

SALEM BRIDGE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Club Manager Report, April 18, 2017

Since this is my first report there will be some jumping around. There are several topics to visit:

1. Player Database – The player database is a mess. It is rife with duplicate entries, deceased players, players that haven't played at the club or in an ACBL game for years, etc. One factor is the duplicate entry: a player joins the club (non-ACBL member), and subsequently joins ACBL. A new player entry is created when the proper procedure is to update the current player record with the assigned player number. Because of this, earned MPs can be divided between the two entries, short-changing the player. A cursory examination showed that at least 430 entries can be deleted. Starting May 1, the database will be culled.
2. The website is also a mess. It is not being maintained, properly updated, or replaced with something better. Note there is no current monthly calendar posted.
3. A partnership chair is needed for Tuesday.
4. Jerry Gordon is studying to become a club director. He will be excellent! He will be testing in May.
5. Turning up a card on a E/W hand at the end of a session makes no sense to me. As long as a card is turned on each, or a majority of boards, regardless of the direction (N, E, S, or W) enough of a signal is transmitted a game director or person running the dealing machine to indicate whether a shuffle (deal) is required. To ensure one is needed, or not, the director can check a hand from a board to be used against the current hand record. This is always done on Tuesday.
6. Ads, Notices, etc. can be placed on websites that cater to a specific geographic area. One such is nextdoor.com. a resident (anyone, actually,) can enter an address associated with an area and post ads in the classified section directed to the residents in that area. Cheap advertising.
7. STaC games look more attractive for the near term. The table fees have been reduced to \$7.50/table. (see attached). We can selectively hold them.
8. The clubs in our district have been asked to hold "fund games" in September (18-24). The proceeds (\$1/player) are sent to Hawaii to support Hospitality functions at the upcoming NABC tournament. Do we want to do this? Participation is voluntary. We can dun selected games, or all games. +\$1 on the table fees. ACBLScore has been updated to support this type of event. MP awards are raised for these events.
9. "The Longest Day" is coming up (June 21). On this day ACBL-wide charity games are held. The purpose is to support Alzheimer research. Again, participation is voluntary. Do we want to do this? Again, we can selectively hold them, Wed. AM or Wed. PM. Participation can be more complicated than just sitting down to play. You need to designate a "Team Leader" and register a "Team" with the Alzheimer's Association to play in the event, although there is a "non-registration" participation mode available. Table fees are +\$1/table and +\$1/player (\$%/table). MP awards are raised for this event. See: http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/special-events/the-longest-day/

An answer to some suggestions (I haven't been previously involved and am still considering others.)

1. **"GAME DIRECTOR SHOULD MAKE UP BOARDS FOR THE NEXT GAME DURING THE PLAYING PERIOD.** Changes in the dealing procedure have been considered, some have been tried (see 4/19/16 below), but at present (April, 2017) we are continuing to rely on dealing machine volunteers. Adopting this suggestion would eliminate the need for dealing machine volunteers and improve hand security."
Absolutely not! The noise in the closet from the dealing machine would make it very hard to hear director calls. To offset this, the dealing machine would need to be pulled to the gaming area for each session and the noise would disrupt player concentration. It would also be more error prone since a director's concentration would be compromised by trouble calls.
2. **"BULLETIN BOARD TOO CLUTTERED."** The bulletin board is policed each Tuesday.
3. **"BRING BACK STAC GAMES."** See item 7., above.
4. **"BOARD SHOULD GET GAME DIRECTOR INPUT BEFORE CHANGING POLICIES AFFECTING DIRECTORS."** Agree.