

## UNIT 533 BOARD MEETING – 4/11/24

### **Board Members Present:**

Sue Blom

Nancy Beckerman

Ann Carter

Vicki Graves

Kathy Kroll

Diane Jobin

Diana Seeb

Deann Young

Barb Wegener

Treasurer: Bill Dani

Guest: Don Freeland

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am at the Duncan Bridge Center. Minutes from the prior meeting were approved electronically.

Don Freeland attended the meeting to suggest that the Unit hold only “Local Sectionals” going forward. This would eliminate the requirements of ACBL directors. To ensure we meet the 25-table limit per session required in the definition of “Local Sectionals”, Don thought we could run the Open Group Sectional one weekend and the Limited Group Sectional the next. He also brought up the fact that the Unit used to sell food tickets at the morning session and then go buy lunches for participants. Vicki thanked him for his suggestions. She did note that the board would also have to consider that Local Sectionals awarded only 80%

silver and that there would be major logistical and volunteer challenges running Sectionals on back-to-back weekends.

Vicki welcomed new Board members, Sue Blom and Nancy Beckerman. Introductions ensued.

### **ELECTION- BOARD POSITIONS**

The following officers were elected, and other positions appointed, for the new year:

President: Vicki Graves

Vice President: Diana Seeb

Secretary: Barb Wegener

Treasurer: Bill Dani

Membership: Nancy Beckerman

Tournament Chair: Diane Jobin (Assistant: Sue Blom)

Unit Games: Barb Wegener

Education: Deann Young

Elections: Sue Blom

WIN and Newcomer Coordinator: Kathy Kroll

Holiday Party Event Coordinator: Ann and Diana

Awards/Elections Event Coordinator: Diana (Sue & Ann)

### **FEEDBACK: AWARDS/ELECTIONS LUNCH**

The consensus was that it was a very successful event and that we would combine Awards & Elections again in 2025. The new format for announcing winners was quite

efficient. 16 out of the 19 winners were there to accept their awards. Bill said we lost only \$26 on the event.

## **FINANCIALS**

Bill reported a \$3083 surplus for the first quarter because of two successful sectionals. Now with a new slate of officers, we need new signature authorization cards for our checking account at Bank of America. A motion was made and approved to authorize Bill, Vicki and Diana as signatories. Bill will arrange a time for Vicki and Diana to meet him at the bank.

Bill also said that the Unit had paid Ross Grabel and Don & Martha Freeland \$300 each to supplement the costs of their trip to the NABC in Louisville as the District 22 representatives in the NAP competition. If the D22 winners of the GNT competition (Lou Goldsmith, Steve Goldstein, Bob Price & David Lodge) go to the NABC in Toronto, Bill will send them \$300 each as well. This policy of financial support if District 22 winners in NAP & GNT finals are from Unit 533 was passed by the Board in 2018.

To date, Bill has not received any Free Play certificates from first quarter New Members and Beginning Bridge Class graduates. Vicki asked Kathy to oversee this WIN account – i.e. if this new plan doesn't successfully use this money to motivate new players, what other options might? There was some discussion as to what more we could do to assimilate new players into actual games.

## **IVEY RANCH**

Like the new “Ambassador” program ACBL is launching, Randy Bissett and Sean are working on an outreach into Ivey Ranch which is across the street from DBC. The idea is to invite residents there to two free 2-hour sessions on back-to-back mornings introducing them to bridge this summer—with a potential for drop-in play on other mornings. The thought is that this type of outreach into country clubs/neighborhoods where there are a number of people who might like to learn to play might serve to increase ACBL membership. Sue thought there was also merit to the idea of offering classes at Sun City Shadow Hills where there had been a sanctioned game pre-Covid.

Vicki asked Kathy to be our point person on this outreach and Deann to see how we could help from an Education perspective. She said she had talked to Guy about the funding of this effort, and he thought a 50/50 split of the costs would be doable.

## **5-5-5 MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

Vicki said this new method of reimbursing Units with a percentage of ACBL dues was live as of April 1. In Simulated results for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, we would have received approximately the same amount we would have

received under the old 11% plan. ACBL's goal and hence the goal of this plan is to keep members from leaving and to recruit new members—i.e. the appeal of a plan such as Ivey Ranch above and the Lapsing Member Outreach program.

To the question from last month about getting email addresses, ACBL has said that they are now required on all new accounts. If we see a member with a blank email address field they probably joined prior to this requirement. If we see "Omitted at Member Request" the member has asked that his email only be used for transactional contacts—i.e. ACBL can reach him but not the units.

### **EDUCATION:**

Mick Riccio will receive an Education grant of \$1000 from District 22 as requested. Deann said she had a request from Randy Bissett for his Beginning Bridge class for \$500 for the Unit to address. Vicki said the District was re-vamping its plan and one idea they had was to require and ACBL Guest Membership of new students.

The Meeting Adjourned at 12pm.

Submitted by:  
Barb Wegener, Secretary

