

**American Cribbage Congress  
Board of Director's Meeting  
Sands Regency Casino Hotel – Reno, Nevada  
Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

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

Valerie Sumner led the **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll call:** Present: Dave Aiken, Paul Barnes, Pat Barrett, Don Brown, Dave Campbell, Annett Eiffert, Charlie Finley, Roland Hall, Don Hannula, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Ron Logan, Bob Milk, Dave O'Neil, Catherine Perkins, Larry Phifer, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Peggy Shea, Jeff Shimp, Wayne Steinmetz, Valerie Sumner, Fred White, Keith Widener. Approved absence for Sharon Hejtmanek.

**Approved Agenda** was approved. Paul B made a motion to approve the agenda and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie F Motion Approved.

**Minutes of the September 30<sup>th</sup> 2011** Board of Directors was approved with adjustments from Paul B to Valerie S. Paul B made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roland H. Motion Approved.

**Update for TOC & JPW/ACC Open:** Scott reported that there were 753 registered for the Open, and typically there will be 60 to 80 more registered by Thursday. He also said that there are 137 volunteers on the committee list. Roy H announced that this is the last year that Jeanne H and he would be directing the open. Peggy and Rick Shea are helping direct this year, and will join Scott next year as the tournament's directors. Peggy thanked everyone for helping and said she hoped everyone would continue to do so in the future. Joan reported that the TOC has 502 entries, down a little probably because of the GN being held here last September and the poor economy. She said that Don H will be taking over as the new TOC director next year, and there will be some other changes.

**President's Address:** Jeanne H said she we have a full agenda and she would like to give all BoD members a chance to speak along with members of the audience however we have a limited amount of time. Each person will be given time to talk, but be prepared to have your point stated within a reasonable amount of time. Jeanne H asked that everyone show respect while others are talking. Cathy P will take the roll of asking others to be quite during if they do not have the floor. If anyone would like to have their time to speak, please write down your comment and raise your hand. Valerie S will write them down in order and Jeanne will call them when it is their turn to speak. Jeanne H shared with the BoD a voting slip that Annett E provide that could be used if we had an issue before the BoD that may need to track if the motion carried or failed. It was decided that we would use the roll call vote and then Valerie S will note on the voting slip how each motion resulted.

**All American Team:** Ron L explained that his main reason for making the motion during the last meeting regarding the change to the All American Team September was in hope of relieving some contention that he felt was happening in the ACC. Ron L admitted that he was frustrated and impatient when he made the motion last September, and has thought about it and does feel the award is fair and does recognize the top players for he season and the commitment that is put into achieving the award. This subject has creating a lot of discussion among a lot of people. Ron L explained that what he thought was not a big deal, was in fact a big deal to a great number of people, and he was wrong, it is very important to the 140 plus people who have earned this award since it's inception. It has created a great sense of pride for family and friends of anyone who has attained this prestigious award. Ron L said that we are the ACC and we represent the entire organization and not just one region. Ron L made a motion to make the All American Team back to the exact former status prior to

the September 2011 meeting and continue the All Star Team to the current form, any master points earned would be credited and all this be retro active to the beginning of the cribbage year 2011-2012. Cathy P said that according to Roberts Rule you could rescind a previous motion if that was what Ron was trying to achieve. Ron L made a motion to rescind the former motion that eliminated the All American, and reinstate the All American Team as it was prior to the September 30<sup>th</sup> 2011 meeting. Ron L did not think that they All Star Team had changed. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don H. Motion carried 21-3.

Bob M made a motion to select an Ad Hoc committee to propose a possible expansion of the All American Team. Jeanne H amended it to consist of 11 members (3-East 3-Central 5-West) Roy H 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried with a yes vote of 23-1 (Larry P).

Don B asked how the committee would be selected. Jeanne H stated she would select the team and it would be regionally represented. She asked for volunteers for the Ad Hoc committee. The following people volunteered Keith W. Bob M Cathy P from the East; Wayne S. Richard Frost, Jeff S for the Central. Don B, Roland H, Dan Marsh, Larry Hassett and Herschel Mack for the West. Don B is appointed as the chairman for the Ad Hoc Committee.

Fred W said that we should put an article in the Crib prior to the meeting telling the members to contact a board member in their region any comments or concerns or if they have anything they want put on the up coming agenda.

Paul B asked if Jeanne H could add Diane W from Crib World to the email list when she sends out the agenda so it could be posted on the web site prior meeting. Paul B asked each board member to remember that even though there are contentious things discussed during the meeting that we put that behind us, because we need to remember that we all care about cribbage.

Don B wanted to comment on Julie Felkins remarks that some of the BoD members do not listen to the ACC members. He said that there was not a day that he did not get some sort of communication from an ACC member regarding this current issue before the board. He would read and discuss with other members about their concerns. Don B said that the fact that the vote went from 14-9 changing the All American Team to 21-3 vote to rescinding that vote had a large part to the BoD members listening to the ACC membership and what they wanted. Don B said that they do believe that they listen and are approachable to other members, they may not always agree, but they do take the time to hear them out.

Willie Evans asked how soon the BoD members receive the agenda prior to the meeting. Jeanne H stated that she sends out an email to BoD members asking for agenda items a couple of months before the meeting. She then sends a reminder, then she still will let some things get on the agenda. Jeanne's H goal is to get the agenda out to BoD members 3-4 weeks prior to the meeting. Jeanne said that we could put in Crib World and the ACC website if any member wants a copy of the agenda, they could send her an email or send her in writing the request and she would either email or mail them a copy of the current agenda.

Scott Milo said with regards to the All American Team he is concerned with the ability of the members in the East and Central to be able to attend a board meeting and provide public comment. Jeanne H said that with respect to the All American Team, anyone wanting to get master points is here at the tournament. Scott M said that he feels that it is real easy for the members of the West to get to the meeting and that the voice for the East and Central may not be heard. Don B reminded Scott M that they Grand National rotates between each region and that one meeting every year is held in the region that is hosting the tournament. This would allow for attendance from the Central and East when it is held in their respective region. Jeanne H said that there was an article put in the Crib World by Dave A asking for comments and there was not much input from the East and Central regarding their views.

Tom Cookman said that he has been involved in holding 7 new tournaments in the West Region in the last 12 months. He said he has went out and made the calls to find a location and put in the effort to create more tournaments and he feels that is a solution to the problem in the other regions. He said that the membership is down, and that our membership is getting older and that we need to find a way to get new members. Tom C thinks we need to get a committee together to address membership and retention. Tom feels like that is what this organization should be concerned with and remembers that we are all on the same team we are not to be divided by region. He wants us all to be on the same page and build membership.

Keith W said he agreed with Scott M and that this is his 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting and he has attended everyone outside of the East Region except one. Keith W said that people in the East and Central region do not get a chance to come to the meeting and speak at all. Keith W feels it is not fair to the members.

Don H said that we as BoD members should be open and available to our constituents to hear their comments and be able to bring them back to the BoD members to be heard.

Jeanne H closed the topic of the All American Team.

**All Star Team:** Jeanne H asked if anyone would like to discuss the All Star Team.

Discussion: Roland H said he would like to see the All Star Team expanded to 40 player team (10-East, 10-Central, 10-Northwest, 10- Southwest). He does not want to see us change the way we have the Grand National rotate between the 3 regions or that we increase our Tournament Commissioners to 4, or that the BoD members configuration change. Roland H says that they membership in the West is double the other regions and according to Marlene L the West collected more than twice the sanctioning fees than the East and Central combined over the past 5 years indicating that there- is twice the player participation. The West is currently divided in Grass Roots in regions with equally representation. Roland said that the current number of All Star Team members of 24 (8 from each Region) was so that there could be a tournament in a timely manner. Roland H proposed the 40 person tournament with 10 from each region and a 16 game tournament that would take about 4 hours and would be done in a timely manner as well. Roland H discussed the tournament set up with Denny Moore and he said could be easy to do. Roland H said it could all be done very easy on a computer program. Roland would like to have this begin in the 2012-2013 season and Diane W. said it could be done easily. Roland H would like to see the All Star Team awards similar to the All American Awards. Roland H figured this would increase the number of awards by 16. Delynn Colvert quoted the awards would cost about \$17 each, with the total cost to be no more than \$300. The sanctioning fees collected in the West last year was in excess of \$30,000 so the cost is offset by the additional fees taken in. Roland has a tournament format that would have it set up as a Round Robin between each region with the captain of each team picking a card to determine their team bracket (lowest card=A, second lowest=B etc...). Roland H passed a packet with information supporting the tournament format. He said the fee would be \$100 per person with the winning team getting \$400 per person. Roland would like to see the Q pool of \$20 be mandatory paying 1 in 8 (1<sup>st</sup> -\$250 2<sup>nd</sup> -\$175 3<sup>rd</sup> -\$150 4<sup>th</sup> - \$125 5<sup>th</sup>-\$100). Jeanne H asked Roland H what criteria the Grass Roots used to divide the West into 2 regions. Roland said that he discussed this with Larry H and he said that if you use the same separation as the Grass Roots, it would make the numbers equal in size. Jeanne H expressed that this should be something that the Ad Hoc Committee should discuss with the All American Team. Jeff S agreed. Roland H requested that the board take a vote on this recommendation and have it take affect as of the 2012-13 cribbage season. Jeanne H said that it would not go to vote and that it would be sent to the committee to come up with a recommendation. Joan R said that the division in the Grass Roots is based upon membership and not area and Colorado was included in the Southern part of the West region, which will vary between the Grass Roots and the ACC. Joan R feels that if you approve

this, you will be approving the division of 4 regions in the ACC. Roy H stated that the 4<sup>th</sup> region would only apply to the All Star Team and nothing else.

Cathy P made a motion that the consideration of the revised All Star team be moved to the Ad Hoc Committee that is headed by Don B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peggy S. It passed by a unanimous vote.

**Hall of Fame:** Pat B provided an updated list of the Hall of Fame Voting members. He asked that each BoD member contact their panel members and make sure their addresses are correct and that their heart is still into the voting process. He said 100% of the ballots were returned this year. He reminded the BoD members that the person who is nominating a candidate must include their own name on the nomination form.

Pat B also asked BoD members for their opinion about a nominator needing to be an ACC member, or if a non ACC family member can nominate someone. Jeanne H believes that we should let family members who are non ACC members nominate someone. Cathy P read the current policy which states that any ACC member who is in good standing can nominate anyone for the Hall of Fame. Pat B said that the form that we post in the Crib World does not state that the person has to be a current ACC member. Don H said that he felt there are family members that know the ACC members very and they may want to nominate that person for the award. Scott M said that he feels they should be an ACC member. Ron L agrees that the person nominating should be an ACC member. Fred W agrees.

Pat B said that any BoD member can change their voting member for the Hall of Fame at any time by contacting him and he will update his list.

Cathy P made the announcement that with great pleasure she is happy to announce that this years Hall of Fame inductee is Pat Barrett. Cathy P stated that we have 13 late ballots and 8 of them were BoD members. Please be timelier next year.

Hall of Fame voting results: Dave A -17 votes Pat B – 80 votes, Moose B – 5 votes Annett E - 26 votes, Jim L- 55 votes, Wayne S 29 votes, Duane T-43 votes Jack W 2-votes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marlene L discussed the income statement, comparative balance sheet and cash balance sheet. Marlene L said that the money coming in from Game Colony has decreased from last year. In 2010 we received \$7,200 and in 2011 we received \$4,500 due in part to the economy. Marlene L said that we purchased two new pieces of equipment in the last 6 months, Roy H got a new computer (\$547) and Larry H needed a new printer (\$1,200) for membership cards.

Marlene L brought up the question of rule book sales. It appears that there are several hundred rule books sitting around and wondering if we should send them to Larry H so he can send them out when someone wants to order one. Pat B said that tournament commissioners should have rule books available for tournament directors as needed. Larry H said he has 2,500 rule books and does not need any more. Larry H said if anyone has any extra rule books and wants to get ride of them they can give them to him. Marlene L said we have reached the point where the cost of publishing the rule books has been covered.

Don B asked where the budget comes from on the reports that Marlene sends to BOD members. Marlene L said that the budget is taken from what was spent the previous 6 months and is historically based. Cathy P said that they Executive committee gives input to Marlene L if they see that a line item has or will be going up due to costs or changes. Marlene L said that she reads the minutes of the previous meeting to see if there were any changes to be made. Don B asked if BoD members wanted to suggest a change in the budget. Jeanne H said that it should be brought to the Executive Committee. Jeanne H along with the BoD members all agreed that the job that Marlene L is doing is

great and they appreciate all the hard work she puts in. Bob M made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; Dave O 2<sup>nd</sup> – motion approved.

**Policy Manual:** Cathy P – Discussed replacement pages and a few items that were handed out to everyone with a list of each page needing replacement. You need to put that replacement in before the title page and after the table of contents. The handout shows exactly what chapter and verse has been changed. The biggest change has been that all of Chapter 6 has been replaced. Cathy P had made a copy of Chapter 6-14 in anticipation that the vote regarding the All American Team being rescinded and she will hand that out before the meeting is over. Cathy P said that with the help of Bob M the entire Policy Manual will be put on the ACC website. Roland H asked if the policy relating to all one day tournaments going to 3 out of 5 playoffs was in effect or not. Cathy P said it was passed that it was done immediately as of last meeting and that was an issue for the Tournament Commissioners.

**Membership Secretary's Report** – Larry H explained that new printer will save printing cost. Larry H said that membership is down slightly which has been the trend over the past few years.

Larry H passed out the updated Cribbage flyer. The Cribbage flyer has one change that needs to be approved then he will make 6,000-8,000 copies to get the price break. Joan R asked Larry H to email her the master copy of the flyer so she could include that in the packet that she sends out to people interested in setting up a new Grass Roots Club. Fred W asked that Larry H send him the quote that he receives for the printing of the flyers. Bob M asked that the flyer be made available on the ACC website. Jeanne H mentioned that she knows a cribbage player that can get another quote for printing and asked if Larry H would consider getting a quote from this person. Larry H will get quotes prior to printing. Larry H asked if anyone finds any changes that need to be made to the flyer, to contact him and let him know in the next few weeks, then the flyer will go before the Executive Committee for approval, then printing. Jeanne H confirmed with Joan R that the flyer needs to be updated to show that you only need 6 members to create a Grass Roots club. Joan R said that the Grass Roots hand out suggest 12 players, but the club only needs to have 6 members. Joan R also said that we have over 180 Grass Roots clubs now and will email Larry H so he can update that on the flyer. Larry H has updated that we have over 600 judges now. Dave C asked that we list all 3 tournament commissioners on the flyer, and asked that Larry H send him a list of all ACC members.

**New Master Point Program** – Larry H passed out a condensed version on the new software program. Larry H said the new program will improve the process and simplify things. Larry H said one of new changes would be to send tournament information to Marlene L after approval from tournament commissioners instead of to Diane W and Dave A. Larry H said the new program will also create the invitations to the TOC with input from the Grass Roots program. Jeanne H said that she feels like this may add a layer of work and slow the process. Larry H will revisit this issue with Marlene L to clarify the process. Cathy P asked if this was part of the software program, and Larry H said it is part of the software program. Larry H needs to get clarification if the TOC invite is part of the package along with who is the administrator before it can go out for bid. Valerie S said that she wants Larry H to send the information out to all BoD members ahead of time so they can review prior to the meeting. Don B asked if after reviewing information distributed, we see no major changes needed, would this be something that we would vote on during the next meeting in September? Larry H said yes and after that it would go to bid from there. Roland H asked how many regions the new program would allow. Larry H said it was unlimited. Jeanne H said that the bid opening would be posted in the Crib World when it is open. Larry H said he has detailed information about the entire program for anyone interested. All BoD members will review and we will revisit this in September

**Executive Committee Report** – Jeanne H – Approved Larry H new printer.

**Ethics Committee Report** – Ron L – Cathy P said that they Ethics committee did not take any actions.

**Grass Roots Program Report** – Joan R - Joan R said the Grass Roots meeting for anyone wanting to attend will be on Friday at 8:00 p.m. in the Palm Court. Joan R said that it is open for all members and if you want to be heard, you will be given a chance to speak. Don B asked if all Grass Roots directors were notified. Joan R said she did not notify all directors, but it will be put on the website and Crib World with the agenda in the future so everyone can find out when the meeting is in the future. Joan R said she has just over 4,000 members paid so far this year, with many being not sent in yet. We are seeing a slow growth in Grass Roots membership even though we are seeing a decline in AC membership. Joan R said that one change is that at the during the last Grass Roots meeting it was passed that the fees went up from \$12 to \$15 for the Regional and National tournament due to awards being earned. We have more members getting higher awards and the cost of the awards has gone up. The cost of gold and silver has gone up so we have to make some small changes some of our awards. Joan R said our manual will need to be updated to reflect the increase in the Regional and National tournament fees. Joan R explained that \$1 of the \$3 increase will be put back into the money being paid out to the qualifiers of the tournament; the other \$2 will offset the increase of the awards. Joan R said there are a few issues with the Grass Roots website in that the Regional and National tournament points earned are not showing up in the total points. Joan R clarified the difference between posted verses non posted points. Joan R said that there is a new level after Gold level called Platinum. Cathy P said that Paul Gregson is doing a great job of making a lot of information available on the website for individuals and for directors. Joan R will talk with Paul G about having the number of tournaments played listed next to the number of points earned so when looking at total points earned during the season, it can be determined how many actual tournaments have been played in. Herschel M said that the website has shown great improvement with regards to the travelers club. You can go on to Club 600 and see how many points each person has and how many tournaments each have played in. Cathy P said that many times points on the website are not updated can be due to Grass Roots fees not turned in timely, unpaid ACC fees, no paperwork sent in, or bad information when adding new players. Joan R explained that when you try to enter in an ACC number for new players that might be in the system you are not able to do so because if they were a previous member with points, and you just added their ACC number locally, they would not get credit for previous points earned. This is why it must be done at the regionally level. The region will enter the new members. Joan R said that Jeanne Waters sends letters out in April to anyone that earns Grass Roots awards so that all awards can be ordered at one time to save cost by ordering in large quantities. Cathy P said that all awards are earned annually and awarded annually.

**Update from Youth Cribbage:** Dan Z is still getting a steady request for manuals from all over the country. There has been discussion of more youth tournaments in the future. Dan Z sent 3 boards to Sue Young in Vermont who is doing a tournament in May. The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Sierra Youth Cribbage tournament is scheduled for the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. Dan expects between 60-80 players. Dan Z has seen a huge increase in board donations along with request for boards from teachers. Boards are being recycled and being put into the hands of youth cribbage players and teachers which is the intent. Dan Z had 41 pieces of exotic wood and he has found a school woodshop teacher that would put the holes in the boards. Dan Z is going to annually award either an organization or individual that goes out of their way to support the youth Cribbage movement. Dan Z has chosen Barbara Woodward/Sands Regency as the 1<sup>st</sup> recipient of the award which will be presented at the reception later today. There will be a youth tournament scheduled in the Sacramento area as a memorial for "Gordy Brown". They have \$400 donated for the tournament already and Dan Z will serve as the director. Grumpy Howard and Nancy Rojas have volunteered to help with the tournament. Dan is still taking questions via email regarding cribbage, and getting emails almost daily. Paul B is going to provide a link for Dan Z to give out to those who have specific questions on play. Dan is looking for rule books to send out to people that contact him with questions. Dan Z asked if we could put a link on the website so people could go online and order one. Todd will talk with Diane W to see if that is possible. Dan Z asked if they could add a link to Jay F so people who have cribbage boards and would like to find out more about their

unique board. Dan Z stated that he has had a hand in teaching and encouraging between 800-900 youth cribbage players.

**Internet Program Report** – Bob M – There has been 121 tournaments so far this year and we have 2 people reach their Life Internet Master, Mike Fetchel and Mark VanDyke. This season on the eCribbage website they have introduced a 9 game Grass Roots style internet tournament on Wednesdays. These tournaments alternate between 8 pm Eastern and 8 pm Pacific standard time. There has been up to 90 entries and the tournament goes anywhere from 90-120 minutes to play. Bob M said that there has been a page added to our website for people to look up their ID as some had been trying to put in the wrong ID as each site is different. On the ACC facebook site we have been getting about 150 hits per week. Any person can post on the facebook page and upload pictures. The site has pictures uploaded by Rick Westerman from the various tournaments. We also have a twitter account and the Sands is the main person entering into this site.

Bob M made a motion that the ACC spends \$400 for a year in advertisement on eCribbage, Larry P 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.

Discussion: Bob M said that this is something that we have been doing the past few years and it is in the budget currently. Bob M said that we do get income from Game Colony and that money goes into the general fund. Scott M asked if this was some way that we could bring new players to weekend tournaments from the internet play. Bob M said that over the last year he had over 100 inquires from internet players about the ACC and in Denver Colorado the Grass Roots club has picked up new members. Bob M said that about 95% of players on Game Colony are ACC members and on eCribbage it is about the same. All inquires are sent to Bob M so he can follow up with them regarding the ACC. Bob M said that when a player reaches an award level in the internet play they receive a Bill O'Malley board which is a cost of \$40 each. Fred W said that he is concerned that on the internet you can reach your award at about a 12 times faster rate than in live tournaments and he is wondering if we are covering the costs of the awards. Bob M said that with what we are getting from Game Colony annually (\$4,500), and the expenses for this year being under \$600. Rick Shea explained that if you have a great season on the internet you may earn 500 points each year, which would take 4 years to earn your master, where as if you play in the live tournaments and play with the same results, you could earn your master in the same time. Bob M said that in the 8 years since the internet cribbage has awarded points, there have been 36 awards earned. Bob M said there are 42,000 internet cribbage players signed up around the world. Bob M said there is a link that directs any player to the ACC website at any time. Jeanne asked Dave A if there is anyway that we could have an opinion poll on the website asking people how they heard about the ACC. Dave A said he would look into that.

**PR/Publicity Report** – Norm N – Norm said he looked into magazine advertising, but was not impressed about that. Norm N is looking for anyone who can provide information regarding internet advertising. Jeanne H said that she would like to have Charlie F on the committee. Charlie F shared with the BoD a business card that he has available for Grass Roots clubs. He said that if you email him your information regarding you club, he will print business card specifically for your club to hand out. Charlie said he could also send out the template in word format to anyone that would like one. Jeanne H said she would also like to get Tracy Yott involved in this committee. Rick S that he thinks we could work on trying to capture more the internet players in the ACC. Jeanne H asked Bob M to consider increasing the amount of money he requests next year for advertising on the internet.

**Judges Report** – Jeff S – Since the inception of the ACC judging in tournaments the problem that has plagued us the most, has been bad judge decisions. This has been addressed by stating that there had to be 2 judges present in every ruling. We seem to have a problem with senior judges that don't think they need to have a second judge and do not read from the rule book. With everyone being able to become a judge because it is an open book test, we are considering have a tiered system of judging so that when there is a judge call, we have new judge's (apprentice judges) be accompanied by a senior

judge so they can help them when they need to look in the book for reading of the rule. If anyone has any ideas of how to address this problem, please see Jeff S after the meeting. Todd Malmgren asked if someone sees a bad judge call, how should they report it? Jeff S said to write it down or send it to him so he can address the situation. Joanne H asked if Jeff S would do a column in Crib world about this issue. Ron L asked if tournament directors could communicate the rule about 2 judges present for all calls at their tournaments. Julie F said that the rule book should be used for every call and that all judges need to have the rule book with them when they go to the call and open it and use it. Peggy Scalley said that she is one of the judges that became one just because she was a tournament director, but she is not comfortable going to any judge call. Peggy S said that many judge calls are called against new players, and that we need to be considerate of their feelings and when we read the rule from the book, we should say that this is policy and not make a big deal of the error. Annett E said that we should educate our players to read the rule book and be aware of the rules. Paul B said that when the 2 judges are called, they should consult the error away from the players prior to making the ruling. Valerie S said that all Grass Roots directors should tell all new players how the process will be handled when there is a problem and that we need institute this at the Grass Roots level so there is no room for misunderstanding of how a judges ruling is handled. Don B said he has seen situations where a senior judge will take control of the call and the less experienced judge had no input, and many times the less senior judge did not agree with the senior judge's call. Jeff S said that is why you read from the book. Paul B said that a senior judge should always have a new judge with them and let them make the call to get the practice.

#### **Website Report – Dave A –**

**Tournament Rules & Guidelines Report – Roy H –** Roy H said that when he became the tournament commissioner in 1989 the policy and procedure manual stated that there is not be to two 1-Day tournaments in the same venue on the same weekend. Cathy P said that originally it was said that you could not sanction a one day tournament, but in the 1980's they found that in some areas they could not find a venue to hold a 2 day tournament, so the board made a rule to allow one day tournaments, but they could not be held in the same venue as another tournament in the same weekend. The reason around that is that if you could afford to rent the hall for 2 one day tournaments you had to hold a 2 day tournament. Don H said he does not like 1 day tournaments because you do not get a lot of people to attend them. Don H said he drives long distance to attend them and has to get a hotel. Don H also said that he thinks people are going to 1 day tournaments to get more points and it is not fair that you earn the same master points as a 2 day tournament. Don H said that he thinks that the consolation should be for anyone who has not qualified for the main, and if you qualify for the main, you are not eligible to play in the consolation tournament. Pat B said that this has happened twice this year, and he feels that this is a good thing and that he feels that tournament commissions should have the right to make the decision as to sanction them or not, based upon information that they have. Pat B feels like we are supposed to be promoting cribbage and we should make an exemption for this rule. Don B said that in Southern CA there are many times that directors can only get a venue for one day, so other directors get together and work on getting a tournament on the alternate day at a different location. Don B feels this is a good way to promote one day tournament.

Roy H made a motion that two 1-Day tournaments may not be conducted in the same venue on consecutive days.

Revised motion; two 1-Day tournaments may not be conducted in the same venue on consecutive days, however each Regional Tournament Commissioner may grant a maximum of 3 weekend exemptions per year per region Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> , motion passed 18-6.



Don B made an amendment to the motion that each Regional Tournament Commissioner may grant a maximum of 3 weekend exemptions per year per region, Dave C 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.

A vote was taken to make the motion effective retro to the beginning of the cribbage year, which passed.

Discussion: Willie E said that he thinks having 2 tournaments in the same location is a good thing. Dick said that there are many people who work on a weekend day and may only be able to attend one day. Herschel M said he likes 2 day tournaments, but he sees why they need to have 1 day tournaments. His experience is that more than half of the two 1-Day tournaments have different people attend. Herschel M brought up a situation where a person lost their venue so they moved the 1<sup>st</sup> one day tournament to the same location as the other one day tournament. Keith W said that we could put a limit on how many 1 day tournaments we allow each year. Peggy S said that most of the time the 2 one day tournaments being held are by 2 different directors which make a difference in the amount of time committed to running a tournament. Roland H said we should make our main goal to further the ACC, and we can do that by having more tournaments. Mel Ashley asked if the commissioners had to approve the tournaments it would be the responsibility for each commissioner to approve. Fred W said that he thinks that it should be limited and it could be put up to the specific commissioner to approve or not. Pat B asked that we allow 3 exemptions to the rule to allow the tournaments that have been already doing this be allowed to continue with the approval of their respective commissioner. Roy H said that if we could get the rule in the policy manual, then he can address the specific question as to allow certain tournaments an exemption. Roy H said that the one tournament that he did approve, was listed with two different addresses. Don H said that he is on both sides of the issue, as he is a director. Don H feels that the more tournaments we have the better even though it will reduce the size of people attending the tournaments. Julie F said that she personally cannot run a 2 day tournament due to working full time still. Julie F said that she has seen her rent increase twice what she usually pays (\$1,000), and cannot afford the rent for one day let alone 2 days. Paul B said that with this discussing we will now see this increase. Keith W said it is not a policy and then Cathy P said that is a practice that has been in place prior to the Policy manual coming into existence.

Roy H announced that he has 9, 14 and 22 game score cards available. He also has laminated play off bracket boards (32 and 64) for tournament directors if they need them. Roy H spoke with the other two tournament commissions and asked if they could have all the money that is taken out of entry fees that is being donated for non-profit organizations and or charities be sent via a check made out to the ACC to the respective commissioners (with name of charity and address) and then it would be sent to Marlene L. A check would then be sent directly to the charities from the ACC. Marlene would then get the information to Cribbage World and then it would be posted quarterly. This would address the concerns that have been brought up about where the money is going from entry fees. Jeanne explained that this will help with our record keeping of money being donated to non-profit organizations. Roy H stated that our policy states that any amount of money taken out of tournament fees in excess of \$100 is required to have a receipt. The check being sent in, would serve as the receipt for the donation. If there are specific concerns the tournament director will work with their tournament commissioner. Each tournament commissioner will be responsible to govern their respective areas, and communicate to Crib World money donated that does not go through the ACC.

**President's Report** – Jeanne H – Jeanne H brought up the issue regarding the ACC logo expiring. We have 2 different choices that we currently use. We have the original ACC logo that is on the membership forms, and the other one that appears in Crib World. Annett E explained that you must submit a specimen of the logo with application fee to get the trademark for 10 years. Don B made a motion that we renew both logos. Bob M 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed by a unanimous decision.

**Executive VP Report** – Todd S – It was announced that Don H would be taking over next year for the TOC tournament for Joan Rein and Peggy and Rick Shea will be taking over for Jeanne H and Roy H for the JPW Open.

Todd S said there is no one showing interest in directing the GN XXXIV in the Central Region as of yet. He asked if it could be run the in Crib World to get some interest from members. It is scheduled to be awarded during the next meeting in September 2012.

**VP of Policy Report** – Cathy P –Cathy P said we need to replace page 6;14, that was passed this morning regarding resending the All American Team.

**VP of Operations Report** – D Campbell- Dave A is getting a storage cabinet to keep the old cribbage archives in, and he also needs a new printer.

**Member at Large Report** – Jeff S – nothing new to talk about.

**Update of Grand National XXXI:** Joan R – plans are moving along smoothly with no major changes. Tournaments before and after the GN in the local area were discussed. Rooms are \$89 per night at the hotel. Parking will be \$2.00. A reservation has been made for all board members, but each person needs to contact the hotel to confirm the dates and provide a credit card to hold the room. Information regarding the upcoming tournament and information about the area and events going on was distributed to all board members. Joan R plans on setting up a website with information regarding the Grand National through out ACC website. Raffle tickets will be sold at tournaments prior to the Grand National with drawings to be held prior to the Consolation at the Grand National. A winner to be drawn during each tournament where the tickets are sold. If you purchased raffle tickets at any tournament they will all go into the drawing bin. There will be great prizes such as 2 free nights at the Host Hotel for the GN, rooms at the Sands, football tickets, and many other things. Shirts and sweatshirts will be on sale starting this weekend for the Grand National XXXI.

**Update of Grand National XXXII:** Dave O – Brief discussion on plans for GN32. The hotel in Atlanta will hold up to 800 people. Dave O said that you are very close to many attractions and the hotel will provide free shuttle.

**Bids for Grand National XXXIII:** Brian Neeley: Valerie S said that she is one of the co-directors and they are meeting later today. More information to be discussed at our next meeting.

**Rule Modification-renege** - Paul B – Herschel M said that he sent a letter to Jeanne H regarding resigning from the rules committee as he feels that person should be a BoD member. Cathy P said that there would be a new person appointed at the executive committee meeting later today. Herschel M said that he believes that information should be run by the committee prior to going before the board. Paul B said that he received a call from a judge regarding a player calling a go when the count was 21 or lower. Paul B said that when he was asked he did rule it as a renege when he was asked, even though he thought it was not fair. Paul B said that he thinks it is outrageous that a judge would be called on this and he believes that it is a sportsman call and that no one should ever call a judge when they are trying to call a renege for anyone saying go when it obviously not a go. Jeff S said that there should be no judge that would ever honor a player saying the other player reneged by calling a go when the call is 21 or lower. Jeff S said that maybe there should be an article in Crib World. Keith W said that it clearly states the rule in the book that it cannot be a renege. Herschel M said that there was an article in Crib World previously which clearly covers the situation. Rick S said that the rule should state that if the count is less than 22, it could not be called a go. Jeanne H said that this will need to be taken to the rules committee.

Paul B said that in the past we have made changes in the rule book and just added the printed pages to our existing rule book. Paul B said that maybe we could print a couple of blank pages in each rule book, then when a new rule, modification, or addendums is passed it could be written on the blank pages.

**Ethics Committee clarifications** – Don B –Don B wanted to address some questions and concerns about Chapter 5:4 rule B & C in our policy and procedure manual regarding membership information. Cathy P said that our policy manual states that any information gathered for any member can only be used for ACC purposes. It was decided that an attorney review this policy.

**ACC's Assumed Power of Discretion-** Don B – Don B discussed Chapter 9:2 B saying that he believes that the ethics committee should have the BoD approval prior to any suspension. There was much discussion regarding policy on this matter. Ron L said the process followed allows the offender an opportunity to address the complaint prior to any action taken.

Bob M made a motion that we seek an attorney's opinion regarding the wording in Chapter 5:4 B & C and the legal implication of Chapter 9:2 B not going before the BoD for approval. Don B 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed. Jeanne H said consulting an attorney would be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting. Cathy P asked that Don B in the future send out information to all BoD members at least 3 weeks prior to the upcoming meeting and asked Jeanne H to add to the next agenda.

Paul B asked if the ACC is a non profit, and Cathy P said yes, and that she could provide that information to anyone that needed it.

**Proposal for Three Yearly BoD Meetings** – Keith W –Keith W said that he wanted to address the point that was brought up about ACC members that live in the East and that there is only 1 out of every 7 meetings held in the Eastern region. Keith said that if an ACC member wants to attend a meeting they would have to travel a great distance, where as the other regions have a better advantage due to the meetings being held closer to their respective area. Keith W said he would like to change Article VIII to three BoD meetings each year as it was back in the 90's. Keith W would like to have the proposed meeting to be held in Raleigh NC at the National Open in July. Keith W stated the following reasons; 1<sup>st</sup> Long BoD meeting currently. 2<sup>nd</sup> This would coincide with the end of the Cribbage year, which be an appropriate time to institute changes. 3<sup>rd</sup> New BoD members could attend the meeting as non voting members to get up to speed on issues before the board. Keith W said that if the BoD wants to stay with only 2 meetings, that he proposes that the meeting held at the Grand National be dropped and that one in Raleigh NC be added in July as they are exactly 6 months apart. Cathy P said that the meeting held at the Grand National is the corporation annual meeting. Peggy S said that although she is appreciative to the challenge of the people living in the East, when she ran for the board, she only calculated to only take off a certain amount of time, and the extra expense to travel to the East every year was not part of her consideration when she ran for the board. Don H said that one compromise would be to have the BoD meeting in Raleigh NC the year that the Grand National was being held in the West region. Don H said that he is against having 3 meeting per year. Valerie S asked if the Raleigh NC is larger than the JPW Open and the Grand National. Cathy P said it was not. Don B said if there are enough agenda items to hold an additional meeting over the next few years. Pat B said that having an additional meeting in July and then one again one in September would be not be productive and he also agreed that the cost and time factor was part of his decision when running for the board. Pat B said that he believes that part of the mystic of having the meeting at the Grand National is getting a diverse attendance of people at the tournament which would allow more people a chance to attend the meeting. Jeff S said he does not believe that we have enough material to cover for 3 meetings. Jeanne H said that we want to have a diverse selection of people (such as the working class) on the BoD we need to be respective of the time and cost it takes to be on the board and not put any more undue pressure for new people to run for the board. Roy H said that over the past few years we had a goal to update our policy and procedure manual, and our meetings were very

long and in cumbersome. We now we have that pretty much updated, and Roy H feels our meetings are going to be much shorter in length, so we do not have a need for 3 meetings each year. Peggy S said that she runs a tournament every year in July and this would conflict with that. Peggy S also said that with her 3 weeks vacation it is spent at every cribbage event as it is, and she would not have the time off from work to travel to Raleigh NC for a tournament in July. Cathy P said that the Grand National as it stands now, is to be held anywhere from September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>. In the past the GN could have been held at a later time, which allowed the meetings to be equally spaced out. If we were to add this meeting in July, we would have to change more things than just this. Cathy P said that it was in the manual that a BoD member only had to be present at 50% of the meetings at that time due to the cost associated to attending the meetings. Jeanne asked for a straw poll to see how the BoD feels. There were only 3 people that felt it was a good idea. Jeanne told Keith W to rework the proposal and resubmit if he wanted to.

**Proposal to Establish Same Weekend Distance Limitations-** Keith W –Keith W would like there to be a rule to not having two sanctioned tournaments in the same region on the weekend. Keith W said that he feels that these tournaments draw from the same pool of people and this reduces the number of people attending. Keith W said that this makes it difficult for directors to offset the cost of the hall rental and many times the ability to meet the hotel requirements for rooms sold. Keith W would like to see the practice of not having two sanctioned tournaments within a 400 miles radius or "halo" from each other. Don H said that the East has the lowest number of tournaments and if we do this it limits the number of tournaments that would be held. Don H said that if you direct a tournament you know that most of the time you are not going to get the people that have to travel long distances. Don H said that what we need to do is promote cribbage and have a lot of tournaments. Roland H asked that directors communicate between each other when there are conflicting tournament and see if they can change their date. Peggy S said the final decision to sanction a tournament is up to the tournament commissioner. Bob M said that there are many times that we have to make decisions which tournaments to attend if they conflict. No one seemed interested in pursuing this issue.

**Proposal to change the Process of National Championship** – Keith W –Keith W would like to see a National Championship Playoff Tournament held at the Grand National each year which would be based on MRP standings. The tournament would consist of 32 people, 10 from each region and the other 2 people be the next highest MRP totals. There would be no substitutions for players and no shows would be a forfeit. Keith W would like the tournament funded by the ACC. This would not replace the existing tournament. Roy H said that this tournament is the one that is currently held in Reno at the Feb tournament. Willie E clarified that this tournament would only recognize one person as being the National Champion where as the tournament we have now recognizes a region as the winner. Peggy Scalley said that with all the tournaments that are being held currently during the Grand National, it is difficult to find all the locations to hold each tournament and meeting now. Dave A said that it is similar to the national basketball tournament that could be considered. Jeanne H asked for a straw poll to see if there interest in bringing this back to the board for further consideration. It was agreed that Keith W and Dave A could bring this back before the board.

Next BoD meeting will be September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 in Appleton WI starting at 9:00AM.

Cathy P made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Valerie S 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting Adjourned 4:10 p.m.