

MINUTES OF UNIT 533 BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President, Vicki Graves, at 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Attending:

Vicki Graves
Kathy Kroll
Martha Hancock
Denyse Raskin
Scott Coleman
Cornelia Gould
Bill Dani, Treasurer

Guest Attending:

Sean Lui, Club Manager

Board Members Absent:

David Combs, Diana Seeb, Sue Blom

Prior to this Meeting:

The Minutes of the October 2, 2025 Board meeting were previously approved by the Board electronically.

The Board's nomination of Kathy Kroll for appointment to the D22 Goodwill Committee was approved by the District and announced!

Discussion:

Bill distributed the financials. As of November 19, 2025, Unit 533's assets include \$32,159 in our Bank of America account and \$11,961 in our WIN account. Bill projected that the Unit would have a surplus as compared to his budget for 2025. Bill focused the discussion primarily on the results of the Harvest Sectional which was held on November 7 and 8. The tournament resulted in net income of \$3,070, which was split evenly between Unit 533 and the CVBF. This was better than had been budgeted--i.e. the loss of snowbirds Bill had expected had not been evident.

Table counts at the Sectional (Pairs Games except Teams on Sat PM) were as follows:

- Friday AM: 750-17, Open-16.5 (33.5)
- Friday PM: 750-20, Open-20.5 (40.5)

- Saturday AM: 750-13.5, Open-17 (30.5)
- Saturday PM: 750-11, Open-19 (30)

The 134.5 tables was an increase of 10.5 over 2024 with approximately the same % in the Limited Game players (46%).  Since COVID, table counts have been: 2022 (108), 2023 (147 -which was 90% of pre-Covid), 2024 (124), and 2025 (134.5) Both Scott and Kathy noted the compliments received about the tournament and Scott commented that he'd been told we should better 'advertise' the amount of food available! Mick's trophies for the 0-750 winners were a big hit with the recipients.

The team game at the Harvest Sectional was discussed. Boards were pre-made which saved shuffle time and ensured fairer competition but the Bridgemate system crashed midway through the session and we had to revert to paper scoring. Our lead director, Lynn Yokel, was praised for her flexibility in handling that. Vicki noted that we do plan to use duplicated boards and Bridgemates for the team games at the Sun & Fun Sectional in February. (Sean had determined via subsequent conversation with the system SME how the crash could have been fixed.)

The Unit's Holiday Party is Sunday, December 7 with lunch beginning at noon and a Unit Game at 1pm. Bill has projected 20 tables which is as it was last year in consideration of the same conflicts with the NABC and the Regional as last year. (There were 27 tables in 2023 and 21 in 2022.) Martha proposed that we cater the event using CV BBQ and supplement that with homemade cookies. The cost estimated is \$958 plus tip and rolls and salads (suggested) from Costco. This is more than double last year's food cost but we would not give door prizes as one offset. After discussion, the board agreed to move forward with this plan. Vicki said that Sue Treble had suggested that we celebrate our 90+ year old players by letting them play free at an event and she'd mentioned this to Guy Bracket and he also liked the idea. It was agreed that we would offer these age 90+ free plays on December 7.

The Eight is Enough team game held on October 12 was reviewed. All felt it to have been a success with 15 tables and given that 53% of the players had less than 750 MPs. Ed Gould's overview of team game scoring and strategy had been well received. Denyse mentioned that there wasn't as much mixing among newer and more experienced players as we had hoped. Vicki also said that the number of cancellations and additions in the 48 hours before the event had been a big problem for Ed and Sean as they tried to put teams together. Financially, the net cost for the Unit was \$147.

We have two Sectionals upcoming – the NLM Sectional on January 9 and 10, and the Sun and Fun Sectional on February 13 and 14. Kathy said she would ask for volunteers as needed since we won't meet again until after the NLM.

Vicki reported changes in the 5/5/5 ACBL Membership Reimbursement program which had been described by the ACBL Executive Director Bronia Jenkins, at a recent Unit President Zoom meeting. These changes will take effect in 2026. Specifically, each Unit will be measured by net gain or loss against the number of unit members at the beginning of each quarter. There will be no comparison to pre-COVID numbers. The Unit will get no credit for activity—i.e. we'll be measured by how many people we lose but not whether we contact them. (ACBL will make calls to those who are lapsing and we are encouraged to do that as well but will not be measured per se by these contacts.) The Unit will

be asked to host parties for lapsed members and guests. Vicki said she had again voiced her concern about the Guest Member program's impact on our new members and Bronia said that all targets would be revised with the new plans in play.

As to Guest Members, Vicki said we currently have 15 although 4 had lapsed long before this program. Seven are new. Denyse said that she had not found any guest members who could tell her 'What it would take' to convert to a paid membership.

Cornelia brought up the idea of the Unit's support of an event at the NABC in San Diego in the fall of 2026. She said such donation monies would be used to support volunteer compensation and tournament welcome gifts. Vicki mentioned that possibly we could tie in any support of this with the Unit's Volunteer of the Year award. She asked all board members to consider who they might nominate for the Volunteer of the Year award for discussion at the next meeting.

Vicki said that Elections will be a discussion at the next meeting. She said that the positions held by Diana and Kathy (& Ann who had left the board) were up for re-election.

Kathy said she needed help from board members in promoting the need for available partners at the Palm Springs Regional.

Vicki thanked Cornelia for her contributions as a member of the Unit Board and wished her well as she moves to the National ACBL Board!

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15 at 10:30AM

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50AM.

Submitted by Cornelia Gould, Secretary