

Richmond Bridge Association
Unit 109
Board of Directors Meeting
March 22, 2014

Present: Paul Anderson, Barry Fratkin, Debra Gardner, Randall Holden, Ed Kinlaw, George Lewis, Linda MacCleave, Pat McDermott, Paul McGowan, David Prior

Absent: Richard Deyerle, Becky Duty, Harry Gellis

Ed Kinlaw brought the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Election of Officers at May Meeting

Since the president is a contested position, the board discussed procedures to ensure that every member have the opportunity to vote, while assuring that there be no double voting. After much discussion, it was moved and seconded that the following procedures be used:

1. Absentee voting will not be anonymous.
2. Ed will draft a letter to members outlining meeting details and election procedures, which will include a method for sending in a ballot by mail or online. This letter will be sent to George by the first week in April.
3. George will mail out the letter to each member separately by April 10. The mailing will include a ballot with the name and ACBL number of the member. Members who will not be attending the meeting may choose to mail the ballot to Becky Duty postmarked no later than May 4. Online voting, which will include fields for member names and ACBL number, will be emailed to Becky Duty no later than May 4.
4. Becky will bring these ballots to the May meeting.
5. Jim Creech or his designee will be given a list of the names of the people who have already voted. If anyone on that list is present at the meeting, he will inform Becky and the absentee ballot will be discarded. The member will vote at the meeting instead.
6. All ballots will be counted that evening. Each candidate is entitled to have a representative at the counting of the votes.

The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Paul Anderson passed out copies of documents prior to the meeting, which included: Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2013; Profit & Loss January through December 2013; Profit & Loss January 2014; Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2014. (These documents will be attached to these minutes at a later date.) Paul asked the Board to check these documents for mistakes.

He asked the board to consider the possibility of establishing a separate bank account for Friendly Bridge to make it easier for him to track where the expenses are going. This will be discussed and finalized at a later date.

Summary of Report:

- Profit & Loss January through December 2013 Net Income: \$3993.91
- Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2013 Total Liabilities and Equity: \$37,879.55
- Profit & Loss January 2014 Net Income: \$3045.59
- Balance Sheet as of January 31 2014 Total Liabilities and Equity: \$40,916.14

Richmond Winter Sectional

Barry presented details of the winter sectional. The sectional set a record for attendance. It was the largest sectional in Virginia, excluding Northern Virginia, since 2003. The next tournament will be at The Clarion, which is a great site. A contract has already been signed for June and October. See Barry's report at the end of the minutes.

Membership and Good Will Committee Report

Pat reported the total mailings from June 2011-March 2014:

- Welcome Packets: 193
- Cards Sent: 344
- Total Mailings: 567

Table Storage and Delivery

Dave Prior reported that Harry has been storing and delivering tables for tournaments for no fee except gasoline reimbursement. Harry has also been getting 6 free plays for each sectional. It was moved and seconded that Harry continue receiving free plays for every RBA game and sectionals, plus the government per-mile rate for the use of his van. The motion carried.

Fredericksburg Sectional

Paul McGowan reported that the Fredericksburg sectional made a profit of \$1600. There were a few minor problems. Debra Hage has agreed to be the tournament chair again next year. There will be a few changes, specifically with the times for the events.

Congeniality Award

The president solicited suggestions for the congeniality award. Names were suggested by the Board, and a secret vote was made and counted by the president. A winner was decided.

Finance Committee

Paul McGowan suggested that the finance committee be more clearly defined. He suggested the following:

1. The finance committee should have specific duties.
2. The person proposing an expense should include the cost and other details of the proposal.
3. The finance committee should not be involved in expenses related to events.

Sunday Night Game

Ed suggested again that the point limit be raised for the Sunday night game to 100 masterpoints. His players enjoy the game and would like to be able to keep playing on Sunday night. It was moved and seconded that the Sunday night masterpoint limit be raised to 100. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda MacCleave
Acting Secretary

Barry's Report
Richmond Winter Sectional
January 18-20, 2014

1. Attendance set all-time highs, 247.5 tables, 320 participants, 1,007.26 master points awarded
 - a. Friday tables -77, most ever on Friday;
 - b. Saturday morning tables - 53, most ever;
 - c. Sunday Bracketed Swiss – 43 teams, most ever.
2. Largest sectional in Virginia, excluding Northern Virginia, at least since 2003 according to ACBL records.
3. Cleared approximately \$1,650.
 - a. Hospitality (food) costs were similar to past tournaments
 - b. \$240 given out in cash prizes
 - c. Paid Buster (caddy) extra to help on Thursday table setup and Sunday takedown
 - d. George Lewis assisted as director at all six sessions
 - e. Door prizes were from Denny's, O'Charley's and Tripp's. Seemed to be appreciated (Costs nothing)
4. Good attendance from out of town players
 - a. Did not recommend the Magnuson. Days Inn was received as got what you paid for.
 - b. Low Bridge rate \$55.00 vs. cost of gas possibly a factor
5. Friendly Bridge players record highs
 - a. Friday 29 tables in two sessions – most ever
 - b. Saturday morning 20.5 – most ever
 - c. Bracketed Swiss – 11 teams, up from 4
 - d. Record 71.5 tables of friendly bridge players
6. Sunday lunch was well received
 - a. BBQ and tuna fish were adequate for record number of players
 - b. Caterer prepared for heavy appetites
 - c. Don't think anyone went away hungry
7. Hospitality
 - a. Mathesons and Alferinks did a great job
 - b. Support from RBA players was wonderful
 - c. Many comments from out-of-towners about this being the best food of any tournament.
8. Partnership
 - a. Terry Grady and Anne Atwood jumped in with enthusiasm. They had lots of requests and accommodated everyone.
 - b. Successfully accommodated BAM standby
9. Because of large turnout, MP awards were attractive
 - a. BAM winners got **10.78**, compared to usually 6.0
 - b. Top point getters got 41 points, more than any other 3-day tournament in Virginia
 - c. Saturday overall open winners got **9.8** vs. 7.33 (June a.m.)
10. Playing conditions
 - a. Anne Duty did usual superb job
 - i. Ran first time bracketed swiss without a hitch and finished earlier than stratified swiss
 - ii. Clarion has a PA system if we provide a microphone
 - b. George was a great help as assistant director and worked all sessions because of attendance

- c. Players got quick attention from calls for “Director, please”
- d. Players got quick response from caddy in Sunday Swiss game

11. Competitiveness

- a. Players were excited about the points that they won
- b. Stratification broke down as follows:
 - i. 29% of players were >2000. (A)
 - ii. 11.6% of players were 750-2000 (B)
 - iii. 30.5% of players were 0-750 (C)
 - iv. 29% of players were 0-300 (FB)
- c. Playing Cards for pre-dealt hands were new from RBA
- d. We requested new cards for Sunday’s Swiss.
- e. Bridge Mates worked well and were activated quickly
- f. Start times
 - i. Might consider a 3:00 p.m. afternoon start
 - ii. If more people are staying overnight might consider a third session.

12. Overall

- a. Players had good playing conditions, were well fed, and won lots of points, money, and door prizes.
- b. I think that players went home with a good impression of the RBA
- c. Full financial statement, cash, and receipts were given to Paul at Sunday’s conclusion

Criteria for a successful tournament

1. Playing venue

- a. Main room needs space for 60 tables, 70 for future (5,300 square feet)
- b. Preferably, separate room for lectures and Sunday lunch
- c. Easy access to snacks
- d. Ample room between tables for maneuverability.

2. Affordability

- a. Hospitality, ACBL, District 6, Director, free plays are somewhat fixed costs
- b. Room rental should not exceed \$1,000/day
- c. Sunday lunch should not exceed \$10.00/per person inclusive.

3. Rest Rooms

- a. At least 5 stalls for both men and women
- b. Paper products adequately maintained

4. Lectures

- a. Friday lecture is rotated among Richard, Linda and Ed
- b. Mark does Saturday lecture
- c. Separate room or area preferred.

5. Parking

- a. Ample on premises
- b. Lighted

6. Climate control and lighting

- a. Needs to work without creating excessive drafts
- b. Lighting good and even
- c. No mirrors