

**ACBL Unit 179 Board Meeting  
January 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes  
Online Via “Zoom”**

**Board Members:**

Present: Annie Bartlett, Michelle Coop, Ann Gibson, Karen Kendrick, Mary Pepper, Carol Schnaars, Gale Srulevich, Suzanne Torrence, Aissa Wayne, Mickey Wilson, Tom Wilson, Jon Young

Absent: Larry Averbuch, Beth Derrick, Patrick Williams

Others Present:

Secretary: Alison Gembar

**Proceedings:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

**Administrative business:**

Minutes for board meetings October 21, 2025, were presented.

Motion to approve minutes.

Motion approved.

**Quip Report** – Q4-2025 – Suzanne Torrance

Trends across ACBL, New Member Gains up 5%, New Member losses up 6%

New Members, 44, Member losses over past year 52

Average member Age – going up, age 75

Age 54-62 seems to be the age to target.

**Treasurer – Mickey Wilson**

Mickey’s report:

Mickey will begin presenting financial statements in “bank statement” format.

12/31/25 Financial Statements were presented

Net assets 12/31/25 \$33, 015.81

**Suzanne Torrence – Committee Updates** – be thinking about your committees for 2026

### **Mary Pepper – Newsletter**

Thanks everyone for pictures

Next newsletter will be after the next tournament – March

An entry into a newsletter regarding “Swiss” is recommended

### **Suzanne Torrence**

Unit representative for District 10 meeting – Next meeting will be January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Annie Bartlett volunteered to be Unit Representative

### **Education Committee – Michelle Coop**

Met with Metro Davidson County gifted and talented teachers. They would love to work with the bridge group but not during school hours.

Michelle will continue to research Davidson County schools for opportunities during school hours.

There are 6 schools in Sumner County that are participating now. They are very excited about what we do.

### **Jon Young**

Speaker ideas welcome. Considering the next best topic would be bridge etiquette. There are several ways to present it. Second week of March may be the best time to coordinate this.

Speakers before Mentor/Mentee game are very successful.

### **Carol Schnaars – Membership & Retention**

Suggestion to acknowledge new members transferring into our unit, also perhaps a letter “hate to see you go” to outgoing unit member; best resource for information “In & Out” report. It’s important to welcome people and keep them coming back.

Sapphire program – for newer players, offering “sapphire” points to use to purchase items; for players with less than 50 points.

### **Ann Gibson – Goodwill Committee**

New Life Master Party – suggested we have the celebration in April.

Medallions are recommended for Mini Mckenney Winners along with certificates.

Certificates for Winners of Ace of Clubs, Mini Mckenney are printed by Secretary and handed out at the New Life Master Party.

Suzanne recommends working up a budget for the Unit Achievement Celebration

Include these medallions in requests. Ann will prepare list of expenditures for the celebration and present proposal to the board for approval.

Ann presented the difference between Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Award, Virtual Ace of Clubs Award, Mini Mckenney Award. Mary Pepper requests this information for the newsletter.

#### **Ann Gibson – Tournament Deadline Schedule**

We have a deadline approaching next month (February) for the Tournament Coordinator to submit our Tournament Schedule for October 5-11, 2026, tournament. Ann is going to St. Louis North Palm Beach, and various tournaments and wants the flyers to take.

#### **Election – New Officers**

There are not enough 2026 Board members present to vote for new officers. There will need to be a special meeting called to elect Officers. Alison will notify board members to meet on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion Approved.

Meeting adjourned 6:10 pm