

JSOB Board Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2026

President Emmy Peters called the meeting to order at 3:30. All Board members were present including Emmy Peters, Ellen Lockamy, Jan Madsen, Mark Franzoni, Michael Palmer, Bill Page, Bill Fagan, Judy Harhai, and Tracy Miller. Paul Herron and Nancy Whitmire appeared remotely. Also present was JSOB Member Bill Kahley, who appeared to speak to the Board. Jeanne Harlan was also present as she writes the JSOB Newsletter.

The following motions were made and either failed or passed as indicated below.

1. Motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting. **APPROVED.**
2. Motion to start a 499 game. **APPROVED.** A 499 game will begin on the Friday after the NLM Tournament scheduled for October 22-23. The 499 game will be publicized at the NLM tournament. At the first 499 game, there will be free pizza for the entire club.
3. Motion to allow Watson plumbing to re-pipe the kitchen. **APPROVED.**
4. As discussed below, JSOB will begin to allow people to use credit cards to pay for games. Given that there is a \$.55 charge to pay the \$8.00 game fee, a Motion was made that credit card fees to pay will be \$8.50. **APPROVED.**
5. Motion to increase the price of Supervised Play to \$8.00 (bringing it in line with other game fees) as of January 1. **APPROVED.**
6. Motion to increase our charitable donations by adding another \$500 donation to the charity drawing at the Holiday Party. **APPROVED**

There were also other discussions as follows:

Bill Kahley presented a concern he had to the Board. He was unhappy that recent survey did not include a question regarding different types of limited games and when/if members wanted those limited games to occur during the week. He presented data regarding multiple limited games offered throughout various clubs in the Southeast and noted we are the only club in Florida that does not offer a regular 0-750 game, NLM game, or limited games beyond 0-299, and that nearly half the other clubs offer NLM or 0-750 or higher limited games. He specifically requested that the Board send out a new email/survey regarding the desire for limited games, especially a NLM game. The Board decided to hold off on sending a new email/survey out until after the current survey is completed. The need for another survey will be discussed at the next meeting. This will be an Action Item for the next meeting.

Mark Franzoni reported that our tax return must be submitted electronically but his several attempts have failed. Subsequently he has posted the return to the IRS with copies of the failed electronic attempts.

Emmy Peters indicated that there is a Zero Policy Notebook that is being used to record any violations. She stressed that written complaints are required. Michael Palmer noted that the JSOB Bylaws must follow the ACBL rules on zero tolerance. The bylaws committee will consider this in drafting the new bylaws.

The Nomination Committee indicated they had had great success in finding excellent candidates to run for the Board for the following term.

With regard to voting for new Board Members, it was agreed that the ballots must stay in the building. Additionally, new procedures will be put into place to confirm that only members vote as opposed to people who show up to play that Friday who are not members of the club

Sharon Carter wrote a letter to JSOB stating she was very happy with the support she had from JSOB members during the Jumpstart Bridge presentation at a recent conference of Math teachers. She has four teachers committed to starting the program which she considers a success.

The issue of free plays was discussed again. All members are in favor of allowing mentors to play free, but there is some general concern about the ACBL fees that are accruing for multiple free plays. Data regarding the amount of money JSOB is sending ACBL for free plays will be brought to the next meeting. This will be an Action Item for the next meeting.

Ron Sutton has written a book about a new way to play Bridge. He is a Bridge teacher. He would like to present his book and a different way to bid to JSOB. This issue was tabled until the Board can get more information on the ACBL approval of his method. This will be an Action Item for the next meeting.

The Technology Committee, headed by Bill Fagin, stated that the projector and the sound system have been completed/installed. The Square reader is the most user-friendly and competitively priced credit card system, and this will be implemented in the next six weeks.

The Board discussed allowing members to phone in or zoom in to appear remotely to Board meetings. The bylaws committee will address this.

The Board decided that we would like to have more special events for members such as a party for new life masters or other rank changes or a new member event. A social committee will be added to the committee list for the upcoming year.

The issue of printing directories was brought up again. Some members would like a booklet with members' names and phone numbers. Approximately 10 booklets will be printed and

available for five dollars from the Director's table. There is concern that people may not want to share their address or phone number. The membership form should now include a note stating that contact information will be shared with the rest of the members, and there will be a box to allow members to opt out of sharing contact information.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Miller