

**THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Lake Miona Rec Center**

**January 21, 2025**

President, Jon Williams called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

**Attendance:** Board Members: Vice President, Nancy Turner; Secretary, Merle Erlich, Dutch Dresser, Jim O'Brien, Russ Pearly, Vern Sikora, Judy Smith, and Bruce Thiher. Also present were Club Manager, Donna Brown; Head Director, John Quinn; Education Director, Harry Messenheimer; and Paul Matheson. Treasurer, Tom Tessier was excused.

The minutes of the January 7, 2025 meeting were distributed, corrected and approved and will be posted on the website.

**Treasurer's Report**

In Tom Tessier's absence, Jim O'Brien presented the Treasurer's Report ending 12/31/2024 which was previously emailed to the Board of Directors. He noted that overall, we had nearly 11,000 tables of bridge played F2F in 2024. This is an 11% increase over 2023. Russ noted that the ACBL lists us as having the most tables in 2024 of any other club (almost 2000 more tables than any other club in North America).

○ Checking account balance:	\$20,704.
○ CD 6 month	\$20,000.
○ CD 12 month	\$40,000.
○ Total Liability & Equity	\$85,739

\$

	<b>INCOME *</b>	<b>EXPENSE*</b>
<b>GAMES</b>	\$ 11,649.	\$
<b>ACBL SANCTION FEES</b>		741.
<b>ACBL SPECIAL GAME FEES</b>		2,052.
<b>DIRECTORS</b>		6,511.
<b>CARD PREP</b>		928.
<b>SALES</b>	32.	
<b>CONTRACT SERVICES</b>		1,600.
<b>GAME HOSPITALITY</b>		934.
<b>BONUSES</b>		1,800.
<b>BRIDGE GAME SUPPLIES</b>		47.
<b>CHARITY CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		530.
<b>NOVEMBER TOURNAMENT</b>		966.
<b>COMPUTER</b>		591.
<b>OFFICE SUPPLIES/SOFTWARE</b>		275.
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		62.
<b>STORAGE</b>		122.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,680.</b>	<b>\$17,159.</b>

The Treasurer's Report was accepted with thanks from the Board.

Jim O'Brien presented the proposed **Budget for 2025**

- projecting a 5% table count increase
- suggested raising all game fees to \$4 & \$5 due to increased ACBL fees & loss of SE Carolina income  
(a vote was **not** taken, **no decision** was made at this time)

The proposed 2025 budget was approved for planning purposes only.

**The Annual Meeting** is planned for Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> pending approval of the use of Laurel Manor as Sea Breeze is not available. If possible, it will be followed by a Swiss Team game and refreshments. Merle discussed last year's format as a guide to plan this year's meeting.

### **Conflict of Interest Statements**

Judy Smith reported that the Conflict of Interest Statements provided by Board members have been reviewed and approved.

### **January 2025 Winter Sectional**

We had 242 tables over 3 days of the tournament at La Hacienda.

- 89 tables of open pairs.
- 64.5 tables of under 500 pairs
- 26.5 tables of under 50 pairs who were given free plays
- 48 tables of Open Swiss teams
- 14 tables of under 500 Swiss Teams

Jon Williams acknowledged Bobbie Meyers and Karen Pekannen for their hard work. Merle complimented the moving service and volunteers who set up and took down the tournament. La Hacienda wanted us to set up only 50 tables, but we fit in 60 with 10 in reserve. Donna noted that next January, 2026 we may have the use of an additional smaller room there. The June 7-9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Sectional Tournament will take place at Savannah as will the November, 2025 NLM Regional. Merle suggested that the magnitude of these tournaments requires a standing Tournament Committee that has to begin working with the ACBL many months in advance. The Board agreed. Donna Brown, Vern Sikora, Nancy Turner, and Merle Erlich were appointed to serve on that committee.

### **Use of Bridgemates to Run Swiss Team Games**

Paul Matheson agreed to reassess the use of Swiss Team software for our games and possibly, tournaments.

### **Patty Tucker Seminar, February 22 at Lake Miona**

Dutch will work with Harry to use the electronic method of registering for this event on our website.

### **Temperature in Card Rooms**

John Quinn stated that Game Directors will continue to be sensitive to the excessive cooling in our card rooms and work with the rec centers to keep the level comfortable.

### **New Business**

- Jon asked Donna to check that our payments to the Reservation System have been made
- Nancy suggested that the February 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday game be a charity game for the Wildwood Seeds of Hope Food Kitchen. (They have an approved application on file with us.) It was also suggested that our Charity games in April be used to support this worthy organization as we have in the past. This was approved by the Board.

### ***Additional Room Availability Provides Opportunity***

- Jon suggested that the Saturday mornings not used for the Mentor/Mentee games be used for an under 500 Swiss Game. Jim will check with Miona re getting back the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.
- Russ suggested a possible Board A Match Team Game.
- Jim announced that Lake Miona has offered us the use of the card room on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

- A lively discussion ensued on the pros and cons of offering limited games at those times in the 1500+ range.
- Paul pointed out that 75% of our 1,042 members who played in 2024 are in the 0-1500 range

The Team scheduling committee (Nancy, Russ, Dutch, and Vern will meet and report back.)  
The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be February 18, 2025, at 4:30 pm at Lake Miona recreation center. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

The Board went into executive session to discuss, clarify and approve compensation issues.

Dutch and Bruce were excused as they are active Game Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Erlich, Secretary