

NW Tucson Bridge Club Board Meeting Minutes for September 4, 2024

Present: Bob (chair), Jim W, Jim V, Ron, JoAnn, Steve, Gayle, Kay, Pamela (by phone).

Meeting was called to order at 10:55 am

Minutes for August 7 were accepted as published.

Committee Reports:

Financial Report (Steve):

1. The 8/31/24 cash balance stands at \$39.0 (\$13.1 mm, \$10.2 cash, \$15,7 CD), which is high because the August rent had not yet been paid.
2. The variance report shows a negative **\$4.039** vs budget for the six-month period of March through August. \$2,630 of this is due to an optimistic budgeted table fee income which is not realistic in the summer. Another \$1,169 is higher rent expense than budgeted. We were charged for parking lot paving in the summer. Summary: Performance to Budget is sound; more refinement will be made for 2025 budget.
3. Table count for the six-month period stands at 1,209 in FY24 vs 975 in FY23, which is up by 234.
4. Revenue exceeds expenses at EOM August by \$4,656.

I/N (Jim V.)

1. We see more SaddleBrooke Ranch players at club which is good. We start the new 299 limit game on September 4, waiting for a good outcome.

Recognition (Gayle)

1. Bulletin board is updated with more stars listed.
2. Birthday recognition day starts in September on a Monday or Friday late in the month.

Education Bob/Gayle)

1. Committee met to plan for the resumption of Marvelous Monday on October 7. Scheduled lesson topics and presenters will be publicized. The board is okay with asking for volunteer \$5 contributions from participants to offset printing costs. Presenter will take enough to cover printing; the remaining amount goes to the club and be booked as lesson income.
2. A "Bridge Land Cruise" is planned for all day Saturday November 2. The theme is "Going Slamming". Kay, cruise director, has everything under control.
3. The Tuesday Beginner II class is underway with 8+ students.
4. The Thursday Beginner I class starts Thursday September 5 and runs 10 weeks.

Old Business

1. We discussed the decision that was made to combine the 749 and open sections on Monday Sept 3, where there were 9 pairs registered in each section. There were some disappointed players who came for a different experience than they had. A lesson learned perhaps is that (1) 4 ½ tables is considered a 5-table game by ACBL conventions, thus our policy would be DO NOT COMBINE; and (2) director should ask if any pair wishes to move to the open and play for free. If not, each section would have had a 4-board sit-out.

2. Saturday team game format for Sept 28 and Oct 12 & 26 was discussed. After vigorous discussion, a decision was made and approved as follows: Sept 28 and Oct 26 will be handicapped team games and will be actively promoted to attract a mixed field. The model will be from the [ACBL's Handicap Club Games Guide](#), using the "Team Handicap Systems" from page 2, the example from the top of page 3, and the chart at the top of page 4. Oct 12 will be a high-low potluck game where "B" teams pick their "A" team-mates in a random drawing.
3. Gayle asked and Joyce clarified: The only on-line game in which NWTBC participates is the Southeast Carolina Consortium.
4. The election process was discussed. Gayle and Jim W brought forward a DRAFT proposal for the board and the election committee chair to consider. Board members are urged to read the proposed procedure carefully and be prepared to discuss and finalize it procedures at the October board meeting. Pay attention to the length of the open nomination period and the choice of electronic versus paper ballot. Ron was agreeable to be the 2025 election committee board member, if approved next month. Jim Wolf recused himself from this duty.
5. Pamela decided to stay on through the first board meeting in January and then resign her remaining one-year term to aid in the board transition.

New Business

1. We discussed a better way to collect table fees at games to avoid errors and confusion. After good discussion, it was decided to (1) promote EZPay sales before the game; (2) Joyce to procure higher quality cards and scrap the old cards as they are collected; (3) have a volunteer make change for players before the game so change does not need to be made at the table. In conclusion, these simple changes may preclude the need for collection envelopes at the table.
2. From Unit 356 President Jack Shoemaker: "Unit 356 is sponsoring a day, Wednesday, December 4th at the LV NABC. As part of the sponsorship, we have the opportunity to name some of the games that day. The (unit) board has discussed and decided that we would like to highlight the clubs that make the unit successful. Decision—Gayle and Jim will propose a short article to promote our club. Pamela will approve it and provide it to Jack prior to Sept 13
3. Gayle will organize announcement duties at games for the times that Club Prez is not there.

Next Board Meeting:

The next board meeting is planned for **Wednesday, October 9 at 10 am**. Pamela will chair the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wolf

Board Secretary