

ACBL Unit 191 “Brightleaf” Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday 12 January 2026

Meeting called to order by President Deanna Larus at 3:40

Present: Deanna Larus, Ian Cloudsdale, Morris Weinberger, Mary Newman, Michael Lavine, Phylliss Woody, Ray Boylan

Absent: Eric Hamilton, Ira Mueller

The minutes of the December meeting were accepted.

Topics:

1. The ACBL has offered Units new standardized logos. After a brief discussion it was the non-voted consensus of the Board to retain the traditional logo previously designed by a member of the Unit.
2. Discussion of Unit Awards: Hugo Germineau Award and Bright Leaf Spring Sectional Award were discussed and eliminated. The consensus of the Board is to retain the Peggy Stokes Award for players with fewer than 500MPs.
3. Duke Bridge Club (#1) The Club is looking for two things at present: support for a fund-raiser via sale of sweatshirts @ \$40; and guidance for their play with supervised games and play review.
4. Unit 119 Outreach: Deanna has initiated contact about sharing the Summer Sectional, but has had no immediate reply. It was noted that many of our members play in the Summer Sectional, while relatively more of Unit 119's play in the Nationals. It was suggested that we may drop the Summer game if we can't share the burden of putting it on.
5. Annual Zoom Meeting: Ongoing discussion about an appropriate date (Feb or Mar)
6. Board Officer Transition: Deanna will be leaving the Board after 10 years of service at the end of the year, but volunteers to remain active as a resource. Deanna reached out to Ray after the last meeting about his willingness to serve as President. After initially turning down the offer, out of respect to all Deanna has contributed, Ray and Morris discussed potentially sharing the duties of the President, with Deanna remaining as Ex-Officio President Emerita. A move to promote this arrangement was made and

seconded, and with little discussion was adopted by consensus, there being no objections.

7. Other Unit Needs highlighted by our outgoing President:

Deanna expressed her belief that the Board's primary job is to offer value to members of the Unit.

Publicity– Deanna expressed the feeling that our weekly email and monthly **Alert** are excellent but not enough. Need includes communication with members about membership related issues, accomplishments and rank changes, etc.

More opportunities for Limited players– couples with the need for better publicity
Treasurer In Waiting Trainee–Mary offered to step up. She's recognized to be good with numbers!

Tournament Chair–Deanna is willing to continue. Morris interested in learning.

District 7 Representative– This is a role filled for a long time by Chris Moll. Ray and Morris will discuss and arrange to cover.

Weekly email–The Board offered its appreciation to Ann for working with Henry, and continuing to add value to the weekly email

Mentor-Mentee Program–The Board offered its appreciation to Michael for leading this successful program

Scheduling Unit Championships with ACBL–Ian has been doing this job and volunteered to continue. We can schedule up to 24 per year

Major NonBoard Contributors: We need to confirm whether Barbara Martin (the *Alert*), and Marc Goldberg (Web Master) are willing to continue their contributions

Sectional Tournament Venue: The most recent space at Governor's Village is a front-runner but we need to identify an alternative in case it is not available when needed.

Outreach to Roxboro: The other open club in the Unit – we should initiate outreach to make sure they are aware of Championship games.

7. Treasurer Report: First Quarter 2026: Beginning Balance \$27,092.22, Ending Balance \$26,914.72, reflecting outstanding liabilities of \$177.50 related to free plays and MM subsidies.

8. More on the Duke Bridge Club. What they are asking for is a bit unclear. Hugon Karwowski suggests it is primarily TLC. We believe their participation is on the upswing. Topics wondered about: Do they need help finding a campus sponsor? Could they join our monthly on line MM games? How to tailor lessons appropriately to their levels of play and who would volunteer to teach? Ray will reach out to Hugon to further clarify and report back.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45