Minutes WBL Board Meeting
March 20, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Barbara Shaw, Kathy Kruskal, Steve Robinson, Don Berman, Fred King, Michael Carroad, Bill Cole, Lee Jensen, Dick Wegman, Dave Ruderman and guests Dave Idleman and Charity Sack.

President Doran called the meeting to order at 7:14 P.M.

The minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

Treasurer Steve Robinson reported that we have $4815.63 in our checking account. $2000.00 still belongs to the Regional. He has sent $5000.00 to Margo Hennings for the Nationals. Vice President Kathy Kruskal will work with the tournament committee and proposed that they come to us only one more time with the
final total of extra money needed for the Nationals. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Barbara Doran told us that our liability insurance is due for renewal May 1, 2002. It will cost $170.00 for the year. It is actually liability insurance on the Board of Directors. Steve Robinson informed us that Roy Becker is handling the insurance for the ACBL. He also informed that we have no performance bonds for
people who sign checks. Our bank statements are sent to Vice President Kathy Kruskal who checks the account monthly. Lee Jensen said that the insurance also covers the tournament committees and property liability.

Barbara also informed us that the Bulletin publication dates have been changed to correspond with the important dates coming up. Editor Donna Rogall wants to make the pictures better. She asked whether we advertise in the NVBA bulletin.

Barbara received a letter from Steve Forsythe suggesting that we compensate new members who join the ACBL. It costs $24.00 to join. Steve suggested that we give them free plays. Steve Robinson informed us that the rebate from the ACBL is now only $1.00. He also informed us that Steve Forsythe can not be a
member of the Board and also an employee running the Easybridge!. It would be a conflict of interest. Michael Carroad mentioned that retention of members is important not just joining. He suggested that we reward new members for playing not just winning points. Bill Cole suggested that we base the compensation on the number of times they play not just joining. Steve Robinson mentioned basing the compensation on masterpoints won. Lee Jensen asked what percentage of our membership plays in our
Sectionals and Unit games. He said that 1637 people played between the two units last year. 30% of the players at our Unit games and Sectionals were from the NVBA. The biggest novice game was 17 tables at our Sectional. Lee questioned if we can get 500 tables at the Non-Life Master Sectional, why can't we get 40 tables at our regular sectionals? Dave Ruderman asked that we give free plays to anyone who brings a partner or players to a Unit game in June who hasn't played at the Unit game in the last 12 months. Michael Carroad said that we are averaging 40-50 tables at our Unit Games.

Dick Wegman said that we can have free use of the basement room in the rectory. Fred King said that he had not seen the room which is large and has its own bathroom. King said that he will touch base with Steve Forsythe and see about using the room for the WBL Easybridge! classes.

Barbara Doran then turned the floor over to Charity Sack and David Ingleman for their presentation for the Bridge in Schools program. It is a marketing program currently. They are seeking the approval of the Department of Education. They have made a presentation to Freddie Mac and should know 5-1-02 whether they will give a grant to the program. They applied two weeks ago and have heard nothing yet which they were told was good news. They
need contacts into the schools in the area. Maryland can be one of the pilot programs. Our grant should we choose to give one would go specifically to the Maryland program. David reported that
Delaware has given $5000.00 in soft money. Lee Jensen asked what are we getting differently than in Delaware? And how much money is needed per school to implement this program? David said they estimated that $2000.00-$3000.00 per school was needed to start the program. We asked at a previous
meeting for a budget and proposals. David was able to tell us that they received an $80,000.00 grant from the ACBL Education Foundation. The ACBL may pick up the tab for expenses from July to the end of the year. There is a $7000.00 short fall for the month of June. This is where they would need our help. There is about $12,000.00 per month in expenses. Jensen asked if there was an effort to get chess endorsed by the DOE? Steve Robinson asked whether bridge works better in low or high income schools? Barbara Doran asked for a copy of the 100 page Freddie Mac proposal. Dave Ruderman asked what is the schedule for implementation of the program and is there a limit in the scope of the implementation? Dick Wegman asked how much weight is given to the studies from France, Italy, and England? Italy has part or the curriculum in their elementary and middle schools now. Lee Jensen suggested that we table this discussion until our April meeting. David and Charity left the meeting with a list of information they were to supply to us at our April meeting. They were to return with the Freddie Mac proposal, a per school budget, job descriptions, and chess information.

Steve Robinson reported that the Double KO s of the WBL were going well. Bill Cole questioned the viability of a bye in the

middle of the event. Steve said that he had heard no complaints or comments. The WBL Round Robin will start in May.

Bill Cole discussed WBL free plays. He suggested that we give free plays to the WEB Administrator. Don Berman reported that he spends about 4-5 hours a week entering information on the WEB site. It was agreed that he should be given free plays to all WBL sponsored events. Bill also suggested cutting back on the number of free plays which we give each year. It totals approximately $600.00 per year. We give 18 free plays to the clubs as compensation for closing during our sectionals. We decided to no longer give the Laurel Bridge Club free plays since they do not close during our Sectionals. Bill suggested that we come up with a formula for free plays for the clubs. The people given free plays by the WBL are listed in our policy.

Vice President Kathy Kruskal reported that we lost two members last month. Lou Miller and Izzy Elridge died. Cards and flowers were sent by Francis Burke to the families. Barbara Shaw informed us that long time member Mickie Kivel was recovering from breast cancer surgery. She suggested that we send a get well card and flowers. The board agreed.

Tournament chairman Lee Jensen stated that the ABA/WBL game scheduled for Saturday was cancelled. He reported that the attendance was the same at the armory as at the hotel. He reported that Kitty will be handling the food for the annual meeting in May. She will need help with set-up from 3-6 P.M. that day and clean-up afterwards.

Dave Ruderman made a motion about his previous suggestion of free plays for new members. He moved that during the month of June free plays be given to any member and his/her partner for each time the member brings a player to the WBL Unit game who has not been there for 12 months. Dick Wegman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. announcements will be made at the May games.

The elections will be held at the annual meeting in May. There will be two at large board positions open. Dick Wegman as agreed to run for Vice President. Anyone having suggestions for potential
board members should contact one of the existing board members. Steve Robinson will handle the petition signatures required to run for the board. People suggested as possible candidates were Carol Banks, Vince Wilmont, and Steve Forsythe.

Since Kathy Kruskal will no longer be on the board she said that we need a liaison with bulletin editor Donna Rogall. She will continue to be the liaison until May. Barbara Shaw volunteered to be the new liaison.

Barbara Doran thanked Lee Jensen for hosting the meeting. The April meeting will be at Dave Ruderman s on Wednesday, April 24th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes
WBL Board Meeting
April 24, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Barbara Shaw, Kathy Kruskal, Bill Cole, Don Berman, Michael Carroad, Lee Jensen, David Ruderman, Fred King, Steve Robinson, Dick Wegman.

President Barbara Doran called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Steve Robinson reported that we have $6802.32 in our checking account. We still have to pay $1750.00 for the duplicating machine. We are looking into E-Mailing the bulletin to save the expense of mailing it. He reviewed the fiscal statements for the years 2001 and 2002. It was noted that the tournament profits were less + or - 25 tables. ACBL costs are higher. Michael Carroad suggested that we might add a Saturday morning game. Steve can't predict future income but this year we had the one time expense of the duplicating machine plus the directory expense which we do not have every year. It was remarked that the site changes affect attendance. We have about 350 tables per sectional. We may lose $5000.00 this year. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Vice President Kathy Kruskal reported on the summer Nationals. The Mid-Atlantic will contribute $10,000 to the Nationals. We approved funding the Caddie room for $600.00. Margo Hennings is now asking that we commit $2000.00 as an insurance buffer in case there is a short fall of income at the nationals. This money would be needed if we are short in covering our expenses or there are unexpected expenses. They are estimating 16,000 tables. Lee Jensen said that we should go to the ACBL to cover those expenses. If they won't cover any short fall then we will consider paying. Kathy Kruskal moved that the WBL guarantee up to $4000.00 to be divided evenly with the NVBA in the event of a short fall at the Nationals. Don Berman seconded the motion. Five were in favor, four opposed and one abstained. Kathy will be representing the WBL at the St. Elizabeth's awards dinner.

Dick Wegman said that he and Michael Carroad will take a look at Ohr Kodesh for space for the Unit Game. They will look into it in the next couple of weeks and report back to us at the next board meeting. He also reported that the new board candidates will be Weizhong Bao, Lee Jensen, Steve Forsythe. Cecelia Valdevioso has shown interest but has not yet decided. Carol Banks wishes to be considered for next year.

Francis Burke, Membership chairman, will have the complete membership list at the annual meeting. Peter Boyd will be running the meeting and is the election's chairman.

Dave Ruderman reported that the air-conditioning was not on at the church last Thursday night because the church did not want to turn it on. A number of people complained about being uncomfortable.

Lee Jensen said that we earned $500.00 for the National fund from the $1.00 surcharge at the Saturday game at the last sectional.

Don Berman announced that "Bridge at Schools" has been selected as the charity for our annual meeting.

Steve Robinson reported that there will be a town meeting at the Washington Bridge Center on Monday May 13th at 7:30. The purpose is to inform and educate any members interested in Bridge at Schools and to get an idea as to whether the general membership wishes us to donate $10,000.00 to the program. He said that he is sending invitations to former board members. Bill Cole and Kathy Kruskal suggested sending notice of the meeting to everyone. Bill Cole and Lee Jensen think that Bridge at Schools should be brought up at the annual meeting. Lee Jensen pointed out that the purpose of the annual meeting is election of officers, presenting annual awards and dealing with any major issues which come before the WBL. Spending $10,000.00, nearly 1/3 of our funds is certainly a major endeavor. A lengthy discussion occured. Michael Carroad suggested that we were usurping our responsibility as board members for making major decisions. Barbara Shaw pointed out that it takes nearly 40 minutes to conduct the normal business of the annual meeting and it is impossible to educate the membership adequately in such a short period of time in order for them to make an informed decision. If for some reason this issue took so long that you cancelled bridge for that evening you would have many unhappy people. Steve Robinson stated that most of the membership doesn't care and that all they want to do is play bridge that evening. Instead of building up the Thursday night game we would be taking a big chance that we would be driving people away from the game. Lee Jensen moved and Don Berman seconded the motion that we take this off the

table. Five were in favor of it. This will not be discussed at the annual meeting for lack of time.

Steve Robinson reported that the Maryland Round Robin deadline has been extended to Thursday May 16.

Barbara Doran thanked Dave Ruderman for hosting the meeting. The next meeting will be at Barbara Doran's on May 29th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

May 29, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Barbara Shaw, Steve Robinson, Dick Wegman, Michael Carroad, Wei Bao, Ben Laden, Don Berman, Dave Ruderman, Fred King, Lee Jensen, and guest Donna Rogall.

President Doran called the meeting to order at 7:48 P.M.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer Steve Robinson reported that we have $4186.16 in our checking account. He has given $10,000 to the National committee. Also he has paid the remaining $1700.00 for the dealing machine. New board member Ben Laden asked if our finances were stable? Steve explained that we had three major expenses that do not occur every year, the directories, the dealing machine and our donation to Nationals. He also said that we charged the Mid-Atlantic $12.00 x 15 boxes for using our dealing machine for the Raleigh Regional. The report was approved unanimously.

Barbara Doran asked is anyone wanted to change committee assignments? She then announced our assignments for the year. Dick Wegman, Ways and Means and Church liaison; Barbara Shaw, secretary and Club Managers Breakfast; Steve Robinson, treasurer and Round Robin Chairman; Don Berman, WEB Master; Fred King, Education, Easy Bridge; Wei Bao, Clubs Chairman and Special Relations(NAOP and GNT Coordinator); Ben Laden, C & E Chairman, Novice Chairman and Charity Chairman; Lee Jensen, Tournament Chairman; Dave Ruderman, Unit Games Chairman.

Michael Carroad said that he was going to Ohr Kodesh on Thursday, May 30, to check out the newly remodeled facility. If he finds it suitable and is considering on returning there for our Thursday night games, he will talk to Dave Ruderman and Dick Wegman about also checking it out. His feeling was that most people would rather stay at the church. The charge at the church is $275.00 a night, including clean-up, and is paid only when we use it. Ohr Kodesh charged $1000.00 a month whether we used it or not.

Fred King reported that he is interested in adopting an agenda for the year. Bridge at Schools is high on his list. He would also like to adopt a tournament schedule. He would like to see us update our procedures.

Lee Jensen said that he will have the up-dated 2002 Procedures Manual ready for our June meeting.

Donna Rogall said that she would have a large sign about the June Free Plays for the Thursday night game. Don Berman, Lee Jensen and Donna Rogall will make a survey about what people want.

Steve Robinson said that the WBL Round Robin will be starting. There are 20 A/X teams and 8 B/C teams.

Don Berman stated that he would like to see us follow Roberts Rules of Order. He would like to see us update the policy once a year. He would also like to see copies of the Policies, By-Laws and Constitution distributed to the Board.

Michael Carroad said that if we have time, he would like to have topics sent by E-Mail ahead of time so people can think about the subject and therefore have more informed discussions at the board meetings.

Dick Wegman volunteered to circulate an agenda a week ahead of the board meeting. If you want an item on the agenda please contact Dick by E-Mail so that he can include it in the agenda.

Donna Rogall, bulletin editor, asked if we could have an official photographer. She could put an add in the bulletin. The photographer has to be available to come to special events and sectionals. They may take digital photos. She suggested that we give him or her free-plays.

Barbara Shaw requested that Steve Robinson present the board with a more comprehensive Treasurers report each month. She said that it should begin with the beginning balance, and include credits, debits and an ending balance. Steve said that he will E-Mail us a report shortly before our meetings. Then we will be informed if we have any questions. Barbara Shaw also requested that we follow up on charging non-WBL members for their 3 year subscriptions to the bulletin. We have over 200

non-members who receive it and this is a lot of money to be throwing away. The board agreed. Dave Ruderman made a motion to charge $21.00 for a renewal or new 3 year subscription to the bulletin. Fred King seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Dick Wegman wants to use E-Mail or the WEB site to put partnerships together. Lee Jensen suggested that we put a partnership bulletin board on the ACBL WEB site. NVBA member, Dave Milton, is in charge of the National WEB site.

Dave Ruderman reported that putting the bidding boxes in the back room at the end of the Unit game helped the caddies immensely.

Michael Carroad suggested that we look into what goes into our bulletin. He suggested that we may discontinue the list of winners to save on cost. It costs us about $14,000 a year to publish and mail the bulletin. We receive about $880.00 in advertising. He also asked what can we do with the District 6 insert which is no longer going to be included in the National Bulletin.

Old Business:

Bridge at Schools

Don Berman submitted four policy suggestions (which are included with these minutes) for ways in which the WBL could support Bridge at Schools. Don Berman moved and Steve Robinson seconded the motion that we adopt all 4 suggestions. Discussion followed and Barbara Doran stated that we have made a commitment to support their efforts to raise funds. Don Berman thought that it was to our advantage to support them to get pilot programs in our area schools. Lee Jensen called the question. The motion carried with two abstentions.

Steve Robinson moved and Ben Laden seconded that we give $10,000 to Bridge at Schools. Discussion followed. Lee Jensen disagrees with Steve Robinsons theory that just because we have money we need to spend it. Lee asked what the long term plan was? Barbara Doran said that the Bridge at Schools directors need to demonstrate to the ACBL Education Committee their ability to raise their own funds. They need to raise $35,000 and then the Education committee will consider giving them an additional $80,000 for their project. Dave Ruderman believes that all these small donations will just prolong the process and that failure seems likely. It was then asked what is the object of the program. Steve Robinson said that the object is for the school districts to take over paying for the program once it is in place. When asked how long this will take, it was thought at least a year for test improvements to show up. Barbara Doran then called Nadine Wood and asked about the funds raised so far. Atlanta had contributed the profits for all of their sectionals for the year. So far from one sectional that is $2500. Delaware has contributed $5000. New York also has given $5000. And they have received private donations of $3000. They have also been made the beneficiary of many charity games. So the total so far is $15,500 with profits from 3 Atlanta sectionals to be added.

Then there was an amendment to the motion. Lee Jensen moved that we contribute $5000.00 now and when a pilot program is in a WBL area school we take a look at it and if the response is favorable we consider granting an additional $5000.00. Dave Ruderman seconded the motion as amended. The motion carried with 9 in favor and 1 abstaining.

New Business:

The election of the new Conduct and Ethics Committee members. Those retiring from the committee are Ben Laden, Ron Spath, and Ralph Turner. Remaining on the committee and completing their 2 year term are Alan Tennebaum, Barbara Ames and Bob Bell. Elected to the committee for a 2 year term are Andrew Kaufman, Kathy Kruskal, and Kefu Xu.

June 20th is the deadline for articles in the Bulletin.

Thanks to Barbara Doran for hosting the meeting. The next meeting is June 19th at Barbara Shaws at 6:30. There will be no July meeting because of Nationals. Our next meeting will be August 7th at Fred King’s.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Revised Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

June 19, 2002

In Attendance: Barbara Doran, Steve Robinson, Barbara Shaw, Lee Jensen, Don Berman, Dick Wegman, Dave Ruderman, Ben Laden, and Bulletin Editor Donna Rogall.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Steve Robinson reported that we have $8252.17 in our checking account. There are no major expenses left. We have approximately $30,000.00 in our A.G. Edwards account. The detailed Treasurer's Report is attached to the minutes.

Barbara Doran appointed Steve Robinson, Barbara Shaw, Don Berman to a Policies Review Committee and named Fred King as Chairman.

Don Berman discussed putting our Bulletin on the Website and looking into the cost of purchasing Adobe software. He mentioned that the NVBA is starting to send their bulletin by E-mail in order to save costs. Ben Laden asked just how much would we save by sending the bulletin by E-mail? Donna Rogall asked if we could switch printers to Charlie Williams. His bid of $910-$970 for a 32 page bulletin was about $400 cheaper than our old printer whose cost was $1430 for the 32 page January bulletin. The board approved the change. Donna then asked for a raise since she is a professional graphics artist. She asked for $15.00 a page + $100.00 for editing the bulletin and $150 for labeling and mailing it. She asked that the raise begin immediately. Steve Robinson moved and Dick Wegman seconded that we pay Donna the suggested amount. The board approved the motion unanimously.

Donna also said that the membership survey was in progress. She was asked by the board to include a notice in the July issue to all non-WBL members that their subscriptions will need to be renewed. The amount will be $21.00 for 3 years. The actual renewal notice will be in the October bulletin. They will have until the end of the year to send in their subscription money or they will no longer be mailed the bulletin.

Steve Robinson also mentioned that District 6 will have a 24-32 page bulletin beginning in January, 2003. The District Bulletin will also be sent 6 times a year. Donna Rogall will be the editor of this bulletin. The District will receive $4.50 per member from the Mid-Atlantic for printing the bulletin which will be $36,000 for the 2003 year.

Steve also moved that we start the game on Saturday night at the WBL Sectionals at 7:00 P.M. Barbara Shaw seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 in favor and 3 abstaining. Barbara Shaw also mentioned that many people had approached her with the suggestion that no matter what time the Sunday start time was they would like only a short sandwich break in order to finish earlier. Since we have no restaurant facilities we would have to look into catering possibilities. Lee Jensen will not handle the Sunday lunches. It was suggested that we ask people to bring their own sandwiches and we would supply drinks.

Lee Jensen had no additional report on the Nationals.

Dick Wegman said that Michael Carroad went to inspect Ohr Kodesh and it is not ready yet.

Dave Ruderman reported that the church said their air-conditioning is very old and there is nothing that can be done about it.

Ben Laden told us he called the three remaining members of the C & E Committee (Bob Bell, Barbara Ames and Alan Tennebaum) and they all agreed to stay on the committee. He also called Andrew Kaufman, Kefu Xu and Kathy Kruskal and they all agreed to serve on the Committee for a two year term.

Steve Robinson said that the WBL Round Robin has started and that teams are now playing matches.

Barbara Doran thanked Barbara Shaw for hosting this meeting. The next meeting will be Wednesday August 7th at Fred Kings beginning at 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

August 7, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Steve Robinson, Barbara Shaw, Ben Laden, Fred King, Don Berman, Wei Bao, Dave Ruderman, Lee Jensen, Dick Wegman, and Bulletin Editor Donna Rogall.

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara Doran at 7:15 P.M.

The Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer Steve Robinson submitted his complete report via E-Mail. The balance in our checking account is $8464.52. The detailed report is attached to the minutes. The report was approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Steve Robinson reviewed changes to the WBL Policies which will be re-reviewed and updated at the next meeting. The 2002 Policies will be distributed once the Board has approved the final changes. Fred King suggested that a list of the Standing Committees be included in the Policies.

Donna Rogall reported on the membership survey which we wish to conduct. She and Don Berman met Tuesday night August 6 and discussed the possible content of the survey. The following suggestions were proposed. Name, ACBL#. How often do you play? How many sectionals do you attend and what flight? Both Fred King and Steve Robinson suggested E-Mailing the survey to the Board for comments. Donna asked about including Pros & Cons about certain issues with the survey. Lee Jensen warned against slanting the survey. King and Ruderman were concerned about presenting biased opinions. Ben Laden proposed allowing people to include comments if they wished with their vote. Donna wanted the following question included. How important are these issues to you or how much do you care about these issues? The deadline for the next bulletin is September 5th. Fred King asked if there could be a mini-lesson Ad in the next Bulletin. And it was suggested that we have a column perhaps called "Focus on Volunteers".

Don Berman again discussed the possibility of sending our bulletin by E-Mail. He said that the NVBA uses E-Mail and the Adobe Acrobat Reader is free. Don also mentioned that the area clubs, particularly the Washington Bridge Center, asked it they could piggyback on our WEB site. Don said that we have plenty of space available. Any area clubs that have club news they wish to include on the WEB site are welcome to submit the news to Don and he will include it. Rose Berman is in charge of Laurel Bridge Club news, Millie Larkin the WBC News and Lee Biggs the Senior Center news. However, since we share the WEB site with District 6 we may need their approval. This subject will be brought up at the next District 6 meeting. Dick Wegman wanted to use the WEB site for arranging partnerships at the Unit games and Sectionals. The information submitted would include a phone number. We need a Flight A coordinator. Barbara Rothkin said that she would be the B/C coordinator. Madge Gallant would still do partnerships at the Unit game and sectionals.

Lee Jensen reported about Nationals. Bridge At Schools did receive an additional $80,000 from the Educational Fund. The Caddy room worked well. Fred King said that each caddy paid $5.00 per night to stay in the room. We had 14,656 tables. Dick Wegman thanked everyone who worked on or at the tournament. They all did a great job.

New Business:

Ben Laden reported that there will be a C&E Committee hearing on July 11. Kathy Kruskal will be the chairperson. Bob Bell, Ben Laden, Lee Jensen and Andrew Kaufman will be on this Committee. Laden said that he needs a written referral which provides the official charges. The defendant is Leo LaSota.

He also said that he and Dick Wegman attended a seminar at Nationals. He reported that there will be revised guidelines after the next Nationals concerning the sanction of private reprimands.

Dave Ruderman said that he contacted both Giant and Safeway about providing Subs for lunches on Sunday at our Sectionals. They will need a 2 day notice and will provide them at a reduced price. Dave feels that the logistics are workable. This issue has been tabled and will be included on the membership survey.

Ben Laden suggested that we have a trophy pairs game at both the October and March Sectionals for the 0-49 game. He will talk to Bill Cole about adding this to the Sectional Bulletin Ad. The Board OKd this unanimously. He will also talk to the Novice Chairman about announcing this game at the Unit games and in area clubs. It was also suggested that Ben call Ron Kral from the NVBA about announcing this game at his Easy Bridge classes.

Fred King said that he went to a seminar at the Nationals about how to increase local membership in the ACBL. There is ACBL money to help increase Unit size. We can receive $450.00 which is $.25 per member (1790 members) from the ACBL. We need to work with membership and advertising to achieve this goal. Lee Jensen thought that this was not viable right now. Perhaps in 4-5 years.

Fred King said that there will no Easy Bridge classes for the fall. We have no teacher interested in committing themselves.

The Board decided to contribute $50.00 to the American Diabetes Association in honor of Jeanne Stenger.

Steve Robinson reported that the KO phase of the WBL Round Robin has begun.

Barbara Doran thanked Fred King for hosting the meeting. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 18th at Dick Wegmans. The October meeting on the 16th will be at Lee Jensens.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

September 18, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Dick Wegman, Steve Robinson, Fred King, Wei Bao, Don Berman, Michael Carroad, Ben Laden, Lee Jensen and substitute Secretary Alice Wegman..

President Barbara Doran called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

At Barbara Dorans request, Dick Wegman presided over the initial part of the meeting.

The minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Steve Robinson reported that we have $9665.29 in the checking account, including a check for the STAC of $1476.00. The treasurers report was approved.

Old Business: Review of the WBL Policies.

Steve said that Barbara Ames has agreed to review the books. He thinks the term "review" is appropriate. It is cheaper and less detailed than "audit". It was the only change he made. Barbara Doran agrees with the use of the word "review", based on Barbara Ames opinion that an audit is unnecessary and a review is sufficient.

Michael Carroad asked whether the Board had previously voted that motions must be in writing to be offered at the annual meeting. Stevie answered yes. Michael raised the question about the wisdom of the requirement and stated that is was not democratic. Barbara said there are dangers in allowing last minute motions. Dick suggested a compromise that we require 2/3 vote to allow motion that was not previously published. Fred King says that one can petition for a special meeting to raise a new motion that has not been on the agenda. Dick Wegman stated that the publication requirement may prevent someone from raising a new idea as an alternative to the proposed motion. Dick asked what the procedure was before the revision. Lee Jensen says written procedures have been silent on this for the last 12 years. There is nothing in the online minutes for the past 6 years.

Barbara Doran then took over presiding and said vote on policies should be point by point and not on the "Policies" as a whole. There was a vote on whether to accept a revised policy on the single issue of written motions. The motion passed.

Michael Carroad asked why the matter of prizes at tournaments should be in the policies. He thinks it doesnt make sense to change the policy every time the amount changes. No change was made. Michael then asked for clarification of the provision for points won at WBL sites as counting towards trophy races. Only Thursday night points count. It was agreed that provisions were redundant and Stevie will cut out redundant provisions. He asked about the up coming WBL Sectional and multiple sites. There was general discussion about which sites should be included for trophy races. Stevie thinks only Maryland sites should be included. Steve Robinson made a motion that points count from the WBC, Laurel and Gaithersburg sites for this tournament since they are WBL sites but not Northern Virginia. Michael emphasized that this issue must be resolved in advance of the tournament. Barbara Doran says that it is inconsistent to include Virginia for some tournaments and not others. Michael suggested that all sites in the WBL Unit area count. It was agreed that there was no need for a motion since that was consistent with the tournament ad.

The new revision regarding $15.00 for conducting the mini-lesson was OK.

Barbara Doran asked for a vote to accept policies as amended and written. The motion passed.

Discussion of Donnas survey was postponed since Donna was not present.

Barbara Doran raised the issue of whether Leslie Shafer can advertise in the Bulletin for free. Don thought encouraging advertising for novices, bridge lessons etc. by making it free is a good idea. Ads should be limited to 1/2 page. He thinks others should have to apply to advertise for free. Don feels that it doesnt matter if they are giving lessons for profit. Lee Jensen thinks the advertising shouldnt be free if the lessons are for profit Others disagreed. Don Berman says that the editor should be able to reject ads for reasonable cause. Barbara Doran asked members to focus on which specific bridge related activities should be entitled to free advertising. Michael Carroad says maybe we should limit the free ads to Leslie since she is the Intermediate/Novice coordinator. Barbara Doran says that Leslie has the title of Novice Editor and should be compensated by free advertising. Lee Jensen suggests maybe she should be compensated directly for being Intermediate/Novice coordinator. Lee is concerned that other area bridge teachers are being disadvantaged. Barbara Doran asked for a motion. Ben Laden moved that the Editor

of the I/N portion of the bulletin be given 1/2 page free ad. It was seconded. Dave Ruderman argued against the motion and proposed financial compensation. Steve Robinson says what Leslie does is no different from his writing a column. Barbara Doran says Leslie does a lot of work collecting and coordinating information. There was further discussion among the membership. Lee said that Leslies title is self-proclaimed. Fred King said her editorship is not a listed position. Michael Carroad proposed to amend the motion to give 1/2 page free advertising to all major contributors. There was a motion to table Bens motion. It passed. The issue will be put on next months agenda. Lee said consider the cost.

Online membership was then discussed. Dick Wegman reported that he has set it up on the WEB site and modeled after the ACBL WEB site at the July Nationals. Don worked with the person who developed it and invites people to look at it and use it to find teammates and partners. Dick asked board members to spread information by word of mouth of the availability of the WEB site. At Lees request, we will add a disclaimer that the WBL is not responsible. Fred King, Barbara Rothkin, and Charity Sack will be the partnership coordinators for the brackets. People can call them to get help in arranging partnerships in advance.

Ben Laden announced that we added Trophy Pairs for 0-49ers at the October 12 th Sectional. There are 1600 people who should get post cards about the event. It will cost $375-$400 for the postcards + postage. The ACBL will match 50% up to $250.00 if it bears the ACBL Logo. Dave Ruderman will get the trophies.

Don Berman reported on recorder forms from previous years. In 1998 there were 23, 1999 - 21, 2000 - 20, 2001 - 31, and so far this year only 7. The complaints were mostly bridge related not conduct issues.

New business: C & E committee report in Executive Session.

Fred King spoke to Leslie Shafer about increasing ties to the bridge teaching community. Fred hopes to meet with her and wants to know if the WBL supports this and is willing to contribute funds. Barbara Doran and Lee Jensen responded that we have provided a room for their July meeting (ABTA) but have not provided refreshments or help with mailing. It coincides with the July Regional. Fred says Leslie estimates the attendance to be about 40 people. Lee says that he would support subsidizing mailing expenses. Lee made a motion that we subsidize mailing for the bridge teachers meeting to a maximum of $100.00. The motion passed.

Michael Carroad described the program that the ACBL offers with their suggestions for increasing membership and he encourages board members, club owners and others to attend. WBL would have to provide a room. Barbara Doran suggests we do it in conjunction with Northern Virginia. It is a 6 hour seminar with a lunch break. Steve suggests November 17. Michael questions whether we are ready to commit to a date that soon. Barbara Doran says it could be announced at the Club Managers breakfast. Lee suggested scheduling it for 2 mornings during a regional. Barbara likes it in close proximity to the Club Managers Breakfast. Fred will check with Memphis on this. He will not be able to attend the Club Managers Breakfast.

The Club Managers Breakfast will be October 12, 2002 at 10:00 A.M.

Dave Ruderman suggests that we consider adopting the new ACBL policy on appeals for the WBL and he plans to put something in writing to propose to the Board. He also says that the Board should discuss whether the group has a consensus on this issue and convey it to Nadine if it is different from the position Nadine has taken. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

There were no committee reports.

Michael Carroad visited Ohr Kodesh to check the renovation. He reports that the room is 56 x 90, which appears to be significantly larger than the room at Christ the King Church. It is also quite bright. It has a new sophisticated heating and cooling system. There are three disadvantages, 1) Kosher Laws, 2) more expensive, and 3) not available every week. It will probably be $1500.00 a month. Dick will look at it and Michael will take a second look. Dick asked how many parking spaces there were. Michael thinks 120. Dick suggested we use Christ the King Church for the two dinner meetings. Dave Ruderman thinks that the cost of the Kosher meal at Ohr Kodesh may not have been that much different from the cost of the meal at Christ the King Church.

Barbara Doran received a thank you card from Charlie Stenger.

The next meeting will be at Lee Jensens on October 16. The November 20th meeting will be a Dave Rudermans.

Barbara thanked Dick and Alice for hosting this meeting.

Barbara Shaw would like to thank Alice Wegman for being the temporary Secretary.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Wegman and Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

October 16, 2001

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Ben Laden, Don Berman, Fred King, Lee Jensen, Steve Robinson, Dave Ruderman, Michael Carroad, Barbara Shaw, Dick Wegman, and guests Millard Nachtway, Jim Allen, and Donna Rogall.

President Barbara Doran called the meeting to order at 7:28 P.M.

The Minutes were approved.

Steve Robinson presented his treasurer's report and said that we have $5555.34 in our checking account. The report was approved.

Old Business:

Donna Rogall, Editor of the Bulletin, brought up the question of how we were going to handle announcements or ads for bridge classes in the bulletin. She suggested that we could publish a list of classes free of charge. For a more detailed announcement there would be a charge. Discussion occurred. Lee Jensen moved that we have a list of classes to include name of class, teacher, time and place each month. Ben Laden seconded the motion. If it is a class that a Professional teaches and charges for perhaps there should be a charge for the ad. Ben Laden stated that accepting ads should not be an endorsement of their class. Donna asked whether there should be a discount for columnists or Editors of the Bulletin. Dave Ruderman moved and Don Berman seconded that the motion be removed from the table. The motion carried 5-2. Then Dave Ruderman called the question. 0 in favor 6 opposed.

The Membership survey was again discussed. Donna e-mailed us her version of the final draft and asked for questions and comments. Dick Wegman suggested that the survey be simplified and there be more general questions. It was the feeling of several board members that the survey was too long and complicated and many people would not take the time to complete it.

Ben Laden reported that he sent 2500 post cards advertising the 0-49 trophy game. We had 6 tables. The cost was $745.00 of which the ACBL paid $250.00. Did this generate more interest? Michael Carroad said that we had perhaps 1 extra table. Jim Allen commented that not many novices are interested in becoming Life Masters. They don't want to go to Sectionals. It was again mentioned that we need to have a program to promote the Unit game and Sectionals.

Michael Carroad stated that he and Dick Wegman met with Joe Miller at Ohr Kodesh and it is not ready yet. The management may not want us there. They will have a full parking lot ready in January. The cost was discussed. The church charges $275.00 per night that we use the Church. Ohr Kodesh wants to charge $1500 per month whether we use it or not. There will be 3 or 4 nights that we can't have Ohr Kodesh. They reported that the ventilation and lighting is wonderful. We would be in one larger room that could hold 70-80 tables. It has more open space and is a nicer facility. It was thought that the Unit game would grow with the nicer facility. We will try and make a deal for a charge per week that we use the facility. Michael said our table count is consistently in the high 40's or low 50's.

It was suggested that Barbara Shaw contact the Diamondback office at the University of Maryland about interviewing Leo LaSota since he is a National Champion now. It was thought that it would be good advertising with the young students and would hopefully generate new interest in bridge. Brad Tash is also a student at Maryland who is teaching his grandfather to play bridge.

New Business:

Lee Jensen reported that he sent a letter to Col. Connley to request use of the Armory for our Sectionals. He did say that White Oak Armory looks good for the November Sectional. Other alternatives were discussed. Lee is talking to the 4H people about the facility on Connecticut Ave. There is a snack bar facility. We could go back to the hotels. We need 6000 square feet for Saturday. We talked about using the church on Fridays also since the game is smaller that day. Checking into the use of Blair High School was mentioned. However, Barbara Doran said there is a no smoking policy on school grounds. So smokers would have to outside and to the sidewalk to smoke. The October Sectional lost $2100.00. We had 278 tables and we need 310 tables to cover expenses. Lengthy discussion occurred. Barbara Shaw discussed trying split sites for Friday between Maryland and Virginia because of the traffic snafu. Cost management would have to be considered (rent for a second site and directors costs for a second site). Jim Allen said that money management is important. It was stated that we haven't raised prices for 3 years. We do need to find reliable locations for our Sectionals. We need to know location information at least one week before the tournament since that is when the bulletin is mailed to our members. Dick Wegman said that he would check with the Church for 2003 with the tournament site schedule. Ben Laden focused concern that too many sites is confusing. Donna said that the bulletin deadline is November 21st. Jim Allen volunteered that the WBC will put a message on their Club answering machine confirming the location of the Sectional.

Minutes

Barbara Shaw reported on the Club Manager's Breakfast. We had 22 people come this year. We had 10 no shows. Fortunately we were not charged for the no shows. But only 6 Club Managers came. Northern Virginia President, Bruce Culmer, asked whether the breakfast was worth having? Barbara Doran said that she will talk to Bruce since it is their turn to host it next year. The cost was only $171.00.

Fred King announced that he has arranged a seminar to be presented by the ACBL on how to grow a Unit. It has been scheduled for Sunday, November 17th at 10:00 A.M. We need to guarantee 10 people. Barbara Doran appointed a committee on Membership Growth. Fred King will be chairman and members are Dick Wegman, Jim Allen, Charity Sack.

Donna Rogall asked if we have ever advertised in the Washington Post? Millard Nachtway replied, yes, but we paid for it and it was back in the 1970's. He also stated that we used to advertise in the NVBA bulletin and they in ours.

Dave Ruderman suggested that Barbara Doran appoint a committee to discuss goals for our Sectional. Barbara felt that the subject was important to all of us that we should discuss it at the next board meeting. She personally was concerned about sacrificing the quality of our Sectionals in favor of quantity of those attending. She also liked the ambiance we used to have and feels like it is disappearing. The subject was tabled until the next meeting.

Barbara Doran thanked Dave Ruderman for hosting the meeting. The November meeting will be at Lee Jensen's on November 20. Francis Burke will have the December meeting and Ben Laden volunteered to host the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes

WBL Board Meeting

November 20, 2002

In attendance: Wei Bao, Dick Wegman, Steve Robinson, Barbara Shaw, Don Berman, Dave Ruderman, Lee Jensen, Ben Laden, Barbara Doran, and guests Charity Sack, Donna Rogall, Jim Allen, Steve Forsythe, and Jane Sturgis.

The Minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer Steve Robinson reported that we have $2112.66 in our checking account. For the calendar year thus far we are operating at a loss of -$9665.53. That amount does not include the $10,000.00 donation to Nationals and the $5,000.00 donation to BridgeatSchools! It was noted that reduced attendance was the major cause. There was a committee appointed to look in to the problem and report at the December Board meeting. The report was approved.

Old Business:

Donna Rogall, Bulletin Editor, said that the surveys were published in the most recent issue and she had received 10 responses in the first week. Fred King mentioned that it took slightly over 30 minutes to complete the survey. She said that she e-mailed some surveys and Don Berman was working on putting it on the website.
She asked if we were going to put the January and February Sectionals in the same issue of the bulletin or have two separate issues. Michael Carroad will announce the survey is available at the Unit game. This bulletin deadline is November 21. She needs the schedule of the Unit games and Sectionals. The next Sectional has been changed to the first weekend in January the 2d through the 5th. It will be at the White Oak Armory. Dick Wegman has called and cancelled the Church. Lee Jensen has signed a contract with the White Oak Armory.

Dick Wegman said that he talked to Joe Miller at Ohr Kodesh. Mr. Miller stated that he has not consulted with his Board yet. Dick reported that the charge would be significantly higher that the Church. The figure of $1500 per month, whether used or not, was mentioned. Dick said that he did not seem enthusiastic about having us there. Jim Allen said that a couple of their board members were unhappy with us. There have been neighbor complaints and the parking was crowded. Michael Carroad suggests that we commit to the Church soon. We need to be certain about where we will have the Unit game. Dick Wegman said that he will make a commitment to the Church for the indefinite future.

Barbara Doran reported that the Silver Spring Civic Center, scheduled for completion in 2005, is a facility large enough for the Unit Game, Sectionals and maybe our Regional. The organizers have evening meetings in the Chamber of Commerce Building. She asked Lee Jensen to be our liaison and he agreed.

Fred King said that he is trying to organize bridge lessons during the Thursday night Unit game. Steve Forsythe presented some proposals. He suggested 1/2 hour lesson followed by play for the newcomers. There was a question of marketing costs? Barbara Doran asked if we can afford $120.00 for Steve Forsythe plus marketing costs? The question of retention of the new players was important. Dick Wegman proposed a minimum salary + an amount for each table over a number to be decided. Dave Ruderman and Fred King suggested that we form a committee of 3 to meet with Forsythe and discuss ideas. Jim Allen stated that in the past attendance was high for the first 6 weeks when the classes were offered free. Then once a minimum fee was assessed the attendance dropped. If there is a break in the sequence of classes then attendance will drop. Therefore try and offer the classes in a consecutive sequence. Barbara Shaw suggested for a second time that we not ignore the hundreds for social players who may wish to improve their bridge skills. That is a pool of players who already know how to play party bridge or at home duplicate and is a source of future players for the Unit if we can reach them. She suggested working with the syndicated bridge columnists and the ACBL to supply teachers for their bridge groups. For a minimum fee of perhaps $10.00 per person a teacher could go to their group once a month and give a half hour lesson and supervise the play for an hour. Through this contact the teacher could introduce them to the Thursday night Unit game and perhaps we would pick up a few new players this way.

Fred King then reported on the Unit Growth Seminar he organized. Betty Starzec, from the ACBL came and met with a group of WBL Board members and other interested people on Sunday, November 17 at the WBC. Dick Wegman, Charity Sack, Jim Allen and Fred King are on a committee to help increase our Unit Game size. Fred reported that the ACBL is willing to help. If we follow up and report we can get $.25 per member. Last year we received $273.90 a $.05 per new member increase. Fred reported these suggestions. People who have not renewed their membership need to be personally contacted and asked why they didn't renew their membership and encouraged to do so. The new member retention rate is 49.89% in the WBL while nationally it is 52.84%. 65% of our members are NLM. We need a new member I/N Director. We need coaches and mentors to make people excited about learning bridge. There is a TAP course which we offer at our Regional which we sponsor for $1700.00. The web based partnership desk is a good start and Don Berman reports that we have a half a dozen people signed up. Jim Allen reported that the WBC has a once a month mentoring game on Sunday afternoon. He has around 18 tables regularly. Fred also said that we need to work with the local Chambers of Commerce, Newcomers Organizations, and local Realtors and supply them with information perhaps a flyer that they could give to incoming residents. We need to recognize volunteers. And it would be a good idea to have name tags at the holiday party. Jim

Allen suggested that we have an I/N tournament for the Unit. He also thought we should have a teacher's library in conjunction with the NVBA perhaps 8-10 books for multiple teacher use. Dave Ruderman asked what happened to our bulletin board. He will check.

Michael Carroad's e-mail on random thoughts and questions was briefly discussed. Once again the thought that we have too many Sectionals was presented. The suggestion that we drop one of the sectionals was mentioned but tabled. Barbara Shaw mentioned that Margo Hennings was willing to drop an NVBA Sectional if we did. Michael pointed out that one reason why our attendance has dropped at regular sectionals is because we now participate in four STACs where people can get silver points in their own clubs and don't need to drive to sectionals to earn them. Attendance at Regionals seems to be holding since the popular KOs are an easy way of getting large amounts of gold points. Jim Allen mentioned that many older club players simple are not interested in becoming life masters and therefore don't care about silver and gold points. They just want to play bridge and be left alone. Michael Carroad reported that Richmond's Easy Bridge is growing and our major problem is that we have no Edith or Leslie anymore.

Dave Ruderman then asked for the normal $800.00- $1000.00 for Kitty Gottfried to spend on the holiday party to be held Thursday night December 12. The request was approved.

Dave Ruderman also moved that the WBL adopt the Appeals Committee procedures recommended by the National Board. Discussion followed. It was determined that we need to have more knowledge about exactly what the procedures are before deciding. The motion was withdrawn.

Barbara Doran then thanked Jim Allen for hosting the meeting and coming to our rescue in an emergency.

The December meeting will be held at Francis Burke's on Wednesday, December 18.

The January meeting will be at Ben Laden's on January 22.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary

Minutes
WBL Board Meeting
December 18, 2002

In attendance: Barbara Doran, Lee Jensen, Don Berman, Steve Robinson, Dick Wegman, Ben Laden, Dave Ruderman, Wei Bao, Fred King , Barbara Shaw and non-voting members Donna Rogall, Michael Carroad, and Francis Burke.

President Barbara Doran turned the floor over to Jim Allen for New Business.

Jim proposed that we consider hosting a second Sectional Tournament in Clubs. He suggested the dates August 14-17, 2003. The tournament would mean additional money for the clubs participating. He doesn't know of an unhappy club that participated in the first tournament. It is a way of introducing club players to tournament play. Lee Jensen questioned adding another sectional to an already overcrowded calendar when we were considering dropping a sectional. Steve Robinson moved that we have a Sectional Tournament in Clubs the weekend of August 14-17, 2003. Dave Ruderman seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The Thursday evening game profits will belong to the WBL. The Clubs participating will keep the other profits. The WBL sites will count toward player of the year awards. Michael Carroad said that we have the sanction and we are giving it to the clubs. Lee Jensen stated that if it is a WBL Sectional then we are the profit center and should disburse the money to the Clubs. The Clubs pay the directors & the sanction fee. WBL is charging $8.00 per person for the Thursday night game. The Clubs may charge what they wish. However, they will owe $6.00 per table to the ACBL. So if each table is worth $32.00 then the club gets to keep $26.00 if they charge an $8.00 entry fee. The ACBL requires a coordinating director. Dick Wegman asked about the clubs retaining their own profits. The motion passed with 7 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained and 1 recused.

The Non-Life Master Tournament was then discussed. Jim Allen says that it is very difficult to pry people out of the novice classes and into the open club game and then from the club game to a tournament game. He tries to keep his losses under $500.00. He provides a teaching panel and novice lessons with Leslie Shaffer as the director. He proposed that the tournament be at the Washington Bridge Center from July 17-20th. Steve Robinson moved and Dick Wegman seconded the motion that we approve a NLM tournament for the weekend of July 17-20, 2003 at the Washington Bridge Center. The WBL would be the cost center for the Thursday night game and the WBC the cost center for the rest of the tournament. The motion passed with 9 in favor.

Jim Allen also proposed that we increase our entry fees. Bridge is behind the price of movies. The cost of a game went up 21% last year. We haven't raised our fees in three years. We are also paying more to the ACBL. Jim wants to raise his entry fee from $6.00 to $7.00 to keep up with the increased rent contract he just signed and to meet inflation costs. He doesn't feel he can raise his entry fees unless the Unit raises their entry fee. Dave Ruderman pointed out the Director fees have gone up and the fee we pay to the ACBL has risen from $2.60 - $3.22 per table. He said that we should decide based on our own financial situation, the fact that we operated $9,000 in the red last year. Steve Robinson moved and Dick Wegman seconded that we raise our entry fees from $6.00 to $7.00 on Thursday nights and from $8.00 to $9.00 for our Sectionals. Discussion continued. It was pointed out that in 2001 we had 1617 tables at our Unit games while in 2002 we had only 1553 tables, down 60 tables. The tournaments dropped over the same period of time from 1829 1/2 tables to 1700 1/2 tables. Dick Wegman asked what do other Units charge? Michael Carroad said that Atlanta charges $8.00, Richmond charges $8.00, Virginia Beach charges $7.00, Philadelphia charges, $8.00 and New Jersey charges $9.00. It was pointed out that if our expenditures are up then we must increase our revenues. Fred King suggested that Barbara Doran appoint a committee to study and evaluate the budget problem. We should wait until we get the committee recommendations. There was a motion to table the motion until the committee presents its report in January. The motion passed with 5 in favor.

Fred King, chairman of the Unit Growth Committee, reported that they have had some on-line meetings. They want monthly in and out reports on our members. They suggested that we create a brochure for area newcomers. What is the cost of such a brochure? There are two types of people who play bridge, casual and serious players. We need to contact Country Clubs, Rec Centers, Newcomers Clubs and Chambers of Commerce. We need people with PR skills and access to the Press.

Lee Jensen, tournament chairman, stated that we need to find a new site for the May Sectional since the White Oak Armory is unavailable. He said that it is important that all three days be at the same site. We may cancel it completely. We could play the first three days and cancel Sunday. The board directed Lee to look into the Hilton. We could also play the first three days at the Christ the King Church and the Sunday team game at the Clubs.

President Barbara Doran asked for a more thorough Treasurer's report on a month by month basis.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Steve Robinson reported that we have $2018.93 in the checking account and $22,788.66 in our money market account. He projected that our immediate expenses were $2000.00 for the bulletin and the rent of the Church. Lee Jensen said that he needed the check for the Armory be December 26. The treasurer's report was approved.

Donna Rogall reported that she has received about 70-80 surveys back already.

Dick Wegman said that he has the Church rented for 2003. We need to find and alternate location for April 17th, Holy Thursday. The Washington Bridge Center was suggested. We will pay rent of $225.00. The points won that night will count toward year end awards. Don Berman moved and Ben Laden seconded that we rent the WBC for Thursday night April 17, 2003. The motion passed with 8 in favor.

Fred King reported that Steve Forsythe will begin teaching classes on January 2, 2003 in the Church basement. The Church will set up tables and chairs, hopefully 8-10. Michael Carroad thinks that we have 70-80 tables. Dave Ruderman said he will check tomorrow night. Steve will be paid $75.00 + 1/2 of every table over 5.

Lee Jensen brought up the question of free plays and feels that we have lost sight that this is a volunteer organization. He said that we gave $632 in free plays in November, $576 in October and $842 last May. We can't afford to give as many free plays as we have in the past. He said that the NVBA gives only the tournament chairperson free plays. He strongly suggested that we cut out some of the free plays.

Donna Rogall said that the next Bulletin deadline is January 24. Dick Wegman thought that we should ask regularly for suggestions from our members. We could ask in the bulletin and on the Website. Don Berman would be the recipient of the suggestions.

Dave Ruderman asked what was going on with Ohr Kodesh? He also suggested that we publish Appeal Committee rulings. The ACBL lists appeals decisions in the National Newsletter. The head of the committee fills out our form and the form goes to Donna Rogall, the appeals committee chairman. Dave Ruderman moved and Dick Wegman seconded that committee rulings be posted on the Website. Barbara Doran appointed Eric Landeau as our scribe. He will take the forms and write them up for the website. The motion passed with 5 in favor. Dave wants the last decision posted on the website. Michael Carroad asked what was the purpose of this? What are we trying to prove? Are we trying to embarrass the Unit, the Round Robin Committee and the people on The Appeals committee. It was suggested that we publish Millard's write-up.

Barbara thanked Francis Burke for hosting the meeting. The January meeting will be at Ben Laden’s on Wednesday January 22, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Shaw, Recording Secretary