

## **Unit 533 November Board Meeting—November 30, 2022**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Vicki Graves  
Linda Hahn  
Diane Jobin  
Rob Martin  
Bonnie Sipkins  
Deann Young

Absent:

Ellie Pynes  
Barb Wegener  
Sandy Young

Treasurer: Bill Dani

### **GUESTS**

Guy Brackett, CVBF President  
Sean Lui, Duncan Director

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am at the Duncan Bridge Center.

Minutes from the October 21, 2022, meeting had been approved electronically.

### **FINANCIALS**

Bill reviewed the financials and noted that he expected 2022 to be close to a break-even based on year-to-date results and his projections for the Holiday Party in December.

He discussed the results of the Harvest Sectional which had yielded a net to the Unit of \$547. The biggest underrun of projections were the hospitality costs.

### **HARVEST SECTIONAL REVIEW: November 11-12, 2022**

Linda and Sean were recognized for all they'd done to make the tournament successful. Scott was acknowledged as emcee, and Linda thought that position worked well as did the greeters. She also said there were no complaints that lunch was not available for purchase on site. There was a consensus that we should have had better snacks especially on Saturday, and that the speakers did not work well from a timing/noise perspective. Linda also thought the Starbucks/Subway gift cards weren't worth doing again.

Of the 108 tables, 35% of the Pairs were in the 0-499er game (41% Friday AM, 32% Friday PM, & 29% Saturday AM). There were 24 tables in the Swiss game on Saturday PM: 5 teams were in the A strat (2000+), 4 were B's (1000+), and 15 were C's (<1000). The table counts for the four sessions: Friday AM: 29, Friday PM: 31, Saturday AM: 24, Saturday PM: 24.

Sean noted that some players didn't like the late ending of the team games on Saturday and said he was considering pre-dealt boards (with hand records) to minimize the time and noise. (It will take more director time.) He was also hopeful that bridge mates could be used. Given that possibility and no speakers going forward, it was agreed we could do game times of 9am & 1:30pm.

### **0-499er SECTIONAL UPDATE: January 13-14, 2023**

The planned format was reviewed: Pairs games on Friday (both sessions) and Saturday morning and a Swiss teams game Saturday afternoon. Game times are at 9 & 1:30 and card fees will be \$10. Vaccination verification was discussed and, because we are using the Duncan reservation system, it was agreed we could use it to check those people who haven't previously shown proof. Diane is looking at food trucks as a possible source of lunch. She said we needed volunteers and greeters and would be reaching out to secure names. Bill commented that he didn't think we needed two directors and Vicki suggested that they discuss that further off-line. Diane will make the flyers available at the Palm Springs Regional.

### **SUN AND FUN SECTIONAL: February 17-18, 2023**

There will 0-499er and Open pair games at 9 and 1:30 on Friday and Saturday. The plan is to have a team game in the afternoon on both Friday and Saturday. Linda said Sean had suggested a Guaranteed Partner concept which she thought was a great idea, but it will require that 2-4 people be available to fill in. She will seek volunteers. Bill voiced concern that we would need 3 directors in the afternoon sessions given pairs and teams and feared that the planned \$10 fee would not be enough to cover expenses. (*Addendum: After the meeting, Linda changed the card fee to \$12.*) Sean was concerned that we'd have enough players for both an Open & Limited pairs and team game. Guy said that if a team game didn't make, the pairs game was a viable option for the players. Linda noted that she will distribute the flyers to clubs and take them to the Regional.

### **HOLIDAY PARTY: December 4, 2022**

Ellie is taking care of the food. A discussion was held regarding door prizes and Vicki agreed to find these gifts. It was determined that raffle tickets aren't worth the hassle, and we should possibly put stickers under random bidding boxes to determine the winners.

### **BOARD ELECTIONS: February 5, 2023**

Rob said that there are 3 vacancies to fill (Bonnie's, Linda's and Vicki's terms are up) and we have four potential candidates. He said he needed to complete the bio information for each so we can post 30 days before the election. Judy Searle has agreed to be the election chair.

### **EDUCATION:**

Diane and Deann are working on updates to the Unit's Education reimbursement plan for 2023 which includes the current reimbursement of instructors offering Beginning Bridge with Continuation but considers alternate ideas as well. Diane said Karol Monroe and Randy

Bissett are working on a plan to offer a 30-minute lesson and supervised play which she wondered if could be included prior to a tournament? The introduction of duplicate bridge to social players at clubs was discussed. Diane said she wondered about a survey to see what members wanted. Deann agreed that they could have a proposal for the 2023 plan for the January meeting.

**OTHER:**

Vicki reported on the November D22 Annual Meeting held on 11/17/22. There was discussion about:

- Their new education grant program of up to \$1000 per project which had given its first grant to the Santa Barbara club for offering the 'Bridge in a Day' program.
- Generally, there was discussion of previous challenges in offering bridge in schools: The short age range when students can grasp it but aren't too busy with other activities is major.
- Only four of 14 regionals were held in 2020-2022. Finding a site in Orange County has been a big problem. Only the Palm Springs Regional has a good contract through 2026. Ventura was a success story given a 75% of norm table count.
- The NAP and GNT programs are struggling with turnout.
- ACBL's struggle to balance BBO revenues and declining membership counts attributed to the loss of face-to-face players was referenced.

Membership Addendum: As of 11/30/22, we have 822 Unit Members.

The next Unit board meeting will be **Thursday, January 5, 2023**. Vicki will advise as to time and location.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectively submitted,

Bonnie Sipkins  
Secretary