

Unit 191 Annual Meeting - April 20

VIEW RECORDING - 54 mins (No highlights)

Meeting Purpose

Review unit performance, approve finances, and plan future initiatives.

Key Takeaways

- **Financially Stable:** The unit is stable with ~\$27k in reserves, driven by a highly profitable winter sectional. The 2025 Treasurer's Report was approved.
- **Summer Sectional Secured:** The July 16–19 sectional is confirmed via a 50/50 co-sponsorship with the Raleigh Bridge Club, which provides volunteers and equipment, making the event financially viable.
- **Membership Growth is Top Priority:** With 464 members and 69 guests, the board will focus on converting guests to paid members and engaging non-Life Masters to reverse a national decline in ACBL membership.
- **New Leadership & Outreach:** Co-presidents Morris & Ray are expanding volunteer roles and will visit clubs (Farrington, Governor's Club, Roxboro) to understand their needs and offer direct unit support.

Topics

Membership & Engagement

- **Current Status:**
 - **Total Members:** 464 paid, 69 guest.
 - **Masterpoint Distribution:**
 - **0 MP:** 217 members
 - **<200 MP:** 151 members
 - **Life Masters+:** 162 members
- **Engagement Context:**
 - **The 0-200 MP group is active in specific games (e.g., Tuesday 750 barometer), but this activity is not reflected in the ACBL's cumulative masterpoint data.**
 - **The unit's average age is ~76, reflecting a national trend of declining ACBL membership.**
- **Growth Initiatives:**
 - **Guest Conversion:** Encourage the 69 guest members to become paid ACBL members.
 - **New Member Outreach:** Send a welcome letter to all new unit members detailing local game opportunities.
 - **Non-Life Master Support:** Grow the monthly limited game and explore ideas from members (e.g., Bill Chappell) to better support this group.
 - **Youth Engagement:** The unit includes 9 junior members from the Duke Bridge Club.

Financial Health & Treasurer's Report

- **2025 Performance:**

- Net Profit: ~\$1,000, ending the year with a ~\$27k balance.
- Primary Driver: A highly profitable winter sectional.
 - Profit: ~\$1,500
 - Subsidies: ~\$1,078 for 0-20 MP players
- **ACBL Funding (5-5-1 Program):**
 - The unit receives a quarterly rebate from ACBL dues.
 - Current Rate: ~\$2,100/year, down from a historical \$2.4k–\$3k/year due to declining membership.
- **Budget Approval:** The 2025 Treasurer's Report was approved via motion.

Summer Sectional (July 16–19)

- **Co-Sponsorship:** A 50/50 profit-sharing agreement with the Raleigh Bridge Club makes the event viable.
 - Raleigh's Contribution: Volunteers, hospitality, tables, and equipment.
 - Significance: This partnership eliminates ~\$1,000 in rental costs and secures the volunteer base needed to run the event, which was canceled last year due to lack of support.
- **Planning:**
 - Location: Governor's Club, with an extra room and director added to accommodate potential crowds.
 - Subsidy: The 0-20 MP subsidy will be lowered to 0-10 MP, per tournament director Marie Killoran's recommendation.
- **Future Change:** Starting in 2027, the sectional will move permanently to June to avoid conflicts with national tournaments.

Unit Leadership & Outreach

- **Board Transition:**
 - Treasurer: Ian steps down at month-end; Mary assumes the role. Ian will assist with the transition through September.
 - Membership Chair: Deanna continues through year-end.
- **Volunteer Expansion:** Co-presidents Morris & Ray are actively recruiting volunteers to expand board capacity.
- **Club Support:** The co-presidents will visit clubs in Farrington and Roxboro to understand their needs and offer unit support, including help with unit championship sanctions.

Next Steps

- **Morris & Ray:**
 - Visit the Farrington and Roxboro clubs to meet members and discuss needs.
 - Follow up with John T (Farrington) and Jane (Roxboro) regarding unit championship sanctions, and explore other ways the Unit can serve those Clubs.
- **Deanna:**
 - Send the new member welcome letter to recent joiners.
 - Coordinate with Henry to grow the non-Life Master limited game.

- **Ann Fisher:**
 - Consolidate and share member feedback on engaging non-Life Masters with the board.
 -
- **All Members:**
 - Volunteer for the July 16–19 Summer Sectional.

Action Items

- **Email board re: July sectional volunteer needs - WATCH (5 secs)**
 - **Email new-member letter incl. SAFIRE; send monthly to new Unit 191 members - WATCH (5 secs)**
 - **Email board consolidated non-LM/new-member ideas from Bill Chappell - WATCH (5 secs)**
 - **Email John T (Farrington) to schedule game visit - WATCH (5 secs)**
 - **Email Jane (Roxboro) to schedule game visit**
 - **Secure an invite to Governor's Club for same purpose - WATCH (5 secs)**
- Email Ian Fri game dates for Unit Championship sanctions - WATCH (5 secs)**