the BoD, during which points for the committee to consider were suggested.

Agenda item #25, Pat Barrett said that he had sent out the nominations for Hall of Fame to all BoD members for their perusal. The nominees were: Annett Eiffert, Bill & Dorthalee Irons, and Len Wahlig. Pat distributed the ballots. None of the nominees received enough votes to be inducted to the Hall of Fame.

Agenda item #26, nothing was brought up.

The last order of business was the voting on the Edge TV issue. Bob Milk made a motion that we approve a letter of intent to work with Edge TV to tape and televise the 2005 or 2006 JPW/ACC Open and/or the Toc. Seconded by Pat Barrett. Motion carried, no nays

Next BoD meeting: September 17, 2004 in Atlanta, Georgia

Syl moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Cathy Perkins. Meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.