

Bridge on the Edge, Board of Administration

Record of May12th, 2020 meeting

Attendees, via Zoom:

Brian Shortall , President and Chair, Roy Perry Vice President, Rick Comerford, Treasurer, Judith McIntyre secretary, Susan Follett, Fran Cook and Anne Hughes, members at large, Rahul Chandra, Club Manager, After everyone got connected with audio and video Brian called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

1) Minutes of February 27th Meeting

The minutes of the February 27th meeting were agreed to be accurate.

1.1) As the world is in the middle of a pandemic, normal BOTE operations at the Swilers' club ceased in March and no in person meetings have been possible since then. Given the dynamic nature of our club, some decisions had been by email. The suggestion to move our games online was now formally ratified by the Board, proposed by Judith, seconded by Anne.

2) Action Items from last meeting

Ladies Toilet

As we are no longer physically using the club building, the Swilers have said they are taking advantage of the downtime to attend to some repairs and improvements in the Ladies Washroom. Hopefully this will happen. Stay tuned.

New Bridge Chairs

Nothing to report as everything is closed

Director's Guidance

Roy has a good outline for this document and will continue to work on it. There is no urgency as the club will not be in operation any time soon.

Membership Renewal gift

Judith, with help from Roy and Janet Parsons, has designed a bridge planner as a membership renewal gift. This will start from September 2020 and cover 12 months. Hopefully we will be able to use it in that time frame.

3) Committee/Team reports

Finance

Rick reported that the financial statements for the year end, March 2020, have been prepared by our accountant, Nigel Cose, CPA. These are posted on our website in the members only section. Our objective of breaking even for the year, as outlined in the budget proposed at the last AGM, has been accomplished. We actually made a small profit of \$1,900 for the year. As of March 31st we had about \$22,000 in investments, (our rainy day fund), and \$9,000 in our current account. Our ongoing expenses are \$1,100 a month plus what we negotiate with the Swilers' for 'rent'. Rick commended Rahul and Roy for getting our club moved online. Our on-line sanctioned games may generate up to \$1,000 in revenue per month depending on member participation. This goes a long way to paying our expenses. Thanks to all who are supporting our club by playing in the BOTE games. The Board accepted the financial statements. These will be presented at the AGM by our accountant. So we are financially sustainable for now.

Education

- The committee met in March and a schedule was prepared for April/May/June. Unfortunately it could not be implemented due to the closing of the club.
- The suggestions from the Focus Group have been taken on board and will be incorporated into future education offerings.
- Anne will contact John Goold to see if the member survey re education, conducted a few years ago, is available.
- Marilyn Walbourne. is preparing a course evaluation for participants to complete after future courses. It was suggested Heidi Janes might be a good resource person in this regard, Brian offered to contact her.
- The supervised play and mentored newcomer games are extremely popular and the intent is to keep them going once the club reopens.
- Roy suggested that the Education Committee not be restricted to one year, rather that it be ongoing. This would provide more continuity.
- The suggestion that it would be better to have classes on Wednesday night rather than Monday, due to parking, will be brought up when the lease is renewed.
- Anne was contacted by the recreation director in Torbay looking for information about bridge. Gloria Stone contacted her, this is, however, on hold for now, like so many other things.
- Roy suggested that the lockdown is a great time to get people interested in online bridge, possibly we could be on CBC Radio Noon Crosstalk or Weekend AM to talk about bridge and answer questions. Fran offered to take the lead on this with help from Roy.

Social

The Hawaiian day and **TT** Day (**TT** the mathematical symbol a.k.a Pi) were very well received. Susan was thanked for a wonderful job of bringing members together with cake, pie and joviality. Susan has been trying to contact Fred Richards wrt the Christmas luncheon. She has no success despite many phone calls.

Constitution

A notice to the members of the two proposed changes has been on the website and hopefully the changes will be ratified at the AGM, whenever that is.

Housekeeping

No house, no report.

Club Manager

- Rahul and Roy have been extremely busy getting our club up and running on BBO. To date we have had 153 player entries with 56 distinct players. The four games in April had 50-60 participating.
- The Board agreed to pay the directors of the virtual games. Rahul indicated it was different from running games at the club and generally less onerous.
- Rahul will send a list of people that have played in club games to Roy and Judith. They will undertake to encourage others who have not yet played to join in.
- We may be able to use the Common Game hands in our online games, our afternoon sessions would use the morning ones. The evening game would have to move to 7:30pm and would use the evening ones.
- There was discussion of whether six or seven minutes was better for an online round.

4) New Business

Deferment of AGM

- Due to the Covid situation, it will not be possible to hold our AGM as planned in June. Brian asked all Board members if they were willing to continue in their present positions until such time as an AGM could be called. All agreed to continue.
- We will await developments over the summer and an AGM will be held as soon as it is practicable and possible.

Club Re-Opening

At present we are in Level 4 of the Government's 5 level plan for lifting of restrictions due to the Covid pandemic. It was agreed that even under level 3 the club would not be able to resume operations. It will be 'steady as we go' for the next while.

Congratulations

The committee offers their congratulations to four of our members who appeared in the annual ACBL Masterpoint races for 2019. In the *Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs* contest, three BOTE members were mentioned, **Judy Crewe** in the 50-100 point range, **Rahul Chandra** who was top of the 100-200 point range and **Nellie Burke** in the same category. **Randy Bennett** was successful in the *ACBL Masterpoint Online category*. Well done everyone, we wish you continued success at the table.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was adjourned, proposed by Anne, seconded by Fran at 6:00pm

Action Items from the Meeting

Director Guidance: *Roy* to continue composition.

Personal Planner: *Judith* to complete and enquire about printing.

Swilers' Club: *Rick* to negotiate a retention fee.

Promotion of Bridge: *Fran and Roy* to pursue.

Online games: *Rahul* will send a list of participants to date to Roy and Judith.

Respectfully submitted

Judith McIntyre,

18-May-2020