

Northern Virginia Bridge Association
Minutes – Board Meeting
3/9/2010

The March 2010 NVBA Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna. The meeting was called to order at 7:25 PM.

Those attending were:

Bob Boyd, President
Alan Breed, Vice President
Lynda Flanger, Treasurer
Bruce Houston, Board Member
Paul Black, Board Member
Leo Cardillo, Past President and Unit Game Coordinator
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Editor
Dave Loken, Newsletter Columnist
Absent were Board members Jennifer Nisenoff, David Banh, Jim Dick and Virginia Gibbons.

Bruce Houston made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2010 Board meeting as revised, Paul Black seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report

1. Lynda Flanger distributed the following reports: Balance Sheet as of 2/28/2010, the year-to-date Profit & Loss statement, the year-to-date Profit & Loss comparison between 2009 and 2010, and a comparison to date of actual costs vs. projected budget costs.
2. Board members remain interested in receiving a Unit game report. That information needs to come from the Unit Game Director, Gene Schuyler. Unit Game Manager Leo Cardillo will work with Gene to obtain this data and circulate it to interested Board members.
3. Paul Black made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Alan Breed seconded the motion, and all approved.

Unit Game Free Play Policy – to be effective 1 April 2010

The Board approved the following policy with regard to free plays issued at the weekly NVBA Unit game:

Free plays will continue to be issued to the top N-S and E-W pairs in the 199er game. Effective 1 April 2010, in stratiflighted events, free plays will be issued to the top overall pair in A/X and the top overall pair in B/C. In stratified events (including STaC games), free plays will be issued to the top pair in each section. No free plays will be issued for Thursday night sessions of NVBA and WBL Sectional tournaments or for team events.

Board Elections

1. Leo Cardillo gave the Nominating Committee's report. All current Board members whose positions are up for re-election have agreed to run for another two-year term. These positions are:
 - a. VP: Alan Breed
 - b. Treasurer: Lynda Flanger
 - c. Executive Director: Jim Dick
2. David Banh is resigning his position on the Board, effective May 5, 2010, because he has too many other commitments that are conflicting with his being able to attend Board meetings. Amanda Carter has agreed to run for David's position.

Annual Meeting

1. The Board is looking for a volunteer to serve as the Annual Meeting coordinator. Food will be served beginning at 5:30 PM. Leo will talk to various people about bringing the food, including the strawberries that are a trademark of this event. The budget for the event is \$1,300. Ron Kral will obtain the cakes with the names of the 2009 Life Masters on them.
2. Secretary Jennifer Nisenoff is responsible for sending out letters to the trophy winners and Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney winners inviting them to the event and preparing the free plays that accompany their awards.

Life Master – Non-Life Master Game

1. Ron Kral will handle the matchups again this year. He will be putting signup sheets out at the April NVBA Sectional and at the Annual Meeting, and will try to match up players as much as possible ahead of time so they have time to discuss a convention card and bidding styles.
2. Paul Black made a motion that the NVBA charge a flat fee to all participants of \$5.00. Alan Breed seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mentoring Program

NVBA President Bob Boyd reviewed the planning for establishing a mentoring program for players in the NVBA with 0-199 MPs. Bob has recruited 12 players who will make themselves available at least once a month to play with a Newcomer/Intermediate player and another 5-6 who will play once quarterly with these newcomers. The plan is for the mentor to play for free and for the mentee to

pay the \$7 Unit game entry fee that is charged to players with 5-199 MPs. Bob would like to run the program on a trial basis for a year. He will arrange matchups between the experienced players and 0-199er players who sign up to play with a mentor.

Unit Game

Unit Game Manager Leo Cardillo is working on developing an inclement weather policy for the Unit Game. The Unit Game Director and Manager need phone numbers of a couple of executive directors at Beth El who can be reached at home or by cell phone when they are not at Beth El and there is a forecast for inclement weather. Once the Unit Game Manager or Unit Game Director have determined that a scheduled game has to be canceled, they must immediately put a message on the NVBA Bridge Information phone line, and send emails to the NVBA Webmaster for posting a notice on the website and to Steve Robinson to send out a notice to his email network. Leo is working on getting these phone numbers and then establishing a policy to go into the NVBA Policy and Procedures assigning responsibility for notification of the game cancellation and/or change of venue.

***Bridgemate* Electronic Scoring Experiment at February NVBA Sectional**

The *Bridgemate* company loaned the NVBA a server and the individual table devices for electronic scoring at the February NVBA Sectional. Feedback to Board members on the use of these devices was positive. *Bridgemate* has already improved on its original version, adding more menu options for players and Directors. For the Unit to buy a server and enough individual units to handle a 50 table event – for the weekly Unit game – would cost about \$7,000. For the time being, the Unit is going to wait to see if the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference (MABC) decides to purchase a large quantity of these devices for use at Regionals, which the Unit could then possibly rent or which the MABC would make available for use at our Sectionals, in addition to the playing cards, bidding boxes and boards the MABC currently supplies to our Sectionals. Tournament organizers believe the devices would allow the Unit to realize some savings in caddy expenses at tournaments, but would not change the number of Directors needed to run the tournaments.

Joint NVBA-WBL Board Meeting

The Board discussed the possibility of holding a joint meeting with the WBL Board as was done annually in the 1990's. No votes or decisions were taken by the two Boards at these meetings, but it gave Board members a chance to get together and exchange ideas. NVBA Board members agreed it could be useful to hold such a meeting, perhaps after the new Boards are elected at the Units' respective Annual Meetings in May. The NVBA believes that education and mentoring programs are among the topics that would be beneficial to both sides to discuss, as well as bridge club programs in schools and the possibility of arranging interscholastic contests in the Washington metropolitan area.

Review of Books

Treasurer Lynda Flanger will provide Rod Severson a file of the activity in NVBA accounts for the past Fiscal Year. Once Rod has completed his independent

review and the Board is satisfied that the accounts are in order, Lynda will file the tax return for the Unit.

Meeting Adjourned.

Paul Black made a motion to adjourn our meeting and Bruce Houston seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Next Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be held on April 6, 2010 at 7:00 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna. All NVBA members are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend, please alert Alan Breed in advance so he can ensure we have enough space in the meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McCoy