

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting  
December 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes  
Online via "Zoom"**

**Date:** December 21, 2021

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Bob Allard, Dot Blue, Richard Chalal, Kevin Clark, Bob Dietrick, Charlynn Foust, Karen Kendrick, Clifford Kent, Ken McPeak, Pat Williams

*Absent:* Harry Allen, Sheila Fleming

*Others Present:*

Secretary: Alison Gembar

Treasurer: Sue Atwood

**Proceedings:**

Meeting was called to order at 4:50

**Administrative**

**Sue Atwood**

\$28,000 in the bank; Secretary's honorarium and previous Secretary's dues are bills that need to be paid.

We have not received a bill for October Sectional. We made about \$900 on the tournament. The tournament attendance was less than expected.

Tournament attendance discussion ensued:

The 499er games never had more than 3 tables. Open players **are** coming out to play. Mid level players (200-750 masterpoints) have not returned in numbers for face-to-face play as much as the open level group has returned f2f. At the club level: Saturday 499er game has not made in 2 months; a 200-750 game has been offered on Mondays since we reopened May 31. That game has only made a couple of times.

**New Business**

**Richard Chalal**

Sent documents to board members prior to the board meeting. These included:

- Observations and suggestions with respect to encouraging limited players to return to face-to-face play
- Observations about the administration of our October sectional and recommendations about administration of future tournaments

Richard had been involved in the health screening at the sectional tournament under the direction of Barb Daugherty. He reported tournament was attended by 163 individuals, all of which signed the waiver and health form.

Richard reported that he sent a letter to Dr. Lisa Piercy, Department of Health, regarding the COVID health and safety screening measures taken at our tournament. Richard got a return phone call from the nurse coordinator for Davidson County acknowledging Dr. Piercy's receipt of the letter. They do contact tracing and appreciate our information. They like the health and safety screen he sent and they offered their help in the future.

### **Pat Williams**

July 2022 Regional

Tournaments are running 45-50% of pre COVID numbers. A year ago when we considered whether to amend the 2021 contract I prepared an analysis for a 3-day tournament assuming 80% average per session attendance compared to 2019. That analysis showed break-even before any shortfall resulting from failing to meet the minimum room requirements of 184, or about 60 rooms per night. Last Regional, July 2019, we averaged 51 rooms/night. With an expected significant shortfall in the room commitment and operating loss from low attendance we can anticipate a \$20,000-\$25,000 loss, and possibly more, if we go ahead with the tournament as contemplated at Embassy Suites.

Under the revised contract, the cancellation fee was reduced to \$43,212. If we give more than 6 months notice of cancellation, this should be cut by 50% to \$21,606. So the recommendation is to give notice in order to limit our loss.

**Motion: Make decision to move forward and give formal notice to Embassy Suites that we are cancelling the July 2022 Regional to be held at their site.**

**Motion approved.**

February Sectional:

If we have the February Sectional we need to have Acbl Directors and their cooperation in order to have masterpoints reported timely and accurately and for the tournament to run smoothly.

**Motion: Cancel February Sectional**

**Motion approved**

### **Tournament Coordinator**

As of today Alison Gembar has submitted her resignation as Tournament Coordinator.

Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned 5:55 pm