

NW TUCSON BRIDGE CLUB

Board Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2026

Present: Gayle Covey, Steven DeVico, Cindy Coonce, Jim Wolf, Linda Brown, Kay Afdahl, Ron Gospodarek, Joe Olivier, Barbara Jensen, Joyce Honorof

The meeting was called to order at 9:55 am by President, Gayle Covey. Minutes for December 17 were accepted as published.

Opening remarks

Because this impacts the board and the club, Gayle communicated publicly that she and Steven will be relocating to North Carolina in March. They will remain active while replacements are found and a smooth transition is in place. Gayle recognizes that our club is privileged to have energetic player/volunteers and trusts that we will "keep the party going" as they move on to a new phase of life.

Board Transition

1. The 2025 board welcomed Barbara Jensen as a new board member and thanked and excused Ron Gospodarek for his two years of service on the board and his continued service as club storekeeper.
2. The board unanimously accepted nominations and appointments to the following offices for 2026:
 - a. President – Joe Olivier
 - b. Vice President – Cindy Coonce
 - c. Treasurer – Steven DeVico
 - d. Secretary – Jim Wolf
3. New board member orientation: Barb Jensen was given the board manual and a copy of past board minutes. Cindy Coonce will assist as needed for Barbara to get up to speed.

Committee Reports and Special Topics

Finance (Steve & George)

1. Cash position is quite sound at \$51,135 (MMA 16,672, DDA 4,889, CD1 13,195, CD2 16,379).
2. Year-end financials are now posted on the website (per George Harger after the board meeting.)
3. 2026 Budget will be prepared prior to next board meeting.

Club Manager (Joyce)

1. Joyce read a letter from Bonnie about Bob Hertzog. This letter has been communicated to our player audience, per Bonnie's request.
2. In Bob Hertzog's absence, a plan is in place to continue the Friday 9 am 299 Play & Learn games.
 - a. Joe Olivier will teach games on Jan 16, Jan 23, and possibly Jan 30.
 - b. Rick Dunie, Jack Wholey, and Stewart Dresch will also teach these games when needed. Joe will coordinate the later dates

- c. Cindy Coonce/Cherri Delgado will direct the 299er P&L for the rest of January and possibly more. Joyce will be in charge of ensuring there is a director present to assist the teacher in the event that teacher is not a certified director.
 - d. Kay Afdahl volunteered to be called on short notice as a “NE” partner if there is a solitary player without a partner.
 - e. Dealers should make seven sets of 12 boards for play and make the hand records available.
3. Plans for the Thursday Beginner I class in Bob’s absence are as follows:
- a. Joyce is in the midst of contracting Barbara Rosenthal to teach the 10-week class on 2/1 for which Bob was scheduled. The board approved a minimum of \$1200 for her to teach. If student fees exceed this amount, Barb will get that. We wait to hear back from Barb. If that does not work, Joyce will teach the January 15 and 22 and Joe will arrange teachers for the rest of the classes.
 - b. The book to be used is being considered: availability and appropriate content will be evaluated by Joyce and Gayle. Candidates are: 1)Rickers, 2)Todd, 3)Orock.
 - c. Access to the club will be either by a current member with a key or a key given to the instructor. Coffee can be made by the instructor or a student.
 - d. The fee for the class is \$100 for ten sessions, no single-session option is available. As the class gets underway, if more students want to start after session one, some consideration may be given.
 - e. The Tuesday Beginner II class is now suspended indefinitely.
4. The club manager has the authority to assign occasional high-cost sanctioned games with high point awards without the need for prior board approval. The board also agreed that our player fee will not increase for these special games, but they will be promoted so players know. These special games occur only several times a year.

Marvelous Monday

- 1. Some minor changes to the schedule are being made: Jan 19 – Bob Murray will teach on “Director Please”. Jan 26 - Rick Dunie will teach on “What Went Wrong?”
- 2. Feb 2, 9 ,16 & 23 – Gayle Covey will teach various sessions on “Two-over-one” which will complement the ongoing Beginner class.

Recognition

- 1. Our next volunteer recognition event will be on Fri March 20. This will be combined with the annual membership meeting and club anniversary. Joe will provide a list of volunteers being recognized for review at the Feb 4 board meeting. The board approved a gift of five free plays for each volunteer to continue.
- 2. Our next Birthday Mondays will be on Jan 26, Feb 23, and Mar 23. Linda Langer has agreed to recognize BD players and hand out free plays and to provide the cake.

Facilities

- The board gave approval for a handy man to fix the kitchen cabinet in need of repair. Joe will contact Luiz Martinez whom Pat Gospodarek recommended. No dollar amount was mentioned.

Ad Hoc Working Committees (Linda)

1. A new chairman for the Explore Education Issues ad hoc committee is needed with Gayle Covey moving. Joe Olivier will reach out to several well-known and qualified candidates.
2. The following ad hoc committees have been previously named to study future improvements identified in the fall survey: (1)Exploring Education Issues, (2)partnership and ambassadorship, (3)community outreach, and (4)Intermediate/Newcomer advocacy. Committee chairs are reminded to form their committees and begin to meet with the expectation of bringing suggestions/recommendations to the board meeting in March

Greater Tucson Team Games

1. The Adobe club suggested a change to the NW schedule of team games: NW would host in January, May and November; Adobe would host in March and September. Our board accepted and approved these changes.
2. The current arrangement is for a host club and a guest club director to be assigned. This arrangement was used to make the event more "collaborative". After discussion and consideration, the board agreed that a simpler preferred approach would be for only the host club to provide the director. With board consensus on this change, we will seek Adobe acceptance on this arrangement to be implemented after the January 24 GTTG.

Review of PP, By Laws, Board Manual

The reviews will be postponed for several months.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Next Board Meetings:

Wed Feb 4, 10 am

Wed Mar 4, 10 am

Respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary