

**ACBL-UNIT 161
MINUTES of MEETING
Saturday, November 6, 2010
DeGray Sectional
8:00 a.m.**

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

ABSENT: Barbara Rankin, Tony Tsui

GUESTS: Flo Barksdale, Andy Cosby, Sheila Cosby, Cindy Devish, Russ Jones, Diane Lord

I. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Ned Irving.

III. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the previous meeting, May 22nd held at the Resort City Regional Tournament had previously been distributed. A motion was made by Teri and seconded by Betty to approve the minutes, passed by unanimous vote.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was previously submitted to the members of the Board. The checking account balance as of 10-1-10 is \$11,591.05. The Bank of the Ozarks CD is \$16,000 – 13 months @ 2.00% and will mature 2-15-11. Dick made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Teri and unanimously accepted. The report will be retained for review.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

The secretary passed to the board members a thank you note from Cindy Devish for the gift certificate the board sent her in appreciation for her many years as Chairman of the Regional Tournaments.

VI. OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. 1) President Ned Irving welcomed all our guests including 2011 board nominees Flo Barksdale, Sheila Cosby, Cindy Devish and Diane Lord. The following slate will be presented to the membership for approval prior to the afternoon session today:

Position 1	Diane Lord	LR	New
Position 3	Flo Barksdale	HS	New
Position 5	Cindy Devish	HSV	New
Position 7	Barbara Rankin	Jonesboro	Incumbent
Position 9	Ned Irving, President	HSV	Incumbent
Position 11	Sheila Cosby, Secretary./Treasurer	HSV	New

The out-going board members were thanked for their service – Margaret Kelly 2 terms, Teri LaBove 2 terms, Bob Case 1 term and Marilyn Biegler appointed by the president to fill in the remaining term as secretary/treasurer.

2) Board of Governors Meeting

- a. A discussion was held on slow play and they are working on ways to speed up play in National events.
- b. Redistricting is a possibility and is under consideration.
- c. Unit 161 is in the top 25 in the country at # 21.

d. The average number of tables at a Regional is 1600 which puts the HS Regional in the average category. The Sectional average is 200 tables which puts HSV well above average and the other Unit tournaments average or above.

3) The District 10 Meeting

a. There was a discussion to change the Regional game times to 10:00 and 3:00 so the players could enjoy a leisurely dinner and have time to visit the host city. They plan to test at the Tunica Regional the next few years. The Knockouts would be played in the evening as usual.

b. In order to speed up education reimbursement to the clubs Dick will request approval from the Unit and then send it to Lynn Logan, District 10 Treasurer, for approval. They will issue a check to the Unit Treasurer who will reimburse the clubs.

B. 1) Dick Heil, Education Chairman, reported that the following clubs were reimbursed by the unit for education expenses this year: HSV \$1,000 (2009) plus \$695 (2010) and HS \$1,000 (2010). LR is pending and will be submitted soon.

2) A teacher seminar will be held in Little Rock in January. Date TBA. Dealmaster Pro for generating teaching hands will be the main topic. Bring your laptops.

3) A motion was made by Dick to change the Standing Rules to add #30. **Requests for all types of reimbursements must be submitted within three (3) months of the completion of the course of instruction.** The motion was 2nd by David and unanimously approved.

C. Tournaments

1) Ned presented the following schedule of Unit Sectional and Regional Tournaments for 2011 and 2012:

Little Rock	0-300 Sectional	1-21-2-11 to 1-23-2011
Hot Springs Village	Open Sectional	4-1-2011 to 4-3-2011
Little Rock	Open Sectional	7-8-2011 to 7-10-2011
Hot Springs Village	0-300 Sectional	8-19-2011 to 8-21-2011
DeGray	Open Sectional	11-4-2011 to 11-6-2011
Little Rock	0-300 Sectional	1-20-2012 to 1-22-2012
Hot Springs Village	Open Sectional	3-30-2012 to 4-1-2012
Hot Springs	Regional	5-14-2012 to 5-20-12
Little Rock	Open Sectional *	7-13-2012 to 7-15-2012
Hot Springs Village	0-300 Sectional	8-24-2012 to 8-26-2012
DeGray	Open Sectional	11-2-2012 to 11-4-2012

* Ned mentioned that the NABC Tournament is July 12 to 22, 2012, and that Little Rock might want to consider changing the date of their Open Sectional.

2) Dick Heil, chairman of the 2010 LR 299er Sectional, reported that there were 183 tables. There were 289 tables at the LR Open Sectional. The 2011 299er Sectional will be held at the Curtis Finch Bridge House, chaired by Richard Kalkbrenner. The 2011 Open will be at the same locations as 2010 and chaired by David Cockcroft.

Dick said the main reason the newer players do not play in the tournaments is because they don't have a partner and are not confident enough to go to the partnership desk. He suggests that each club work at getting players used to playing with different players. This may help them to find more than one partner.

2) Chairman, Betty Schultz reported that there were 258.5 tables at the HSV 299er Sectional. Everyone had a very good time. The HSV Sectional had 478 tables. The 2011 HSV Open Sectional will be chaired by Estelle White. The 2011 HSV 299er Sectional will be chaired by Andy Cosby.

3) Teri LaBove, DeGray Sectional chair, stated that we were down 13 tables yesterday compared to 2009. The knockouts are way down. The 2011 contract has been signed with DeGray Lodge and the room rate will be \$80 next year, down from \$85. Teri & Gene, chairmen, may raise game fees from \$10 to \$11 to offset increased expenses.

4) Russ Jones made a motion to hold a 3 day Open Sectional 6/3-5/11 and a 4 day 299/NLM Regional 6/2-5/11 in Jonesboro. The Sectional would be every year the 1st weekend in June and the Regional every other year the 1st weekend in June (opposite the HS Regional). The motion was approved. The tournament will be held at the new Jonesboro Hilton Hotel. The room rate will be \$80 per night.

- D) Russ Jones, Special Games Coordinator**, submitted his Unit Games report to the board members prior to the meeting. A copy is attached. A motion was made by Teri to accept the Unit Games report, seconded by Bob Case and unanimously approved.

A discussion was held re A players in the B/C NAP District 10 qualifying games. Russ explained that allowing A players to play in the B/C game will mean 50% more gold points and 20% more overall points. A players do not effect the qualification of the B/C players.

An amendment was made and approved that future NAP B/C Unit Finals will be flighted as follows:

Flight A pairs and flight B pairs will play together. The EW and NS A pairs will be as evenly divided as possible. This helps flight B players to earn more points. Flight C will play by themselves, i.e. flighted instead of stratified, instead of with flight B, even though this means a reduction in masterpoints available by 20% and a reduction in 50% in gold points.

Remember STAC next month.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A)** Betty made a report on recommendations for the Unit Team Game competition. After discussion by the board an amendment was made as follows:

The Unit Team Championship will take place on one of the first two Saturday's in October, rotating between Hot Springs Village and Little Rock. Since the NAP Unit Championship is typically an October event hosted by LR or HSV, then the host of the Unit Team Championship will be the club NOT hosting the NAP that year. Therefore, LR will host the Unit Team Championship in 2011-13-15 etc. and HSV 2012-14-16 etc. There will be two rounds of play.

To encourage lower strata involvement and enthusiasm, we will use the 3-2-1 point spread whereby each team can have no more than 8 points spread as follows:

A=2000+ MP = 3 points, B=500-<2000 MP = 2 points, and C+0-<500 MP = 1 point. Each team is limited to only one A player.

Individuals' total number of masterpoints is determined as of April 1. Club qualifications must be held before August 30. If 1-6 teams participate in qualifications, one team will compete in the Unit Team Championship; if 7-12 teams participate in qualifications, than two teams will compete; with more than 12 teams participating, three teams will compete.

The amendment was unanimously approved.

- B)** Teri reported that the bidding boxes are in good shape.
- C)** Ned made a report on the purchase of new bridge tables. He stated that buying through the web from walmart.com would eliminate shipping costs. The tables would be sent to the local Wal-Mart for pickup. Betty made a motion to purchase 5-10 tables, seconded by Teri, unanimously approved.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A) A Review of the 2009 Unit 161 Finances submitted by Richard Chapman was previously sent to the board members. Teri made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Bob Case, unanimously approved.

B) The president appointed GL Rhoades from Fairfield Bay to replace Dorothy Scharnhorst in Position #6 on the board for the remainder of the term (one year).

IX. A) The next meeting will be held in Hot Springs Village on Saturday, April 2, 2011, 8:00 a.m.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Marilyn Biegler, Secretary/Treasurer

Unit Special Games Report, REVISED 11-4

- 1) **Unit-wide Games** – The unit has sponsored monthly unit-wide games each month during 2010. The average table count has been over 32 tables. The unit has covered the cost in an effort too promotes inter-club competition.

Recommendation –The unit continue to sponsor these events and they be scheduled monthly during 2011 on the following dates:

January 10, February 8, March 9, April 7, May 13, June 6, July 12,
August 10, September 8, October 14, November 14, December 8

- 2) **Unit Championships** – The unit allocated unit championships to the clubs based upon membership.

Recommendation – The unit continue the same practice for 2011 with the following allocation:

Hot Springs Village – 5	Little Rock – 4
Hot Springs – 1	Jonesboro – 1
Pine Bluff – 1	

- 3) **Unit Extended Team** – The unit has club qualifying from January – June. The representatives meet for the state final at the DeGray Sectional.

Recommendation – The unit continue to sponsor the team championships with representation to meet at a central location late in the year for the state final. This is to be determined by the board after the report of the committee on the state team championships.

- 4) **NAOP/GNT** – The unit has been reimbursing pairs/teams at the district level. 2010 District final attendance was approximately the same in 2010 as 2009. Overall, there has been an increase in participation from our unit at both of these events since prior to the incentives. 2009 vs. 2008 GNT flight A was up 50%, B 33% and C no change. 2010 NAP flight B was up significantly 3 years in a row and C was down a lot after being flat the prior year and a 3x increase the first year.

Recommendation – The unit continue to subsidize GNT representatives and NAOP representatives at the rate of \$50/person. Start tracking table count by strat for unit finals and district finals for easier future comparisons.

- 5) **NAP/GNT Unit Finals** – The GNT Unit Finals will be hosted by Little Rock, between 1-1 and 4-1 and the NAP BC Unit Finals will be hosted by Hot Springs Village, between 9-1 and 12-31. These should be scheduled soon by the clubs and the Unit Secretary notified.

- 6) **STAC** – The next STAC is scheduled for December 13-19. All clubs wishing to participate should register at www.acbl.org. 2011 STACS posted so far on the ACBL website are 4-18 to 24 and 6-13 to 19. There will likely be one in December, as well.