

SALEM BRIDGE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING, August 21, 2018.

Call to Order, Attendance: At 10 a.m. on August 21, Vice-President Zina Galaka called the meeting to order. **Present:** Zina, Dave Astle, Susan Palmer, Joan Page, and Anita Walker. **Absent:** Paul Graham. **Also present:** Jean McKinney, Club Manager; Judy Lathrop; Unit 490; Gayle Goodman-Wilkins, SBC Game Director.

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the June 19 regular meeting were approved.

Financial Report/Table Count. Anita presented the club's financial reports for June and July. The club lost \$142.29 in June and \$380.52 in July. Table count for June was 147 vs. 181-1/2 in 2017. Table count for July was 158 vs. 177 in 2017. Our bank balance as of 7/22/18 was \$14,361.55 down from \$15,189.66 on 5/20/18. Anita noted that our bank balance would be lower if our game directors had all cashed their checks.

Other Financial Issues:

Charging non-ACBL players \$1.00 more per game. On June 19 we decided to charge each non-ACBL member \$1.00 more per game on a voluntary basis effective July 1. Gayle took issue with the rationale for this additional charge, claiming that these players do not cost us \$1.00 more per game. This assertion was disputed. It is apparent that Gayle is not in favor of assessing this surcharge. Based on this information, we may want to consider making this surcharge mandatory.

Club Manager's Report: July/August.

Speeding up the dealing process. I have purchased new boards and cards. The boards open up so they can be filled directly from the dealing machine. The cards are those recommended by Bob Peery as the best ones they (Albany/Corvallis) have found. I picked them up when I was in Lynnwood WA for my granddaughter's baby shower. It just so happened that there was a tournament in Lynnwood then. Also picked up convention cards and score books. The score books cost us \$5. We can sell them for \$6.

Resignation of Webmaster. Dick Pitzer has resigned as Unit 490/SBC Webmaster. I have contacted the Albany/Corvallis club regarding their website program and script that makes uploading the day's results to the website a one stroke operation. They appear to be willing to work with us about this. I have talked to Shain Oleson and he says that whatever the club decides within reason, Unit 490 will agree to. It appears that our website and program is compatible enough with Albany/Corvallis to make further exploration feasible. Shall I continue?

Point limit for Wednesday day games. After further consideration about the Wednesday game's 500 point limit, I have changed my mind. Since many of the over 500 point players partner with much lower point players, it is to the benefit of the club to allow them to receive points. I understand the tournament limit is 750, I would recommend that we raise the limit to 750.

New Game Directors/Director training. Four people are still studying to be directors. Also, Bill Georgi is a qualified club director. Steve Drew from McMinnville has offered to direct some of our games and Kevin Kacmarynski is directing Saturday night games through September with relief from Steve. So we are getting by with directors at the present time. I am attempting to create a "Director's Manual" with step-by-step directions on how to use ACBLScore and the Bridgemates to set up games and report them on the Website.

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Partnership chairs. Terry Hart has agreed to become the partnership person for Thursday Night. We still need someone for the Wednesday night and Saturday night games. Since Miriam Brand has given up that responsibility those games are faltering. Terry has some ideas for collecting information from new players. I'll provide a copy for perusal.

Misc. I was able to send the July report to ACBL. We are now using the Unit's Debit card for payment for all purchases. The unit and the Club will settle up at the end of the year. We received a donated HP printer from Don Pitt. It will use less ink, supposedly. We still have the Canon, if that does not prove true. It also scans and copies.

Jean McKinney, Club Manager

Expenditures for Speeding Up the Dealing Process and Other Expenditures. As reported above, Jean McKinney purchased the type of boards needed to expedite our computer dealing process (six sets at \$80 each: \$480). She also purchased the type of playing cards that Albany/Corvallis has found best suited for this function (\$720). In addition she purchased 20 convention books at \$5 each and a supply of convention sheets for \$13.00. The total expenditure was \$1,313.00. Judy noted that Unit 490 will reimburse SBC for a portion of this cost. **MOTION:** JP/SP. ***"We approve the expenditures set forth above."*** The motion passed unanimously.

Recording Opening Leads. Loren Meyer, SBC dealing manager, did not attend today's meeting. We will await information from him about what software, *etc.*, is required if we decide we want to record opening leads on each hand.

Wednesday Day Game Masterpoint Parameters (Redux). The subject of the Masterpoint (MP) limit for our Wednesday day game has been discussed a number of times in the past year.

Background. The principal rationale for holding a limited-point game is to support newer players--in other words, a milieu designed to foster development of bridge skills with less competitive pressure than in an open game. It should also be noted that the point limit initially established for the Wednesday day game was considerably less than 499.

Recent board discussion and action. On 11/21/17, the Board supported Dick Pitzer's proposal to change the Wednesday day game from a Non-Life Master Game to a 499er Game. -- In March, Bill Anning proposed raising the upper point limit for this game to 750MP. (Currently, players with 500 MPs or more may play on Wednesdays, but neither they nor their partner can earn master points for placing.) In conjunction with his proposal, Bill informed the Board of the results of a survey he conducted of Wednesday players. He found that 11 favored increasing the point limit, 3 had no opinion, and 9 opposed it. On 4/17/18, the board voted on a motion to increase the MP limit to 750. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn and the 499 point limit was retained.

(Secretary's Note: We apparently thought at that time that Life Masters were not eligible to play in that game. This is incorrect based on the motion cited above, adopted on 11/21/17.) -- On 6/19/18, the Board asked Jean to inform Gayle that, as the game director of our Wednesday day game, that it is her responsibility to insure that no player having more than 499 points (or their partner) should be awarded masterpoints for placing in that game.

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Today's discussion and action. Jean McKinney favors raising the point limit to 750 on Wednesdays. Her reasoning: *"Since many of the over 500 point players (at Wednesday games) partner with much lower point players, it is to the benefit of the club to allow them to receive points."* This is a valid consideration, but we should also consider the expressed sentiment of Wednesday players as reflected in the survey cited above. That survey strongly suggests that many Wednesday players are not in favor of raising the current point limit. In fact, nine players opposed raising the limit--and these may well be the players best served and most comfortable playing in a limited point game. -- The board continues to feel it is important to maintain the existing point limit for the same reason this game was established in the first place. Continuing to raise the point limit each time some Wednesday players exceed 500 points tends to defeat the point of holding a limited point game. However, we also believe Jean's point has merit. Therefore, the Board settled on a compromise: **MOTION.** SP/AW. ***"Effective immediately, no partnership at the Wednesday day game may exceed a total of 1,000 masterpoints."*** The motion passed by a vote of 4 to 1. Here is one example of how this will work: a player with 800 points can play with a player with less than 200 points and still be eligible for masterpoint awards.

Consumer Satisfaction. (Susan) There were five suggestions this month:

- 1- Game Directors should arrive in the playing area one hour before the game's starting time. (The Board believes 1/2 hour is sufficient.)
- 2- Move the starting time for the Tuesday game up to 10 am.
- 3- A partnership chair is needed for games at Capital Manor. -- (*Secretary's note:* Jean informed me after the meeting that Gayle is assisting in partnership formation for CapManor games. Terry Hart is doing this for our Thursday evening game at KSAS.)
- 4- Turn off the scoring/percentage feature on the Bridgemates. (*Note:* This probably will not happen based on previously expressed board member sentiment.)
- 5- Do not allow **anyone** to have an active cell phone or radio during games.

There was not enough time left in this meeting to adequately consider these suggestions. They will be discussed at our September meeting.

Unit Liaison. (Judy) There will be a Salem Summer Sectional in 2019. Game start times will be earlier than this year. Players should set their alarms the night before.

Follow-up on Previous Board Actions.

- 1- COMMEMORATING DECEASED MEMBERS. In April, the board passed the following motion: *"To honor our deceased members, we will create and maintain a Memory Book, a web page, and observe a moment of silence at the Unit Christmas Party."* Laurie Gille and Jan Petroski have agreed to take on this function.
- 2- TELEPHONE. Susan will make sure the club's telephone is placed in the playing area before and during games. Gayle thinks we should change providers. We will ask Jean to look into this.
- 3- COMPUTER CHECK UP. Our computer needs a tune-up. Jean will get this done.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. The next regular Board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 18 at 10 a.m

David Astle, Secretary