

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2007
SANDS REGENCY HOTEL/CASINO
RENO, NEVADA

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

Agenda item #2: Martha announced DeLynn Colvert's resignation from the BOD. He has been replaced, according to ACC policy, by Fred White. Because of his flight time, Fred will be arriving late to the meeting.

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

Martha suggested the following changes to the agenda:

Item 7, Tournaments practices: she suggested tabling "other-abled" players/conduct issues (as no information was sent out to BoD members).

Also, agenda items to be conducted in closed session will be #'s 14 & 15.

Cathy Perkins moved that agenda be accepted, 2nd by Valerie Sumner. Motion approved.

Martha asked if there were any changes to the minutes of September 29, 2006. Jeanne Hofbauer moved that the minutes be approved, 2nd by Al Lindner. Motion approved.

Martha discussed the way that the agenda was constructed. After discussion with some BoD members, she is now putting items that require creative thought, and pertinent discussion near the top of the agenda. Reports will be placed near the bottom of the agenda. She hopes this will allow the BoD to give their best efforts to the more pressing, controversial, and complicated issues.

Agenda item #6, HOF balloting, Pat Barrett announced that the new voting procedure garnered 100% vote participation. He thinks that the new process will work well after a bit of fine-tuning. Suggestions given during discussion included putting the HOF criteria in with the cover letter, and putting a place for the number of persons voted for on the ballot. Pat asked that we all thank our panelists for participating in a process that worked very well. The consensus of the BoD was that the new process worked well, and should be implemented for future HOF voting. The voting results will be discussed in agenda item #14. Larry Hassett reviewed the HOF policy revision sheet he had sent to the BoD. During discussion the following changes were made:

I. Criteria for Nomination, D, will now read "In addition, to be eligible for nomination, a candidate should meet several of the following criteria:"

II. Election Procedures, D, 7, first sentence will now read "Returned ballots will be counted by non-nominated members of the ACC"

Cathy Perkins moved to accept the policy manual changes with the corrections as they were made today, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion approved.

Joan Rein asked that the bio's that are on the HOF pictures and on the internet be updated to the fact that the member is now deceased. Pat said that DeLynn Colvert has been taking care of the pictures and bios, and the BoD asked that he continue to do that, making the necessary updates and corrections.

Agenda item #7, Tournament Practices:

George Bickford started the discussion on random seating. Larry Hassett read the current policy from the ACC Policy & Procedures "Seating shall be done by random draw, exceptions for good cause, at the tournament director's discretion, for handicapped seating, separating relatives, or for location of judges". The BoD chose to stay with this policy, and asked the tournament commissioners if they could come up with a list of how NOT to conduct seat drawing. The major issue is curtailing the ability to eliminate a larger pool of opponents in the seat selection process rather than one, such as a spouse.

Fred White arrived at the meeting (11:05 a.m.)

As requested at the September BoD meeting, George Bickford had formed an ad-hoc committee, consisting of the three regional tournament commissioners, to bring information regarding mid-week tournaments to this meeting. He stated that there was a difference of opinion between them regarding mid-week tournaments. George Bickford (East) thinks that we should stay with the original policy, Joe Bernard (Central) thinks all mid-weeks should be eliminated, and Roy Hofbauer (West) thinks they should all be approved. Herschel Mack suggested an amendment to current policy: (The current policy is one mid-week per director per year with a maximum of one per region per quarter) The amendment would read "in the week before or after the Grand National and ACC Open Tournaments, mid-week tournaments may be held, which do not count against the director or regional limitations". Herschel made a motion to accept his amendment, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion carried (16 yeas/8 nays)

Larry Hassett made a motion that we increase the current limitation of four mid-week tournaments per year per region to eight per year per region. 2nd by Valerie Sumner and Ron Morgan. Fred White proposed an amendment that mid-week tournaments should not to exceed three per quarter per year. Larry Hassett proposed an amendment to define mid-week tournaments as those held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Motion w/ amendments carried

Joe Bernard has had some complaints about Consolation tournaments with non-optional Q's. He thought that there was wording in the ACC policies that said that Q's were optional, and that if so, should be changed. Larry Hassett did not think that it was in our policy. The consensus of the BoD was to leave the option to tournament directors.

Dave Aiken reported on the Mid-West Double-Elimination tournament he held in January. There were 41 attendees, and he would like to hold it again next year. He proposed that instead of coming to the BoD each year to ask for an exception, that he be granted a permanent exemption, which he would apply for sanctioning for through the Central Region Tournament Commissioner. 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motion carried

Agenda item "other-abled" players/conduct issues was tabled.

Agenda item #8, Cribbage World: Cathy Perkins and Dave Aiken handed out a page about the rates for ads that run for 12 consecutive months. At this time they are inconsistently calculated. They are proposing that these rates be calculated at 10x the monthly rate. Rates for ACC-

sanctioned tournaments will remain at \$35 for a half page and \$70 for a full page. Jeff Shimp moved to accept the 12 month rate changes as presented. 2nd by Pat Barrett. Motion carried. Cathy and Dave then discussed more issues regarding CW, such as raising ad rates, charging more for premium positions, and limiting ad sizes to ¼, ½ and full page. Cathy said that CW is not supported by ads, it operates off of membership dues (over \$7 of the \$10 fee). She feels that we need to start budgeting more for CW's operation or perhaps start implementing some of the potential cost cutting measures suggested: using no red ink on covers, not using card stock for the cover, or giving members the option to choose only electronic subscriptions (from web site). Jeff Shimp suggested that Dave bring a revised ad proposal to the Bod in September. Bob Milk reminded that with CW now on line, that it is exposed to many more potential members. Larry Hassett asked that Dave show how much of the ad revenue is only from tournament fliers. Joan Rein suggested that Larry Hassett revise the membership form to allow members to choose to receive CW only electronically. Valerie Sumner questioned how electronic subscriptions would be handled with BoD voting. Cathy Perkins said that we currently do not have a contract with the printer, and that she had been approached by two other printers asking if they could bid for printing CW. Martha suggested we discuss soliciting printing bids in September. Martha also mentioned that Dave had asked for guidance regarding how to handle biographies for BoD election that run over the 200 word maximum. The Executive Committee determined that the chairman of the nomination committee should handle this. Dave mentioned that one candidate for the BoD had mentioned putting an ad in CW and asked how this be handled, the BoD had no objections. Larry Hassett said that a GR Club in Mexico gets their CW between one and two months late, and explained how he would be handling their voting procedure.

Agenda Item #9, Larry Hassett recommended the following changes to the ACC Policy and Prodedures Manual: (Section 24 – Treasurer) change Item 9 under the Treasurer's responsibilities to read "Prepare 1099s and other documents as appropriate and as required by IRS regulations."/ change 4th paragraph to read "The Treasurer is authorized to open and maintain an account with a banking institution of his/her choice with the approval of the VP of Operations."/eliminate treasurer& assistant, Cribbage World Editor and Membership Secretary's names, because they change/ on page 2, A. General Policies, last paragraph to read "The Cribbage World Editor and membership Secretary require significant operating expenses in order to handle the responsibilities of their position and may require a cash advance. The VP of operations will work with the person to determine the amount of the cash advance, not to exceed \$2,500. The person receiving the advance will provide monthly reports along with original receipts of the funds expended. The Treasurer will use the report to bring the cash advance back to the original amount. The treasurer will report the amount of the cash advance in the financial reports provided to the BoD. Those funds are the property of the ACC and will be returned to the ACC upon request of the VP of Operations." Larry made a motion to accept these changes. 2nd Valerie Sumner. Motion carried

Agenda Items #10 & #12 tabled until after lunch.

Agenda Item #13, Tom Lewis suggested, and the BoD concurred, that we list ACC Committee member's names on the website, with a way to contact the Committee Chairperson (by that person's choice—phone, e-mail, or address).

Agenda Item #11, Jeanne Hofbauer suggested that we present DeLynn Colvert with the "Award of Meritorious Service", which at this time is a diamond ring. She passed around a bid from the Terryberry Company which provided the same award for Syl Lulinski. The bid at this time is \$1036.05. Larry Samet moved to approve this award for DeLynn. 2nd by Dave Campbell. Motion carried

Lunch Break resume at 1:05 p.m.

Barbara Woodward addressed the BoD, thanking the ACC for holding the ACC Open and TOC at the Sands. She invited the BoD to a wine and cheese reception at 3:30 p.m.

Martha asked that spectators exit the meeting for the next two agenda items, which were to be held in closed session.

Agenda Item #14, HOF voting results. Pat Barrett announced that Roy Hofbauer had been elected as the 27th member of the ACC Hall of Fame. The BoD congratulated him, and a short discussion of the new voting procedure followed.

Tom Lewis suggested that CW have articles explaining the different jobs done by ACC volunteers, such as tournament directors, statisticians, etc.

Agenda Item # 15, Ethics Committee Chair Sharon Hejtmanek reported that she has received a few letters which are being addressed by the committee, and added that everything seems to be running smoothly.

Agenda Item #10, Larry Hassett presented proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws regarding Articles X & XI, (Ethics & Conduct). After discussion by the BoD, Larry made a motion to accept his proposed change to Article X, with the elimination of item C. 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motion defeated (16 aye/9 nay)

Larry then suggested that he change his proposal of Article XI, making it Article XII. After discussion, he reworded the proposal to read: a. If there is a discrepancy between the Constitution and Bylaws and the Policy manual, the Constitution and Bylaws will prevail. Such discrepancies will be reported to the VP of Policy who will contact the Executive Committee for a determination how the policy will apply. The VP of Policy will take the Executive Committee's decision and prepare a proposal to correct the discrepancy and present it to the BoD for their approval at the next available BoD meeting. b. The Constitution and Bylaws and the ACC Policy Manual will be the only two documents that can set policies for the ACC and any of its various programs. Larry made a motion to accept his proposal for Article XII. 2nd by Jeff Shimp. Motion carried

Agenda Item #11, Marketing: Larry Samet discussed his proposal of creating a "Cribbage Festival" by adding events during the week following the TOC and JPW Open. Discussion included negotiating with the Sands, how to advertise, getting volunteers to run the various activities, and the mid-week tournament at Topaz, which is already grandfathered during the time of the proposal. Larry Hassett made a motion that the BoD allow Larry Samet proceed with his plans in a time frame of his choice, while working with the existing mid-week director. 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motioned approved. Larry asked for volunteers to help him with the various aspects of his plan.

Tom Lewis talked about how to get local media to write stories about clubs and tournaments so we can get the public to know that the ACC exists. Tom has successfully coordinated an effort to get boards, pegs, and cards to National Guard Members in New Mexico. The boards were made and donated by Al Lindner, and are engraved with "American Cribbage Congress & www.cribbage.org." Discussion about a project of sending cribbage boards to the armed forces followed. Peggy Scalley volunteered to undertake this project, with Valerie Sumner as her supervising BoD member.

Agenda Item # 16, Rules Committee Chairman Herschel Mack distributed a handout with information regarding the new Rules Committee. He thinks that a complete revision of the rulebook could be accomplished during the next two years. Larry Hassett thought that we have about a 2 to 3 year supply of the current rulebook.

Agenda Item # 17, Dan Zeisler distributed a handout that detailed where his teaching manuals have been sent. He feels that the web site youth link has been very beneficial. He thanked the Sands for donating 96 ball caps with the Sierra youth Cribbage logo to his youth tournament. He asked that we all thank the Sands for their continued support of the youth tournament. He is also meeting this weekend with John Wittler from Entertainment Connections, who is trying to get cribbage going in all the elementary schools in the Loveland, CO area. He is working on a new doubles tournament, with a kid and a parent pairing up. He has also applied to teach cribbage at a local junior college for evening adult enrichment classes.

At this time, Paul Hatcher, attending the meeting as a spectator, made an offer to support the cribbage boards for armed services project. He offered to match the donations given by the BoD members up to a total of \$2500.

Agenda Item #18, Dave Campbell reported on the progress of Grand National XXVI (Portland, Maine). He distributed flyers and info to each BoD member. He thanked Phyllis Schmidt for her help with fundraising.

Agenda Item #19, Martha reported she has received two inquiries for GN XXVIII (2009). Jeff Shimp and Dave Aiken are making a presentation today for Grand Rapids, MI. The other is from Skip Moore for Des Moines, IA, whose presentation will be at the September BoD meeting. She said that the BoD will award the tournament at the September 2007 meeting. Jeff distributed information booklets, which included a guaranteed room rate of \$85, and no charge for the use of tournament facility rooms. Jeff and Dave told the BoD about the facility, the Grand Rapids area, airport info, etc.

Agenda Item #20, Joan Rein reported that 566 players were signed up for the TOC, a new record. She reported that all tournament registrations will be in the hotel front desk area, and showed the new badges for tournament helpers, which have the weekend schedule printed on the back. Martha and Joan discussed the duration of our contract with the Sands. Roy Hofbauer reported that 930 players were registered for the Open, which was down a bit from last year.

Agenda Item #21 Treasurers Report: Bob McCabe had sent out his report with income statements and balance sheets and asked if anyone had any questions. He stated that we were in fairly good shape and that the increase in the sanctioning fees has helped. He noted that he had used a new format for his report. Joan Rein moved to accept the Treasurer's report. 2nd by Cathy Perkins. Motion carried.

Next BoD Meeting: Friday, September 28, 2007

Cathy Perkins moved to adjourn, 2nd by Al Lindner

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

