

NW Tucson Bridge Club Board Meeting Minutes for Mar 5, 2025

Present: Joe, JoAnn, Joyce, George, Linda, Gayle, Steven, Jim, Cindy, Kay & Ron

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Gayle. Minutes for February 5 were accepted with minor modification on pg. 2, Special Committee Report, Item 2.

President's remarks (Gayle)

Gayle is gone for next two Mondays and Wednesdays and pre-game announcements will be handled as follows: Mon 3/10 (Cindy), Mon 3/17 (Joe), Wednesdays (Ron), Fridays (Joe). Plan to make announcements 10 to 8 minutes prior to 1 o'clock game start time.

Committee Reports

Financial (Steven):

1. The Feb Balance Sheet shows Feb month-end cash balance at a sound ~\$45k.
2. Actual vs Budget for 2024 FY ending in Feb 2025 shows table revenue variance of **(\$7,620)** which has been explained over the year as an unrealistic F2F table revenue estimate. Otherwise, FY 2024 variance in other categories is insignificant. Note that reporting from now going forward will be on calendar year.
3. CY 2025 revenue vs expenses for 2 months shows a net income of \$2,605.
4. Monthly table count for Feb 2025 is 203.5 vs 226.0 in Feb 2024. This is explained because of club shutdown Feb 25 – 28 for the 2025 TWR.

Capital Assets (George/JoAnn)

1. Information was updated and presented with some discussion. The conclusion is that we have ample reserve funds to cover any replacement need but will not rush to do so. The report was accepted and will be added to the Board Manual.
2. Our dealing machine is well maintained and in excellent shape as a result. We have resources available to obtain a temporary replacement machine if necessary. Full replacement cost is about \$5k and takes about 7 days to obtain.
3. A concern was expressed regarding ladies' use of lotion and then transfer of oils on playing cards, which affect the dealing of cards. Ron is asked to shop for less oily lotion, which may help some. We may need to address this issue more widely in the future.

Education (Bob H by email)

1. Play & Learn has enjoyed 5 to 6 tables each week in February. We know this will decline as seasonal players return to their other homes. Four players from the Beginner I class are attending P&L games.

2. Thursday Beginner I class has 6 students, and they have completed 6 of 10 lessons. Another beginner class will start sometime in the May-June 2025 time-frame, as Bob and Bonnie have travel plans in early May.
3. Tuesday Beginner II class topics vary week-to-week as does attendance, which has ranged from 1.5 tables to 3+ tables.
4. Planning is underway for April and May Marvelous Monday topics and presenters.
5. Cindy is asked to solicit I/N players for their suggestion of topics.
6. The board agreed to allow suspension of Marvelous Monday presentations for the months of June through September 2025.

Club Manager (Joyce)

1. Plans for Alzheimer's Longest Day event in June were discussed. Friday June 20 is the preferred date for this event. Joyce will discuss the date with Adobe so they will not conflict.

Recognition (Gayle)

1. Winners at the recent Tucson Winter Regional are recognized on a banner at the club. A few additional winners were identified and will be added.

Special Committee Report (Joe)

1. Joe, Cindy, Ron, Joyce, and Kay were on a committee that brought their recommendations forward and are reported here:
2. The first item was to address three email suggestions brought to the committee:
 - a. Promotion of the 8-is-enough game on March 22 with assistance for C players to find teams. Kay Afdahl is working on this issue with positive results.
 - b. Start on time. Directors and BOD members agree – it is NOT helpful to put Bridgemates on tables until the game format (player count) is established.
 - c. Slow play. Discussion: BOD will back up policy enforcement by game directors. Directors will be informed of the slow play policy including 4-minute and 2-minute announcements and no late play except for special circumstances. Time clocks can be different for limit games, but slow play policy will be enforced consistently in limit and open games.
3. Special games: BOD approves Club Manager authority to schedule special games for maximum attendance and MP awards up to games costing \$7.50 per table. Table fee remains at \$8/player with some exceptions, such as P&L 12-board game at \$5 and mentor game free for mentors.
4. Team games: Before considering the Special Committee's team game recommendations, we reviewed recommendations and considerations from the NWTBC-Adobe Cooperation meeting (presented in more detail later.) During a 2-month trial period in April and May, we will work towards a collaborative approach with Adobe and run the Greater Tucson Team games. This is subject to ironing out details

and Adobe board acceptance. If accepted, the Saturday April 19 game will be held at NWT. We will pay an Adobe director \$75 who will run the game and rule the game. We recommend paying a NWT director \$50 who will run the computer and assist the lead Adobe director. This will be reversed for the team game in May, which will be held at Adobe on a Saturday of their choosing. Each club will have a game "ambassador" who will promote the game and help arrange teams. Linda, Gayle and Bonnie H will work as ambassadors on the April game.

5. Tuesday games: a rotating schedule is recommended:
 - a. On the first Tuesday of the month, starting April 1, there will be a team game encouraging A, B and C players to team up. E.g. 8-is-enough or HI/LOW or Random Matchup.
 - b. On the second Tuesday of the month, starting April 8, there will be an open game.
 - c. On the third Tuesday of the month, starting April 15, there will be a 2-section pairs game with a 199'er along with an open pairs game.
 - d. On the fourth Tuesday of the month, starting April 22 there will be the NLM Mentor game starting at 1:00 pm. This will replace the current Wed morning mentor game. The food/snack offering will need to change.
 - e. On the fifth Tuesday – April 29, July 29, September 30, and December 30 there will be a new format such as 2 ways to win, barometer game, fast pairs game.
6. All team games and all Tuesday games will need a volunteer games "ambassador" whose job it is to promote the game and find players to participate. Two weeks before each game, a banner advertising the game and giving a place to indicate interest in participating in the event will be posted in the club. Ambassadors assigned are:
 - a. Saturday team games – Kay Afdahl (If we return to club team games rather than Greater Tucson Team Games.).
 - b. 1st Tuesday (April 1) 8-is-enough – Linda and Kay
 - c. 2nd Tuesday (April 8) Open pairs – JoAnn
 - d. 3rd Tuesday (April 15) 199'er and Open pairs – Barbara Jensen (Cindy to ask)
 - e. 4th Tuesday (April 22) NLM Mentor game – Jim W
 - f. 5th Tuesday (April 29) 2 Ways to Win – Joe and Cindy
7. We will promote this new Tuesday offering as TERRIFIC TUESDAY.

Adobe/NWT Collaboration (Gayle)

1. Gayle, Bonnie and Steven met with Adobe board members on Feb 21 to discuss ideas for collaboration between clubs to increase attendance. Briefly, here are the NWT BOD responses:
 - a. Sharing Zoom advanced lessons teaching. Our board is okay with Steven and Gayle participating in this class structure if it is advertised as a joint club event.
 - b. Play & Learn collaboration. Our board is NOT in favor of this arrangement.
 - c. Doug Couchman game director refresher course. Our board approves our directors' participation at their discretion. Joyce noted that ACBL offers a free course on this topic and will provide more information.

- d. Mentor game collaboration – our board approves, no details decided.
- e. Green Valley (El Dorado) weekend open games advertising. Our board does not agree with this participation.

Old Business

1. Board Manual updates. Joe provided updated Board History section. Gayle provided updated Capital Budget section and Annual Report filed with Arizona.
2. Fall NLM Sectional at NW (Sat & Sun Oct 4- 5) – Planning under way, director certification has been verified.
3. Equipment – no further action required. Joe has cleaned up the storage area, donating obsolete equipment.

New Business

1. Spring Celebration. Ideas abound, including honored guest availability, organist availability. Kay volunteered to do refreshments. \$250 gift for past president is approved.
2. Use of robots for sit-out: Joyce, Randy and Ruth Haukom are working behind the scenes on this idea.
3. Strategic Planning – deferred
4. P&P review – deferred

Next Board Meeting:

The next board meeting is scheduled for 10 am Wed April 2.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wolf

Board Secretary

Last revised 03.07.2025 8:00 pm