

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2016

ATTENDEES: Ron Kral, President
Donna Hickling, Secretary
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member
Susan Miskura, Board Member
Joe Hertz, Board Member
Howard Stevens, Education Chair
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Chair
David Lindley, Email Manager
Adam Gann, Junior Advisor

Unable to attend: Leo Cardillo, Ann Atcheson, Jim Gerding

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the February meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 11:05 a.m. on February 28, 2016 at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia. Ron and the Board welcomed Adam Gann as the Junior Advisor.

Secretary's Report

The Board reviewed the minutes from the February Board of Directors meeting and approved them agreed upon changes. The Board also reviewed the status of all action items. The results of this review are reflected in the Action Item table at the end of these minutes.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer and the Vice President, review of the Treasurer's report was postponed until the March meeting. Ron has arranged for the annual NVBA audit.

Other Items of Business

1. Annual Meeting Planning

Several items were discussed in conjunction with planning for the annual meeting, which will be held on May 5, 2016.

Elections are held at the annual meeting. The Vice President, Treasurer, and three Board positions are up for election. Ron requested that Jim and Donna constitute the nominating committee.

The Mini-McKenney medals and Ace of Clubs certificates, both with accompanying free plays, are awarded at the meeting. Donna is responsible for ordering the Mini-McKenney medals and writing the free plays; Ron is responsible for the Ace of Clubs certificates.

We award four trophies at the annual meeting: Woman of the Year, Man of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and the Rush Buckley award. Once the awardees are determined, their names need to be added to the trophies.

Red, Hot, and Blue will provide the food. Vegetarian beans will also be served. Members will not be required to bring pot luck dishes.

2. Sectional Report

The Sectional report for February from Margot was somewhat delayed.

On Saturday, Sectional attendance was the highest ever. As a result, NVBA needs to purchase additional tables to cover increased attendance and replace any tables that need to be discarded. Ron usually buys tables from Bed, Bath, and Beyond for \$30 to \$35 each. The Board agreed that fifteen or sixteen tables should be purchased, but tabled this decision pending the outcome of the search for a dedicated bridge center, which should be completed in April. (If both the Unit Games and the Sectionals are held in the same space, the total number of required tables will decrease).

3. Sectional Results Posting

NVBA Sectional results show up on the WBL website, but not on the NVBA website. Ron asked Susan to send him the link to the NVBA results on the WBL website.

In addition, Jay Whipple may discontinue supporting FastResults, leaving members with ACBL Live.

4. LM/NLM Entry Fee

The NVBA has typically charged \$5 for the LM/NLM entry fee; however, this fee needs to be voted on the by the Board each year. Ron moved that it remain at \$5; the motion was seconded by Joe; the board unanimously agreed. Ron stated that this game brings in more money than any other game of the year.

5. Coordinate 199er STaC games with WBL

Howard has raised the question of whether the NVBA limited STaC game should have the same point range, 0-500, as that of the WBL rather than the current 0-199 limit. This proposal has the advantage that our limited game participants would have the opportunity to place in the overalls, giving them the opportunity to win more points. After discussion, the Board agreed to preserve the status quo; among several reasons, the Board felt that our 199ers would not like an influx of more advanced players. This discussion raised the concern of motivating players to continue playing after they have “aged out” of the 199er program. The Board agreed that this concern should be addressed on an individual basis.

6. Approval of the Unit Game and 199er Game Schedule and Pricing

The Board had previously agreed that Unit Game A/X and B/C prices would be \$10 for all types of games. At this meeting, we agreed that 199er STaC games would be \$8, the same as most other 199er games; only the Sectional 199er game will be priced at \$10.

The Board also reviewed the 2016 schedule, voting to change the ACBL Charity game to August 18, 2016 and replace it with the Unit Championship game on August 11, 2016. Both Lucy and Kevin worked on developing the schedule, but Lucy will have control of the final version.

7. Free Play Proposal

Kevin presented a straw man proposal. Discussion was postponed until the next meeting to give Board Members a chance to review the proposal.

8. 199er Survey

Kevin presented the preliminary results of the 199er Survey. On the question of hand records for the Swiss Team games, respondents either liked them or did not care. They did, however, not like so many Swiss Team games being held in October. The information about the October Swiss Team games was entered as free form responses that have not been completely analyzed, rather than “hard” quantitative data.

Susan is analyzing and producing a summary of the free form responses.

The Board requested a formal report from Kevin.

9. 199er “Dave Murray” Award

A version of the Dave Murray award may be given for friendliness in the 199er game.

10. Unit Championship Giveaway

One of the Unit Championship games will be given for an Ed Lewis Memorial Game on Sunday afternoon. If there are additional Unit Championship games, one will be given to Mike Zane.

New Business

We would like to advertise the Unit 199er games at the club games in Unit 218. Joe will develop a flyer in coordination with Susan and with input from Kevin and Howard.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT: The next NVBA Board meeting will be held at 11:00 am on March 20, 2016 at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia. The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Action Items

Item No.	Date	Item	Assignee	Status
1	6/7/2015	Post 199er lecture materials on the Web site	Kevin	Kevin sent the materials to Ron, who will place them on the web site in April
2	6/9/2015	Print, read, and edit first 10 pages of NVBA Policies and Procedures	All	On hold
7	9/13/2015	Solicit NVBA volunteers and contact other organizations to identify potential caddies.	Joe	The Board agreed unanimously that Yuen deAnda is an excellent candidate to help with the caddy issue. Joe will request her help.

9	9/13/2015	Check with high school clubs to identify new caddies	Ron	After investigation, the Thomas Jefferson High School bridge club was determined not to be a good source for caddies.
10	9/13/2015	Identify a new caddy master	Leo	Open; See item 7
11	9/13/2015	Review Board Member position descriptions	Howard, Kevin	Ron, Susan, and Lucy went through the descriptions. They will provide their results to Howard and Kevin for review and revision of the descriptions.
18	10/4/2015	Draft standard contract for directors that hold their own Sectional games	Margot	Open
21	11/8/2015	Develop proposal to reduce Unit Game free plays to 10% of receipts	Leo	After review, Leo determined that addressing budget issues by reducing the number of free plays is not feasible.
27	12/20/2015	Solicit letters of intent from Club owners	Leo, Francesca	On hold pending completion of dedicated bridge center negotiations
30	12/20/2015	Identify hard data required to make recommendations to increase Unit Game attendance	Ron, Susan	Open. Susan has identified some populations of interest.
35	12/20/2015	Establish Gmail account	Joe	Complete; NVBAUnit 218@gmail.com has been reserved
36	1/31/2016	Track and aggregate table count data	Leo	Open
37	1/31/2016	Ask Sidney Graves to inventory the Unit's supplies and equipment	Ron	Complete. Sidney agreed to perform the inventory
38	1/31/2016	Determine amount of rent club managers are paying	Leo	Open
39	1/31/2016	Revise 199er survey and distribute	Kevin	Complete
40	1/31/2016	Set up NVBA cell phone	Leo	Complete
41	2/28/2016	Identify candidates for five open Board positions	Jim, Donna	
42	2/28/2016	Produce Ace of Clubs certificates	Ron	
43	2/28/2016	Order Mini-Mckenney medals	Donna	

44	2/28/2016	Write out Ace of Clubs and Mini-Mckenney free plays	Donna	
45	2/28/2016	Determine Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and the Rush Buckley award	Open	
46	2/28/2016	Give Ron information on Rookie of the year calculation; criteria are in the P&P, but some information is required from ACBL.	Lucy	
47	2/28/2016	Add Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Rush Buckley recipient to their respective trophies	Open	
48	2/28/2016	Analyze free form responses from 199er survey	Susan	
49	2/28/2016	Develop formal report for 199er survey	Kevin	
50	2/28/2016	Develop flyer for advertising Unit Game at NVBA club games	Joe	
51	2/28/2016	Send link to NVBA Sectional results on WBL website to Ron	Susan	

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Hickling, Secretary