

**ACLB-UNIT 161**  
**MINUTES of MEETING**  
**Saturday, April 4, 2009**  
**Hot Springs Village Sectional**  
**8:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Marilyn Biegler Margaret Kelly  
Bob Case Teri LaBove  
Jane Dickey Barbara Rankin  
Doris Ham David Siebert  
Ned Irving

**ABSENT:** Sharon Cissell, Dorothy Scharnhorst, Tony Tsui

**GUESTS:** Cindy Devish, Alicia Fetters, Dick Heil, Russ Jones

**I. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Ned Irving. The Secretary reported attendance noting Board members absences, and guests were welcomed.

**III. MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING, Nov. 1, 2008**

Minutes of the previous meeting, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at the DeGray Sectional Tournament, had previously been distributed. The following corrections were made:

- In 2009 LR will hold the GNT and HSV will host the NAP.
- "8 is Enough" pertains to the KOs only and 2,000+ players.

The corrected minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Two Treasurer's reports were presented for the periods October 16 – December 31, 2008 and January 1 - March 20, 2009. The balance on hand at the end of year 2008 was \$6,468.07. Balance on hand March 20<sup>th</sup> was \$5,492.55.

On March 16<sup>th</sup> the Money Market account at Wachovia was closed and a 10 month CD was purchased with the proceeds of \$27,584.47 at Regions Bank with an APY of 2.5%. A one time total or partial withdrawal is permitted without penalty.

The DeGray Sectional Tournament was very successful with a profit of \$2,975.06 which was distributed to the Unit 161 clubs who were closed for the tournament or did not have scheduled open games. These monies were proportionately divided according to the number of club members who played in the tournament. Copies of the Distribution of Profits and a Financial Comparative Summary were distributed to attending board members.

**V. OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A.**
- 1) **President Ned Irving** reported that Dick Heil has been appointed Education Chairman.
  - 2) The Mini McKenney and Ace of Club awards will be presented to the recipients on Sunday during lunch break at the Spring Fling Sectional.
  - 2) The Marianna Club has been dissolved.
  - 3) The Pine Bluff Club is considering a move to Unit 161.
  - 4) Dick Heil and Ned are planning to travel to smaller clubs in the unit to explain the benefits of an education program.
- B)**
- 1) Newly appointed **Education Chairman Dick Heil** informed the board of his education plans for the unit.

- a) Conduct a unit wide Teacher Accreditation Program (Little Rock, May 30-31, 2009).
- b) Now through May 25<sup>th</sup> visit various clubs within the unit to recruit potential teachers for the TAP.
- c) Conduct a teacher sharing program where all the existing and new teachers can share ideas and experiences to improve their own teaching methods.
- d) Determine if there is an interest in a "Traveling Teacher" Program where highly qualified people would visit other clubs to give special programs to that club (i.e.: a 30 minute talk on Handling the Trump Suit , or Balancing for Fun and Profit, etc.).

**C) Tournaments**

**1) Teri LaBove** stated that attendance was up at **DeGray** and that it was a very successful tournament with a nice profit. \$2,975.06 was dispersed between five clubs who attended and had closed their clubs during the tournament. \$500 was requested in seed money for the 2009 tournament to be received in May. Bob Case suggested that we pass the word at Tunica and other tournaments what a nice place DeGray State Park is in the fall and what a great sectional tournament this is.

**2) Ned Irving** requested all board members to promote the **HSV 299er Tournament** to be held August 28-30 and asked them to take flyers back to their clubs. The committee is planning to make this a fun/fun/fun tournament with a great deal of recognition for the players. Let's encourage our newer players to attend.

**3) Hot Springs Regional Chairman/Treasurer Cindy Devish** reported that the tournament is scheduled for May 17-23, 2010.

All but two of the tournament committee chairmen from 2008 have agreed to work on the tournament again next year. We have terrific people involved, and we look forward to a successful tournament.

As in the past, \$8,000 is requested in seed money from the unit as operating capital. In order to meet expenses when they occur, the following amounts will be required in the following time frame: July 2009 - \$1,000, October 2009 - \$2,000, January 2010 - \$3,000 and March 2010 - \$2,000. Upon receipt of the monies in July, Cindy will open a Regions Bank checking account in the name of the Regional Tournament. Marilyn Biegler, Unit Treasurer, will co-sign on the account. A projected budget will be provided for the board's review in September 2009.

A motion was made that \$500 seed money for DeGray be given to Teri in May and a total of \$8,000 seed money for the HS Regional to Cindy (\$1,000 7/09, \$2,000 10/09, \$3,000 1/10 and \$2,000 3-10). Motion made by Bob Case, seconded by Margaret Kelly and unanimously approved.

**D) Special Games, Russ Jones**

**UNIT GAMES**

The unit is granted 25 unit-rated games to be used as follows:

- 12 – Monthly unit-wide games without hand records starting in April. Dates they must be held are determined by the unit.
- 5 – Unit championships allocated to HSV
- 4 – Unit championships allocated to LR
- 2 – Unit championships allocated to JB
- 2 – Unit championships allocated to HS
- 1 – Allocated for extended team game
  - Seven point format with: 3 points for over 1500, 2 points for 300-1500 and 1 point for under 300.
  - Qualifying round at clubs by July 1: 1-6 teams send 1, 7-11 send 2, and >12 send 3 to DeGray.

### **NAP/GNT**

Unit qualifying will alternate between LR/HSV annually with Jonesboro having the split. LR will host NAP and HSV GNT in 2010.

NAP to be scheduled between September 1 and December 31.

GNT to be scheduled between Jan. 1 and April 1

NAPs will to be reimbursed \$100 per pair for participation at District 10 Finals (Flights B&C). Test is continued after attendance grew 3x the previous year

GNTs will be reimbursed \$200 per team for participation at District 10 Finals (Flights A/B/C). A motion was made by Teri LaBove, seconded by Barbara Rankin and passed with one abstention. This will be a two year test to see if player participation grows. Russ will e-mail all clubs ASAP about this reimbursement.

### **STAC**

Timing for 2010 has not been finalized.

#### **E) Dick Heil, Youth Nationals proposal**

The Little Rock club is making a proposal to ACBL to host the Youth Nationals with concurrent Sectional Tournament at the Peabody in Little Rock in 2010. This is a three day tournament to be held in July or August. The Peabody will give free space for the tournament with a number of guaranteed player booked rooms. The ACBL board is to make its decision shortly.

#### **F) Little Rock Sectional** has been cancelled for 2009.

### **VI OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Standing Rules**

A committee of three including Ned Irving, Jan Farnsworth and Teri LaBove reviewed the minutes of the past few years and presented to the board in advance of the meeting their suggestions to update the Standing Rules. After discussion of each item, Jane Dickey made a motion to accept these changes, seconded by Bob Case and unanimously approved. A copy of the revised Standing Rules is attached.

### **VII NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** It is with deep regret that we have accepted the resignation of Jan Farnsworth, Secretary/Treasurer. Jan has been a great asset to Unit 161 and bridge in general. A card for Jan signed by board members in attendance and a "thank you" gift was unanimously approved for Jan and husband Gene to enjoy dinner in appreciation for all she has done for Unit 161.

President, Ned Irving asked for a formal vote of approval for her replacement, Marilyn Biegler. The vote was unanimous.

**B.** A nominating committee consisting of Cindy Devish (Chairman), Russ Jones and Art Pfeifer was announced by Ned.

The board meeting was adjourned.

Marilyn Biegler, Secretary