

Minutes of the Tallahassee Duplicate Bridge Club's Board of Directors Meeting on

March 19, 2026

Members present were Roy Forman, President; Shelley Klein, Vice President; Joe Labat, Club Treasurer; Shelly Brimacombe; and Paul Boisvert. David Thistle, Club Secretary participated by telephone. Nancy Ross (Club Manager) and Judy Donohue attended. Debbi Solo (Novice Representative) was absent.

President Roy Forman called the meeting to order at 3:23 pm at the Senior Center.

The board approved the February minutes.

President's Remarks

Roy extended the club's hearty thanks to Judy Donohue and Nancy Ross for arranging the bridge cruise, which was a great success. (More information about the cruise appears below.)

Club Manager's Report (Nancy Ross)

- Game attendance in February was extremely good. We had 192 tables, up from 149.5 in February, 2025.
- The 2026 Membership Directory has been published; copies are available free to club members at all our games.
- Nancy led a lively discussion of the April calendar.
- Nancy reported that she and Joe were inventorying the table-movement cards. They plan to create a complete set for each of the club's venues.
- Nancy led a discussion about where our Sunday game at Westminster Oaks should be located. The advantages and disadvantages of the Pool House and the downstairs room in the main building (a.k.a. the theater) were debated. Nancy will inspect the theater, and the board will return to the matter at its next meeting.
- The following members achieved rank advancements in February:

Vicki Bertoch — Club Master
Karen Randolph — Sectional Master
Kathryn Scott — Sectional Master
Doug Wussler — Sectional Master

Treasurer's Report (Joe Labat)

- The club lost ~\$500 during January and February combined, as it did in 2025; the loss is not a cause for alarm.

- Joe and Nancy made several purchases, e.g., two replacement pencil sharpeners.
- Joe is considering changing our accounting software.

Education Committee's Report (Shelley Klein and Debbie Dodd (Cochairs), Shelley Brimacombe, Nancy Ross, and Joyce Stillwell)

- Nothing to report but note:
 - Shelley Klein continues to teach "Little Lessons" most Mondays before the 199er games. The club calendar gives the dates of these lessons.

Novice Representative's Report (given by Shelley Brimacombe)

- Shelley B. reported that attendance at the Friday 199er games should be monitored because it appears to be decreasing.
- Shelley B. reported that some less-experienced players had been harshly criticized by one of the club's senior players. Roy asked Paul Boisvert (Chair of the Disciplinary Committee) to talk to the persons involved.

Disciplinary Committee's Report (Paul Boisvert (Chair), Gloria Ford, Jim Lyle, and Marge Meeter)

- Nothing to report.

Membership Committee's Report (Shelley Brimacombe, Chair)

- Nothing to report.

Bylaws Committee's Report (David Thistle (Chair) and Paul Boisvert)

- Nothing to report.

Other matters

- Judy Donahue and Nancy Ross reported on their follow-up survey of participants in the bridge cruise. In brief, the game director (Nancy Ross) did a great job, the length of the cruise was appropriate, the travel agent was adequate, and most participants would do it again. Note that every player won points, and the cruise did not lose money. Planning for a cruise next March is underway.
- Paul Boisvert would like help in enlisting "pros" for the monthly pro-am games.
- The board decided that for the April pro-am game each "am" would chose a "pro" by selecting a slip of paper with a "pro's" name on it from a hat, as had been done from time to time in the past.

- A chili lunch will be held before the team game on April 23. More information will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted by David Thistle, Club Secretary.

Board of Director's Notes on Bridge Rules and Bridge Etiquette

From time to time, the board will bring to the attention of the club extracts from the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Here are two that were suggested by club members.

Law 16

B. Extraneous Information from Partner 1. Any extraneous information from partner that might suggest a call or play is unauthorized. This includes remarks, questions, replies to questions, unexpected alerts or failures to alert, unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism.

(a) A player may not choose a call or play that is demonstrably suggested over another by unauthorized information if the other call or play is a logical alternative.

(b) A logical alternative is an action that a significant proportion of the class of players in question, using the methods of the partnership, would seriously consider, and some might select.

Law 71

D.1. Variations in Tempo or Manner 1. It is desirable, though not always required, for players to maintain steady tempo and unvarying manner. However, players should be particularly careful when variations may work to the benefit of their side. Otherwise, unintentionally to vary the tempo or manner in which a call or play is made is not an infraction. Inferences from such variations are authorized only to the opponents, who may act upon the information at their own risk.

Below, our president Roy Forman explains why the board has chosen to include these laws in the minutes.

“We are including these rules in the minutes so that everybody may become familiar with them. A call to the director should not be threatening. The director is present to resolve any issues and make sure that the play is fair. The club seems to have no problems with director calls for lead out of turn or bid out of turn. We do have some issues with director calls for perceived unauthorized information. That’s the reason for the inclusion of these laws. Do note that you are entitled to take the time that you need to bid as long as it is not an attempt to

transmit unauthorized information. If you call the director, please make sure that you do this in a non-threatening, not accusatory manner. The call should be about a play of the hand, not about a personality. I encourage everyone to be familiar with these laws, but I also want to make sure that all director calls are done in a nonjudgmental, calm manner so that bridge can continue to be an enjoyable experience.”