

American Cribbage Congress
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
GRAND HOTEL—NORTH CONWAY, NH
October 25, 2019
Final—Approved 3/5/20

- I. **Call to order:** President David Campbell called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
- II. **Pledge of allegiance:** Rick Shea led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** Jeanne Jelke read the roll call. In attendance were David Aiken, Rick Allen, Patrick Barrett, David Campbell, Willie Evans, Richard Frost, Tammy Gibbons, Paul Gregson, Roland Hall, John Hazlett, Jason Hofbauer, Jeanne Jelke, Pat Llewellyn, James Morrow, Dave O’Neil, Todd Schaefer, Dan Selke, Rick Shea, Jeff Shimp, Mark Soule, Terry Weber, Fred White, Keith Widener. Apologies from Valerie Sumner and Diane Waite. 23 Board members were present. We had a quorum. Jeanne J. circulated the new BOD roster for corrections and updates.
- IV. **Approve Agenda:** David C. welcomed the new BOD members. He made a minor change to the agenda. **Action:** David C. made a motion to accept the amended agenda; seconded by Mark S. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.**
- V. **Executive Officer position terms/guidelines update:** Jeanne J. stated that the Officer Nominating Committee has been working on a set of written guidelines for the process of nominating and electing BOD officers, instead of whatever seems to be the customary practice. At the last BOD meeting, the committee was advised to come up with proposed guidelines to be included in the ACC Policy and Procedures manual. Jeanne J. referred to the proposed addition to the ACC Policy and Procedures manual that had been emailed to everyone, indicating that it reflected input from the previous BOD meetings and had been reviewed by Keith W. A brief discussion ensued. Action: Mark S. made a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to the ACC Policy and Procedures manual regarding the election of [BOD] officers; seconded by Keith W. 22-for, 1-opposed. **Motion approved.**
- VI. **Elections:**
 - A. **Executive Officer election:** Jeanne J. explained the procedures for the election of BOD officers. For each officer position, she announced the candidate(s) nominated to date, asked for nominations from the floor, accepted a motion to close nominations, invited each nominee to make a statement, and then the Nominating Committee passed out and tallied paper ballots. There was a brief discussion on the need for a paper ballot for an uncontested position; Jeanne J. said that the use of paper ballots for each vote was made a procedure to protect anonymity in case someone did not want to vote for a nominee in spite of being the only candidate. The voting proceeded as follows and in this order:
 - President:** Nominee: **David Campbell** (Unopposed). Elected by 23 votes.
 - Executive Vice President:** Nominees: James Morrow and Valerie Sumner. David A. spoke on behalf of Valerie, who was unable to attend due to caring for her father. **James Morrow** was elected 13 votes to 10 votes.
 - Vice President Ethics & Policy:** Nominee: **Keith Widener** (Unopposed). Elected by 23 votes.
 - Vice President Operations:** Nominee: **Terry Weber** (Unopposed). Elected by 23 votes.
 - Vice President Competition:** Nominee: **Dave Aiken** (Unopposed). Elected by 22 votes.

B. TOC Director election: Keith W. stated that normally, the Executive Committee makes decisions on replacements of positions such as the TOC Director, vacated by Don Hannula. However, in the spirit of transparency and because there are four candidates, the Executive Committee decided to put it to a vote by the full BOD. The four candidates are: Kevin Harris, Terry Weber, Fred White and Marilyn Dyer, Todd Schaefer and Pat Barrett. He invited each of the candidates to speak about their qualifications. Following the vote by paper ballot, it was announced that Todd S. and Pat B. were selected as the new TOC tournament co-directors with 16 votes.

- VII. Approve Minutes of February 28, 2019:** Jeanne J. presented the minutes of the February 28, 2019 BOD meeting in Reno. **Action:** Dan S. made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Willie E. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.**
- VIII. GN XXXVIII North Conway, NH Update:** David C. reported that there were 197 people in the GN 38 Midweek, and he anticipated around 350 for the GN 38 main. Things are going relatively well. He commented that he wouldn't wish this job on anyone and suggested to successors that if there's money coming for more than one tournament to put both on one flyer if possible.
- IX. GN XXXIX Sacramento, CA Update:** Jeanne J. reported that planning and marketing for GN 39 are well underway. The first satellite event is on the evening of Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020 followed by the Midweek and ending with the Grand National in Sacramento, CA on September 26-27, 2020. The theme is "Rush for the Gold," as Sacramento was the epicenter for the California Gold Rush in 1849. Rick and Peggy Shea are the directors of the Midweek, and Jeanne J. is TD for the GN, with four co-directors representing all three regions—Jim Langley, Margaret Fanucchi, Dan Selke, and Dave O'Neil. Hotel amenities include free w-fi, free parking, free shuttle within a 3-mile radius and free playing and event space for all 6 days. This is offset by a hefty food and beverage minimum, which is why the committee has been so proactive with fundraising. The hotel is located near a major mall, light rail station, and restaurants in walking distance. Rooms are \$119 + taxes double occupancy and each have a fridge, microwave and balcony. The main tournaments will start at 8 am, and traffic can be bad in the morning in Sacramento, so those not staying at the hotel should take note. There isn't a free shuttle from the Sacramento airport, but it is a Southwest hub and a very user-friendly airport. There's lots to do in the Sacramento area, including Old Sacramento, riverboat rides, wineries nearby and other sights like Yosemite and redwoods within a two-hour drive. Paul G. is hosting a tournament in Antioch, about one-hour west of Sacramento on September 18 – 20, 2020, so other airport options include Oakland and San Francisco. Dan S. is coordinating the Progressive Raffle fundraiser for the GN. He noted that the tickets are printed and numbered, with a distribution and voucher system to track sales. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and proceeds will offset expenses and increase prize money. There will be three drawings at each of the next three Reno tournaments, with the Grand Prize of a free entry, two nights stay at the Doubletree by Hilton, \$250 towards travel and dinner for two. Jeanne J. thanked her leadership team, and gave a special shout out to Denise Fortin, who designed the logo and printed materials. She passed out flyers for the 49ers Stampede Midweek and the GN Weekend Main. The latter flyer will be amended to include a place to sign up for the Awards Banquet. A complete schedule including satellite events, which will include several tournaments and the BOD meeting on Friday, will be available when details are finalized in the next month or two. Thanks to Valerie Nozick, GN 39 has its own website where this information will be posted. The room block for hotel reservations is now open.

- X. **GN XL Omaha, NE Update:** Don Thienel reported for Scott Kooistra, who couldn't be here due to his induction into the South Dakota Radio Hall of Fame. With an expanded committee, preparations are underway for Grand National XL in Omaha, NE for the first week in October 2021, with the midweek starting on September 30th. It will take place at the Comfort Inn & Suites, which he said is a great facility.
- XI. **GN XLI Eastern Bids:** Paul G. indicated that he had received one bid for GN XLI in 2022 from Jack Howsare to be held in Virginia Beach October 11 – 16, 2022. He invited Jack H. to present his proposal. Jack H. noted that he ran the Grand National in 2010 in Virginia Beach, VA and that he was willing to do it again. His co-Directors include Keith W., Dave O., and Bruce Sattler. He is working with Four Points by Sheraton at a rate of \$99 plus tax. There are 99 rooms, and each has a balcony overlooking the ocean. If more rooms are needed, the nearby Best Western has also agreed to offer rooms at the same rate. The playing space will be free. He has negotiated prices for lunches (\$15) and \$40/person for the Awards Banquet. The airport is about 15 or 16 miles away and Jack will look into transportation options. If approved, he will sign the contract next week. **Action:** Paul G made a motion to award the GN XLI bid to Jack H. in Virginia Beach, VA. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.**
- XII. **Reno/Sands Regency Update:** Steve Fierro of Jacobs Entertainment, which owns the Sands Regency, gave a slide presentation update about the renovations at the Sands and the development of the blocks surrounding it. He indicated that over \$100M has been spent so far, \$120M will be spent this year, and over the next 5 -7 years a total of \$1.2 B will be spent. Mr. Jacob's vision is to revitalize Reno, similarly to Las Vegas. Steve F. reported that already done is the remodeled buffet area at the Sands, a new chef has been hired, and there will be new specialty food sections, including the new pastries section. The Empress tower is closed for renovation, and he showed the before and after of the new corridors and rooms. The rooms will be big and bold, and all 17 floors are being renovated. Perhaps three to six floors may be finished by the TOC/ACC Open, but he wasn't sure if they will be ready for occupancy. The casino is already remodeled with has new carpet and flooring, more machines and the pool area has been refreshed. The Dynasty tower has been upgraded substantially, with new air conditioning, pillows, refrigerators, coffee makers and the elevators are new. The area around the Sands will have a "Reno neon line" of neon art sculptures and Neon Plaza with benches, including Burning Man. The big vision is a new event center near the Sands and big projects in the future. These include a new mixed-use housing development, a non-casino hotel and a convention center. It is an exciting time for the Sands. David C. noted that there is one more year on the ACC/Sands contract, and James M. will bring a proposal for a new contract to the March BOD meeting.
- XIII. **Old Business:**
- A. **ACC website update:** Diane W. was not in attendance, so this agenda item was tabled.
- B. **Grass Roots changes:** David C. reported that Ivan Wells is the new GR Commissioner, and that Scott Harker has taken over the GR website from Paul G. In answer to a question, Dave A. confirmed that GR club champions for the previous three years are eligible for the GR TOC.
- C. **Sanction Requests/MRP Update:** David C. reported that that there hasn't been much progress with the MRP programing. His plan is to approach David Shifflett to get it going again. Paul G. stated that he has a lot going on personally and has stepped back from GR and the Executive Committee. He hoped to assist in completing the project.

XIV. Reports:

- A. Membership Secretary:** Larry Hassett referred to his report and asked if there were any questions. He stated that he intended to include marketing information, but it was too cumbersome; he provided a supplemental report instead. He noted that the XP operating system on his computer is the last one that will operate the DOS membership data base, but it has been acting up. He can set up a conversion to a different data base program, but the ACC needs to agree to one organizational data operating system. Once we have a definitive data base management plan, we can put it on the internet. After considerably more discussion, an ad hoc committee of people with good computer knowledge and data base expertise was created to develop and implement a consolidated data base management system plan. The committee consists of John H. (lead), Rick A., Paul G., Fred W., Larry H., Scott Harker, and John Schafer.
- B. Treasurer:** Marlene L. reported briefly, referring to her written report. She indicated that to date the investment account has generated \$12,000, with a balance as of 9/30/19 of \$51,692. The only major expense has been printing 75,000 scorecards. She noted that we printed too many rule books in 2016 for \$7,600 and only brought in about half of the cost of the books (\$3,600.) She recommended that when the new rule book is printed, we print only half as many as last time. David C. noted that the ACC had a surplus of \$30,000 last year and suggested that some of this be applied to marketing activities.
- C. Grass Roots:** New GR Commissioner Ivan W. said that he started in May and his official start date was August 1st. Since then, he has recruited two new regional statisticians and two Grass Roots tournament directors. He said that Scott H. has been recruited as the new GR programmer. There are 14 members on the GR Committee, and he set up an online teleconference system for monthly meetings. This service costs \$200 for an annual subscription, others can use it for ACC purpose when not in use for GR meetings. He reported that there are 197 clubs of which 25 are lite clubs, and perhaps 128 members in the Travelers Club. There was a brief discussion as to whether the Travelers Club was needed now that players can get points as visitors anywhere. Other activities include GR Facebook page development, the Board Donor project led by Dan Selke and new club and membership initiatives.
- D. Internet:** Tammy G. reported that the intention of Internet Cribbage is to recruit new ACC members. There have been modest results. Since 2018-19, of the 65 new internet players, 31 have joined the ACC, 18 last year and 13 so far this year. They find us with a search or from Facebook. This information came from Kevin Harris, who has been very efficient. She said that there had been talk about dropping Game Colony, as it brought in only \$660 in '17 & 18, but in '18-'19 it generated \$1,800 in income. She said that it appears that something is ramping up again. John Schafer said that they are reviewing the IRP point system which is apparently out of whack. David C. asked Paul G. if he can approach Cribbage Pro and get our logo on their site.
- E. Marketing Committee:** David C. indicated that the Marketing Committee is defunct. The Executive Committee removed responsibility for marketing from the Executive Vice President and moved it to the President's responsibility. Keith W. noted that the BOD needed to affirm the Executive Committee's decision. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion to affirm the Executive Committee's decision to move the responsibility for marketing from the Executive VP to the President; Richard Frost seconded the motion. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** David C. stated that a new Marketing Committee will be formed and will include James M. Other members of the committee will be announced within a few weeks. One

of its first activities will be to identify a GR club and a weekend tournament to focus intense social media promotion as a test for effectiveness of such marketing.

- F. **Rules:** Dave O. referred to the Rules Committee Report handout, noting that page numbers refers to the updated version of the rule book on the website. He asked everyone to check report items #1, #6, #7, #8, #12, #13, #14 and #15. These changes to the rules are essentially minor editorial things. **Action:** Dave A. made a motion to accept the editorial change items represented by checkmarks; seconded by David C. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** Items #2 and #4 called for removing redundant phrases due to previously approved changes. **Action:** Jason H. made a motion to delete the phrases noted in #2 and #4; seconded by James M. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** Item #3 proposed including verbiage for alternate deal in section 1.5.a. It was sent back to the Rules Committee to further refine wording and its relevance to section 4.1.a. Item #9 added new rule 4.1.c regarding discovery that the players had not cut for deal after play had started. **Action:** Dave A. made a motion to add rule 4.1.c. stating that “If both players have played at least one card before either questions whether a cut was made, it is assumed that the cut was made and play continues” with some clarifying wording if needed; seconded by Keith W. 22-for, 1-opposed. **Motion approved.** Item #10 involved situations when changing decks was allowed or required. During discussion, some overlap with the TD (Tournament Directors) Manual was noted, and it was suggested that perhaps the TD Manual could be incorporated into the new rule book. Concerns about doing so included the additional cost, the difficulty of updating both, and the potential for players to nit-pick TD’s using the TD’s Manual. The discussion on combining the TD Manual with the new rule book was unresolved. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion to add new section 4.2.d “Changing decks during qualifying play is prohibited, except for irreplaceably damaged cards. In the playoffs, a player may request a different deck after any game in a match, but each player is limited to one deck change per match. Decks for anchor players must be changed halfway through the tournament”; seconded by Richard F. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** Item # 11 involved several changes to Rule 4: Dealing. The verbiage considered and voted on is attached as Appendix A. **Action:** Dave A. made a motion to accept the proposed changes to Rule 4 [in the Rules Committee report] as amended [see Appendix A]; seconded by Rick S. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** Willie E. brought up a proposed rule change to allow either player to retrieve their discard to the crib if they do so before the other player discarded. Willie E. was asked to send his proposed rule change in writing to the Rules Committee. Rick S. asked for a revision of 4.4.d.2 passed at the last meeting (regarding too many in the crib) so that if either party remembered the two cards they discarded, they would become part of the correct crib. He was advised to put the proposed wording in writing to the Rules Committee for consideration at the March BOD meeting. Keith W. proposed adding rule 8.5.c., which had been discussed at the last Rules Committee meeting, stating that after a play has been made the player cannot move the back peg, and doing so would incur a 2-point penalty. This item was referred to the Rules Committee for further refinement. Likewise, Keith W’s item about a double renege went back to the Rules Committee. The next discussion concerned allowing the Executive Committee to approve rule changes if they were only editorial in nature or for clarification purposes, particularly because a new updated rule book will be published within the year. The plan for the new rule book is to finalize changes, print the new book in June and have it for distribution by August. **Action:** Dave O. made a motion that the Executive Committee can approve any editorial changes for clarification [purposes] only; seconded by Jeanne J. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.** Furthermore, it was recommended that any rule book changes be put on the online version within 2 weeks of approval. A task force consisting of Dave A., Larry H., Diane W. and David C. was assigned to develop a process for updating rule changes going forward, including the addition of an “As of” date. Dave O’ Neil also suggested adding blank pages to the new rule book for easy insertion and reference when new rules or changes are made.

Following lunch and before the Rules Committee report resumed, Kris Bailey gave an update on the crosschecking app that he has designed. He said that it has been used mostly for Grass Roots tournaments. He tested it with a 22-game tournament but there are a few things to work out. He noted that it can speed up recording results, and it can be used for analytics and previous results. He offered to do a demonstration. It can be found on the Apple App Store for a \$1.00 charge.

- G. Ethics:** Keith W. reported that the Ethics Committee has suspended a player for six months for leaving during a tournament; this player may not play in the Grand National or TOC. The committee also received several letters, including one or two with ethics complaints related to judges. **Action:** Richard F. made a motion to let the Ethics Committee [in consultation] with Jeff Shimp handle judge [ethics] issues; seconded by Willie E. 21-for, 1-opposed, 1-absention. **Motion Approved.**
- H. Judges:** Jeff S. stated that Roger Wilson has resigned as a Senior Judge. He has been replaced by Troy Thorson. Jeff also revisited concerns and complaints about incompetent judges. The idea of having different levels of judges with different difficulty of tests is being explored. Sally Henderson has a second test under construction.
- I. Youth Program:** Don “Grumpy” Howard reported that the 27th Annual Sierra Youth Tournament will be in February, 2020. There will be a new location for Youth GN 4, in Roseburg Oregon on June 13, 2020. There will also be a youth tournament at GN 39, so he proposed calling it Youth GN 5. He reminded anyone who says “I hate this game!” to donate \$1.00 to Youth Cribbage. Finally, he noted that some youth are participating successfully in Grass Roots clubs and encouraged clubs to include youth players.
- J. Tourney Commissioners:** Pat B. reported that the online portal for sanctioning requests and flyers seems to be working better all the time. He stated that the process saves time and paperwork.

XV. New Business:

- A. All-Star Event Changes:** Roland H. began by thanking Dave A. for the special edition Cribbage World honoring DeLynn Colvert. He referred to his written proposal for changes in the ACC Policy and Procedures Manual regarding the DeLynn Colvert All Star event.
 - 1. Action:** Dan S. made a motion to change the start time to 6:00 pm; seconded by Terry W. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion approved.**
 - 2. Action:** Willie E. made a motion to make the \$20 Q pool mandatory; seconded by Richard F. 22-for, 1-opposed. **Motion approved.**
 - 3. Action:** Mark S. made a motion to have the 3 captains pick cards from a deck to determine seating. Low card gets seats 1 through 8, middle card gets seats 9 through 16, high card gets seat 17 through 24; seconded by Jeff S. 22-for, 1-opposed. **Motion approved.**
 - 4. Action:** Jeff S. made a motion to let the 3 captains vote for cutting for deal or alternate deal; seconded by Richard F. 22-for, 1-opposed. **Motion approved.**
 - 5. Action:** Jeff S. made a motion to change the seating chart in the case of alternate deal, as per Roland H.’s proposal [See Appendix B]; seconded by Richard F. 20-for, 3-opposed. **Motion approved.**
- B. BOD Size Reduction:** Dave A. introduced his proposal to reduce the BOD size to nineteen members by stating that it would be more efficient. He noted that most of the work is done by half the people, and maybe BOD meetings would be shorter. Willie E. said that he used to think the BOD was too large, but

having been on the BOD for 5 or 6 years he now sees a need for 25 members. He gave three reasons: first, it spreads out the BOD's workload; second, it helps having the ideas extra folks have; third it helps encourage attendance at tournaments [such as the Grand National.] He further noted that the BOD members are not a financial burden on the organization. Keith W. observed that when he first ran for the BOD he barely made it in. If the BOD were cut down to 19, some of the newer people wouldn't be there; it would just be the "Good Old Boys." Jack H. suggested that the general membership could take over some of the duties [and reduce the workload.] Dan S. echoed Jack H.'s comments. David C. said that they [the general membership] already can [help with the workload], such as being on committees. Jeanne J. agreed with what Willie E. and Keith said, and added that we should think through this carefully before any decision. She said such a change has many implications to be considered, such as regional representation, that will necessitate changing the by-laws and the ACC Policy and Procedures manual. Dave A. noted that we had only 26 candidates for 25 spots, wondering what happens if there are only 22 candidates. Keith W. said that the by-laws already allow for filling vacancies by appointment. Jeff S. agreed with Willie E. and asked what difference does an extra hour or two [BOD meeting] make. Terry W. favored leaving it at 25. Henry Bergeron cautioned not to compare the ACC BOD with a corporate board, noting that the BOD is a working board of volunteers whereas a corporate board has a paid CEO and administrative staff. Richard F. said that he thought this last election had fewer candidates because it was downplayed and the timing was changed. He also likes having 25 people—everybody has great ideas. Keith W. stated that changing the number of BOD members will be a constitutional change and will require a two-thirds majority vote, not a simple majority. A straw poll was taken, with 7 in favor of reducing the number of BOD members and 16 against. Following this discussion, an ad-hoc committee with two members from each region was formed to look into this subject: Dave A., Jeanne J. & Jason H. from the Western Division, John H. and Terry W. from the Central Division, Keith W. and Mark S. from the Eastern Division.

- C. Tournament Changes—Payouts/Qualifiers:** Willie E. introduced this topic by noting that the ACC is dwindling, and we need to do something because we are dying. One way to make it better for players is with his and James M.'s proposal to change the number of qualifiers from 1 in 4 to 1 in 3 and increase the number that get payouts. Willie E. provided the example of how the payouts in his Grass Roots club is about 1 in 3 and seems to help improve attendance. The hope is that if players have a better chance of qualifying more will play and attend tournaments. James M. provided a chart which showed that this change may create another round of playoffs and impact payouts somewhat, but not as much as one might think. Fred W. commented that adding another round of playoffs will make one-day tournaments even longer. Dan S. expressed doubt that this will accomplish much because rather than attract new members, it will appeal mostly to ACC members who play in tournaments anyway. James M. responded that this won't necessarily attract new tournament players, but more of those who don't play as much in tournaments might be encouraged to play more often. Jeff S. made two observations, the positive being that the proposal will attract more people to tournaments, and the negative being that awarding more MRP's will be detrimental to the historical players, making it easier for people to catch up. Willie E. noted that we've adjusted the way MRP's are earned before, and Richard F. noted that it took three years to pass the minimum 5 MRP's for qualifying. David C. said that there was 0% of implementing this because we already have problems with the MRP tracking system that need to be resolved. Larry H. said that MRP's can be added manually. Paul G. noted that the informal exit surveys indicate that people are leaving not because of not qualifying but because of the high cost to travel. Dave A. suggested a test run

somewhere, and Tammy G. agreed. Barbara Woodward provided an example of the pool association that is also struggling with membership, suggesting that we look at the issue more broadly in terms of what the membership wants, not just about tournaments. Jeanne J. said that we should do more research on why tournament attendance and membership is dwindling and come up with additional strategies to address these reasons. David C. reminded everyone of the survey about 8 years ago that showed that it was rude people and people using the rule book that drove people away more than anything else. Willie E. proposed doing a straw poll on the proposal. Five people were in favor of pursuing the proposal, with the majority not in favor of going forward with it. The discussion transitioned to the issue of tournament expenses and their impact on payouts. James proposed that [the non-player benefit] expenses be changed to 95% to increase payouts. There was a wide range of challenges related to finding halls and still staying within the current 15% maximum expenses [non-player benefits]. A straw poll was taken, with three in favor and twenty not in favor.

- D. GN Raffles Accountability:** Roland H. said that he ran a raffle for [GN 39] and sent the proceeds to Marlene L. She replied that she doesn't have responsibility for this. He said that it was a good idea to put controls on reporting the raffle proceeds, suggesting that TDs that do raffles for the GN put this on their tournament report and also notify the GN TD and the National Commissioner. The GN TD would ensure that all the fundraising was included in the final GN tournament report. In response to a question, Roland H. stated that he wasn't inferring that anyone had done anything wrong, but he said there needed to be controls on raffle proceeds from Grand National fundraising. Discussion then centered on how things were currently done. There was discussion, including implications for timeliness for the GN TD to receive the proceeds and special purposes for the raffles. For instance, Jack H. stated that he does raffles to pay the kitchen staff, and the offset would be in the tournament report. Jeanne J. noted that any procedures for GN raffles should also apply to raffles at weekend tournaments. She agreed that accountability is important and that all GN fundraising should be included in the final report. However, the BOD trusted the TD enough to award the GN bid, and it shouldn't be a cumbersome process that hamstrings the TD. Several people asked what the proposal's purpose was if there haven't been any problems—why fix something if it isn't broken. There was no interest in pursuing this proposal, and it was virtually unanimous to keep GN fundraising [raffles] the way it is.
- E. TOC Director Replacement/Grass Roots TOC Director Replacement:** David C. said that Dave A. is stepping down as Grass Roots TOC director after this year. We will transition to a new director next year.
- F. Early Exits Tourney Proposal:** Dave A. proposed a process for allowing people with poor scorecards at the midpoint to opt out of further play and making an "early exit." They won't be given any refunds, and side pools that they entered would stand as is. The playoffs would still be based on the original number of players. People wishing to opt out of further play would get permission from the TD for an early exit, and vacant spots would be filled in by some agreed upon process such as reshuffling seat assignments. Dave A. suggested this be tried at a few tournaments, perhaps at one tournament per region. Discussion ensued, with several BOD members expressing concern about the confusion and chaos it may create along with additional burden on the TD and a crosschecking nightmare. A straw poll was conducted, with only three people in favor of proceeding on a trial basis.

G. Award Restructure: Fred W. said that he proposed this agenda item on behalf of Henry B. Henry B. stated that it was ridiculous to add another star to life masters after each successive 5,000 MRP's—for example, 50,000 MRP's is "Life Master nine-stars". He proposed to change it to [precious metals] at milestones beyond three-star. He suggested "Silver Life Master" at 25,000 MRP's, "Gold Life Master" at 35,000 MRP's and "Platinum Life Master" at 50,000 MRP's. Several people wondered why this change was necessary, especially given that it only affects a handful of players. The discussion ended with a call for the question. The proposal failed to advance.

H. Marketing and Executive Committee Changes: David C. said that everything has already been talked about and voted on.

XVI. Committee Reports:

Social Media – David C. said that he had nothing more to report.

Nominating – Jeanne J. said that she had nothing more to report.

IT/Technology – Paul G. said that he had nothing more to report.

Awards – Mark S. made two quick comments. First, awards for the Awards Banquet are ready for presentation. Second, the Awards Committee decided that all previously framed certificate awards such as the All-American Awards are being changed to plaques. These are less expensive and time-consuming to assemble. David C. thanked Rick Pierce for making the special GN playing boards.

XVII. Executive Committee Reports:

President – David C. said that he had nothing more to report.

VP Marketing – Paul G. had nothing additional to report.

VP Ethics/Policy – Keith W. passed out updates to the ACC Policy and Procedures manual. He asked people notify him if they notice any clerical errors or references that don't make any sense. The current version is on the website.

VP Operations – Terry W. had nothing more to report.

VP Competition – Dave A. said that everything had already been covered.

XVIII. Adjournment: Action: Keith W. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by James M. 23-for, 0-opposed. **Motion Approved.** The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Next meeting date: March 6, 2020 in Reno

Appendix A

Changes to Rule 4: Dealing Approved at 10/25/19 BOD Meeting

- Add “reshuffled and” before the last word (redealt) in Rules 4.3.a. and 4.3.c.
- Reword Rule 4.4.a (1) as follows: **“If both players were dealt the correct number of cards and one player discarded the wrong number to the crib (but before the other player discarded, the player who discarded the wrong number of cards may retrieve the discards and then discard the correct number to the crib.”**
- Change the wording of the second sentence of Rule 4.4.a (3) as follows: **“The player with the wrong number of cards must allow the opponent to confirm the error.”**
- Reword Rule 4.5.a as follows: **“If a pack is found to have a defect that could affect play, such as a card with a bent corner or a card with a visual defect on the back surface, etc. before either player picks up a card, the defective card must be replaced or a new pack substituted and the cards must be reshuffled and dealt by the same dealer. If the defect is discovered after either player picks up any dealt cards, the hand must be played to its conclusion before any replacement.**

Appendix B

Changes to ACC Policy and Procedures Manual regarding the DeLynn Colvert All Star Event Approved at 10/25/19 BOD Meeting

NEW 10. a. If cut for deal: The winning side of the first game for each table, i.e., the team with the most game points, games won and spread points, remains seated for the final three games of the four-game match. The losing side rotates one seat to the right for the next three games. This process is repeated for each four-game set. (See Appendix E for proposed new seating chart)

NEW 10. b. If Alternate deal: The table side facing the front of the room deals the odd numbered games. The table side facing the back of the room deals the even numbered games. Before games 1, 5, 9, and 13, one player from each team from each table cuts the cards. Low card chooses for the team to move or sit. After the first game at the table the moving team rotates one seat to the right for the next three games. This process is repeated for each four-game set. (See Appendix E for proposed new seating chart)