

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Lake Miona Rec Center **June 23, 2025**

President, Jon Williams called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

Attendance: Board Members: Vice President, Nancy Turner; Secretary, Merle Erlich, Jim O'Brien, Russ Pearly, and Judy Smith. Vicki Collins, Dutch Dresser, and Bruce Thiher were excused. Russ Pearly attended via telephone. Also present were Treasurer, Tom Tessier, Club Manager, Donna Brown and Head Directors, John Quinn and Pat Holmes.

The May Minutes, previously distributed to the Board and posted on the website, were approved with a policy amendment correction and will be reposted to the website.

Club Manager's Report: Donna Brown

- Club will purchase the most up to date Convention Cards. Members will be encouraged to update their cards. Reminders will be posted on the E Blasts and website.
- Members will be apprised and reminded to practice correct "Bridge Etiquette" via E Blasts such as not snapping or folding cards, looking at partner's facial reactions to bids etc.
- Storage Unit rent has increased under new ownership. Other alternatives will be investigated.
- 10 new carrying cases and 11 new sets of game boards have been purchased to replace worn out ones. Janet Matthews will use one set for teaching purposes.
- NAP Qualifying Games are held 2 weeks in June, July, and August. The ACBL requires the bridge clubs this year to advertise certain strats for Open and Limited games. In addition, clubs are required to allow anyone with master points under those Strats to play in those game. Because this approach would not be fair to the 300 or fewer masterpoint games that the club regularly holds, the Board decided not to hold NAP Qualifier games for the limited games of 300 or fewer master points. Instead, the club will run their regularly scheduled games. If those players decide that they want to qualify for the North American Pairs, they may play in the 750 games, which will have strats of 750/500/250 or they may play in the higher level games, the lowest strat being 750.
- July 2025 Schedule
 - Games will be played on Friday July 4th at Sea Breeze and Eisenhower. Rec Centers close at 6:00
 - Lake Miona is closed on Saturday, July 12th. Jim O'Brien will check for availability at Ike.
 - Many Pop-Up and special 'glitter' games will occur with opportunity for red & silver points.
- The November NLM Regional and Silver Sectional will be held for 4 Days: Friday through Monday, November 21 to 24, 2025. There was some discussion regarding feasibility of holding the Swiss Teams Game on Sunday rather than Monday. From the standpoint of clean up and take down, it may be advisable to stick with Swiss teams on the last day.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Tessier provided the Board with the following prior to the meeting:

- May 2025 Operating Statement
- May 2025 Activity Comparisons - January – May, 2025
- Balance Sheet Comparisons – 5/31/2025 and 5/31/2024

Tom recapped May, 2025 with the following highlights:

- We hosted 100 games with 1,021 tables. There were 47 free plays and we were joined by five guests.
- Our May income was \$16,417.81.
- Expenses were \$18,277.90
- Resulting in a loss of \$1,860.29.
- Year to date loss is \$1,324.53.
- We issued 22 checks totaling \$18,17.62 to our directors and contractors for services provided and reimbursable expenses.
- We received a thank you note from The Alzheimer's Association for last month's donation.
- We received a Wildwood Soup Kitchen lunch Sponsorship Certificate for our prior donations.

At month-end we had the following balances:

- Checking account: \$13,797.
- CDs: \$60,000
- Equity: \$64,956.60

Tom noted that there are still outstanding tournament expenses.

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

Sectional Tournament Report: Donna Brown

- 235.5 tables were played. It was noted that the in-season Sarasota Sectional only had 181 total tables!
- Even though we expect the ACBL Tournament directors to come with the technical equipment they need to run the tournament, they often don't. We prepare for this by 'borrowing' this equipment from our own sites. Because settings are different for tournament use, we often have problems setting up our own games upon our equipment's return to our game sites. We will continue to provide Bridgemates and bidding boxes for our tournaments. However, it was unanimously approved by the Board to invest in dedicated servers for tournament use.
- It was noted that we had enormous volunteer support from our members for set up, hospitality, and take down.

The Longest Day Committee Report

Nancy Turner reported that we held our Longest Day Event, June 22, 2025 and it was a huge success! In addition to our two anonymous donations totaling \$10,000, we took in \$9,700 in cash and checks from our members and \$2,040 from the weekly fees from the VDBC and ACBL for a total of \$21,740. This means that we have raised \$24,000 to date this year (over four times last year's \$6,000!) Nancy also mentioned that we already have a \$7500 challenge from an anonymous donor for next year. (Our next Alzheimer's event is scheduled for October).

Head Directors Report

John Quinn and Pat Holmes reported a need for more consistent and coordinated tech support and similarity of game operating equipment to assure that a game director has what is needed to start and report games in a timely fashion. One easy fix regarding equipment may be providing all sites with the same keyboards. Donna will meet with tech team.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be **July 15, 2025** at 4:30 pm at Lake Miona Recreation Center.

The June 24, 2025 Board meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Merle Erlich, Secretary