



AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2006
HOTEL MEAD
WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI

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

Roll call was taken. Present were: Pat Barrett, Joe Bernard, George Bickford, Dave Campbell, Dwight Christiansen, DeLynn Colvert, Martha Fingleton, Larry Hassett, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Al Lindner, Herschel Mack, Bill Medeiros, Bob Milk, Ron Morgan, Cathy Perkins, Joan Rein, Larry Samet, Phyllis Schmidt, Jeff Shimp, Valerie Sumner, Dan Zeisler, and Bob McCabe, treasurer. Excused absence: Tom Lewis

Martha Fingleton asked that agenda item #18 (Conduct issues/"other-abled" players) be deleted as nothing was submitted. There was some discussion regarding item #15, an expulsion hearing. Cathy Perkins moved to approve amended agenda, 2nd by Phyllis Schmidt. Agenda approved.

Martha Fingleton asked that minutes of February 8, 2006 be approved. Cathy Perkins moved to accept, 2nd by Joan Rein. Minutes approved. Joan asked that full names be used in minutes.

Annual reports of officers: (agenda item #5)

President DeLynn Colvert said the Executive Committee had voted for the following in the last six months: to purchase a new fax/phone for CW for \$129; to form an association with Game Colony with Bob Milk as Chairman; to sign a contract with Game Colony to provide internet cribbage for ACC members; to purchase a new computer for Western Region Tournament Commissioner Roy Hofbauer not to exceed \$600; to provide \$300 for the Puyallup Fair (George Rasmussen exhibit co-ordinator); and for new computer for Treasurer Bob McCabe for \$1000, with Bob paying another \$200 for additional software.

Executive VP Martha Fingleton had nothing to report.

VP Policy Larry Hassett said his would be covered in a later part of meeting.

VP Operations Bob Julian said that after 17 years as Cribbage World editor, DeLynn Colvert is resigning as of 1/01/07. Dave Aiken of Michigan has volunteered to be the new editor. DeLynn will be Dave's backup.

Member-at-Large George Bickford had nothing to report.

Annual Reports of Standing Committees: (Agenda item #6)

Executive Committee (DeLynn Colvert): covered in previous agenda item.

Tournaments Rules Committee (George Bickford): He will soon be sending out new tournament reporting forms to be used at the beginning of the year.

Ethics Committee (Dwight Christiansen): will be covered in agenda item #15.

PR/Publicity (DeLynn Colvert has resigned, Larry Samet will replace him): Larry Samet said that Tom Lewis and Dan Zeisler had been working to get educational materials for juniors amended to educational materials for colleges and other venues, and that eventually they hoped to make the material available on the ACC web site. Larry Samet also talked about a proposed concept for a "cribbage week spectacular" to include tournaments, lectures, classes, exhibits, etc., to be held at the Sands in February after the TOC & ACC/JPW Open. He has talked to Barbara Woodward regarding holding it at the Sands, and would like to know if the BOD thinks this is something feasible. After much discussion, Joan Rein made a motion that Larry Samet bring a detailed proposal to the February 2007 BOD meeting, 2nd by Bob Milk. Larry Samet requested that he has help preparing the proposal, and wants volunteers for a planning committee. Motion approved.

Rules Committee has nothing at this time.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Martha Fingleton said that this committee has not been productive because of health issues, but anticipates activity in the near future. Larry Hassett has brought some proposals that will be considered later in the agenda regarding ethics & conduct and order of authority of documents.

Grass Roots: Joan Rein said that as of the end of the last Grass Roots season, ten new clubs have been signed up, and or 4 or 5 old clubs have been re-activated, one of which is in Mexico. She said that there are now 175 to 180 active clubs at this time. She also said that she had replaced her printer with a refurbished one at her own expense. She said that the 1st annual GR TOC will be held this weekend, directed by Dave Aiken and Andrea Witkin. This tournament will be held at 1:00 p.m. today, and since 4 BOD members had qualified to play in it, perhaps it could be rescheduled in the future not to conflict with the BOD meeting.

Judges Program: Jeff Shimp stated that he had received no input on the problem of disbaring "bad" judges as discussed previously. He again solicited ideas from the BoD to develop procedures to eliminate them from the judges program. Discussion followed with suggestions of "retraining" judges, tournament director's "appointing" the judges at their tournaments, putting a notice in CW asking players to write to Jeff Shimp if they feel they have had a "bad judging" experience, and having a form to fill out for judges calls at the registration table.

Youth Cribbage: Dan Zeisler said he averages 6 requests per month for his teaching manual, 90% of which are from 4th – 12th grade teachers. He has given permission for the manual to be available on the web-site, but this will eliminate his ability to track who and how many are using them. His 14th Youth tournament will be held 2 weeks after the ACC/JPW Open.

Agenda item #7. Election of Officers: Joe Bernard announced that DeLynn Colvert had decided not to run as nominated for the office of President. Al Lindner and Roy Hofbauer were nominated from the floor. Al Lindner was elected. Martha Fingleton was the only nominee for Executive VP, and was elected. Bob Julian was the only nominee for VP/Operations. Since there were now two elected officers from the Central Region, according ACC Constitution and Bylaws he could not hold the office (only 2 officers from a region can hold office on the Executive Committee). Bob Julian tendered his resignation. Roy Hofbauer was nominated and declined. Cathy Perkins was nominated and elected. Larry Hassett was nominated for VP/Policy and was elected. George Bickford was nominated for Member-at-Large and was elected. Martha said

there would be an Executive Committee meeting immediately following the BOD meeting. The BOD thanked DeLynn Colvert and Bob Julian for their years of service as officers.

Agenda item #8, Treasurers Report: Bob McCabe noted that the financial report documented the trend of a declining cash balance; we are, however, increasing revenue this year about \$9000 - \$10,000 because of the increase in tournament sanctioning fees. Our cash is down to about \$100,000, but is always slightly down at this time of the year because of award expenditures. It will increase shortly as the Grass Roots dues will be coming in. Phyllis Schmidt moved to accept the 2006 Treasurer's report, 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motion approved. Jeff Shimp moved to adopt the 2007 Budget, 2nd by Valerie Sumner. Motion approved.

Agenda item #9, Dues Increase Proposal: Bob Julian said that Bob McCabe and Larry Hassett were on the Committee and that Larry Hassett had sent out some information. Bob Julian asserted that Life Members are being subsidized by the rest of the membership. He said the committee suggested raising both the age (either to 62 or 65) and the cost (to \$100 or \$150) for a Life Membership. Current age is 60 and cost is \$80. After discussion, Bob Milk made a motion that Life Membership dues be raised to age 65 and \$100/\$150 for joint membership to be effective on July 1, 2007. Herschel Mack proposed to amend the motion to age 62, 2nd by George Bickford. Motion approved with 1 nay vote. Bob Julian then discussed raising the regular membership dues. He said that Larry Hassett and he recommended an increase. Bob McCabe did not feel it was necessary at this time. Discussion about future anticipated and unanticipated expenditures followed. Bob Milk made a motion to raise general dues to \$12/\$15 joint, effective July 1, 2007. Motion defeated after a count of hands.

Agenda item #10, Constitution and Bylaws Changes: Larry Hassett presented changes to Article X and Article XI. After discussion, Cathy Perkins made a motion to table proposed changes to Article X until further research is done by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, 2nd by Sharon Hejmanek. Motion approved.

Martha Fingleton announced the Lunch break, (12:45 p.m. return at 1:15 p.m.) but asked for the 2 BOD members that are planning to play in the GR TOC to stay around for the rest of agenda item #10, Article XI. Larry Hassett then dropped the Article XI proposal.

Agenda item #11, Update on ACC 2006 GN XXV: Pat Barrett welcomed us to Wisconsin Rapids and reported that there were approximately 408 entries at this time. The local GR tournament on Thursday night had 78 players attending. Pat thanked DeLynn Colvert for his help with the programs, which everyone will receive with their packets tomorrow. The bid from the local printer for 500 copies of the program was \$1500; DeLynn got it done for less than \$600, which was paid for by sponsorships. There will also be commemorative pins in the packet, paid for by the ACC GN stipend (about \$600), and name tags provided for free by the visitor's bureau. Pat mentioned that there will be media coverage by the local TV channel and newspaper. Pat also thanked several people for helping with the GN raffles.

Agenda item #12, Update on ACC 2007 GN XXVI: Dave Campbell said he hoped to get a flyer soon, but was held back because he could not get a price for lobster for 1 year ahead of time (he wants to have lobster at the banquet). He is working to get sponsorships so that the tournament can pay back 100%, and has been talking with L.L. Bean. He is also working on a raffle. Dates for the tournament are September 27-30, 2007. Dave said he would have the information on hotel reservations at the Reno meeting.

Agenda item #13, Proposal for GN XXVII: Jeanne Hofbauer presented the proposal for Tim and Ken Julkowski, who would be the tournament directors. She distributed packets from the hotel and a letter from Tim. The site is the Holiday Inn, which is about 1 mile from the Portland, OR

airport. She asked that the BOD award the bid to the Julkowskis so they would have 2 years to prepare for the event. Martha said she has actively been soliciting bids for 2008 and no one else has come through with a bid, that two years seems to be the amount of time needed in the planning of a GN tournament, and that our policy is that the BOD awards the bid 2 years before it is held. Sharon Hejzmanek made a motion to accept the Julkowskis' bid and award GN XXVII to them, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion approved.

Jeff Shimp, who had talked about hosting the 2009 GN Tournament in Michigan said that he and Dave Aiken were in the process of deciding between two different properties, both of which offered complimentary playing space. They are located in Grand Rapids, MI. One is near the airport, the other in the downtown area, approximately 7 miles from the airport.

Agenda item #14, Hall of Fame Voting: Pat Barrett talked about the new HOF voting procedure, and asked the BOD members who had not given him the names of their 3 choices (for the voting panel) to please do so soon. Larry Samet and Martha Fingleton explained the procedure for the voting panel: double envelopes; ballot will be put in inner sealed envelope then mailed in second envelope; Pat receives the envelope, checks that the panel member has indeed voted, then discards outer envelope and brings unmarked, sealed envelopes to Reno meeting; votes will be counted during a break at the meeting. Pat then discussed relevant dates: nomination forms will be in November CW; nominations must be postmarked by Dec. 10th; ballots will be sent out to 75 members of voting panel within one week; return ballots must be received by Jan. 24th. When BOD members receive their HOF packet, they should call their 3 panel members to make sure those people have received their ballots; if not, BOD member should contact Pat.

Agenda item #15, Expulsion hearing, Martha Fingleton closed the meeting to non-BOD members. Dwight Christiansen, Ethics Committee Chairman, said that a lot of the complaints to the Ethics Committee seemed to be "personality issues", rather than those dealing with conduct and cheating. He talked about some of the cases currently being dealt with: some will be receiving letters from the committee; one suspension has been issued (Pete Deroux); then went on to the reasons the committee is recommending expulsions for 2 players (Ron & Darren Saik). Martha explained that the Executive Committee had concurred with the Ethics Committee's recommendation, and that is why it is now being brought to the BOD. Sharon Hejzmanek made a motion to expel Ron Saik and Darren Saik from membership in the ACC, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion approved. The meeting then was reopened to observers.

Agenda item #16, policy changes:

Valerie Sumner, presenting a proposal from Jim Crawford, asked Bob McCabe to explain: currently deceased members are still carried on the ACC database, they are included on lists of lifetime master points if they had attained the rank of Master or above. She asked that their names be kept on top 100 lifetime wins list. His program is not currently set up to do this, but Denny Moore has agreed make the changes, which will probably take about 3 hours. Bob suggested that Denny be compensated for this work, as he has never been paid for the many hours of work he has volunteered. Bob suggested \$100. Bob also asked if there should be a cut-off and the general consensus was for 5 or more sanctioned wins. Jeff Shimp made a motion to ask Denny Moore to make the necessary program changes for this and to compensate him with \$100, 2nd by Bill Medeiros. Motion approved.

Dave Campbell had questions about the rules being followed for mid-week tournaments. He asked what a quarter was, as applied to the conditions governing mid-week tournaments (did they start with the calendar year in January, or with the master point year beginning in August?) There was much discussion regarding changing the rules for and redefining mid-weeks. Martha Fingleton asked George Bickford to form an ad-hoc committee to bring information regarding

mid-weeks to the Reno meeting. Larry Samet made a motion that quarters of the cribbage year start with Aug 1st, Nov 1st, Feb 1st and May 1st, 2nd by Dave Campbell. Motion approved. Larry Hassett made a motion that all mid-weeks that have been sanctioned will have their commitments honored until new rules regarding mid-weeks are voted upon, 2nd by Dave Campbell. Motion approved.

Dave Campbell brought a proposal to change how the All American Team is assembled. He feels that because the West has more tournaments than the other 2 regions, Western region players have a distinct advantage for earning more masterpoints, thereby affecting the makeup of the All American Team, which in turn leads to disinterest by members in other regions. Much discussion and many suggestions on whether to change the current system and the problems and difficulties associated with implementing those suggestions ensued without a consensus about changes being reached at this time.

Larry Hassett regarding Ethics & Conduct: (discussed previously in meeting)

Larry Hassett presented a page (12-1 from the ACC Manual) with changes for the Hall of Fame from the ACC Manual. Larry said he would have to add date changes and make additions for the new 100 member panel. See attachment #1 to minutes for changes. Larry Samet noted that section II-C will need to be changed for the 100 member panel, and section I-E needs to be changed as reflected in page 4 of the minutes of Feb. 8, 2006. Larry Hassett made a motion to accept the proposed changes, which will go into effect after the next HOF vote, and will be reviewed by Martha Fingleton, with the changes as noted by Larry Samet, 2nd by Pat Barrett. Motion approved.

Larry Hassett proposed changes to Regionalization as listed in the ACC manual. The changes are: moving Ohio and Ontario from the Central Region to the Eastern Region and Colorado from the Central Region to the Western Region. Changes to the Grass Roots Regions would move Ohio and Ontario from Region VI to Region IX. Bob McCabe said that for master points, Ontario is listed in the East and Colorado is listed in the West, but wasn't sure about Ohio. Joan Rein agreed that both Ohio and Ontario should be in Grass Roots region IX. Bob Milk made a motion to adopt the changes to regionalization as proposed by Larry Hassett, 2nd by Dan Zeisler. Motion approved.

Larry Hassett regarding membership/dues: (discussed previously in meeting)

Martha Fingleton & Cathy Perkins presented a page listing the problems of, and possible solutions to, random seating requirements for tournaments. After much discussion and exchange of ideas, there was no consensus.

Agenda Item #17, Bob Milk reporting on ACC internet cribbage: Bob said that the 2005-2006 season had 188 internet tournaments, with participation of over 15,000 entrants. At the end of the season 792 ACC members had registered for the ACC Internet Program. 182 members earned Internet Rating Points resulting in 19 individuals having TOC eligibility. The ACC tournaments were held on MS Gaming Zone, which dropped many games, including cribbage effective June 19, 2006. Just prior to that notification, a proposal from Game Colony was received to be the primary location for ACC internet Cribbage. Bob inquired of the following sites regarding hosting ACC internet tournaments: Yahoo (response was that they were not taking on new groups at this time, to check back in a year), Cases Online (no response), Pogo (no response), Playsite (no response). He sent 2nd inquires to the no responses, and again received nothing back. He also checked out a newer sit, GameDesire, but found their software lacking. He felt the only solution to continue the internet program was on Game Colony, which sent a business proposal, which he sent to the Executive Committee for review. With a couple of

changes agreed upon the ACC and Game Colony both accepted the business proposal. ACC internet cribbage has been up and running on Game Colony since early August. Game Colony developed an ACC branded portal and an ACC tournament room. 5890 individuals have joined Game Colony through the ACC portal, and over 5400 are not ACC members. This has given us tremendous free exposure, and the ACC gets paid a couple of cents for anyone that joins Game Colony through the ACC website and plays in any of Game Colony's tournaments for money (currently we have earned \$921.38). Bob continues to research and monitor different internet sites. Cathy Perkins requested that Bob have Game Colony remove the "win cash prizes" which is superimposed on a playing hand on the picture he presented to us (from the game site) on page 3 of his report, because it is misleading. Bob said he has received some vicious e-mails accusing him of getting kick-backs or being an investor in Game Colony, and has turned the e-mails over to the Ethics Committee.

Bob Milk presented a proposal to open a PayPal Account, which is an online payment system. This is the recommended way for Game Colony to transfer the earnings of the ACC to the ACC. In addition, the ACC could use PayPal as a way for the members to make their membership payments electronically. Methods of receiving the payments were discussed such as a small checking account, Bob McCabe asked Bob Milk to see if it could go to the ACC account by direct wire, which Bob Milk will check on.

Bob Milk proposed that we develop a certificate similar to the 28-29 hand certificates, to be awarded each year to the top 10 ACC internet Cribbage Players, and also one for when different rating point levels (to be developed) are attained. Larry Hassett made a motion that Bob Milk develop a certificate and an awards program for internet players, to be funded with the earnings from Game Colony, and bring it to the Reno meeting for BOD approval, 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motion approved.

Bob Milk proposed that we establish a committee to study feasibility of "fee-based" internet tournaments. Some of the things that would have to be taken into consideration are: legal liability, security, paybacks, state laws, auditing and accountability. Martha Fingleton suggested he use the existing Internet Committee, and Bob requested adding a few other knowledgeable people for their input. The Executive Committee will appoint a chairman to the committee.

Agenda item #18 deleted.

Agenda item #19- nothing.

Next BOD Meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2007

Cathy Perkins moved to adjourn, 2nd by Dan Zeisler

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.