

**ACBL-UNIT 161
MINUTES of MEETING
Saturday, March 27, 2010
Hot Springs Village Sectional
7:30 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE: Marilyn Biegler Margaret Kelly
Bob Case Teri LaBove
Bob Davis Betty Shultz
Dick Heil David Siebert
Ned Irving

ABSENT: Barbara Rankin, Dorothy Scharnhorst, Tony Tsui

GUESTS: Cindy Devish

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. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the previous meeting, November 7th at the DeGray Sectional Tournament, had previously been distributed. A motion was made by Dick Heil and seconded by Bob Case to approve the minutes, passed by unanimous vote.

A report on the Unit Storage (Reeds) was made by Marilyn. The door is broken and rain has gotten into the area leaving a very musty smell. The management will have it fixed and if it is not satisfactory, we will look for another space. The bidding boxes have all been cleaned thanks to the HSV Sectional committee, Regional committee, Unit Board members and many VCC players. Marilyn will purchase 10 sets of bidding box inserts (a total of 40) @ \$24.99 each to replace those that look bad. Teri will organize recovering the tables that are in very bad shape.

The secretary read a thank you note from Bill and Fran Bazemore for the \$100 the unit gave them toward their expenses while participating in the District 10 NAPs final.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was presented for the period of October 1 to December 31, 2009. The balance at the end of 2009 was \$9,241.26. On October 13th \$7,000 was withdrawn from the Regions Bank CD (without penalty) to cover expenses. The remaining CD balance of \$20,584.47 will mature January 13, 2010.

A report for January 1 to March 1, 2010, showed a balance of \$9,993.43. The Regions Bank CD matured 1-13-10. A 13 month \$16,000 CD was purchased from Bank of the Ozarks with an APY of 2.00%.

Both reports had been previously distributed. The reports were accepted and will be retained for audit.

V. OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. 1) President Ned Irving reported that the Fairfield Bay club has closed. They have only three ACBL members and are not interested in a teaching program. The Hope club has also closed. With only one ACBL member it was unable to get three tables.

The ACBL QUIP Report for the last 12 months shows how our unit stands in the District and ACBL in the following categories:

	%	Units in District (14)	ACBL (300)
Active Membership Trend	+19.50	1 st	4 th
New Member Gains	+17.30	1 st	10 th
Member Losses	- 3.44	2 nd	7 th
New Member Retention % in Yr. 2	+ 67.11	6 th	76 th
Average Member Age	69.34	69.43	68.91
Average Yrs. ACBL Member.	18.90	18.93	19.21

Total District 10 ACBL membership was up 11% in 2009.

2) As District 10 Unit representative, our President reported on the January 31st Biloxi Board of Delegates meeting.

- a) Participation of players was high in the District 10 NAP qualifying games, thus they qualified an extra pair in NAP B/C to compete in the NAP finals at ACBL Nationals in Reno. Jeff LaCaze and Chuck Stofer from Hot Springs Village placed 7th in C in the finals. That's super.
- b) District 10 Handicap committee has decided that no one over 5,000 MP will receive a handicap, based on the number of masterpoints the team they are playing has.
- c) ACBL has increased membership dues \$2 from \$35-\$37, \$32-\$34, and \$26-\$28. There will be an increase of 8% in director fees effective 4-1-10.
- d) ACBL will no longer allow cell phones "to be operated or operable" in the playing area at nationals and encourages that all tournaments do the same. Not just turned off, but out of the playing rooms. Cindy and Ned will follow up with Charlie to discuss cell phones for the regional.

B) 1) Education Chairman Dick Heil reported on the activities of the unit education program.

- a) Dick will talk to Skip Henry from Pine Bluff re a TAP in that area to help increase membership. He noted that Bella Vista and Mountain Home are unhappy with their unit.
- b) A teacher seminar will be held in Hot Springs Village May 8, 2010. The next one will be at Little Rock in January 2011.
- c) HS requested reimbursement for education expenses in the amount of \$682.64. The clubs lay out the money and only clubs can request reimbursement. The unit and district each pay half. The unit treasurer reimbursed HS \$341.32.
- d) Dick will check interest in another TAP.

C) Tournaments

1) Ned Irving reported that the 2010 **HSV 299er Sectional Tournament** will be co chaired by Betty Schultz and Andy Cosby.

2) Teri LaBove stated that attendance at the **DeGray Sectional Tournament** was up 1 ½ tables over last year for a total of 350. A profit of \$2,053.39 was made and was shared, proportionately by participation, by five clubs who were closed during the tournament.

Teri requested \$500 seed money for the 2010 DeGray Tournament ASAP, and it was approved..

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

\$3,000 seed money has been received from the Unit Treasurer. The remaining seed money to be received from the Unit Treasurer will be dispersed in March (\$2,000).

Ned and Dick have been able to line a very good group of speakers.

There is no increase in coffee, orange juice, setups and beer. The lunch sandwiches/salads for purchase have increased from \$5 to \$6 and soda /water from \$1.00 to \$1.50.

4) Little Rock 299er Chairman Dick Heil told the board that the tournament was a great success with 182.5 tables and 167 players. A thank you was sent to all out of town players. The LR Open Sectional will be held July 9-11, 2010. The 2011 299er tournament will be held January 21-23.

D) Russ Jones was unable to attend the meeting, but submitted the following **Special Games** report which was distributed to board members:

UNIT GAMES

The unit is granted 26 unit-rated games to be used as follows:

- 12 - Monthly unit-wide games without hand records
 - 5 - Unit championships allocated to HSV
 - 4 - Unit championships allocated to LR
 - 2 - Unit championships allocated to HS
 - 1 - Unit championships allocated to JB
 - 1 - Unit championship allocated to PB
 - 1 - Allocated for extended team game in the 8 point format
- Qualifying round must be held by participating clubs by July 1:
1-6 teams, send 1, 7-11 send 2, 12 send 3 to DeGray

UNIT WIDE GAMES

Will be scheduled the 2nd week of each month on alternating days. The exact dates for 2011 will be determined by fall after all special events have been set. All of the 2010 dates were in the November 2009 report.

NAP/GNT

Unit qualifying for 2010:

NAP to be scheduled between Sept 1 and Dec 31 – Little Rock and Jonesboro

NAPs to be reimbursed \$100/pair for participation at District Finals (Flight B/C). NAP attendance was up in flight B and down a lot in C. Although flight B is very good, up 3 years in a row, what can we do to improve the flight C attendance? The prior year flight C was flat and the year before a 3x increase, the first year of the test of monetary reimbursement.

GNTs to be reimbursed \$200/team for participation at District Finals (Flight A/B/C)

The NAPs are in Jackson each year on the 2nd week of January. The GNTs are in Jackson the last week of April.

STAC 2010: 6/14-20 and 12/13-19

A motion was made to accept the report by Bob Case, seconded by Dick Heil, approved unanimously.

Note Russ will be out of the country from 3-15 to 6-30. Please direct questions during this period to Russ by email at arkj@aol.com.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A) After a short discussion Teri LaBove made a motion, seconded by Bob Case, to approve the five sectional tournaments in the established time frames in 2011 and 2012. The motion was passed unanimously.
- B) A discussion was held regarding a membership chairman. ACBL's monthly "In and Out" report was previously distributed to the board. The report shows all membership changes in the unit (new members, reinstated, transfers to unit, deceased, name/address/phone changes, changed to inactive, plus a list of members who have been received 1st & 2nd renewal bills. After some thought it was decided to have a membership person in HS, LR & HSV who will receive monthly copies of the "In and Out" report and follow up on club members. The board will review at each meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A) President Ned Irving reported that he is looking for an auditor from Little Rock to go over the unit books and plans to report back in May.
- B) A motion was made by Dick Heil to appoint Ned Irving at 1st voting delegate to District 10 and Betty Schultz 2nd voting delegate. Seconded by Teri LaBove. Unanimously approved.
- C) Ned Irving reported on the "Smiley" bidding box inserts. They were used at the Houston Regional and are a very polite way and non-confrontational way to encourage participation in the Zero Tolerance program. The cost is 42 cents each. Betty Schultz made a motion to order these now for

the unit, plus LR and HSV so that we will have them for the HS Regional. Seconded by Dick Heil. Unanimously approved.

D) Some business may be conducted between meetings by email.

The next meeting will be at the Little Rock Sectional Tournament on Saturday, July 10th at 8:00 a.m.

The Board meeting was adjourned.

Marilyn Biegler, Secretary/Treasurer