

NW Tucson Bridge Club

Board Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2024

Present: Pamela, Bob, Jim W, Jim V, Ron, JoAnn, George, Steve, Gayle, Joyce, Kay,

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

Minutes for April 10 were accepted as published.

Summer Survey

The following is a summary of board decisions resulting from a review of responses from the electronic survey and lengthy discussion. We had useful input from some of our advancing beginner players who were attending a side meeting at the club.

1. A change to a 12:30 start time was rejected due to many "NO" responses.
2. The change from an open to a limit game on Tuesday was discussed at length. The board concluded that needs would be better met by addressing the limit of the Monday and Friday games. See item 3, 4, and 5 below for a better solution.
3. The board decided to continue our "Terrific Tuesday" promotion as an open stratified game with a \$4 discount for players from the previous Monday game as well as a \$4 discount for students attending Bob Hertzog's Beginner II class on Tuesday mornings.
4. To enhance Tuesday attendance, we will continue to offer free "Post-Mortem" Q&A by one of our experienced players. JoAnn Aiken agreed to be responsible for insuring this happens each week.
5. To attract more limit players to our games, the board decided to increase the limit to 749 for the Monday and Friday limit games. We believe this will attract some limit players between 500 and 750 masterpoint holding who do not currently have a choice of limit games at our club. This change will be made beginning with Monday, May 13 game and will continue indefinitely as attendance allows. Our policy will continue in place that if fewer than 3 tables in limited or less than 5 tables in open occur, the game will merge into one open stratified session.
6. The suggestion for a Thursday open game was tabled for a variety of reasons. There was only marginal interest from the survey. A Thursday game would disrupt current Thursday bridge classes and would require additional director staff. This topic may be revisited later.

Committee Reports:

Education (Bob/Gayle/Kay):

1. Bob's Beginning Bridge I class on Thursday morning is in the 6th of 10 sessions.
2. Bob's Beginning Bridge II class starts Tuesday May 14 and runs for 8 weeks.
3. The Ed committee continued planning for the fall offerings for Marvelous Monday. This will include a topical lesson series for a suggested \$10 contribution per session.
4. A "Bridge Land Cruise" is planned for the fall as well. This will be an all-day Saturday event.

Financial Report (George/Steve):

1. The new 2024 Budget was reviewed and approved with a projected \$16,000 net income.
2. A new Variance Report was reviewed. It provides annotations for categories with variance.

3. Balance Sheet was reviewed, showing a surplus of \$48.8k and a healthy cash reserve of \$37k. The \$37k cash is made up of \$11.6 cash, \$10k Money Market, and 4.9% CD of \$15.4k. It was noted that the 4.9% CD was recently negotiated from 4.2% and matures in May 2025.
4. For the record: the Treasurer has explained that a cash balance of \$35k is "healthy" for our club. This amount is made up of \$10k in ready cash (\$5k to avoid bank service charges, \$2.5k for first-of-month rent, and \$2.5 ready cash reserve); \$10k for replacement costs; and, \$15k for business cushion.
5. Average Tables report was reviewed. April shows less than expected increase from the previous year and is explained due to the Friday April 19 club closure for the Tucson Sectional.
6. The Board approved the cancellation of our zoom contract.
7. Operational Note: Our landlord is not collecting or communicating about a charge for Common Area Maintenance. We are aware that we will be hit with a retroactive charge sometime this year.

New Business:

1. We briefly discussed the possible future merging with another club. The board is unanimous in thinking our business model and personality are not compatible with other clubs in the community.

Next Board Meeting:

Due to significant absences by board members during the summer and no urgent business matters, we will not meet as a board during June, July and August. If urgent matters arise, we will handle them appropriately. The next face-to-face board meeting is planned for **Wednesday, September 4 at 10 am.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wolf

Board Secretary