

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2004  
WESTIN ATLANTA AIRPORT HOTEL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Executive Vice-President Syl Lulinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He stated that there were going to be some absences due to travel problems. He also stated that that item #9 on the agenda had been dropped.

Roll call was taken. Present were: Pat Barrett, George Bickford, Kathy Blough, DeLynn Colvert, Larry Hassett, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Al Lindner, Syl Lulinski, Bob Milk, Ron Morgan, Cathy Perkins, Joan Rein, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Jack Shumate, and Fred White. Excused absence: Joe Bernard Absent due to travel problems because of hurricane Ivan: Dave Campbell, Dwight Christiansen, Tom Lewis, Herschel Mack and Jeff Shimp. Also present, Bob McCabe ACC Treasurer.

Syl's opening remarks were some humorous quotes from a book, Ronald Reagan: The Great Communicator.

Jeanne had two changes to the minutes of the last meeting. The first change was on page 4, agenda item #18, third sentence: should be the last two rounds, instead of the first two rounds. The second change was on page 5, agenda item #25, regarding the Hall of Fame nominees: Annett Eiffert was on two times, delete one and replace with Len Wahlig, which had been inadvertently omitted. There were no other corrections. Jeanne made a motion that the minutes be accepted with these changes, seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried.

Bob McCabe gave the financial report. He said that our cash position is strong with \$135,000 in the bank (total ACC & Grass Roots monies). He said that the cash will be lowered to about \$120,000 at this time of year because of the cost of awards, but should go back up with income from dues and sanctioning fees. Bob Julian has asked Bob McCabe to prepare reports of ACC and Grass Roots separately, which he has agreed to do. Bob McCabe asked if there were any



questions on the results of last year or the budget he has prepared for next year. He asked that someone on the Board make a motion to approve the budget. Cathy moved that the budget be accepted, seconded by Syl. Motion carried with no nays.

Agenda item #6, Annual Reports of Officers:

President DeLynn Colvert reported on executive committee actions from Feb. 2004 through Sept. 2004; Authorized \$300 for Centralia-Chehalis club for Puyallup fair booth/ authorized payment of \$3,780 payment to Josten's for printing 10,000 rule books/ authorized \$350 for trucking new rule books from Visalia, CA to Roseburg, OR, / authorized payment to Larry Hassett for a new high-speed printer to accommodate small card printing (Larry is checking comparable costs now for color vs. b&w and will pay the difference as he wants a color printer) authorized flowers for Fred McGibney's funeral/ DeLynn hauled 95 awards to Atlanta GN tournament, saving \$200 in shipping costs.

Executive VP Syl Lulinski wanted to wait until rules committee report to discuss rulebook printing, and had nothing else to report.

VP Policy Larry Hassett distributed his membership secretary's report, which covered rulebook mailing, sending out membership renewals by e-mail, changes in ACC membership and a summary of types of membership. There was discussion about a problem of membership applications taken at tournaments not being sent to him. Al Lindner mentioned he had not received the 200 rulebooks he ordered, Larry said he had sent them and would look into what had happened.

VP Operations Bob Julian reported that the D & O Policy and the bonding for those who handle the large sums of money had been renewed. He asked Larry to report the cost of sending out the Rulebooks to the Grass Roots clubs, so that it could be recorded as a Grass Roots expense. He talked about ongoing problems between Joan's and Larry's computer programs, and had asked Norm Nikodym to make a study of this. This report will be discussed under agenda item #13. He mentioned that he is still getting the bank statement and the proposed idea of Jeff Shimp auditing the account electronically has not yet materialized.

At this time, Jeff Shimp arrived at the meeting.

Executive Member at Large, George Bickford had nothing to report.



Al Lindner volunteered to handle the election of officers in Joe's absence. Al announced the five nominations received and asked for nominations from the floor, none were received. The voting went as follows:

Nominated for President: DeLynn Colvert, Al made a motion nominations be closed, seconded by Syl, motion carried.

Nominated for Executive VP: Syl Lulinski, George made a motion nominations be closed, seconded by Cathy Perkins, motion carried.

Nominated for VP Policy: Larry Hassett, Al made a motion nominations be closed, seconded by Jeanne, motion carried.

Nominated for VP Operations: Bob Julian, Phyllis made a motion nominations be closed, seconded by Cathy Perkins, motion carried.

Nominated for Member at Large: George Bickford, Sharon made a motion nominations be closed, seconded by Phyllis, motion carried.

Agenda item #8: annual reports of Standing Committee Chairs:

Tournament Rules/George Bickford: George reported that he had received a list of tournament rules & guidelines suggested by the rules committee for his committee to study. He will report on their findings at the February meeting.

Playing Rules/Syl Lulinski: Syl discussed the problem with the rulebook printing. There had been 4 bids, low bidder was given the order, but when the first proof was received by editor David Aiken, it was not satisfactory. With time running short, it was decided to give them another try, but again results were unsatisfactory. The contract was terminated and the next lowest bidder was given the order. With these problems causing an approximate six-week delay in receiving the rulebooks, the rules committee decided to make a new deadline of October 1<sup>st</sup> for mandatory use of them. Syl is sending a list of the significant changes to DeLynn for publishing in Crib World, and to Al Miller for the judges tests. BoD members agreed that the new rulebook was well done, and acknowledged the committee for their work.

Marketing/DeLynn Colvert: Edge TV presented a 3-page contract, DeLynn Proposed a simplified contract. He has e-mailed them twice now, but has not received an answer. Both Syl and Bob Julian talked about the possible problems with the contract Edge TV had offered. Syl brought up the possibility of having an attorney who is an ACC member available for consultation in matters like this. He suggested we discuss this at a future meeting.



Judges/Jeff Shimp: He thought we should authorize a new test because of the new rulebook, and possibly retest all judges. He will talk with Al Miller regarding this.

Grass Roots/Joan Rein: She said that things are going well, and introduced Kristy Haught, the national GR Statistician. The Grass Roots program gave out 638 awards for 28 and 29 hands and grand slams. In addition there were \$10,000 worth of bronze and silver awards. At the GR meeting in February they changed the membership fee from \$4 to \$5, and lowered the fees for the Regional and National tournaments from \$15 to \$11.

Ethics/George Bickford reporting for Joe Bernard: He said that since the last meeting there had been 4 suspensions (3 for 6 months, 1 for 18 months) and 2 letters of warning.

Agenda item #11: Al Lindner reported for Dwight Christiansen about ACC marketing fliers. Al distributed 4 pages of information that Dwight had sent out earlier by e-mail to BoD members. Dwight wanted to get any last minute changes or suggestions because this was going to be printed very soon. After much discussion it was thought that a local number of a grass roots club or individual would be a good idea, so that the space that is on the tear-off could be used for that. Discussion also determined that the ACC toll-free phone number and the ACC Web-site address should stay on the tear-off. Al Lindner made a motion that we accept the flier as presented, seconded by George Bickford, motion carried. Jack Shumate brought up the idea of using business cards to promote the ACC and GR Clubs. Syl suggested he write up a proposal to be presented at a future meeting. Al reiterated that the BoD members must follow through with the distribution of these fliers so that the good work that Dwight has done on this project, and the money voted towards it, not be wasted.

At this time Dave O'neil asked if he could give the update for the GNXXIII tournament. He said that due to the travel problems and related cancellations he could not give an exact count for the main tournament, but thought it was now between 325 and 330. There are 15 players from England participating in the tournament, and 112 players participated in the Thursday night "English rules" tournament. He welcomed everyone and said to come and see him if we had any questions.

Agenda item #10: Bob Milk gave an update on the ACC internet tournaments. He had sent internet tournament updates to all BoD members. He recapped the first internet season (Feb 2004 through July 2004). There were 66 events that attracted over 5000 participants, which meant an average of 75 players per event. There were 259 ACC members who participated and earned 167 Internet



Rating Points. The top 10% (17 players) have earned invitations to the Tournament of Champions. He said that there is still a limited amount of tournaments due to a limited amount of tournament directors. They will be adding 2 "member-only" double elimination tournaments per month. He said that he was alerted by a member in July that there is a "hacker program" that allows everything to be seen during a tournament. He said that Microsoft is working on it as it is affecting everything on the Microsoft gaming zone, and that he is in contact with them.

Agenda item #12: Bob Julian reported on the progress of the restructuring committee. There are eight members: George Bickford & Dave Campbell (Eastern Region), Bob Julian & Jeff Shimp (Central Region), Larry Hassett & Jeanne Hofbauer (proposed NW Region), and Herschel Mack and Ron Morgan (proposed SW Region). He has asked for reports from them, and has received several. He stated that this is a very serious proposition and would affect the whole ACC as it now exists. It may seem that the progress by the committee is slow, but he wants to be sure that everything that would be changed, such as the ACC Constitution, be considered before bringing it to the BoD to vote upon. There are many different ideas for restructuring on the committee, with at least 4 members feeling that there is no need for it at this time. Only one member of the committee would accept Jack Shumate's proposal as he presented it. Bob wants to get all the members together for a meeting, and hoped to do it this weekend and hopes to have a report ready for the February meeting.

Lunch break resume at 12:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #13: Bob Julian explained that Norm Nikodym had volunteered to give an analysis of problems that have been ongoing between the ACC Membership and the Grass Roots computer systems. Bob asked Norm to give a brief discussion of his findings. Norm said he was just getting started and had no solid recommendations as of yet. He had reviewed Bob Milk's report and thought it gave some very good recommendations, however they had not been implemented. He thought that a group should be formed to work with the situation and that they can keep in touch by e-mail with updates, etc. The group now consisted of himself, Larry, Joan, Bob Milk, Kristy Haught, DeLynn and Bob Julian.

Bob Julian reminded the BoD that a few years ago, it voted to buy Joan a new system, with the provision that it would be compatible with Larry's system. Bob said that he had not been able to solve the problems between Larry and Joan, and asked them to state what it was that was needed by both of them. There was a lot of discussion between Joan and Larry. Larry said he needed the following on a monthly basis: A list of current GR members that stated their 1<sup>st</sup> name, last name, ACC #, GR Club #, City and State. Joan said that the GR



database would take about 45 minutes to download and would be done at the same time as the stats are pulled for Cribbage World. Then the info that Larry and DeLynn need would be sent on about the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. There was also discussion about the GR points on membership cards, with the conclusion that players liked to have the totals shown, even if they are for the past season and not up to date when they get their new cards from Larry. Joan said that she is having trouble with her computer and requested \$600 to be approved so she could buy a new computer box. Sharon made a motion to approve up to \$600 for Joan to make the purchase, seconded by Bob Milk. Motion approved. Larry amended the motion to include up to \$200 for a new monitor, seconded by George Bickford. Motion approved.

Agenda item #14: David O'Neil had already given us an update on GNXXIII. Rollie Heath was not present, but had called Syl and Jeanne with information. The hotel that is closest to the Chinook Winds Casino had been bought out by the Casino, and is now called Chinook Winds Resort. There are three different types of rooms, priced at \$59, \$89 and \$119. Their phone #1-877-423-2241. Sharon added that there is a new Motel 6 with rates of \$39 per night. Syl had more motel info from Rollie: Sea Horse Motel 1-800-662-2101, Surftides 1-800-452-2159, Liberty Inn 1-877-994-1777, Inn at Spanish Head 1-800-452-8127. The tournament is running Thursday 9/15/05 through Sunday 9/18/05. The BoD meeting will be Friday 9/16/05. There will be a 9 game welcoming tournament on Thursday night, and there has been some discussion of having a mid-week tournament somewhere in the area. Jeanne said that a flier will be available at the February tournament in Reno.

Agenda item #15, Kathy Blough distributed a report on the GAMA convention that she, her husband Jim, and Cathy & Russ Perkins attended as ACC volunteers. The convention attendance was 13,980. She said that the ACC booth was very successful and generated a lot of interest. Both she and Cathy recommended that we continue this association. They both said that it would be better to have at least 2 more volunteers. There were discussions regarding the possible sanctioning of a tournament at the convention, GAMA getting a link to and from our website, Larry giving them coded membership forms. The convention will be held June 30-July 3 in 2005.

Agenda item #16, Bob Milk presented a proposal for the reimbursement for the volunteers that attended the GAMA convention. Discussion followed, BoD members thanked the volunteers and the proposal was referred to the Marketing Committee chaired by DeLynn.

Agenda item #17, Bob Milk presented a proposal for the reimbursement for future volunteers at the GAMA convention. Discussion followed and the proposal was also referred to the Marketing Committee. Al Lindner volunteered to



participate at the next convention. Kathy added that GAMA will pay for 4 hotel rooms for 4 days.

Agenda item #18, Herschel Mack was not here to present his proposal, though it had been sent out to BoD members. Joan stated that the GR had 39 "29 Hands" last season, and that this proposal would have added \$3900 to the almost \$11,000 spent on awards, and that award pins have already been given. She said that this would be discussed at the GR Committee meeting this weekend. Syl stated that this proposal will go to the Marketing Committee and asked for comments regarding this and Agenda item 16 and 17's proposals be directed to DeLynn, who will give recommendations at the February meeting.

There was nothing for Agenda item #19.

Next BoD meeting: February 10, 2005 in Reno, Nevada.

Syl moved that the meeting be adjourned seconded by Roy Hofbauer. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.