

**August 10, 2019 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at noon by President Linda Harrison. Carol Kinsey and Mary Ramsey were absent, the other 10 directors were in attendance. Linda thanked the directors and particularly welcomed the new members, John Hamilton and Jo Ellen Wade.

Secretary Tom Spradlin read the minutes of the July meeting, they were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer Sandra O'Bannon presented the July financial report, showing the unit's funds at \$42062.02, up \$57.22 since the end of June. The financial report was approved by voice vote.

President Linda Harrison presented proposed offices for each of the directors, and the appointments were approved by acclamation. The officers are as follows:

President—Linda Harrison

Vice-President—Janie Wolaver

Secretary—Tom Spradlin

Treasurer—Sandra O'Bannon

ScoreCard chair—Susan Ford

Awards Chair—Rathnam

Website and Electronic Chair—Carol Kinsey

Hospitality Chair—Jo Ann Zastovnik

Partnership Chair—Sally McAnulty

Sanction Chair—Jo Ellen Wade

Recorder—Phyllis Alvarez

Sunshine Chair—Phyllis Alvarez

Board Member—Mary Ramsey

Board Member—John Hamilton

Members Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Jo Ellen Wade, and Carol Kinsey agreed to form an Ad Hoc Committee to study and work on amendments to our bylaws.

Linda Harrison reported that the Unit has been asked to vacate the storeroom in the Tyler Senior Citizens Center within 30 days, even though we have used it for 12 years. The Directors approved by voice vote a motion to form an Ad Hoc Committee to work on the storeroom situation. The committee includes Linda Harrison, Charles Ford, John Hamilton, Susan Ford, and Sandra O'Bannon.

The directors approved by voice vote a motion to go forward with planning for the 2020 Tournament of Roses, including reaching an agreement with the hosting Holiday Inn. Linda Harrison, Carol Kinsey, and Sandra O'Bannon will serve as tournament co-chairs, and Rathnam will again serve as partnership chairman.

President Harrison presented a list of Key Activities for the Unit for the coming year. The directors agreed to begin consideration of that list at the September meeting.

Phyllis Alvarez emphasized the importance of recruiting new members and finding ways to retain existing members.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**September 14, 2019 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by President Linda Harrison. Mary Ramsey, Phyllis Alvarez, Jo Ann Zastovnik, and Sandra O'Bannon were excused absent, the other directors were in attendance.

By voice vote the Board approved the minutes from the August, 2019 Board meeting.

The treasurer's monthly report was reviewed. The Board discussed one particular expenditure, \$600 to the US Treasury. This payment was the fee for reinstatement of our tax-exempt status. If approved, this will be well worth the money because of future tax savings it will provide. By voice vote the Board approved the treasurer's report as submitted.

Linda reviewed the activity of the Senior Citizen Building Committee (Charles and Susan Ford, John Hamilton, and Linda Harrison). They are working on addressing the proposed increase of rental of the Senior Center from our current \$30.00 per hr to \$60.00 per hour. On September 11<sup>th</sup> Charles Ford, Susan Ford, Nelda Avent, and Linda Harrison attended a meeting of the Tyler City Council. They made a presentation to the council requesting that Unit 225 be allowed to keep the same rate Unit 225 is non-profit organization and we are senior citizens. In addition, after the meeting Linda Harrison followed up with a letter to the City of Tyler Mayor Heines asking that we be offered the same rental rate as before, including storage. The council seemed positively disposed to our appeal, and will make a decision by September 25, when they will approve the 2020 city budget.

The committee reviewing the bylaws discussed their proposed changes. These included reducing the size of the Board from 12 to 9, reducing quorum requirement from 7 to 5, changing the tenure on the Board from 2 to 3 years and electing 3 new Board members each year, and modifying slightly the duties of some of the officers. Carol Kinsey agreed to prepare a copy of the bylaws with the proposed changes highlighted. The Board will have to approve these at the next meeting, then prepare a petition for a vote of the membership, to be held at a special general meeting in December.

The Tournament of Roses will be held in July 2020. The Tyler Holiday Inn hotel is preparing a contract, but we plan to delay signing until the the situation with the Senior Center is clarified.

Janie Wolaver (Chair), Carol Kinsey, and Rathnam agreed to work on 2021 Tournament of Stars (TOS) Committee with Mike Graham and Shirley Shelton in planning for the next 2021 TOS. The Board approved having Mike Graham and Shirley Shelton Chair the 2021 TOS. The Committee will work with Mike and Shirley to develop a preliminary budget, develop a plan for the Board consideration regarding

how they recommend dealing with the feedback from the 2019 TOS. Also, Jo Ellen Wade agreed to do TOS 2021 partnerships. Once the TOS Committee provides this feedback to the Board for consideration, the Board will review the Committee's recommendations and vote on whether we are ready to move forward with signing a contract with the Holiday Inn, Longview. The Board approved by voice vote going ahead with this plan.

President Harrison announced the North American Pairs (NAP) Unit 225 game to be held at the Tyler Senior Center on Saturday, October 5. There will be 2 sessions with lunch, and cost \$28. All directors are asked to encourage participation. Linda will talk with Jo Ann Zastovnik about the lunch plans.

Linda Harrison sent out information to all Unit 225 Directors and Board Members regarding requirements for the Goodwill Award and the Texas Star Awards. The deadline for these nominations are Oct 12<sup>th</sup> and President Harrison will present those to the Board at the next meeting.

July 31, 2019 marked the end of our fiscal year. Rathnam and Nancy Green are working with Treasurer, Sandra O'Bannon to audit Unit 225's financial records and will present the results of the audit at our next meeting.

President Harrison mentioned the Pittsburg NLM tournament October 31-November 2, and encouraged attendance by those eligible.

An Awards Committee was formed with Rathnam (Chair), Sandra O'Bannon, and John Hamilton. They are reviewing the awards that we present to members in various situations, including the cost of the entire Unit 225 Awards Program. After they finish with this review, they will present any proposed Unit 225 Awards Program changes to the Board.

President Harrison announced congratulations to 3 new life masters: Cheryl Landers, Sandra O'Bannon, and Cliff Smith.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**October 12, 2019 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by President Linda Harrison. Mary Ramsey and Susan Ford were excused absent, while Linda Harrison, Janie Wolaver, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Jo Ann Zastovnik, Jo Ellen Wade, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

By voice vote the Board approved the minutes from the September, 2019 Board meeting.

Sandra O'Bannon presented the treasurer's monthly report for review. All income and expenses during the last month were due to the September Unit Game, which continues to show a modest loss almost every month. By voice vote the Board approved the treasurer's September report as submitted showing a balance of \$40,846.88. Sandra O'Bannon will follow up with the IRS about our tax-exempt status.

Linda reported that we still have not heard from the city of Tyler about our rent for the Senior Citizens Center, even though the local newspaper has twice reported that our rent will not increase. Linda will follow up with the city. Also, Sandra O'Bannon is pursuing a lead on another possible site, both for our regular unit activities and for a sectional tournament. It would not include storage space, and Sandra O'Bannon will check this out more and report her feedback.

The committee reviewing the bylaws had circulated proposed changes, but ACBL informed us that their rules concerning discipline have changed. The Unit no longer requires a recorder as this is now handled at the district level by District 16. Carol Kinsey agreed to make a new draft of proposed changes and circulate it to the Board. Time is running short for this, as changes must be approved by the membership in December.

The NAP game was held last weekend in Tyler, and the unit made a profit of about \$200. There was discussion whether we should continue to hold this event. District 16 no longer requires NAP qualification at the Unit level. We will discuss this matter further.

The Board considered 4 nominations for the Goodwill Award and two for the Texas Star Award. By a show of hands the Board selected Gloria Rowland and Sandy Hilliard for the 2019 Goodwill Award and Nelda Avent for the 2019 Texas Star.

The Awards Committee has begun work on reconsideration of the awards program, will report later.

The Tournament of Roses sectional will be held July 9-11, 2020. ACBL has not approved this change in dates, but should do so soon. There is currently no NLM regional event scheduled, but Janie or Jo Ellen will contact ACBL to get a sanction for one if possible. The Holiday Inn hotel in Tyler has been contacted, and Linda Harrison will follow up with them.

Linda Harrison reminded the Board of the Pittsburgh NLM tournament Oct. 31-Nov. 2, and urged members to encourage participation by eligible players.

Sandra O'Bannon reviewed the financial history of the Tournament of Stars. The Holiday Inn is a popular place for the tournament, but expensive. Sandra will discuss her summary with the TOS committee, consisting of Mike Graham, Shirley Shelton, Janie Wolaver, Rathnam, and Carol Kinsey.

Jo Ann Zastovnik reported that she has reserved our lunches from Traditions for the December Awards luncheon and game. Rathnam will send invitations to awardees to encourage their attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**November 9, 2019 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by President Linda Harrison. Mary Ramsey was excused absent, while Linda Harrison, Janie Wolaver, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Jo Ann Zastovnik, Jo Ellen Wade, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Susan Ford, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

By voice vote the Board approved the minutes from the October, 2019 Board meeting.

Sandra O'Bannon presented the treasurer's monthly report for review. The unit made a profit last month of approximately \$1,134.00, due mostly to the October NAP game and the ACBL Member Reimbursement of \$1,113.54. By voice vote the Board approved the treasurer's October report as submitted showing a balance of \$41,981.09.

Linda reported that she has spoken with Tyler city authorities, who confirmed to her that our rent will remain stable and that we will also continue to use our storage facility that is included in our monthly rental. After brief discussion of an alternative site being considered by Sandra O'Bannon, the Board preferred to stick with the Senior Citizen Center.

Jo Ellen Wade presented a table of sanctions for 2020 games, club unit games, and tournaments, along with tournaments in 2021. They have all been sanctioned by ACBL.

President Linda Harrison has called a Special Meeting of the unit for 11 AM, December 12, 2019, at the Tyler Senior Citizens Center. Among other things, the meeting will be used for the membership to vote on Unit 225 bylaw changes. These changes have been approved by petition of the board with a positive response by 8 board members via email votes to Linda. The Secretary will provide 30-day notice to directors about the meeting, and Linda will send an email blast to all members.

Sandra O'Bannon reported she has received a letter from IRS about our tax-exempt status, but it is still unclear whether our application is complete. She will continue to monitor this.

Linda has requested hotel contracts from the Holiday Inn in Tyler for the 2020 Tournament of Roses. The \$5,000.00 cost for the tournament covers rental of banquet room, side rooms, and all food, including the lunch for the Sunday Swiss Team event. The board discussed an alternative site, but approved by voice vote the use of the Holiday Inn again in 2020.

With respect to the Tournament of Stars, Janie reported that everything is set with the hotel. Mike and Shirley will meet with the Board in January to discuss their plans. Jo Ellen will check with ACBL to determine whether a regional tournament can be less than 7 days.

The annual Christmas party is set for December 14, 2019. Lunches have been arranged for 90, and we will ask directors for a lunch headcount. Twenty members will be given awards. Sandy Hilliard will deliver the plaques to John Hamilton, Awards Co-Chair and Phyllis will take pictures of winners. Note that the time of the meeting has been changed to 11 AM because of a busy agenda, and to allow more time for lunch.

Linda reported that she has been informed by ACBL that they plan to begin using an outside vendor to support emails blasts, and that in future the unit will have to pay a nominal fee for such support. The anticipated cost seems modest. By voice vote the board approved having Linda sign up for Unit 225 to continue this email blast service as it is an easy and effective tool for communication to the Unit or tournaments.

The Charity Game on December 14 will support Santa's Kids. Sandy Hilliard asked to have announced that club charity games are welcome to support that charity, but directors are still free to choose.

The Board discussed the effect of the NAP game in October on unit game attendance. There are a good number of ideas for how to handle unit games, and NAP games, but the issue was tabled.

Carol Kinsey asked permission to pursue purchase of software for managing pictures for the unit's website. The Board authorized expenditure of no more than \$100 for this purpose.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**December 14, 2019 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Special Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Linda Harrison, who explained that the reason for this special meeting of the membership was to approve amendments to the unit's bylaws. These amendments have already been unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. President Harrison explained the three main changes being proposed: moving the disciplinary function to District 16; reducing the number of directors from 12 to 9; and changing the term of directors from 2 years to 3 years.

After an opportunity for discussion by the membership, Susan Ford moved that the amendments be approved, seconded by Barbara Bradford. The amendments were approved by voice vote.

President Harrison recognized the members of the Board of Directors, the club directors, and the Partnership Chair. She then presented Life Master awards and announced that Nelda Avent has been given the Texas Star Award, and that Sandy Hilliard and Gloria Rowland will receive the Goodwill Award.

The agenda being completed, President Harrison adjourned the meeting.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

## **ACBL-UNIT 225 BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization shall be ACBL-Unit 225 (formerly East Texas Bridge Association), (hereinafter sometimes called this Unit) of the American Contract Bridge League (hereinafter sometimes called the League or ACBL). This Unit, as a subsidiary of the ACBL, recognizes the ACBL as the parent organization having authority over tournament bridge in the United States. Unit 225 exists under the sanction of the ACBL and functions within the Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations of the ACBL.

### **ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES**

1. To preserve and promote the best interest of competitive contract bridge and any modifications thereof.
2. To cooperate with and assist the League in the promotion and conduct of contract bridge tournaments.
3. To prescribe rules of eligibility for participation in tournaments under its own auspices.
4. To consider and pass upon ~~To submit~~ reports of dishonest, unethical or improper conduct of participants in tournaments or clubs in this Unit, and ~~to bar or suspend persons guilty of such conduct from further participation to the District 16 Disciplinary Chair.~~
5. To promote the development and organization of affiliated clubs within this Unit.
6. To conduct such other activities as may be in keeping with its principal objectives.

### **ARTICLE III – JURISDICTION**

The geographical area in which this Unit may operate shall be such as is presently assigned to it by the Board of Directors of ACBL, and as it may hereafter be modified from time to time. The area, all counties Texas, is as follows:

Anderson  
Bowie

Henderson  
Hopkins

Rains  
Red River

Camp	Hunt	Rusk
Cass	Lamar	Shelby
Cherokee	Marion	Smith
Delta	Morris	Titus
Franklin	Nacogdoches	Upshur
Gregg	Panola	Van Zandt
Harrison		Wood

## **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership classifications shall be Active and Honorary.

### **1. Active**

- A. Any person of good moral character and residing within the playing area of this Unit is eligible for active membership.
- B. An active Member shall enjoy and possess all rights of membership equally with all other members.
- C. Membership in ACBL shall carry with it membership in this Unit.
- D. If a member changes his or her legal residence to a place outside the playing area of this Unit, he or she shall cease to be a member of this Unit. No one may be a member of more than one Unit.

### **2. Honorary**

- A. An Honorary Member is any person whose contributions, after many years of dedicated service to Unit 225, merit special recognition. (See Article IX, 2, Nominations.)
- B. An Honorary Member may be elected to the Board of Directors.

### **3. Rights, Privileges and Obligations of Membership**

- A. Unit members are bound to full compliance with and adherence to the Charters and Bylaws of this Unit and those of ACBL.
- B. A member remains in good standing unless:

(1) He or she has failed to pay dues in accordance with the Regulations of ACBL.

(2) He or she has been disciplined under Article IX, 8(B), of these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE V – DUES**

Any person living within the playing area of this Unit and paying annual membership dues to ACBL shall be a member of this Unit.

## **ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS**

1. The annual membership meeting shall be the August meeting.
2. The Board of Directors of this Unit shall fix the time and place of the annual meeting and shall give notice by mail or through other convenient means at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting.
3. Special meetings of this Unit may be called by the President or the Board of Directors upon written notice at least ten (10) days preceding the meeting. The notice shall contain an agenda.
4. A quorum of the Unit at annual or special meetings shall consist of five (5) percent of the membership.
5. To coincide with ACBL, this Unit's calendar year shall be August 1 to July 31.

## **ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS**

1. The officers of this Unit shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
2. The Board of Directors shall elect officers at its first meeting following the annual membership meeting. Persons elected shall hold office for one year.
3. The Board of Directors shall fill a vacancy of any office through the unexpired term.
4. Duties of Officers

- A. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this Unit, shall preside at meetings of this Unit, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, appoint committees, and promote active and successful functioning of the Board of Directors.
- B. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President when necessary and shall serve as Membership Chairman.
- C. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of this Unit, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and shall be responsible for all correspondence and reports.
- D. The Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds of this Unit and shall be responsible for planning and management of the funds; and shall furnish quarterly **monthly** reports to the Board of Directors and an annual report to this Unit's members. The **monthly and annual reports may be part of the Unit newsletter or sent to Club Duplicate Bridge Directors for distribution will be posted to the Unit's website**. At the first Board meeting following the annual meeting, the Treasurer shall submit all records to an Audit Committee, which shall consist of two (2) persons appointed by the President. The Audit Committee shall examine the records and report to this Unit's Board of Directors at the next meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

There shall be an Executive Committee, composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, which shall have the power of the Board of Directors when an emergency meeting of all Board Members is not practical. Any action taken by the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the Board for ratification at its next meeting. Three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE IX - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of twelve (12) **nine (9)** members of this Unit plus any Honorary members, none of whom shall be paid for their services on the Board. An Honorary Member shall have all rights and privileges of elected members.
2. Nominations

- A. The Unit Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee, a majority of which shall not be current board members, to prepare a single slate of directors that represents all of Unit 225 members as fairly as possible. The Committee shall report the slate to the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting and notify the membership at least twenty (20) days prior to the annual meeting.
- B. Notification will be given that additional nominations may be made in writing to the Secretary of this Unit at least ten (10) days before the date of election. Any additional nomination must be signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing.
- C. No more than one (1) member of the same family shall be eligible to serve during the same tenure.

### 3. Elections

The slate from the Nominating Committee and any additional nominations shall be read to the membership. The directors shall be elected by show of hands or by secret ballot. Proxy votes are not permitted as prescribed by ACBL.

### 4. Terms of Office

- A. All directors shall serve a term of ~~two (2)~~ three (3) years, with election to coincide with the annual meeting of this unit.
- B. ~~Six (6)~~ Three (3) new directors shall be elected annually.
- C. A director shall not be eligible for re-election after having served two (2) successive terms.
- D. Re-election is permitted after an absence of three (3) years.

### 5. Vacancies

A vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board through the unexpired term.

### 6. Meetings

- A. The Board shall meet at least nine (9) times during the calendar year of this Unit, the first as soon as possible after the annual meeting.

B. Any director who has been absent from three (3) scheduled Board meetings in any calendar year, unless excused for valid reason by the President, shall automatically and immediately be relieved of his or her position on the Board.

## 7. Quorum

~~Seven (7)~~ **Five (5)** members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

## 8. Duties

A. The Board shall conduct, manage, supervise and control all business of this Unit including, but not limited to, the conduct of tournaments, the selection of dates and locations, and the making of all contracts in connection with such tournaments.

~~B. The Board shall censure, suspend, expel or otherwise discipline any member for unethical conduct as prescribed by ACBL. A member for whom discipline charges have been brought will be given written notice of such charges and will be granted a hearing by the Board. The member may be represented by counsel of choice. A member with discipline charges pending may continue to play in tournaments unless otherwise directed by the Board. Any disciplinary action taken by this Unit may be appealed to the ACBL Board of Directors.~~

~~C. B.~~ In conducting affairs of this Unit, the Board of Directors may not vote by proxy.

## ARTICLE X – IMPEACHMENT

Any Officer or Director may be removed for cause at any meeting by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors provided notice of impeachment charges has been given at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting by Registered Mail or Certified Mail with return receipt requested. The person charged shall be given an opportunity to be heard by the Board and to be represented by counsel. Action by the Board shall be final.

## ARTICLE XI – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

**Robert's Rules of Orders Revised** shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the Bylaws or by ~~specific rules or procedures policies and standing rules~~ adopted by this Unit's Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made upon a petition signed by at least fifty (50) members of this Unit or a petition signed by at least six (6) members of its Board and submitted to the Secretary thirty (30) days in advance of the annual meeting or any special meeting. The Secretary shall incorporate the proposed amendment(s) in the notice of the meeting. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting shall be required to pass any amendment. Bylaws adopted at the annual membership meeting, July 1997. Amended, August 2007 and December 2019.

## POLICIES

Policies set the standard of conduct for an organization. They carry the authority of Bylaws and therefore can only be amended in the same way as Bylaws.

## STANDING RULES

Standing rules relate to day-to-day operation of an organization. They are voted on by the organization's Board but do not have to be voted on by the entire membership. They give the option of frequent changes.

### STANDING RULES (For Unit 225)

#### Memorials

1. Upon the death of any Unit 225 member, the ~~Unit President~~, ~~Sunshine Chair~~ on behalf of the Board of Directors and the Unit, shall send a letter ~~card~~ of condolence to the appropriate family member of the deceased.
2. An announcement of a member's death shall appear in Unit 225's column of the Scorecard ~~and on the Unit's website~~.
3. A memorial gift deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors for a deceased member shall be limited to present or former Board members or a member who has given many years of devoted Service to Unit 225. The gift may not exceed \$25.00-~~\$100.00~~.

#### Reimbursement

Any qualified player from Unit 225 who attends and plays in the Grand National Teams or the North American Pairs at the NABC tournament shall be reimbursed funds to help defray expenses, not to exceed \$250.00 per person, nor to exceed \$1,500.00 for the year.

**January 11, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by President Linda Harrison. Jo Ellen Wade and Jo Ann Zastovnik were excused absent, while Linda Harrison, Janie Wolaver, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Susan Ford, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

By voice vote the Board approved the minutes from the November, 2019 Board meeting and the December, 2019 special meeting.

Sandra O'Bannon presented for review the treasurer's monthly reports for both November and December, 2019. There were small losses in both months, and the year-end balance was \$40,155.08. By voice vote the Board approved the treasurer's reports as submitted.

Mike Graham joined the meeting to describe ongoing preparations for the 2021 Tournament of Stars in Longview. Mike has met with the manager of the Holiday Inn there, and the current contract is for \$12000, but the hotel will give us a \$2000 discount if we sell at least 40 lunch tickets every day. Mike proposes charging a \$14 entry fee per session in 2021, as opposed to \$13, and that will bring this tournament in line with others. Hotel room rates are to remain the same as before, with 80 rooms at the Holiday Inn and another 25 across the street. Last year the organizers didn't send tournament flyers to small clubs, but they will do so this time. Mike and Shirley are currently working on the schedule for the various events. Mike also mentioned that we might be able to save money in 2021 by hiring fewer directors. They also hope to get at least 7 teams of high-level players, so that they can have their own stratum in team events. The Longview Convention & Visitors Bureau has offered to provide free coffee for the event, which will also save money. Mike agreed to look into an RV park to suggest for those who would like to drive their RV to the tournament. Jo Ellen Wade has offered to co-chair partnerships, but there are other committee jobs to be filled, and Linda has begun looking for those.

President Harrison reviewed the unit Christmas party, the December special meeting, the by-law amendment, and the awards presentations, saying all were well done. It was discovered that one member did not receive her Life Master award due to delayed reporting, we will make that up next year. The Santa's Kids Van Zandt Co. Foster Children program was happy with our donation of \$404 from the December meeting and unit game.

Carol Kinsey offered to review the by-laws and the tenures of the current directors and propose a schedule for board members to rotate off the board. We will not attempt to replace directors until membership has dropped to the level required by the by-laws.

President Harrison has proposed a budget for the July 9-11, 2020 Tyler sectional tournament. The board will review it at the next meeting.

The April meeting will consist of a membership luncheon and awards ceremony. The Awards Committee is still considering proposals for awards, and will outline their ideas at the next board meeting. Also, the Texas Star and Goodwill Awards will be presented at the Houston regional tournament. Carol Kinsey offered to try to get software with which we could print our own certificates.

The board agreed to make a memorial contribution of \$100.00 to Hospice of East Texas in honor of Emily Leake.

Carol Kinsey suggested that we all try to support Shreveport's upcoming sectional tournament, since they are faithful in supporting ours. Carol also summarized statistics on our membership recently received from ACBL. After some discussion, the directors agreed that we need to work on steps to increase our membership.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**Review of minutes sent previously via email**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Old Business**

- **Tournament of Stars Regional update**
- **Feedback: Christmas Party Dec 14th to include: Awards luncheon, Special General Mtg, Awards Presentation, Charity game for Santa's Kids**
- **By-laws Status- approved by Unit 225 Membership and revised Bylaws posted on website**
- **Tax Exempt Status**
- **Tyler Tournament of Roses feedback**
- **Marketing Solutions (Pianola) Unit and Tournament email blasts-No longer free**

**New Business**

- **Texas Star and Goodwill awards presented at Houston Regional Feb 8<sup>th</sup>**
- **Planning for Mini-Mckinney and Ace of Clubs Awards lunch/program**
- **Upcoming tournaments: Longview NLM 2/14-15 Shreveport Open Sectional Feb 20-22**

**Adjourn**

## February 8, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association

### Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by President Linda Harrison. All directors were present: Linda Harrison, Janie Wolaver, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Susan Ford, Jo Ellen Wade, Jo Ann Zastovnik, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

Carol Kinsey recommended a slight change in the wording of the minutes from the meeting of January 2020, and the board approved the minutes unanimously with that change.

Sandra O'Bannon presented for review the treasurer's monthly report for January 2020. The month showed a small loss, mostly due to payment of the hotel deposit for the hotel for the Tournament of Stars, and the month-end balance was \$39,007.18. Janie Wolaver asked whether it might be possible to put at least some of the money into an interest-bearing account, and Sandra agreed to investigate that possibility. By voice vote the Board approved the treasurer's reports as submitted (filed with these minutes). The board lauded Sandra O'Bannon's diligence in her role as treasurer.

Mike Graham joined the meeting to describe ongoing preparations for the 2021 Tournament of Stars in Longview. The contract has been signed with the hotel, and the deposit has been paid. Volunteers stepped up for each of the needed committees. Jo Ellen Wade and Lynda Pillans will head up partnerships; Linda Harrison and Carol Kinsey are in charge of registration; Phyllis Alvarez and John Hamilton will be in charge of photography; and Mary Ramsey and Sandra O'Bannon will co-chair hospitality. The board discussed the importance of having written instructions for those performing each of the jobs, so that there is clarity regarding what needs to be done in the absence of a chairman. A preliminary budget will be presented at the May board meeting, and the program will be shared when available.

Linda Harrison passed out flyers for the July 2020 Tournament of Roses July 9-11, 2020. Some changes to the flyer were proposed and agreed, and Linda will investigate having some of the printing done in color. Linda also presented a draft budget. At Sandra O'Bannon's suggestion, the budget for promotional give-away expense will be increased to \$350 in order to purchase special pens (at a special price) for the tournament. With that change, the board approved the budget.

Sandra O'Bannon reviewed the work she has done relative to renewing our IRS tax-exempt status. She is ready to submit the documents that are needed, and we expect to restore the tax-exempt status as of the date we originally filed to resume, sometime last year. The board thanked Sandra for the work she has done on this issue.

The Awards Committee (Rathnam, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon) presented their proposals for awards in the future. (Their proposal will be filed with these minutes.) The board approved their proposals, effective immediately. The board also approved the purchase of 200 pens (at limited offer, special pricing), 100 each of 2 colors, to be given to winners of the Ace of Clubs Award and the Mini-McKenney Award. Sandra O'Bannon will handle ordering the pens.

The Awards Luncheon will take place in April. Jo Ann Zastovnik, with the help of Sandra O'Bannon, will explore possible lunches we might purchase, and will report to the board in March.

Carol Kinsey offered a suggested method for transitioning to a board of 9 members serving 3-year terms. (Her proposal is filed with these minutes.) We will discuss the proposal at the next meeting. Meanwhile, board members are urged to think about their willingness to add a year to their terms, to stand for re-election, etc.

Sally McAnulty asked the board to announce that players seeking partnerships should give her their names and approximate number of masterpoints. And the board was again reminded of the importance of supporting the Shreveport Sectional Tournament Feb. 20-22.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

Name	Year Elected	Term (2yr) Expires	Eligible for Re-election	
Janie Wolaver	2018	2020	Yes	
Sandra O'Bannon	2018	2020	Yes	
Jo Ann Z	2018	2020	Yes	
Susan Ford	2018	2020	Yes	
Rathnam	2018	2020	Yes	
Tom Spradlin	2018	2020	Yes	
Carol Kinsey	2019	2021	Yes	
John Hamilton	2019	2021	Yes	
Jo Ellen Wade	2019	2021	Yes	
Mary Ramsey	2019	2021	Yes	
Linda Harrison	2019	2021	No	
Phyllis Alvarez	2019	2021	No	

Proposed Plan for moving to 9 Members & 3 year terms

	Aug-20	Aug-21		
Re-elect 3 yrs				
Bd Mem #1	2020-23			
Bd Mem #2	2020-23			
Bd Mem #3	2020-23			
Re-elect 2 yrs				
Bd Mem #4	2020-22*			
BD Mem #5	2020-22*			
Bd Mem #6	2020-22*			
Remain on BD		In 2021		
Bd Mem #7		2021-24		
Bd Mem #8		2021-24		
Bd Mem #9		2021-24		
Bd Mem #10		does not run		
Bd Mem #11		not eligible		
Bd Mem #12		not eligible		
Total Bd Mem	12	9		

Fw: Notice of Decision - Adams

From: Tom Spradlin (tomspradlin@rocketmail.com)  
To: babaleelop@yahoo.com; glowfishcc@embarqmail.com; gingerrhamey@msn.com; lsharrison@bowie-cass.com; gayrtx@yahoo.com; fberum@yahoo.com; ekdyess@gmail.com; sandy.l.hilliard@gmail.com  
Date: Monday, April 6, 2020, 05:40 AM CDT

For your information.

Tom Spradlin  
Unit 225 Secretary

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Linda Harrison <lsharrison@bowie-cass.com>  
**To:** Tom Spradlin <tomspradlin@rocketmail.com>  
**Cc:** Gay Roach <gayrtx@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 4, 2020, 09:22:45 PM CDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Notice of Decision - Adams

Tom,  
Please forward to all Unit 225 Club Directors per the attached email.  
Thanks,  
Linda

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Gay Roach <gayrtx@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Notice of Decision - Adams  
**Date:** April 4, 2020 at 7:20:12 PM CDT  
**To:** Linda Harrison <lsharrison@bowie-cass.com>  
**Reply-To:** gayrtx@yahoo.com

Gay Roach  
936.615.9221

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Tomi FitzGerald <skeeter303@yahoo.com>  
**To:** BJ Sanders <bjinaustin@gmail.com>; Dave BR Tisen <dvticen@yahoo.com>; E.W. Sweeney <dispatcherone@yahoo.com>; Gay Roach <gayrtx@yahoo.com>; Guillermo Poplawsky <gpoplawsky@gmail.com>; Helen Lauderdale <hathelen@att.net>; Jim Bauer <jimbauer@sbcglobal.net>; Jo Smith <jo@josmithinsurance.com>; Johnny Johnson <johnson.financial@att.net>; Kathleen Malcolmson <kathalidal@att.net>; Lewis Crippen <lew.crippen@gmail.com>; Lynn Sykes <sykques@aol.com>; Marsha May <grmay1@gmail.com>; Nancy Strohmer <nastrohmer@yahoo.com>; Neal Perlman <neal.perlman@gmail.com>; Sherry McHarg <sherrymcharg@hotmail.com>; Steve Shirey <shireysa@yahoo.com>; Tomi Storey <skeeter303@yahoo.com>  
**Cc:** Nancy Strohmer <hstrohmer@yahoo.com>; Rebecca Brown <brownrebeccag@gmail.com>; Jack LaVigne <jacklavigne@att.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 4, 2020, 05:46:25 PM CDT  
**Subject:** Fw: Notice of Decision - Adams

To all D16 Representatives:

The attached Disciplinary Notice of Decision should be sent to your Unit president and each unit secretary is requested to notify your member clubs. Please notify me if you are unable to do so.

I hope all of you are safe and well.

Regards,  
Temi

District 16 Executive Secretary  
214-244-8333

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Sabrina Goley <[sabrina.goley@acbl.org](mailto:sabrina.goley@acbl.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020, 03:59:08 PM CDT  
**Subject:** Notice of Decision - Adams

Good Afternoon,

Attached is a Notice of Decision pertaining to Jack Adams.

Sincerely,

**Sabrina Goley**

Compliance Coordinator

6575 Windchase Blvd.

Horn Lake MS 38637-1623

[ph:662-253-3146](tel:662-253-3146)

[w:www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org)



[image001.jpg](#)

9.7kB



[Notice of Decision\\_D\\_Adams.pdf](#)

127.8kB



Sabrina Goley, Compliance Coordinator

sgoley@acbl.org; 662-253-3146

April 3, 2020

**NOTICE OF DECISION**

Name:	Jack Adams	ACBL#	3331334	Hearing Date:	April 2, 2020
Unit Name:	Houston	Unit:	174	District:	16
By Action of:	District 16 Disciplinary Committee		Hearing Location:	Telephonic	

has been found guilty of violation of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR).

Sections of CDR Violated	3.20
Description of Violation	Cheating and other Ethical Violations.

The Committee assessed the following discipline:

Penalty	Beginning	Ending
Probation	July 2, 2020	January 2, 2021

The committee decided to impose discipline outside the guidelines because Mr. Adams had no prior record of discipline and his physical limitations may have contributed to the specific nature of the offense. The Committee cited the following from Appendix B, Chart 2: Ethics of the CDR:

OFFENSE	RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE	SUGGESTED MASTERPOINT PENALTIES
E19 Cheating and other Ethical Violations not specifically cited by other sections of this Appendix (CDR 3.20)	90 days Suspension up to Expulsion	0-100% of Disciplined Person's total masterpoint holding.

**Definition of Discipline Imposed**

**Probation** is defined in 4.1.2 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations as follows: "A determination that a person has committed an offense warranting discipline such that the person must lose some of the privileges of membership and such that any further disciplinary violation, whether similar or different, may result in Suspension or Expulsion. See also CDR 4.5." (Please see CDR 4.1.2 for additional information regarding Probation)

**Notification to:**

Disciplined Party	Jack Adams	Disciplinary Committee Chair	Rebecca Brown
Charging Party	Lauri Laufman	Complainant	Bob Dowlen
District 16	President	Nancy Strohmer	Joseph Jones
	Secretary	Tom Storey	Richard Popper
	Recorder	Jack LaVigne	Linda Dunn
	Appellate Chair	Jonathan Ernest	Robb Gordon
Unit 174	President	Lauri Laufman	Patty Taylor
	Secretary	Kathleen Malcolmson	BOD

District secretaries are requested to notify their member Units. Unit secretaries are requested to notify their member clubs.

It is the Disciplined Party's responsibility to be aware of all ACBL Rules and Regulations that may affect their rights to participate in ACBL sanctioned events and activities, including whether this discipline places the Disciplined Party in a "not in good standing" status with the ACBL. If you have questions regarding these rules and regulations, please contact the Office of National Recorder at [Recorder@acbl.org](mailto:Recorder@acbl.org) or 662-253-3146.

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**Review of minutes sent previously via email**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Old Business**

- **Tournament of Stars Regional update**
- **Tyler Tournament of Roses feedback**
- **Tax Exempt Status**
- **Awards Committee Recommendations**
  - **Planning for Mini-Mckinney and Ace of Clubs April Awards lunch/program**
- **Board of Directors Aug 2020 Transition/status**
- **Membership/Recruitment/Classes**

**New Business**

- **Upcoming tournaments: Longview NLM 2/14-15 Shreveport Open Sectional Feb 20-22**

**Adjourn**

**AWARDS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**02/01/20**

**BEN FRIEND AWARD** – Unit's highest point winner for the year  
No Change

**EMILY LEAKE AWARD** – Unit's category 0-100 highest point winner for the year  
No Change

**STEVE LAWRENCE AWARD TOURNAMENT OF STARS** – Unit's highest point winner for tournament  
No Change

**TOURNAMENT OF ROSES AWARD** – Unit's highest point winner for tournament  
Change – eliminate presentation of 1 dozen roses with trophy.

**LIFE MASTER AND SUBSEQUENT LEVEL PLAQUES**  
No Change

**ACE OF CLUBS AWARDS**  
Change – Give first place certificates which ACBL provides and eliminate second and third place certificates printed by the unit. Purchase personalized writing pens (\$.60 - \$1.99) for first place winners only. Continue to announce second and third place winners and include in pictures taken.

**MINI MCKENNEY AWARDS**  
Change - Eliminate purchase of medals (\$5.83 each) for all winners – instead purchase unit 225 personalized writing pens (\$.60 - \$1.99) for first place winners only. Continue to announce second and third place winners and include in pictures taken.

**Since none of the changes affect the awards given in December, we also recommend that these changes become effective this year.**



## Unit 225 Tournament of Roses

**July 9, 10 & 11, 2020**

**Holiday Inn South Broadway, 5701 S. Broadway, Tyler, TX 75703**

**Ph: 903-561-5800**

**Great Bridge Rate \$89.00 includes full breakfast buffet-**  
**Reserve by June 25, 2020; use code M11 for special rate.**

### **Thursday - July 9<sup>th</sup>-Pair Games**

Stratified 750 NLM Pairs 10:00AM & 2:30PM  
Stratified Open Pairs 10:00AM & 2:30PM

### **Friday - July 10<sup>th</sup>-Pair Games**

Stratified 750 NLM Pairs 10:00AM & 2:30PM  
Stratified Open Pairs 10:00AM & 2:30PM

Stratifications (Based on average master points of pairs/teams)  
Open Pairs: A 2500+, B 750-2500, C: 0-750  
750 NLM Pairs A: 300-750, B: 100-300, C: 0-100

### **Saturday -July 11th Swiss Teams at 10:00AM-2 Sessions (lunch provided)**

**Stratiflighted A/X Swiss :A/ 5000+ X/0-5000**  
**Bracketed Swiss -Less than 2500**

### **Tournament Co-Chairs**

Linda Harrison	903-855-9227	<a href="mailto:lharrison@bowie-cass.com">lharrison@bowie-cass.com</a>
Carol Kinsey	903-399-5575	<a href="mailto:knitwit13@hotmail.com">knitwit13@hotmail.com</a>
Sandra O'Bannon	903-312-7520	<a href="mailto:Sobann715@suddenlnd.net">Sobann715@suddenlnd.net</a>

### **Partnership Chair**

S.V. Ramarathnam (Rathnam) 903-363-2811 [svr75703@yahoo.com](mailto:svr75703@yahoo.com)

**Entry Fees: \$13.00/ACBL members - \$17.00 Unpaid ACBL members**  
**Sunday Swiss Teams \$128.00 - Sunday Lunch Provided for Swiss Teams**  
ACBL Tournament Director-in-charge Sanction # 2007320  
**FRAGRANCE FREE PLEASE**

**2020 Tyler Sectional Tournament**  
**Budget Proposal**  
**July 09-11**

	2020 ESTIMATED	2020 ACTUAL	VARIANCE INC/(DEC)
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Tournament Fees Friday	3,660.00		3,660.00
Tournament Fees Saturday	3,597.00		3,597.00
Swiss Tournament Fees	3,021.00		3,021.00
Donation Income	221.25		221.25
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>10,499.25</b>	-	<b>10,499.25</b>
 <b>EXPENSES:</b>			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE INC/(DEC)
Director's Fees (2 Directors)	2,088.00		2,088.00
Director's Per Diem	615.50		615.50
Hand Record Print Outs	35.00		35.00
Electronic Hand Records	32.00		32.00
ACBL Sanction Fee	631.89		631.89
ACBL Sanction Credit Fee	(1,281.25)		
Sectional Surcharge	180.00		180.00
Caddies	160.00		160.00
Holiday Inn & Banquet Room	5,000.00	500.00	4,500.00
Mamie Johnson- Labor help	60.00		60.00
Labor Expense	500.00		500.00
Flyers and Posters	150.00		150.00
Paper Supplies Expense	50.00		50.00
Postage Expenses	100.00		100.00
Printing Expense	100.00		100.00
Promotional Give Away Expense	100.00		100.00
Marketing Expense	125.00		125.00
Non Member Fees	20.00		20.00
Student Discounts	20.00		20.00
Shortage	-		-
Decroation Expense	25.00		25.00
Other Expenses	25.00		25.00
			-
<b>TOTAL: ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>8,521.14</b>	500.00	<b>8,021.14</b>
<b>NET INCOME: (LOSS)/PROFIT</b>	<b>1,978.11</b>	(500.00)	<b>2,478.11</b>

**2019 Tyler Sectional Tournament**  
**Budget Proposal**  
**July 26-28**

	2019 ESTIMATED BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	VARIANCE INC/(DEC)
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Tournament Fees Friday	3,320.00	3,660.00	(340.00)
Tournament Fees Saturday	2,800.00	3,597.00	(797.00)
Swiss Tournament Fees	4,962.00	3,021.00	1,941.00
Donation Income		221.25	
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>11,082.00</b>	<b>10,499.25</b>	<b>804.00</b>
 <b>EXPENSES:</b>			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE INC/(DEC)
Director's Fees	1,293.00	2,088.00	(795.00)
Director's Per Diem	100.00	615.50	(515.50)
ACBL Sanction Fee	140.00	631.89	(491.89)
ACBL Sanction Credit Fee		(1,281.25)	
Sectional Surcharge	100.00	180.00	(80.00)
Caddies		160.00	
Decroation Expense	200.00		200.00
Flyers and Posters	250.00	-	250.00
Holiday Inn & Banquet Room	5,000.00	4,562.12	437.88
Marnie Johnson- Labor help	40.00	60.00	(20.00)
Labor Expense	200.00	100.00	100.00
Office Supply Expense	50.00		50.00
Other Expenses	50.00		50.00
Paper Supplies Expense	100.00		100.00
Postage Expenses	100.00	80.97	19.03
Printing Expense		47.73	(47.73)
Promotal Expense		79.92	
Electronic Hand Records		32.00	(32.00)
Non Member Fees		8.00	(8.00)
First Timers/Student Discounts		81.00	(81.00)
Shortage		11.00	(11.00)
Hand Record Print Outs		17.55	(17.55)
			-
<b>TOTAL: ALL EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,623.00</b>	<b>7,474.43</b>	<b>148.57</b>
<b>NET INCOME: (LOSS)/PROFIT</b>	<b>3,459.00</b>	<b>3,024.82</b>	<b>434.18</b>

## March 2020 East Texas Bridge Association

### Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes

Unit 225 Board Meeting and monthly game was scheduled for Saturday, March 14 was canceled as noted in 3/13/20 email from President, Linda Harrison:

"Unit 225 Board feels it is prudent to cancel our Saturday, 3/14 Board Meeting and game in Tyler due to COVID-19 Virus.

The majority of our players are at greater risk, given our population's age group.

Please let your friends who do not have email access know about the Unit game cancellation for tomorrow, 3/14 in Tyler.

Please check the Unit 225 website to stay updated: <http://acblunit225.com>

We currently plan to have the April Awards Program and game but will monitor the situation closely and keep everyone updated."

On 3/16/20 President Harrison sent this email to all Unit 225 membership:

"President Trump just issued a new set of guidelines today, 3/16/20, regarding Coronavirus:

"The guidelines advised that older people and those with underlying health conditions "stay home and away from other people. Officials recommended that large swaths of the population isolate themselves and everyone avoid social gatherings or groups of more than 10 people."

Given, these latest guidelines, I recommended that we adhere to this and cancel all Unit 225 bridge games until the guidelines are modified. We have your best interest at the forefront and will be monitoring/updating you as needed. We will be back at the bridge table when it is safe. ..."

Email 3/18/20 from President Harrison to membership and posted on Unit 225 Home Page:

"Per the March 18th email from ACBL, "Based on the most recent recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, ACBL Management strongly recommends that your club close at least until May 11, 2020. This date may be updated as information becomes available. The health and well-being of our club players, their friends and family and the community at large is our primary concern." Given this, of course, the April 18th Unit 225 Awards Luncheon, Program and game were also canceled.

The health and safety of each Unit 225 player and their families are our number one priority. Unit 225 will get back to bridge when it is safe. In the meantime, we can all do our part by: staying in, avoiding crowds, getting your bridge books out, keeping in touch by phone, text or email with bridge friends and following the CDC guidelines. Unit 225 players were also encouraged to utilize BBO to play online."

President Harrison sent out the **February and March Treasurer's report and February minutes** to the board. A motion and second were made to accept with no changes and a majority of the board approved by email or phone vote. Carol Kinsey was notified to post on Home Page.

Linda Harrison appointed Jo Ellen Wade to Chair the **Board Election Recruitment Committee**. We need two new members to serve three-year terms. Sandra O'Bannon has agreed to serve a three-year term. Current Board Members agreeing to run for a second two-year term are: Tom Spradlin, Susan Ford and Rathnam.

The Board is closely monitoring the Coronavirus situation and awaiting further guidance from Federal, State and Local officials as well as ACBL to determine when Unit 225 can safely resume duplicate bridge.

**This is a summary of Board activities in March 2020 as a formal board meeting was not held.**

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**April 22, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was held virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic. Ten directors were present: Linda Harrison, Janie Wolaver, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Jo Ellen Wade, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance. Susan Ford and Jo Ann Zastovnik were excused.

The Board approved the minutes circulated by Linda Harrison for March. There was no meeting in March, but these minutes described actions taken by the board without a meeting. Also, the Board approved the Treasurer's Reports for February and March, 2020.

The Board has already approved \$500 seed money from District 16 for a Special Club Fund account for the Longview Club, which was the only eligible club and the only club within Unit 225 expressing an interest in participating. The membership will be notified that these funds are going to the Longview club. Sandra O'Bannon will get documentation of the club's expenses before disbursing the funds, and Linda Harrison will notify members how to donate to this cause.

The Board had already agreed to pay Mike Graham and Mamie for the unit games that were not held in March and April, and further acted to pay them also for the cancelled May game. Sandra O'Bannon will send checks to them for the May payments.

Linda Harrison reported that she had spoken with the Holiday Inn, who assured her that, if we decide to cancel this year's Tournament of Roses, there would be no penalty. We had already paid a deposit of \$500, which we hope to get back in case of cancellation. Janie Wolaver moved that we cancel the tournament, seconded by Carol Kinsey. The ensuing discussion suggested that there would be a health danger in holding the tournament, due to the proximity of participants and that the unit would likely lose money in the tournament, because of poor attendance. The Board voted to cancel this year's Tournament of Roses (all 10 directors present so voting). Linda Harrison will coordinate cancellation notifications to Holiday Inn Hotel , ACBL and Unit 225 membership.

Sandra O'Bannon reported that our federal tax-exempt status had been restored effective August, 2019, and that she has applied to have the state tax-exempt status reinstated.

The Board discussed how to handle awards, since the Awards luncheon was cancelled in April. The Board agreed to present pens (received in the meanwhile by Sandra O'Bannon) and certificates to the Ace of Clubs and Mini McKinney winners at the next unit game when we return to play.

The Board discussed the transition to a 9-member board, according the bylaw changes adopted in December 2019. Jo Ellen Wade was recently appointed as Chair of the Board Nomination Committee and she is being assisted by Patsy Gordon and Elaine Dorsey. Two members, Janie Wolaver and Jo Ann Zastovnik, have announced they are not running for a second term and will be leaving the Board. That would reduce the number to 10, one more than we need. Jo Ellen and her committee will continue to try to find new candidates, so they will be available when needed. The Board agreed to continue with the current 10 members if needed until 2021. Sandra O'Bannon volunteered to take over Jo Ann Zastovnik's hospitality functions beginning in August, 2020. The Board acknowledged that this topic will require further discussion in the future.

The Board discussed the question of when to resume play within the unit. The ACBL has not issued recommendations past May 11, and we chose to wait until they do so.

Sandra O'Bannon followed up on a question from an earlier meeting as to why our funds are not in an interest-bearing account. We are technically a business, and therefore any interest-bearing account would have such large fees that they would cancel out any interest we may earn. Also, our organization is required to file with the Texas Secretary of State, and Sandra updated our filing to name Linda Harrison our registered agent.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

June 3, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association

Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes

This meeting was again held virtually. Nine directors were present: Linda Harrison, Phyllis Alvarez, John Hamilton, Susan Ford, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance. Jo Ann Zastovnik, Jo Ellen Wade, and Janie Wolaver were excused.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30. The Board had already approved the minutes circulated by Linda Harrison for the April meeting. (There was no meeting in May.) The Board approved the Treasurer's Reports for April and May 2020. Susan Ford reported that publication of the Scorecard has been suspended temporarily, but if we have any special games, etc. to report, she can report those for inclusion in the Scorecard when publication resumes.

Linda Harrison reported that 3 clubs (Longview, Canton, and Gun Barrel) tentatively plan to re-open with restrictions in mid-July. The date to re-open is at the discretion of the clubs. The board discussed the various conditions for re-opening, such as sanitation requirements, etc.

Linda Harrison reported that she had spoken with the manager of the Senior Center in Tyler, and no date has been set for re-opening the facility. Mamie is reportedly working on sanitizing the facility. The next scheduled unit game is August 8, and the board will decide what to do about that date as it approaches. The August date is also the date of our open meeting, where we are to present several awards and elect board members. The recruiting committee has had no success so far in finding candidates for the board election. Since Jo Ann Zastovnik and Janie Wolaver are leaving the board in August, there will be 10 remaining members, so an election in August is not critical.

The only major outlay of money for the 2021 Tournament of Stars has been the hotel deposit. Printing of flyers has been put on hold. The board agrees that we should avoid large expenditures until we make a final decision on the tournament. The Holiday Inn has still not refunded our deposit for the cancelled Tournament of Roses, but Linda Harrison reports that the refund is being processed.

Sandra O'Bannon reported that our state tax-exempt status has now been restored. The treasurer needs to file an annual report in order to keep the status. The unit is exempt from state sales, use, and franchise taxes, but not hotel occupancy taxes.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda June 3, 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**April minutes sent previously via email**

**Treasurer's Report- April and May**

**Old Business**

- Tentative plans for Club Re-open
- Unit Games Re-open discussion
  - Guidelines
  - Awards Committee –recognized/posted on web
- Board of Directors Aug 2020 Transition/status
  - Jo Ellen Wade Board Recruitment Chair
- Tournament of Stars-April 2021

**New Business**

**Adjourn**

## July 22, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association

### Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes

This meeting was again held virtually. Nine directors were present: Linda Harrison, John Hamilton, Susan Ford, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Jo Ellen Wade, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM. The Board had already approved the minutes circulated by Linda Harrison for the June meeting. The Board approved the Treasurer's Report for June 2020. Since tournaments are the only source of income for the unit, the Board agreed that we need to practice fiscal prudence. The Board agreed once again to pay Mike Graham and Mamie Johnson for the (cancelled) August Unit Game and agreed that the new Board convening in August can determine the future of these payments.

It appears that Mike Graham's Longview club is the only club to have reopened, and attendance has been modest. Everybody wants to get back to bridge. But the unit game cannot resume until the Tyler Senior Citizen's center reopens.

The Unit normally has an open meeting of the membership in August, but that will not be possible this year. Linda agreed to email all the members, sharing the unit's annual minutes, the annual treasurer's report, the list of Board members as of August, and unit Emily Leake and Ben Friend awards for the past year. These things will also be posted on the unit website.

Also, the Board is considering purchasing a Zoom subscription so that longer and larger meetings can be held that way, but that discussion continues. Carol Kinsey is checking on Zoon subscriptions and will provide feedback. There is a possibility that the annual membership August meeting could be held as Zoom meeting but pricing and logistics are pending further information.

The Tournament of Roses for 2020 is cancelled, and the dates for 2021 are pencilled in, but no agreement with the Holiday Inn Tyler host has been signed. Unit 225 received our \$500.00 deposit from Holiday Inn Tyler for 2020 canceled tournament.

As for the Tournament of Stars (TOS) April 2021, it was agreed that no additional funds should be spent till the board has ACBL clearance and assess pandemic impact, including state and local regulations. The Board agreed that a final decision regarding TOS may not be possible till the end of 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

August 11, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association

Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes

This meeting was again held virtually. All ten directors were present: Linda Harrison, John Hamilton, Susan Ford, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Jo Ellen Wade, Phyllis Alvarez, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. The Board approved the minutes circulated by Linda Harrison for the July meeting and the Treasurer's Report for July 2020. Linda Harrison reviewed the key accomplishments of the Board for 2019/2020. Her list is attached to these minutes. She also reviewed the updated roster of the Board of Directors, and that is also attached to these minutes.

Under the new organization of the Board, Rathnam is now the president, and he assumed chairmanship of the meeting. He thanked Linda Harrison for her service as president.

The 2021 Tournament of Stars is still in limbo. Rathnam agreed to talk with Mike Graham to learn deadlines for decisions we must make: How late can we cancel and still get a refund of our deposit with the hotel? How late can we order printing of flyers if the tournament goes ahead? Is it at all possible that we might be able to change the date of the tournament?

The same questions exist for the 2021 Tournament of Roses, though we have not yet signed a contract or put down a deposit for it. Linda Harrison agreed to contact the hotel to find out when we must put down a deposit and how much notice we have to give to get a refund if we have to cancel.

Unit games remain closed because of the closure of the Senior Citizens Center in Tyler. The Board discussed our ongoing payments since March 2020 to Mamie Johnson and Mike Graham for their services to the unit games, even when the games are not being held. The Board decided to make the August payments to them the last until the game resumes, and Sandy O'Bannon will notify them of that.

Prior to this meeting, Carol Kinsey had moved that the annual meeting of the membership be postponed until the next "in-person" unit game, and that we post the annual minutes and annual treasurer's report for the unit on the unit's website, describing them as pending. The Board unanimously approved this action. The meeting was ended by Zoom at 2:15 PM.

Prior to the meeting, Rathnam reported via email that Suzanne Smith was given the Emily Leake award, given annually in August to the novice player who, beginning with less than 100 masterpoints on August 31 of the previous year, accumulates the most masterpoints at the unit games. Also, Mary Bartley received the Ben Friend award as the player with the most masterpoints won in the unit games from August 1 through July 31. This has been posted on Unit website.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

### Key Accomplishments 2019/2020

- Presentation at Tyler City Council meeting with approval to remain at Sr. Citizen bldg. No increase in rent or storage
- Storeroom consolidated/reorganized at Tyler Sr. Center
- Unit By-laws revised/approved at called general membership meeting in Dec 2019; Unit 225 will transitioned to 9 member board
- Awards Committee study/revisions implemented
- Non-profit Federal and State Tax ID re-instated
- Website upgraded and kept evergreen; kept membership updated
- Zoom Board meeting carried out April-August due to no in person unit games, starting in March 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic. In May ACBL advised all "in person" ACBL tournaments canceled in 2020.
- July 2020 Tournament of Roses canceled due to pandemic.
- Sanctions coordination, approval and submission to ACBL timely
- Scorecard articles consolidated and submitted timely; Scorecard suspended mid summer due to pandemic and not enough news
- District 16 will handle Recorder issues- Unit Recorder will submit any items requiring action to D16 timely
- Sunshine Chair sent cards to members as needed.

<b>Unit 225 Board Members 2020/2021- "Carry Over" Board Members as no new members added</b>	<b>Position</b>
S.V. Ramarathnam -Tyler '18	President Tournament Coordinator
Linda Harrison-Pittsburg -'17 * (Filling '15 vacancy Peggy Painter)	Vice President
Charles T. Spradlin -Longview'18	Secretary
Sandra O'Bannon - Tyler '18	Treasurer Hospitality Chair
Carol Kinsey-Longview-'19 (Filling '17 vacancy Carol Garza)	Webmaster Electronic Coord
Phyllis Alvarez- Wills Point-'17 *	Recorder Sunshine Chair
Susan Ford -Kemp '18	Scorecard Publicity
John Hamilton-Athens- '19	Awards Chair
Jo Ellen Wade-Larue- '19	Unit Sanction Chair
Mary Ramsey-Cookville-'19 (Filling '17 vacancy J Ernest)	Awards Co-Chair

\* Served 2 consecutive terms ending August 2021-not eligible for re-election

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda August 11, 2020**

### **Call to order**

### **Roll Call**

**July minutes sent previously via email**

**July Treasurer's Report sent previously via email**

### **Old Business**

- **Board of Directors Aug 2020 Transition/status**
  - **Annual August membership meeting**
    - Motion regarding Meeting
    - Notification to members
    - Approval of 2019 minutes-sent via email
    - Year end Treasurer's report presented/approval- sent via email
    - Audit 2020 Treasury; 2 non-board members
    - Emily Leak and Ben Friend Awards; No Tournament of Roses 2020 award
  - **Transition to 9 Board members; Board officer election; no new members; continue with current 10 Board Members**
- **Hand off to new Unit President and Board**
  - **Action Items Pending**
- **Tournament of Stars-April 2021**
- **Tournament of Roses-Holiday Inn is ready to get confirmation and contract signed**
  - **Tentative dates: July 8-10, 2021**
- **Review ongoing payment to Unit Director and Facility Staff with no in person games due to COVID-19**

### **New Business**

### **Adjourn**

**August 11, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. All ten directors were present: Linda Harrison, John Hamilton, Susan Ford, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Jo Ellen Wade, Phyllis Alvarez, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. The Board approved the minutes circulated by Linda Harrison for the July meeting and the Treasurer's Report for July 2020. Linda Harrison reviewed the key accomplishments of the Board for 2019/2020. Her list is attached to these minutes. She also reviewed the updated roster of the Board of Directors, and that is also attached to these minutes.

Under the new organization of the Board, Rathnam is now the president, and he assumed chairmanship of the meeting. He thanked Linda Harrison for her service as president.

The 2021 Tournament of Stars is still in limbo. Rathnam agreed to talk with Mike Graham to learn deadlines for decisions we must make: How late can we cancel and still get a refund of our deposit with the hotel? How late can we order printing of flyers if the tournament goes ahead? Is it at all possible that we might be able to change the date of the tournament?

The same questions exist for the 2021 Tournament of Roses, though we have not yet signed a contract or put down a deposit for it. Linda Harrison agreed to contact the hotel to find out when we must put down a deposit and how much notice we have to give to get a refund if we have to cancel.

Unit games remain closed because of the closure of the Senior Citizens Center in Tyler. The Board discussed our ongoing payments since March 2020 to Mamie Johnson and Mike Graham for their services to the unit games, even when the games are not being held. The Board decided to make the August payments to them the last until the game resumes, and Sandy O'Bannon will notify them of that.

Prior to this meeting, Carol Kinsey had moved that the annual meeting of the membership be postponed until the next "in-person" unit game, and that we post the annual minutes and annual treasurer's report for the unit on the unit's website, describing them as pending. The Board unanimously approved this action. The meeting was ended by Zoom at 2:15 PM.

Prior to the meeting, Rathnam reported via email that Suzanne Smith was given the Emily Leake award, given annually in August to the novice player who, beginning with less than 100 masterpoints on August 31 of the previous year, accumulates the most masterpoints at the unit games. Also, Mary Bartley received the Ben Friend award as the player with the most masterpoints won in the unit games from August 1 through July 31. This has been posted on Unit website.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

### Key Accomplishments 2019/2020

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S.V. Ramarathnam -Tyler '18	President Tournament Coordinator
Linda Harrison-Pittsburg -'17 * (Filling '15 vacancy Peggy Painter)	Vice President
Charles T. Spradlin -Longview'18	Secretary
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John Hamilton-Athens- '19	Awards Chair
Jo Ellen Wade-Larue- '19	Unit Sanction Chair
Mary Ramsey-Cookville-'19 (Filling '17 vacancy J Ernest)	Awards Co-Chair

\* Served 2 consecutive terms ending August 2021-not eligible for re-election

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda August 11, 2020**

### **Call to order**

### **Roll Call**

**July minutes sent previously via email**

**July Treasurer's Report sent previously via email**

### **Old Business**

- **Board of Directors Aug 2020 Transition/status**
  - **Annual August membership meeting**
    - Motion regarding Meeting
    - Notification to members
    - Approval of 2019 minutes-sent via email
    - Year end Treasurer's report presented/approval- sent via email
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- **Hand off to new Unit President and Board**
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- **Tournament of Stars-April 2021**
- **Tournament of Roses-Holiday Inn is ready to get confirmation and contract signed**
  - **Tentative dates: July 8-10, 2021**
- **Review ongoing payment to Unit Director and Facility Staff with no in person games due to COVID-19**

### **New Business**

### **Adjourn**

ACBL UNIT 225 ANNUAL REPORT - AUGUST 2019 - JULY 2020

# ACBL UNIT 225 MONTHLY REPORT - Last month

7/1/2020 through 7/31/2020

8/1/2020	Date	Num	Description	Memo	Amount	Page 1 Amount
<b>BALANCE 6/30/2020</b>						<b>36,836.05</b>
7/2/2020			Holiday Inn	Tour of Roses refund	500.00	500.00
7/11/2020	219		Mike Graham	July Unit Game-closed		
7/11/2020	220		Mamie Johnson	July Unit Game-closed		
<b>7/1/2020 - 7/31/2020</b>						<b>244.00</b>
<b>BALANCE 7/31/2020</b>						<b>37,080.05</b>
				<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>		<b>500.00</b>
				<b>TOTAL OUTFL...</b>		<b>-244.00</b>
				<b>NET TOTAL</b>		<b>244.00</b>

**August 21, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 226 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. Eight directors were present: Linda Harrison, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Phyllis Alvarez, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. The Board approved with one change the minutes for the regular August meeting, which had been circulated previously. There was no new treasurer's report to consider.

Linda Harrison received an email from the Holiday Inn in Tyler saying we need to put \$500 on deposit to hold reservations for the Tournament of Roses in July 2021. The Board discussed the likelihood that the tournament would be profitable and whether other facilities might be available for it. Phyllis Alvarez moved (seconded by Carol Kinsey) that we keep the sanction, but not put the deposit down at this time, and that we reconsider this in January. The motion passed unanimously.

Rathnam spoke with Mike Graham about the Tournament of Stars scheduled for April 2021. Mike plans to talk with representatives of the ACBL about postponing the tournament until August 8-15, 2021. Mike believes we would need 3 months to plan the tournament and said he will report back after he speaks with ACBL.

Linda Harrison reported that Gay Roach, our representative to District 16 of the ACBL, informed her that the district is forming a committee or committees on membership and education, and that the district would like to have unit representatives. The Board agreed that this is an important activity. Phyllis Alvarez volunteered to have her name volunteered for this, and Carol Kinsey agreed to serve as backup.

Linda Harrison reported that she had received an email from ACBL legal department, they approved our plan to postpone the annual meeting of the membership until unit games resume.

The Board agreed not to have further monthly meetings until they are needed, but we will stay in touch as needed, perhaps via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda September 18, 2020**

### **Call to order**

### **Roll Call**

**August minutes sent previously via email**

**July Treasurer's Report and current Status**

### **Old Business**

- **Awards Life master and above** JH
- **Treasurer's Report** SO'B
- **Tournament of Stars-April 2021** SVR
- **Tournament of Roses**  
**Tentative dates: July 8-10, 2021** SVR
- **Unit Games 2021 status** SVR

### **New Business ALL**

### **Adjourn**

**Fwd: 2101353 -- Cancelled**

From: S Ramarathnam (svr75703@yahoo.com)  
To: joellen.wade@gmail.com; jham45@gmail.com; marylou.ramsey@yahoo.com; crfordsf@hotmail.com; lsharrison@bowie-cass.com; phacats3@gmail.com; sobann715@suddenlink.net; knitwit13@hotmail.com; tomspradlin@rocketmail.com  
Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 12:26 PM CDT

FYI  
Rathnam

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** tournaments@acbl.org  
**Date:** September 9, 2020 at 11:23:27 AM CDT  
**To:** svr75703@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** 2101353 -- Cancelled

The Longview I/N Sectional beginning 01/29/2021 has been cancelled.

The reason given was:  
COVID

This is an automated message generated by TourneyTRAX. For questions, please contact:

ACBL Tournament Dept  
tournaments@acbl.org  
(662)253-3100

**September 18, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. Nine directors were present: Jo Ellen Wade, Linda Harrison, John Hamilton, Sandra O'Bannon, Mary Ramsey, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Phyllis Alvarez, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM. The Board approved the minutes for the August 21 meeting, which had been circulated previously. Also, the Board approved the treasurer's report for August..

John Hamilton reviewed the status of awards. Four players (Annette Crawford, Sam Borum, Cliff Smith, and Nancy Green) have qualified for various stages of Life Master Awards. We need to procure plaques for these and for the Emily Leake Award (won by Suzanne Smith) and the Ben Friend Award (won by Mary Bartley). Rathnam will advise John where to get these plaques, and they will be ready for our first opportunity to present them. All of these award winners have been posted to the unit website.

The Board discussed the Tournament of Stars scheduled in April, 2021, and concluded that postponing the tournament into later 2021 would probably not be feasible. The Board voted to cancel the tournament and ask for a refund for our deposit from the host hotel. Jo Ellen will cancel the sanction.

Rathnam has communicated with the Holiday Inn that we will make a decision on the Tournament of Roses (scheduled for July, 2021) in early 2021.

There is still no date set for reopening of the Tyler Senior Citizens Center, so unit games remain in limbo. Meanwhile, clubs in Gun Barrel, Canton, Nacogdoches, and Longview are open. Carol Kinsey suggested we send a card to Bonnie Gorman, and Phyllis Alvarez agreed to do so.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**Fwd: 2104111 -- Cancelled**

From: S Ramarathnam (svr75703@yahoo.com)  
To: marylou.ramsey@yahoo.com; babaleelop@yahoo.com; lsharrison@bowie-cass.com; tompradlin@rocketmail.com; jham45@gmail.com; joellen.wade@gmail.com; sebann715@suddenlink.net; erferdsf@hotmail.com; knitwit13@hotmail.com; phacats3@gmail.com  
Date: Friday, September 18, 2020, 03:04 PM CDT

FYI  
Rathnam

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** tournaments@acbl.org  
**Date:** September 18, 2020 at 2:58:07 PM CDT  
**To:** svr75703@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** 2104111 -- Cancelled

The Longview Open Regional beginning 04/05/2021 has been cancelled.

The reason given was:  
cancel at the request of Jo Ellen Wade, Unit 225 board member with approval from Scott Humphrey  
DTC, in e-mail dated 9/18/2020

This is an automated message generated by TurneyTRAX. For questions, please contact:

ACBL Tournament Dept  
tournaments@acbl.org  
(802)263-3100

## Tournament Of Stars April 2021

From: S Ramarathnam (svr75703@yahoo.com)  
To: babaloolop@yahoo.com  
Cc: marylou.ramsey@yahoo.com; lharrison@bowie-cass.com; knitwit13@hotmail.com; sobann715@suddenlink.net; crfordsf@hotmail.com; jham45@gmail.com; tomspradlin@rocketmail.com; phacats3@gmail.com; joellen.wade@gmail.com  
Date: Friday, September 18, 2020, 01:52 PM CDT

Mike,

We had a board meeting of Unit 225 this morning. We had a discussion on the Tournament of Stars to be held in April of 2021.

The group did not feel very comfortable with the suggested rescheduling of the tournament to August of 2021 due to the pandemic.

The consensus of the group was to cancel the tournament for 2021 and inform ACBL accordingly. Also the recommendation was to retrieve the deposit payment for the hotel.

We are all sorry that this tournament planning and execution did not work this time due to the pandemic. I am sure more opportunities will present itself in the future.

Thank you for all your effort to make this happen and also all the board members also feel the same way.

Rathnam

Sent from my iPad

**October 16, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. Six directors were present: Jo Ellen Wade, Linda Harrison, Sandra O'Bannon, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM. With one modification, the Board approved the minutes for the September 18 meeting, which had been circulated previously. Also, the Board approved the treasurer's report for September.

Rathnam reported there is no update on awards, but they have been ordered. They will not be presented until Unit Games resume, probably in early 2021.

Sandra O'Bannon reported that she has received a refund of our hotel deposit for the 2021 Tournament of Stars. She also reported that she has successfully applied for e-payments, so future payments from the ACBL to the unit will happen electronically, rather than by check.

The unit has received an email from a unit in Ohio asking us, and other units, to share information on how much the unit has lost due to the pandemic, in an effort to persuade ACBL to provide assistance to units. The Board agreed not to respond to this request.

It is time to ask for nominations for the District 16 Star Award and the Goodwill Award. Carol Kinsey mentioned that Charles Ford had been nominated for the Lone Star Award last year, she will try to get his nomination updated. Rathnam will email all members and directors to ask for nominations and will include a description of the criteria for the awards. Nominations will be due by the end of 2020, and persons who have won either of the awards are not eligible for the same award again.

Jo Ellen Wade reported that she has moved out of the unit's area, but ACBL has told her she can remain a member of unit 225 if she wishes, she simply cannot be a member of more than one unit at a time. The Board asked her to remain on the Board until August 2021, she agreed to do so.

Five clubs would like to hold club championship games yet this year, and, because of cancellations, there are 12 such sanctions to be assigned. The Board agreed to grant 2 club championship games each to the 5 clubs that are open (Gun Barrel, Longview, Athens, Nacogdoches, and Canton), and one additional game each to the two busiest clubs, Longview and Gun Barrel.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda October 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**August minutes sent previously via email**

**September Treasurer's Report and current Status**

**Old Business and add ons**

- **Awards Life master and above status** JH
- **Treasurer's Report** SO'B
- **Tournament of Stars-April 2021 Update** SO'B
- **Analysis Of Unit 225 Revenue & Profit Status For 2020** SO'B
- **Texas Lone Star Award Nominee For the unit** All
- **Goodwill Award Nominee For the Unit** All
- **Unit Games 2021 status** SVR
- **Jo Ellen Wade status** Jo Ellen
- **Unused Sanctions** Jo Ellen

**Other New Business** **ALL**

**Adjourn**

**October 16, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. Six directors were present: Jo Ellen Wade, Linda Harrison, Sandra O'Bannon, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM. With one modification, the Board approved the minutes for the September 18 meeting, which had been circulated previously. Also, the Board approved the treasurer's report for September.

Rathnam reported there is no update on awards, but they have been ordered. They will not be presented until Unit Games resume, probably in early 2021.

Sandra O'Bannon reported that she has received a refund of our hotel deposit for the 2021 Tournament of Stars. She also reported that she has successfully applied for e-payments, so future payments from the ACBL to the unit will happen electronically, rather than by check.

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Jo Ellen Wade reported that she has moved out of the unit's area, but ACBL has told her she can remain a member of unit 225 if she wishes, she simply cannot be a member of more than one unit at a time. The Board asked her to remain on the Board until August 2021, she agreed to do so.

Five clubs would like to hold club championship games yet this year, and, because of cancellations, there are 12 such sanctions to be assigned. The Board agreed to grant 2 club championship games each to the 5 clubs that are open (Gun Barrel, Longview, Athens, Nacogdoches, and Canton), and one additional game each to the two busiest clubs, Longview and Gun Barrel.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

**ACBL UNIT 225 MONTHLY REPORT - Last month**

10/1/2020 through 10/31/2020

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Amount	Page 1 Amount
<b>BALANCE 9/30/2020</b>					<b>38,824.06</b>
10/8/2020	ACBL	Member Reimbursement		1,035.76	1,035.76
10/6/2020	Holiday Inn	Tour of Stars refund		1,200.00	1,200.00
<b>10/1/2020 - 10/31/2020</b>					<b>2,235.76</b>
<b>BALANCE 10/31/2020</b>					<b>39,059.83</b>
				<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>2,235.76</b>
				<b>TOTAL OUTFL...</b>	<b>0.00</b>
				<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>2,235.76</b>

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda October 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**August minutes sent previously via email**

**September Treasurer's Report and current Status**

**Old Business and add ons**

- Awards Life master and above status JH
- Treasurer's Report SO'B
- Tournament of Stars-April 2021 Update SO'B
- Analysis Of Unit 225 Revenue & Profit Status For 2020 SO'B
- Texas Lone Star Award Nominee For the unit All
- Goodwill Award Nominee For the Unit All
- Unit Games 2021 status SVR
- Jo Ellen Wade status Jo Ellen
- Unused Sanctions Jo Ellen

**Other New Business** **ALL**

**Adjourn**

**November 20, 2020 East Texas Bridge Association**

**Unit 225 Board Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was again held virtually. Nine directors were present: Jo Ellen Wade, Linda Harrison, Rathnam, Carol Kinsey, Susan Ford, John Hamilton, Phyllis Alvarez, Mary Ramsey and Tom Spradlin were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM. With one modification, the Board approved the minutes for the October 16 meeting, which had been circulated previously. Also, the Board approved the treasurer's report for October.

There are 2 nominations for the District 16 Star Award. Carol Kinsey had nominated Charles Ford, and Linda Harrison had nominated Lisa Looney. After discussion, the Board agreed unanimously to confer the District 16 Star Award to Charles Ford, based on his long history of supporting bridge. Carol Kinsey agreed to update her nomination with new information from Susan Ford, and Susan will provide a photo for the award. The Board also agreed unanimously to confer the Goodwill Award on Lisa Looney, based on Linda's nomination.

There is still no update on the reopening of the Senior Citizens Center in Tyler, so it is still unknown when unit games might resume. We will need ACBL clearance to resume the unit games, and Jo Ellen Wade will take up contact with ACBL at the appropriate time.

**To the best of anyone's knowledge, nobody from our unit participated in the Educator Quick Start Program from ACBL. At the end of the month Phyllis Alvarez will notify ACBL that we have had no activity in this regard.**

The Gun Barrel club is closing in December, and the unit has been offered the opportunity to purchase some of that club's equipment. The Board sees no reason to purchase anything other than perhaps the 18 Bridgemates that the club owns, and the Board agreed unanimously to authorize Sandy O'Bannon to purchase them for the unit at a maximum price of \$75 each. The club's server is to be returned to the unit. Rathnam agreed to discuss this decision with Sandy O'Bannon.

Susan Ford reported that the Scorecard is apparently not being issued, and that therefore we should not be paying for it.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Tom Spradlin, Secretary

## **Unit 225 Board Meeting Agenda November 2020**

**Call to order**

**Roll Call**

**October minutes sent previously via email**

**September Treasurer's Report and current Status**

**Old Business and add ons**

- **Awards Life master and above status** JH
- **Treasurer's Report** SO'B
- **Texas Lone Star Award Nominee For the unit** All
- **Goodwill Award Nominee For the Unit** All
- **Unit Games 2021 status** SVR
- **Educator Quick Start Program** PA
- **Gun Barrel City Equipment** ALL

**Other New Business** ALL

**Adjourn**

## Nomination for Texas Star Award

From: C kinsey (knitwit13@hotmail.com)

To: lsharrison@bowie-cass.com; tomspradlin@rocketmail.com; joellen.wade@gmail.com; sebann715@suddenlink.net; knitwit13@hotmail.com; phacats3@gmail.com; erfordsf@hotmail.com; svr75703@yahoo.com; jham45@gmail.com; maryleu.ramsey@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2020, 11:57 AM CST

At Friday's board meeting, I plan to nominate Charles Ford for the Texas Star Award. Here is a brief write up on Charles and his many contributions to duplicate bridge and to our Unit.

*Charles Ford, a Ruby Life Master, has been dedicated to bridge for 30+ years. His love for bridge began while watching his parents play. In 1990 he was able to start on his own bridge career.*

*Charles completed the necessary the classes to be certified to teach bridge. He loves teaching bridge and sharing his love for the game. He has held Junior Bridge Camps in the summer and, along with Sandy Hilliard, has taught bridge to 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders in Canton. He has taught beginner classes, 2/1, Jacoby transfers, play of the hand and many others. He is always ready to help players improve.*

*In the past, Charles served 6 years on the Unit 225 board and was President his last year on the board. He worked alongside Ginger Rhamey in bringing a regional tournament to our area and ensuring its success.*

*Charles participated as spokesperson to the Tyler City Council regarding the Unit's rental fee at the Tyler Senior Citizens for unit games. Charles run the Tuesday games in Athens for several years. He is always ready to do whatever he can for the game of bridge from tournament setup to teaching classes and much, much more.*

Carol Kinsey

## Award Nominations

From: Linda Harrison (lsharrison@bowie-cass.com)  
To: svr75703@yahoo.com  
CC: jham45@gmail.com; joellen.wade@gmail.com; knitwit13@hotmail.com; sobann715@suddenlink.net; phacats3@gmail.com; marylou.ramsey@yahoo.com; crfordsf@hotmail.com; tomspradlin@rocketmail.com  
Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020, 07:10 PM CST

I plan to nominate Lisa Looney for the D 16 Star Award.  
Here is a summary:

### **District 16 Star Award**

Lisa Looney exhibits an enthusiasm for bridge and has been an advocate for bridge since she started playing 14 years ago. Lisa was instrumental in assisting Sheila Bell in starting the Texarkana Shelia Bell DBC in 2010. Lisa assisted initially and continues to handle the majority of recruitment, communication, pairings, computer work and much more. Lisa said: "I would gladly accept the position of Club Head Cheerleader, Photographer, Communications Manager and Educational Coordinator. And, that I do!"

Lisa has attended and supported many Unit 225 tournaments.

Once Lisa became a Life Master in 2017 and got duplicate bridge under her belt, she decided to recruit and teach her friends. She has been teaching Beginner Bridge classes twice a week for the past 3 years in Texarkana. She teaches the class from Audry Grant series and the class lasts 10-11 months. She has brought in over 50 beginners and many have joined ACBL and helped grow the Texarkana club from 3 tables to the current pre-pandemic level of 6-9 tables and two games a week. In addition, she has tried to keep duplicate bridge alive. During this pandemic she has been conducting an Intermediate Bridge class twice a week, following CDC and ACBL recommendations with 13 participants and a waiting list. Lisa's love of bridge and passion for the game has, in turn, helped grow Unit 225.

Lisa is always willing to help promote bridge and assisted Carol Kinsey in obtaining individual photos of all Texarkana player for Unit website use if needed.

Lisa has a passion and love for bridge that is contagious and has helped grow Unit 225.

Also, I would like to nominate Lisa Looney for the Unit 225 Goodwill Award. Here is info:

### **District 16 Unit Goodwill Award**

Lisa Looney exhibits an enthusiasm for bridge and has been an advocate for bridge since she started playing 14 years ago. She loves bridge and is always upbeat and friendly to everyone at the bridge table. Lisa was instrumental in assisting Sheila Bell in starting the Texarkana Shelia Bell DBC. Lisa assisted in recruitment, communication, pairings, computer work and much more. Lisa has attended and supported many Unit 225 tournaments. Once Lisa became a Life Master and got duplicate bridge under her belt, she decided to recruit and teach her friends. She has been teaching beginner classed for the past 3 years in Texarkana. She teaches the class from Audrey Grant series and the class lasts 10-11 months. She has brought in 50 beginners and many have joined ACBL and helped grow the Texarkana club. She always displays and also instills in her students the need for courtesy, kindness, ethical play and tact at the bridge table. Lisa is an ambassador and advocate for learning, sharing her knowledge and fun at the bridge table. Lisa makes everyone fell comfortable and is an excellent ambassador of goodwill to all other players.