

**ACBL - UNIT 161**  
**MINUTES of MEETING**  
**Sunday, May11, 2008**  
**Resort City Regional**  
**8:30 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:**                   Jane Dickey                   Teri LaBove  
                                  Jan Farnsworth             Dorothy Scharnhorst  
                                  Doris Ham                   David Siebert  
                                  Ned Irving

**ABSENT:**                        Lou Agnew, Sharon Cissell, Barbara Hess, Margaret Kelly, Tony Tsui

**GUESTS:**                       Cindy Devish, Dick Heil

**I.       ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**II.      CALL TO ORDER**

President David Siebert called the meeting to order at 8:25. The Secretary reported attendance, duly noting Board member absences, and guests were recognized.

**III.     MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING, Feb. 16, 2008**

Board members had received, by mail from the Secretary, minutes of the previous meeting. They were approved by unanimous vote as written.

**IV.     TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was presented for the period February 2 through April 15. Balance on hand, April 15, was reported at \$1,004.76 and a CD balance of \$27,316.61 were accepted and will be retained for audit.

**V.      OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A.      President David Siebert** reported on the business conducted at yesterday's District 10 meeting:

**1)** The most recent GNT report drew congratulations for Unit 161 stating that 68 of the 244 tables were represented by our Unit. David reminded us that our Unit is one of 12 in District 10;

**2)** The review of tournament locations was voted upon and Option #2 was selected. Option #2 was not supported by Unit 161, giving us two (2) splits every three (3) years, rather than the option favored by Unit 161 which would have given us one (1) full and two splits. Because of disparities, apparent after the vote, David stated that the issue may be revisited at Tunica when the District Executive Committee meets;

**3)** Attendance at the Resort City Regional is reportedly down from previous years and David identified some reasons including: the Cavendish Club meeting; Mother's Day holiday; Oklahoma City tournament next week; and unexpected and serious jump in gasoline prices in recent weeks.

- 4) The President continued with a report of GNP pairs games for this year:
  - a) A pairs will meet again in Tunica;
  - b) B & C pairs will have their finals at Tupelo;
  - c) Qualifying rounds will be held during June, July, and August;
  - d) Data is showing the drop in attendance for C pairs is significant and David asked the individual clubs in Unit 161 to make note of such information and to remind all qualifying pairs of the benefits to continue qualifying at each level, enabling some 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and even lower placed teams to achieve the final challenge if other qualifiers drop out.

5) President David gave a brief explanation of the D & O coverage, which was available to the Board members as a handout.

**B Education Chair, Ned Irving:**

Ned reported that reimbursements had been approved and sent to the proper recipients: one (1) was for TAP training to the Kinnemans and one (1) was to the Little Rock Club for education. He also stated a second LR reimbursement from the District was delayed but will come through shortly, according to the District spokesperson.

**C. Tournaments:**

1. **Cindy Devish** offered data and facts pertaining to the current Regional. She stated tournament attendance was down 160 tables Saturday night compared to the same period of the 2006 tournament. She also expected the complete total to show a drop in attendance of 200 (+ or -) tables after the Sunday Swiss games. Cindy did foresee some possible reportable gains over the last tournament due to Charlie's careful management of Directors and other ACBL expenses, as well as credit returns to be conducted by committee chairs, but no firm figures could be quoted until all charges and bills are in hand.
2. Cindy opened a discussion of possible excessive charges for advertising in the District Bulletin. Board members discussed and acknowledged the need to improve the Bulletin in order to attract more readers, especially new players. It was agreed that it is not right to gouge ad users for an unattractive or boring bulletin but also agreed this Unit can only offer suggestions to Don Kemp, if he solicits them.

**VI. Old Business**

- A. **David** opened a continuing discussion with a request for ideas that would help bring more C Players into the game:
  - 1.. One suggestion, which garnered an enthusiastic response, was a one-time offer of \$100 per pair to qualify for B and C games at the Tupelo competition. It was agreed that Dick Heil would follow up with publicity, including making personal appearances at clubs within Unit 161. The Board unanimously approved Dick's offer and will reimburse him for travel expenses.

- B. **David** was unable to locate Russ Jones for an update of tournaments, but will distribute Russ' reports as soon as possible.

**VII. New Business**

- A. **President David** appointed a committee to review the Standing Rules of the Unit. Ned Irving was named Chairman. Teri LaBove and Jan Farnsworth offered their assistance.
- B. **David** also began the selection process for the Nominating Committee. Dick Heil accepted chairmanship. Dane Clay and a yet-to-be named person will complete the composition of the Committee.
- C. **Andy Cosby** had submitted, by email, a number of questions regarding the pay scale of game Directors when a club hosts NAOP and GNT games. A review of Unit policies in this regard will be considered after Standing Rules have been updated and/or revised.
- D. **Teri LaBove** introduced the subject of the DeGray Sectional by confirming the dates: October 31<sup>st</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. Teri distributed flyers to all Board members.

The next Board meeting will be held at DeGray; adjournment of today's meeting was unanimous.

Jan Farnsworth, Secretary

**Looking Ahead:**

- **June 23-29: District 10 StaC**
- **Sept. 15-21: Tunica Regional**
- **Oct. 31 - Nov. 2: DeGray Sectional**