

American Cribbage Congress
Board of Director's Meeting
September 17, 2010
Holiday Inn
Virginia Beach, Virginia

President Jeanne Hofbauer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Valerie Sumner led the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call was taken. Present were: Dave Aiken, Pat Barrett, Don Brown, Dave Campbell, Dave Clemmey, Charlie Finley, Roland Hall, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Ron Logan, Herschel Mack, Bob Milk, Catherine Perkins, Larry Phifer, Joan Rein, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Jeff Shimp, Wayne Steinmetz, Valerie Sumner, Fred White, Keith Widener. Excused absences: Annett Eiffert and Sharon Hejtmanek

Amended agenda was approved with additions.

Minutes of February 11, 2010 were approved with the following changes:

Charlie Finley was an excused absence. Motion to grant up to \$1000 for expenses incurred for BoD meeting at Grand National tournament was to be in the form of a re-imburement from Treasurer after receipts were provided by the GN Director. Participation in AARP convention was in September, not October. Identity of free CW's for life recipients were Elda Madsen (Bob), Cynthia Bernard (Joe) and Carol Aiken (George Bickford). Phyllis made a motion to approve minutes, 2nd by Jeanne. Motion approved.

Update of GN XXIX by Jack Howsare: 294 entrants signed up, Jeff Shimp will be chief tabulator, discussed judges committee, thanked Hoffman Beverage (Budweiser) for providing the playoff bracket sheets, 29 hands will split a pot of \$2900, most of which comes from raffles held on the East Coast. If there are no 29 hands held, the pot will be split between the 28 hands. The BoD thanked Jack for taking on the task of directing the tournament.

Election of Officers was held, presided over by Phyllis Schmidt. Jeanne Hofbauer re-elected as President (no other nominees). Todd Schaefer elected as Executive VP (also nominated was Herschel Mack). Catherine Perkins was re-elected as VP of Policy (no other nominees). Bob Julian re-elected as VP of Operations (no other nominees). David Campbell was re-elected as Member-at-Large (also nominated was Bob Milk). No nominations were taken from the floor.

Peggy Scalley gave an update of Grand National XXX, to be held at the Sands Hotel/Casino in Reno, NV, from Wed., Sept 28 through Tues., Oct 4, 2011. Midweek tournaments will be held both before and after the GN weekend tournament for a total of 3 sanctioned tournaments. Sands hotel rates are \$25 Sun-Thurs, \$55 Fri-Sat.

Joan Rein gave an update of Grand National XXXI, to be held at the Radisson Paper Valley in Appleton, WI, on Sept. 20-23, 2012.

Bid for GN XXXII: Dave O'Neil talked about his preliminary negotiations with the Westin Atlanta Perimeter Hotel in Atlanta, GA. He distributed a hand-out with a summary of the info. Possible dates (Sept. 15 through Oct. 15) were discussed with notation of Jewish holidays being observed within that same time frame. Dave Aiken moved that the bid for GNXXXII be awarded to Dave O'Neil and Carl Squire, to be held in Atlanta on Sept 20-22, 2012, 2nd by Pat Barrett. Motion approved.

Jeff Shimp discussed the Senior Judges program. He asked the Board to consider the need to continue the program, as he was not sure it was necessary any longer. But for now, the terms are for three years, with the opportunity for re-appointment. He asked that BoD members with recommendations for future appointments see him after the meeting. At this time the Senior Judges are as follows: East; Dave Campbell, Dave Clemmey, Jack Howsare, Al Miller, Dave O'Neil, Cathy Perkins, Phyllis Schmidt and Keith Widener. Central; Pat Barrett, Don Hannula, Bob Joslin, Scott Kooistra, Joan Rein, Jeff Shimp, Wayne Steinmetz, and Don Tofte. West; Annett Eiffert, Larry Hassett, Roy Hofbauer, Jones Hom, Jim Keeling, Roger Lueschow, Ron Logan and Roger Wilson.

Keith Widener had two items for the meeting. The first was to propose changes to the All American/All Regional awards. Keith presented a handout with proposals for changes. Much discussion followed. Cathy Perkins made a motion to keep the top ten masterpoint earners as the All American Team, and that we expand the All Regional awards to include anyone who makes the regional All Star Team (the top 8 from each region) and change the award name to the ACC All Star award, 2nd by Keith. Motion approved. Cathy volunteered to make the certificates for the All Star Award. Keith made a motion to annotate Champion from each region on award, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion approved. Keith's second item was in regard to what he termed "ACC Legacy Events": Grand Nationals, JPW/ACC Open and Raleigh National Open. He thinks that no other events should be scheduled on the weekends these tournaments are held. After discussion, Keith made a motion to honor these three tournaments as "Legacy Events" and not allow other tournaments to be scheduled during these events, 2nd by Bob Milk. Motion defeated (10 aye/13 nays) Jeff made a motion to amend the previous motion to include that no other tournaments be held within 1000 miles of the "Legacy Event" sites on the weekends they are held, 2nd by Todd. Motion passed (15 aye/8 nay) Herschel then asked to set aside this vote and discuss further, which was voted for (16 aye/7 nay). Further discussion led to a revised motion by Jeff to not allow another sanctioned tournament in the same region during the National Open in Raleigh and the JPW/ACC Open in Reno, eliminating the 1000 mile provision, 2nd by Todd. Motion approved.

Mike Burns presented information regarding his new project for introducing the teaching of cribbage in elementary schools to enhance math skills at 3rd grade and logic at 5th grade. He provided each BoD member with a copy of "Cribbage In The Classroom-Teaching Cribbage", a booklet he developed. He is preparing a DVD showing a 5th grade class learning cribbage. He is seeking BoD support for this project. He said that it will take \$2,500 to \$7,500 to set DVD up for marketing. Mike would also like to get an ACC endorsement when this project is finished. Discussion followed, regarding: non-profit status (Mike said he had already set this up), and individual state requirements about classroom volunteers. Roy felt that Dan Ziesler, our Director of Youth Cribbage, should be involved in any consideration of ACC support. BoD indicated there was not sufficient information to consider financial support at this time. Herschel made a motion that the BoD express it's appreciation to Mike for his teaching cribbage in the classroom program. Don Brown suggested that this program be coordinated with the current Youth Program and Dan Z. Motion approved. Possible ACC endorsement of the DVD would follow it's review by the BoD.

Pat Barrett presented information regarding ACC member Jerry Fischer providing a promotional booth at the Central Wisconsin State Fair 9/1 through 9/6. Fairgoers played with members and received playing cards and boards. ACC promotional materials were distributed. Pat is requesting that the BoD consider reimbursing Jerry for cost of booth and expenses totaling \$532.65. Discussion followed, stating that this is a great way to promote cribbage and that \$400 is given for promotion at the Puyallup, WA fair. Some members felt that this money should have been asked for in advance and that we should be careful about setting precedence for promotional reimbursement. Jeanne stated that she had been notified by e-mail in August to put this on the

agenda, which was before the fair. Marlene said there is \$1000 left in the PR budget for this year. Joan made a motion that we reimburse Jerry \$350 for this year's ACC booth at the Central Wisconsin State Fair. Motion approved. It was suggested that we budget this in as a yearly expense and that a letter from Pat or Jerry be submitted to treasurer with an accounting of expenses.

Lunch Break

Dave Aiken wants to print pictures of all candidates for future BoD elections in *Cribbage World*. He made a motion that II.A.1.c in the Policy Manual have the additional wording: "All BoD candidates must submit a photo of themselves in digital format for printing in *Cribbage World*." Discussion on the concern that someone would prefer their picture not to be taken followed. The motion was amended to replace 'must' with 'should'. 2nd by Roland. Motion approved: 15 ayes, 7 nays, 1 abstention.

Joan Rein proposed to eliminate the need for the ACC Grass Roots Commissioner to be a member of the BoD. She said a precedent has been set already because both the ACC Membership Secretary and the ACC Treasurer are not required to be BoD Members. After discussion, Joan made a motion to eliminate the requirement for the Grass Roots Commissioner to be a member of the ACC Board of Directors, eliminating #5 under Article VII – Other Committees and moving item #6 to item #5. 2nd by Todd. Motion approved: 15 ayes, 7 nays, 1 abstention.

Marlene Lazachek presented the treasurer's report: We had a loss of \$1200 for the year and a decrease of \$1300 in cash, partly because the Grass Roots national check of \$7500 was not received until August, and we had some additional expenses that do not occur on a regular basis: 100 new banners for \$1000; 10,000 new bumper stickers for \$1300; new computer for Larry Hassett for \$1300. We had some donations: \$526 for youth tournaments from two of Al Lindner's tournaments and \$505 for statistical software from Martha Fingleton and Warren Sondericker. Marlene asked what the policy was on the Grand National subsidy check. It has to be requested from the director. She was asked to change the budget for promotion in 2011 from \$2000 to \$4000. There was discussion on the playing card purchases. Bob Milk made a motion to accept the Financial Statement as amended. 2nd by Jeff. Motion approved.

Marlene and Martha had discussed granting a stipend to Denny Moore for all the assistance he provided with computer software during her transition to National Statistician. Marlene had then asked Jeanne about it, and we decided to bring a proposal to the BoD to grant him a one time stipend. Bob Milk made a motion to pay Denny \$300, Joan Rein suggested amending it to \$500. 2nd by Herschel .

Motion unanimously approved

New Rule Books: Marlene reported that we paid \$4588 for 10,000 rule books, which included shipping, etc. 1500 were sent to Dave Campbell for the Eastern Region, 1500 were sent to Pat Barrett for the Central Region, and 2000 were sent to Roy Hofbauer for the Western Region, and 5000 were sent to the Membership Secretary, Larry Hassett. We have collected \$3645 so far. Jeanne suggested that we raise the price from \$1 to \$2 on January 1, 2011. Joan made the motion, with the suggestion that the price change be noted in *Cribbage World*, so that people can get them before the price is raised. Motion approved

Herschel thanked the rules committee for the 3 year process of creating the new book, Ricki Mack for her proofreading, Dave Aiken for editing and Dave Campbell for handling the bidding and printing processes. He asked that he be identified as chairman of the Rules Committee on the Web Site so that people can contact him with their questions regarding the rules. Todd will ask the Webmaster, Diane Waite to update committee names on the Web Site. Todd asked if we

would e-mail them to him. Herschel asked that any rules questions or complaints, especially about the changes be sent on to him.

David Campbell as EC member-at-Large is responsible for obtaining an audit of ACC funds. He said that an audit is planned for sometime in the next few months. Jeanne said that we are mandated to do an audit. Marlene said that the last audit was for the fiscal year ending 6/30/07 and cost \$1700. Cathy made a motion to change policy on audits under chapter two: eliminate current section one and replace it with: *The Executive Committee Member-at-Large is responsible for audits every two years or when the positions of Treasurer, Grass Roots Commissioner, or Memberships Secretary change. The Member-at-Large will choose a qualified auditor from the ranks of the ACC or procure the services of a professional auditor. Funding for the audit will be paid by the ACC.* Also, leave section two unchanged and eliminate section three in its entirety. The section to be eliminated details how ACC BoD members would conduct an internal audit. Presently the VP of Operations monitors Membership Secretary, Crib World, Treasure and bank statements monthly. Motion 2nd by David Campbell. Motion approved. The issue of performing an audit is tabled until the February 2011 meeting. David and Marlene will be looking for members who might be interested in doing this, and also get bids from an outside professional.

Bob Julian wanted to discuss rules that have no penalties. He feels that some players take advantage of these rules. Bob has an issue of *Cribbage World* from 1981 in which the "Etiquette of Cribbage" was published, and he has asked Dave Aiken to reprint them. Cathy has asked that these courtesies be updated to include electronic issues, such as cell phone usage during tournaments. Ron said that perhaps tournament directors could mention these courtesies in their announcements at the beginning of their tournaments. David will work with the list that Bob has, do some updating to it and will print it in then circulate it some BoD members for feedback.

Cathy states that the Policy Manual is in the process of being reorganized. Inconsistencies and omissions have been noted. She commended Don Brown on the work he has put in on the revisions. The work is about 1/3 to 1/2 finished. Constitution and By-Laws changes may only be discussed at this meeting as any changes have to be submitted, in writing to the BoD at least 30 prior to the meeting. Discussed the handouts.

Item #1, Audit was already discussed.

Item #2, Only for discussion as it is a C & B change. Todd needs to assemble a C & B committee to make recommendations to the BoD for approval. This section refers to make up of BoD ,ie. "made up of no more than 10 and no less than 6 members from each region". It does not state how to deal with vacancies that would drop the number to 5. Also what to do if there are an insufficient number of candidates for the BoD – possible add that the Executive Committee should make recommendations if not enough members run for board.

Item #4, Discussion of who should run meetings came up. Don Brown made a motion that the President shall chair the bi-annual board meetings and if President is not available to run meeting, the Executive VP will, then the VP Operations, then the VP Policy, then the Member-at-Large. 2nd by Herschel. Motion approved. Terms of office of Executive Committee was tabled until next meeting.

Item #5, Cathy asked the BoD for approval to remove all names from body of Policy Manual and place them in an appendix. This would assist in updates as only the appendix would have to be changed.

Item #6, Should there be a chairman of the Executive Committee? Discussion found most favored that the President have that duty. Cathy made a motion that President be chairman of Executive Committee, 2nd by Keith, motion approved.

Item #7, Cathy recommends combining the positions of Secretary General and Recording Secretary. She made the motion, 2nd by Don. Motion approved

Item #8, Discussion on mileage from between tournaments and how far should it be? Cathy made a motion that this is up to the discretion of the Regional Tournament Commissioners, but grandfathered tournaments should be given top consideration. Motion approved

Item #9, The following are changes to sanctioned tournament formats that were previously understood and discussed at BoD meetings, but did not make it into the Policy Manual under Tournament Regulations and Guidelines.

Cathy made the following motions:

The minimum number of players necessary for a sanctioned tournament is 17 –

2nd by Herschel, motion approved

For a two day tournament, Main qualifying round, the minimum amount of games is 20, the maximum 22. 2nd by Ron, motion approved

For a two day tournament, Consolation qualifying round, the minimum amount of games is 9, the maximum 10. 2nd by Roy, motion approved

For a one day tournament, Main qualifying round, the minimum amount of games is 11, maximum 16. 2nd by Wayne, motion approved

For a one day tournament, Consolation qualifying round, the minimum amount of games is 7, the maximum 10 2nd by Wayne, motion approved

Item #10 was sent to Cathy by Larry Hassett. Ron Logan made a motion to accept the following to be added to the policy manual under "membership", Active Members:

1. members will be considered active from the date (effective date) they join the ACC until two months after his/her membership expiration date unless the membership has been renewed. If the membership is renewed after that time, a new effective date will be computed.
2. The effective date will be determined by using the following (in order of preference and the timeliness of the date), the date on the membership application, the date of the payment, the post mark, and the current date. For memberships submitted by tournament directors, the effective date will be considered to be the date of the tournament.

2nd by Joan, motion approved

Item #11-skip over this, will be discussed later on agenda by Roy

Item #12- tabled, this is for new master point software committee

Cathy is presenting changes for the Ethics Committee Chapter as requested by Sharon Hejtmanek, chair of the Ethics Committee. Keith made a motion to make changes as proposed. 2nd by Jeff, Motion approved

Joan made a motion to amend 8.b to include National Grass Roots Commissioner, who will notify Grass Roots Club Directors. 2nd by Charlie, motion approved

Cathy presented a chapter for Internet Cribbage for the Policy Manual, as it had not yet been included. She worked with Bob Milk to draft it. She has a question about which Executive Committee member oversees this program. After discussion it was thought that Member-at Large would be the best choice.

Cathy said the new Policy Manual will have many appendices. She asked the Tournament Commissioners to revise the Tournament Director's Booklet.

Jeanne had asked Syl to offer suggestions to the Constitution and By-Laws. We have already discussed one of his suggestions regarding the quandary of the requirement of the 6 BoD members from one region not being fulfilled. He also thought we might want to change the Hall of Fame voting to every two years instead of annually. Following a brief discussion, a show of hands showed that the BoD favored voting yearly.

Roy Hofbauer wanted to review Mid-week tournaments. He would like to eliminate the only one tournament per director per year rule. He would like "Mid-Week" changed to "Week-Day". Following discussion, Don made a motion to reaffirm all "Week-Day" tournaments must be two days. 2nd by Bob Milk, Motion Approved. Tournament Commissioners can waiver this. Bob Milk made a motion to remove the regulation of only one Week-Day tournament per director, per year. 2nd by Don, motion approved. The regulation of the maximum of Week-Day tournaments of three per Region, per quarter will be kept. Larry made a motion that Week-Day tournaments held the week before or after the Grand National, The National Open and the JPW/ACC Open tournaments will not count against the director or regional limitations. 2nd by Ron, motion approved. Keith made a motion to delete the requirement of Week-Day tournaments run in conjunction with any other tournament, it must be held in a different location, and to add that Regional Tournament Commissioners may authorize waivers to any of the above. 2nd by Don, motion approved.

Committee Reports as follows:

Executive Committee: Jeanne reported 6 actions by the committee.

- 1-Stipend of \$250 to DeLynn to bring awards to Virginia Grand National, as shipping would be much more costly.
- 2- Awarded bid for printing 10,000 rule books and determined distribution
- 3- Approved flowers being sent to Martha and Warren's memorial
- 4- Decided not to appoint new Ex VP, to wait until election at this meeting
- 5- Acted on a request from a BoD member, that Jack Howsare, who earned his Life Master award one day after the year end, receive his award at this banquet as a courtesy as he is the director doing the work for the ACC, and his family will be present. The award will not appear in this GN program book or in *Cribbage World*, but will appear in next year's books.
- 6- New FAX machine approved for National Tournament Commissioner

Ethics Committee: Cathy reported for Sharon that one person was suspended in the Eastern Region for leaving a tournament before the end of the tournament.

PR and Publicity Committee: Jeanne distributed a report by chairman Norm Nikodym, who was not present. Jeff discussed the report, and agrees that we should be spending more on promotion of the ACC, recruiting members. Discussion of hiring or getting a volunteer marketing director/promoter, business cards, hopes from our participation at the AARP convention in Orlando later this month, letter from president and Certificates to Grass Roots clubs that have shown impressive growth.

Grass Roots Committee: Joan reported that the "Traveler's Club" is now in effect as of Sept 1st, and those members first 36 tournaments played will count for points. Once a member joins the Traveler's Club, they are committed for the year and cannot change. All of the GR regional statisticians have been notified. Joan will give Dave Aiken monthly info on the traveler's club for *Cribbage World*. There are now 180 active Grass Roots clubs.

Internet Committee: Bob Milk reported that 216 internet tournaments have been held this year. He is adding more tournaments to the schedule because we now have more tournament directors. The referral program with Game Colony paid us \$16,000 last year. After 6 years, 10 players have reached E-Master level and 2 have reached E-Grand Master level. Bob mentioned that he had a great group of volunteers in the program and also that the program reaches a lot of people who just cannot get out to tournaments.

Membership Secretary: Larry Hassett had sent out his report to all BoD members. Dave Aiken asked about item 2: 53 life memberships who do not have a valid address, how to handle them; leave them on the books or consider them expired memberships? Joan made a motion that they should be considered inactive after receiving return mail. 2nd by Jeanne, motion approved. Dave Campbell will notify Larry about this.

Officer's Reports:

President: Need to find new person to make Grand National awards. Accepted Larry Samet's resignation from the BoD, replaced by Dave Clemmey. New Masterpoint software program committee is just getting started. Back up for positions discussed: Bob Joslin for Joan, Jeff Gardner will be temporary back up for Dave Aiken, Marlene and Bob J. are working on back ups for Statistician and Treasurer's positions. Larry Hassett back up is in question. Tournament Commissioners back ups: Todd Schaefer for Pat, Cathy Perkins for David, Jeanne Hofbauer for Roy.

VP Policy: Would like to send new Policy Manual out on e-mail to save money on shipping. Asked if there should be a line item on budget for mailing 28 and 29 hand certificates, which cost about \$10 to \$15 per month. She should talk treasurer about this.

VP Operations: Bob reported about getting receipts for Treasurer from Membership Secretary, New Masterpoint Software Program, and back ups for Treasurer, Statistician and Membership Secretary.

Member-at-Large: Dave had already talked to BoD regarding audit.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Sands Regency Hotel/Casino in Reno, Nevada.

Meeting adjourned. (approximately 4:00 p.m.)

