

ACBL – UNIT 161
MINUTES of MEETING
November 4, 2006 at DeGray State Park Lodge

ATTENDANCE:	Lou Agnew Jane Dickey David Siebert	Sharon Cissell Anne Martin Warren Swift
ABSENT:	Bonnie Blankinship Mike Compton Connie Fitch	Jane Cherry Jan Farnsworth Barbara Hess
GUESTS:	Marilyn Biegler, Andy Cosby, Cindy Devish, Margaret Kelly, Terry LaBove	

I CALL TO ORDER

President David Siebert called the meeting to order. The acting secretary reported the attendance figures and the absence of Bonnie Blankinship, Jane Cherry, Mike Compton, Jan Farnsworth, Connie Fitch, and Barbara Hess was duly noted. The President informed the board that Secretary Jan Farnsworth was recovering from surgery. The President especially welcomed guests Margaret Kelly, Ned Irving, and Terry LaBove, all of whom have been nominated to be new members of the board.

II MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, May 2, 2006

Minutes of the May 20, 2006 meeting were approved.

III FINANCIAL MATTERS

- A. Board members confirmed that their clubs had received distribution of the Hot Springs Regional Tournament revenue sharing amounts.
- B. Treasurer's report for the period 5/01/06 through 10/15/06 was approved and filed for audit. The present cash balance is \$20,077.63.
- C. Cecil Grattafiori will be asked to audit the Unit's books for 2006.
- D. The board discussed the advisability of exercising the one-time right for early termination of the \$10,000 CD maturing 8-8-10 and bearing interest at 4.33%. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved for the President to exercise the right to withdraw all funds from the current CD and to invest the proceeds plus uninvested cash of \$15,000 (for a total of \$25,000) at the best interest rate available, subject to a one-time removal. In discussing how much surplus was to be added to the CD, it was noted that the next regional tournament is two years from now so the Unit will not need very much cash in the near future.

IV OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. D&O Insurance. President David Siebert reported that it is his understanding that the ACBL now has directors and officers of units automatically insured if they want to be, however he has not able to confirm this with our district

representative, Bill Cook. The issue of incorporating Unit 161 was tabled pending confirmation of this information.

- B. Hot Springs Regional Tournament Chair Cindy Devish informed the Board that the 2008 Hot Springs Regional Tournament would be May 5 – 11. A sanction has been obtained for this date. Cindy noted that this date conflicts with the Oklahoma City Regional Tournament. The Arlington has been booked in May for the years 2010 and 2012. The Arlington does not charge for our tournaments.
- C. DeGray Tournament Chair Terry LaBove reported that the table count Friday was 134 1/2. This is significantly up from 2005 and about the same as 2004 although she does not have the exact figures from previous tournaments. Complaints were lodged about the Tournament Director.
- D. Education. Ned Irving agreed to be the new education committee chair.
- E. Special Games. President Siebert circulated a special game report from tournament coordinator Russ Jones (copy attached).
 - 1. Championships. The Board approved the suggested allocation of Unit Championship Games and schedule of Unit-Wide Championship games.
 - 1. Charity Games. The Unit decides which charities will be benefited. A motion to name Team Challenge as the Unit's charity failed. Selection of the charity was tabled to the next meeting.
 - 2. Team Championship. The Board decided to hold the Unit Team Championship on Sunday of the DeGray tournament each year. Teams will be established on a 7-point basis, utilizing the following point-count system:
 - Under 300 masterpoints..... 3 Points
 - 300 to under 2,000 masterpoints..... 2 Points
 - 2,000+ masterpoints 1 Point

The purposes of the Unit Team Championship are to increase novice participation and to promote mixing more experienced and less experienced players. In future years the Team Championship game will be a tournament event so that it will qualify for pigmented points, calculated on the basis of total participation at the club level. President David Siebert encouraged board members to promote the Team Championship Game at their clubs and to urge the 2,000+ MP players to recruit teams.

- 3. Unit Qualifying Grand National Teams will be held at Hot Springs Village on March 3, 2007.

4. Unit Qualifying North American Pairs, B and C, will be held at Hot Springs Village on October 27, 2007.

V NEW BUSINESS

Possible amendments to the bylaws were discussed as follows:

- A. Change the residence requirements for director positions from counties to zip codes for the purpose of separating Hot Springs and Hot Springs Village board positions. Motion made by Martin, seconded by Cissell to table this issue.
- B. General agreement was expressed to re-name the at-large positions as specific officer positions.
- C. General agreement was expressed to allow conference call meetings of the Board.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Dickey, Acting Secretary

**ACBL UNIT 161
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
May 1 - October 15, 2006**

Beginning Cash Balance May 1, 2006 **\$ 11,141.51**

Revenue:

ACBL Membership Reimbursement (07/05 and 10/04/06)	\$1,360.31
Regional: "Seed" money returned	9,000.44
Regional: ½ Net Profits	<u>5,614.44</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 15,975.19

Expenses:

Administrative	
Supplies/Telephone/Printing	\$ 113.96
Meeting Preparation Bonus (per Minutes of 5/20)	100.00
Storage Locker - 1 year	649.95
Tournaments	
Seed money for DeGray Sectional	\$ 500.00
Meeting Room/refreshments at Regional	60.72
Regional Disbursements:	
Fairfield Bay	168.43
Heber Springs	56.15
Hot Springs	1,010.60
Jonesboro	56.14
Little Rock	1,684.33
Village Card Club	<u>2,638.79</u>
Total Expenses	\$7,039.07

Cash Surplus **\$ 8,936.12**

Ending Cash Balance October 31, 2006 **\$ 20,077.63**

Bank of America Certificate of Deposit

91000048028820 \$10,000 APY 4.33% mat: 08/08/10
(with one time option for interest rate "up" change)

Prepared: Jan Farnsworth, Secy/Treas.
10/15/06

To: Unit 161 Board Members
From: Russ Jones, Tournament Coordinator
Re: Special Games

Unit Championships

As the unit is allowed 16 unit championships annually, I recommend the following allocations:

Hot Spring Village	4
Little Rock	3
Hot Springs	3
Jonesboro	2
Available by application	4

These can be scheduled and the fees set by the respective clubs at their discretion and will be report during their normal monthly report to ACBL.

Unit Wide Championships

We are allotted six unit-wide games and I recommend the following dates:

February 10
April 7
June 9
August 11
October 13
December 8

The club manager needs to inform me at least one week prior to the event as to whether the club will be participating and the address to send the hand records. The cost for this event will be \$1/person. All reporting and awards will be sent in by me and should not be added to the monthly report.

Unit Charity Games

We are allotted four unit charity games and I recommend that HSV, HS, LR, and eastern Arkansas be allotted one each to be determined by the club. This game will be reported by the individual club hosting the event.

Team Championship Game

I would like to propose the following changes to the state team championship:

- (1) Each club will set qualifying between January 1 – September 30 of each year with the method to be determined by the individual club;
- (2) If a club has more than five teams participate at the club qualifying, they will be allowed to send an additional representative team to the finals. If a club has more than 10 teams participate, they may send three teams to the finals;
- (3) The MP restrictions for the team follow the guidelines for the GNT with appropriate numbers assigned to each group. Each team would be allowed to accumulate only eight points. For example, if a player with over 5000 points was on a team, they would be required to have at least two NLMs on the team. This would increase the participation of lower point holders.

Over 5000 MPs:	4 points
2000 – 5000:	3 points
LM – 2000:	2 points
0 – NLM:	1 point

- (4) There be no fees at the club qualifying level and that the normal sanction fees be collected at the state finals.

GNT

We need to schedule the unit finals for the Grand National Teams between January 1 – April 10, 2007. I believe it was held in HSV last time and should be held at LR or Hot Springs this year. All players below 5000 MPs are required to qualify if they desire to play in the district finals in April. There is no club qualifying for this event.

Sectionals and Regionals

Make sure to get your sanction requests in for sectionals at least one year prior to time and regional sanctions in between 2 and 3 years prior to hosting. If you need any information about the sanction process, please do not hesitate to contact me.