

AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2009  
CROWN PLAZA HOTEL  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Executive Vice-President, Martha Fingleton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She welcomed the five new members of the Board. She asked that anyone interested in volunteering for any projects or committees to let her know asap , as there was going to be a Executive Board meeting immediately following the BoD meeting. Several committee appointments will be made at that time. She also thanked departing BoD members for their service.

The BoD recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Martha added two items to the agenda. Between items 13 & 14, Roy Hofbauer will discuss Volunteer Recognition, on behalf of Paul Barnes suggestion. Between items 19 & 20, the Grass Roots Committee report. Cathy Perkins moved to accept the amended agenda, seconded by Valerie Sumner. Motion approved.

Roll call was then taken. Present were: Dave Aiken, Pat Barrett, George Bickford, Don Brown, Dave Campbell, Annett Eiffert, Martha Fingleton, Roland Hall, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Ron Logan, Herschel Mack, Bob Milk, Cathy Perkins, Joan Rein, Larry Samet, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Jeff Shimp, Wayne Steinmetz, Val Sumner, Keith Widener. Absent: Fred White.

Jeanne moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Val. Motion approved.

Election of Officers: Phyllis Schmidt, chair of the Nominating Committee, read the names of the candidates running for the Executive Committee, and asked if there were any nominations from the floor. All positions were uncontested. Jeff Shimp moved that nominations be closed, seconded by Bob Milk. Motion approved. Jeff moved that the secretary cast one unanimous ballot for all positions, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Bickford. Motion approved. Elected were: Jeanne Hofbauer, President; Martha Fingleton, Executive V-P; Catherine Perkins, V-P Policy; Bob Julian, V-P Operations; and David Campbell, Member-at-Large.

Bob McCabe presented the Treasurer's report. We have a cash balance of \$139,003. The ACC had a profit of \$2594 for the past 12 month period, which was under budget, caused by the expense of unsold playing cards and unbudgeted printing of tournament scorecards. He noted that the Grass Roots income was high mainly because 2 years of National Tournament income was recorded in 2009. He also noted that since this report, he had received the internet check for \$8900. George Bickford made a motion

to accept next year's budget, seconded by Phyllis Schmidt. Martha asked that \$5000 be added to the budget to cover the printing and mailing of new rule books. Motion approved.

A closed session (no spectators) was held for an appeal to an Ethic's Committee issued suspension. After hearing testimony by the two persons suspended and the Ethic's committee, the BoD upheld the suspension.

Herschel Mack presented the final rule suggestions before the printing of a new rule book, which were discussed and edited by the BoD. Included was a new addition to the Ethics section regarding discrimination. Phyllis Schmidt made a motion to approve the rule changes, seconded by Val. Motion approved. Bob Milk made a motion that the new rule book goes into effect on August 1, 2010, seconded by George Bickford. Motion approved. Herschel will make sure that the new document is proof read by himself, his wife (Ricki), and the Rules Committee. Dave Aiken will oversee the typesetting and printing of the books.

Martha told the BoD that Larry Hassett has volunteered to continue on as Membership Secretary, and that our policy does not require BoD membership for the job. However, at this time he would be required to attend all BoD meetings, unless excused. She suggested that we change this policy to the same requirements as the BoD, of 50% attendance per term. Herschel made a motion to change Sec.20, II, A-2, D, that membership secretary is required to attend at least 50% of the ACC BoD meetings, seconded by Bob Milk. Motion approved.

Keith Widener, Chairman, reported that the Ad Hoc Committee has been discussing reworking the All American Awards. He also wanted to add some new members to the committee. Martha suggested that he put an article in CW asking for feedback.

Peggy Scalley and Annett Eiffert gave an update on GN XXX. After the back-out by two different playing venues in California, Peggy contacted the Sands Regency in Reno, NV about holding the tournament there. The Sands accepted and it was approved by Executive V-P, Martha Fingleton. Roy Hofbauer, Western Region Tournament Commissioner asked the BoD to approve possible additional tournaments on the days before and following the GN tournament, also to be held at the Sands, pending their approval. Details will be worked out at a future time. National Tournament Commissioner, George Bickford granted a special waiver for these mid-week tournaments to be held in the same venue.

Joan Rein made a presentation for a bid for GN XXXI, to be held at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, WI. on September 20-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. There were no other competing bids. Jeff Shimp made a motion to award GN XXXI to Joan Rein, director, seconded by Pat Barrett. Motion approved.

Hal Mueller made a presentation to the BoD regarding his opinion of the unfairness of "cutting for the deal" in qualifying rounds. Discussion covered Hal's mathematical analysis, regional preferences, difficulty with logistics, making more complications for tournament directors, and how winning or losing the cut makes a difference in the way

a person plays their cards. Herschel Mack made a motion that it be left to tournament directors to decide upon using "cut for deals" or "alternate deals", seconded by Keith Widener. Motion approved.

Roy Hofbauer presented an idea from Paul Barnes about ACC volunteer recognition. Each Regional Tournament Commissioner will choose (at their discretion) up to 2 people from their region for this award. The award will be called the "Outstanding Volunteer" award. Roy made a motion that up to 2 volunteers per region be recognized each year with a plaque awarded at the Grand National banquet, seconded by Valerie Sumner. Motion approved.

Roy also presented another idea from Paul Barnes, suggesting muggins play in the TOC be eliminated. Paul's chief objection to playing muggins was that most judges do not know how to rule on muggins calls. After discussion, Roy made a motion to remove muggins from the TOC, seconded by Sharon Hejtmanek. Motion defeated.

Joy & Jeff Shimp presented an idea for publicizing and promoting the ACC. They distributed copies of business cards to each BoD member. The cards had the ACC logo, our web site address, and toll free phone number printed on one side and a place where local information can be written on the other side. They suggested that they be printed on card stock and be inserted in CW for a one time try, so that every ACC member could have the opportunity to distribute them. They said that the cost would be approximately \$1025 to do this, and there would be 12 "business size" cards per insert. Ron Logan made a motion that these inserts be printed, perforated and inserted in CW, with the cost to be charged to the publicity budget, seconded by Larry Samet. Motion approved.

Don Brown wanted to get the BoD's opinion on a regionalization change. He said he would like to take a "straw poll" and if the BoD is overwhelming opposed, he would withdraw any subsequent presentations for a time. He chose three possible votes: "categorically opposed", "willing to listen", "in favor of". There were 23 members available for the vote, the out come was 14-8-1.

Jeff Shimp reported on the progress of GN XXVIII. He presented each BoD member with a quart of Michigan maple syrup, as a gift of Michigan hospitality. In this "10 day extravaganza", they had the Cereal City tournament last weekend (69 main entrants), a midweek tournament (124 main entrants), and pre-registration of 336 for the main tournament of GN XXVIII.

The following are Committee Reports:

Executive Committee by Jeanne Hofbauer:

1. Purchased floral arrangements for 3 funerals; Joe Bernard, Sharlene Medieros, and Bob Madsen.
2. Authorized fax machine purchase for Pat Barrett.
3. Authorized purchase by Larry Hassett of \$112.00 for address update software.

4. Authorized purchase by Larry Hassett of \$128.97 for 4-in-1 copy/fax/scanner/printer.
5. Authorized re-imbursement to Mike McCammon of \$1086 for 20 cases of playing cards for Western Region tournaments.

Ethics Committee by Sharon Hejtmanek:

Sharon will propose a policy change at the next BoD meeting to not grant appeals for suspensions.

Hall of Fame Committee by Pat Barrett:

Pat congratulated the newest member of the HOF, Catherine Perkins, who will be inducted at the banquet tomorrow night. There are several vacancies on the voting panel. Pat will give all members who need to choose or replace panel members, member application sheets for their electors to fill out. They need to be returned to him by 11/15. He cautioned new members that their choices should be willing to fulfill their duties. Nomination criteria will be in the November CW. Voting packets will be sent out the 1<sup>st</sup> week of January, and will include criteria and 2 envelopes, along with the other material.

Grass Roots Committee by Joan Rein:

Joan proposed a "travelers club" be added to the Grass Roots point system. She explained that a person would need to register with a regular GR club first, then when they become a traveler, they stay as such until they have completed 36 tournaments in total, then they become a trav-visitor and receive no more points. However, they can continue to play without receiving points. She needs approximately \$2000 to change the programming to allow for these changes. Cathy Perkins moved that we authorize up to \$2000 for the change in the program to create a travelers club under the format as presented by Joan, seconded by Valerie. Motion approved.

PR and Marketing Committee by Jeanne Hofbauer:

Received a request for \$400 (as budgeted) for the Puyallup fair promotion, which was sent to Cliff Brandsma. Received an e-mail from Dave Aiken, who has been approached by Sue Rasmussen and Sandy Denmark to share exhibit space with the ACC at the Sept 2010 AARP meeting in Orlando, FL. He did not have details, but wanted the BoD to be aware of this opportunity. If he has the info by the Reno meeting, we may be able to make a decision on our participation. If this info comes after Feb. 11, the Executive Committee may have to decide about this. Norm Nikodym reported on his "double the ACC by 2016 Committee", he listed the goals and objectives of this committee and suggestions on how to accomplish them. He asked who was going to replace Tom Lewis as chair of the PR/Marketing Committee, which will be addressed in the Executive Committee Meeting to be held after the BoD meeting.

Youth Program by Dan Ziesler:

Jeanne read a report from Dan. He reported that the recycling of boards was very successful, as almost 300 boards have been given away to teachers. He's getting a lot of responses to his CW column and from his being the contact person on the Website for questions about cribbage. He encourages members to consider teaching cribbage classes.

Internet committee by Bob Milk:

Bob reported that the internet had just finished its 5<sup>th</sup> season, with 201 tournaments held this year, 21 players will receive TOC invitations. Six new E-masters will receive their awards at the banquet tomorrow night. Play is Mon,Thurs, Sat & Sun on Game Colony. E Cribbage play is now on Wed. Referral fees from lgame Colony were over \$16,000 last year. Expenses for the internet program last year was about \$1000 because of catching up on certificates for previous years. This years expenses should be around \$400. There are some problems: not enough tournament directors, complaints of no late tournys for the west coast, and there have been 2 suspensions for profanity and discriminatory slurs. Damian Blond of E-cribbage wants to use the ACC logo and wants to know procedures for getting a reciprocal link from our website to E-cribbage. There may be a question regarding needing permission from the Sands, who sponsors our website. Bob will investigate this.

Officers Reports:

President by Jeanne: Written monthly column, and getting good feedback. Notified Larry Samet to fill remainder of Joe Bernard's term. Still working on getting ACC logo trademark, but did give one person permission to uses it for Grass Roots club jackets. Chose Elda Madsen and Marlene Lazachek for this year's Presidents Awards. Looking into Motel 6 discounts with ACOR Hospitality, at no cost to ACC, with possibility of rebates.

Executive V-P Martha Fingleton had nothing to report. And VP- Policy Larry Hassett did not have a report.

VP-Operations Cathy Perkins said her goal was to get the policy manual on the internet. Jeanne asked her to get a "proof reading" committee in place to check that changes to manual for accuracy. She reported that all operations are going well.

Member at Large George Bickford appointed Pat Barrett to fill Joe Bernard's position as Central Region Tournament Commissioner. George has also sent out forms for ACC property reports.

Next BoD meeting in Thursday, Feb. 11, at 9:00 a.m.

Cathy Perkins moved to adjourn, seconded by Bob Julian. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

