

**East Texas Bridge Association**  
**ACBL Unit 225**  
**November 20, 2025**  
**1003 Riverwood Dr, Longview, Texas**

**Agenda items for November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting:**

1. Motion to accept the resignation of Sanjay Santhanam as President, effective October 31, 2025.
2. Fill the office of President for the remainder of the current term, in accordance with our bylaws, **Article VII, 3**. Nominations will be made and a closed ballot provided.
3. If any other offices become vacant, then those positions will be filled.
4. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 11th meeting.
5. Motion to approve treasurer's report.
6. Motion to rescind the motion adopted at the June 14, 2025 meeting authorizing Bob Fiorendino to gather donations to purchase a dealing machine for Unit 225 and refund the donations.
7. Motion to hire Mark Leighton to cater for the Unit Christmas Party at \$13 per person and to plan for 50 people for a total of \$650.
8. Motion to recognize honorary members in December at the Christmas party.
9. Motion to present awards to members who are leveling up, Mini-McKenney, and Ace of Clubs for the previous year, 2025, at the April Unit game.
10. Motion to have a food plan and contract to examine by February 3rd for the Tournament of Roses.
11. Motion to approve AHLE printing costs of 3000 flyers for the Tournament of Roses at a cost of \$210.
12. Motion to purchase one-half (1/2) of the tournament supplies needed for future Sectionals and Regionals at a cost of \$6805.56.
13. New business  
    new inserts for Board Manual and quickly discuss and assign the Board Manual updates that are still needed

Here are some of the **discussion topics** and others can be added.

I think we should vision our end goal and then spend time deciding on a process for achieving the end goal. Some of these topics probably need some thinking outside of the box we currently know.

1. 5/5/5 program and Return to the Fold tool
2. award ceremonies and types of awards
3. address budgets of tournaments and tournament timelines
4. Equipment for tournaments, 1/2, all, or 1/4
5. structure each committee and assign date to begin committee planning meeting
6. recruitment and classes for new students
7. games for new students
8. How to increase Unit 225 news for our website and the district Scorecard

On October 31,2025, President, Sanjay Santhanam, by text notified Jo Britt that he has resigned as president of ACBL Unit 225 of the East Texas Bridge Association. Jo thanked Sanjay for his service. Sanjay stated two main concerns for our unit - that we move forward with a planned sectional or regional tournament in Texarkana and that each club needs to give an update on their membership and how they are doing.

Jo Britt then called to order the November 20, 2025 regular meeting of Unit 225 Board of Directors at 10:10am. Attending were Frank Morton, Linda Gurasich, Brenda Williams, Elaine Dorsey, Deb Pascoe, Sanjay Santhanam, Bob Fiorendino, and Michelle Shores.

A motion to accept Sanjay's resignation was made by Brenda Williams and seconded by Linda Gurasich. The motion was passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Sanjay to elect Jo Britt as President and seconded by Frank Morton. The motion was passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Sanjay to elect Michelle Shores as vice-president. Michelle stated that she would need to discuss this with her husband before accepting. Further discussion on the vice-presidency was tabled until December.

A motion was made by Sanjay and seconded by Bob Fiorendino to approve the October 11, 2025 minutes as given to the Board. The motion was passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Sanjay to accept the treasurer's report as emailed to the Board and seconded by Michelle Shores. The motion passed without dissent.

There was discussion about putting some of the Unit's money into a money market account. Frank Morton and Linda Gurasich will explore this further.

A motion was made by Jo Britt to rescind the motion of June 14th, 2025 to purchase a dealing machine. There was discussion whether the purchase of a dealing machine would be made by the Unit or the Tyler Club. The motion to rescind the motion of June 14, 2025 was seconded by Brenda Williams. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Sanjay to have Unit 225 purchase and own a dealing machine. One half of the cost will be made by donations from the Tyler club as well as the cost of ongoing maintenance. The Unit will pay \$2750. The machine would be used for sectional tournaments, STAC games in Tyler, and any other club as needed. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Jo Britt to have Mike Leighton cater at, a cost of \$13 for 50 people, the unit Christmas party on December 13, 2025. The motion was seconded by Sanjay and passed without dissent. Linda will contact Mark.

A motion was made by Jo Britt to recognize the honorary Board members at the Christmas party. The motion was seconded by Sanjay and passed without dissent. Jo will decide on the award and the budget will be \$100 - \$150 per person.

A motion was made by Jo Britt to present all awards in April at Tyler. The motion was seconded by Deb Pascoe and passed with dissent.

The Tournament of Roses will be held at First Christian Church in Tyler, Texas. A motion was made by Michelle Shores to have the lunches for the tournament catered and have a contract for the Board to examine by February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. The motion was seconded by Sanjay and passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Bob Fiorendino to have flyers printed for the Tournament of Roses. There will be 3000 flyers printed with cost to be up to \$250. The motion was seconded by Sanjay and passed without dissent.

A motion was made by Jo Britt to purchase replacement supplies for Unit 225 to use for tournaments. The approximate cost of supplies, which would include bridge mates, would be \$6805. Discussion on this motion was tabled until the December meeting.

A motion was made by Frank Morton to put \$20,000.00 into a money market account. The motion was seconded by Linda Gurasich and passed without dissent.

Jo made a motion to adjourn for lunch. The motion was seconded by all and happily passed without dissent and much anticipation!

Reconvening after a delicious lunch prepared by Jo and a Hummingbird cake by Brenda, there was discussion of the need for an audit committee. Bob suggested we use CPAs from different clubs. The audit is done in August to be ready for the September board meeting.

There was discussion on recruiting new players to the wonderful world of bridge. A suggestion of hosting 299er games was made to encourage new players. There was an additional suggestion on the use of Continuing Ed at local colleges to reach interested people. Local clubs will be asked about an interest in teaching new/beginning students.

A motion was made by Frank Morton to change the designation of Honorary members of the board to Emeritus members. The motion was seconded by Sanjay and passed without dissent.

There was discussion on giving a memorial in honor of John Gurasich. For a board member the memorial would be \$100 and for a family member of a board member the memorial would be \$50. The unit board will make donations and memorials for board members. The individual clubs will make donations for general members at their discretion.

There was discussion on whether Unit 225 is designated a 501C3 or 501C4. Linda will get a copy of the 501C4 application from Sanjay. We need to know the insurance ACBL extends to cover tournaments. Jo will get a copy of the policy and Frank will review it.

There was discussion on getting reports from the tournaments turned into the Unit. We discussed players complete the online survey using a QRcode.

There has been a delay on receiving Life Master plaques.

A BIG Thank You to Jo and Gary Britt for hosting the ACBL Unit 225 Board of Directors meeting in their lovely home today.

A motion was made by Sanjay to adjourn the board meeting at 3:04pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Williams, Unit 225 secretary