

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Lake Miona Rec Center

May 20, 2025

President, Jon Williams called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

Attendance: Board Members: Vice President, Nancy Turner; Secretary, Merle Erlich, Vicki Collins (by telephone, Dutch Dresser, Jim O'Brien, Russ Pearly, and Bruce Thiher. Judy Smith was excused. Also present were Treasurer, Tom Tessier, Paul Matheson, Phil Wolff and Head Directors: John Quinn and Pat Holmes.

The April Minutes, previously distributed to the Board and posted on the website, were approved.

Ratification of decisions taken since the last board meeting:

- Harry Messenheimer received a proposal from Michael Berkowitz to present our 2026 Seminar. His terms are \$4,000 for up to 100 participants and \$50 per attendee after that. The fee includes his travel, lodging and meals. The Board was asked and agree by an email vote to engage Berkowitz on these terms in order to finalize this arrangement in a timely fashion. February 7, 2026 is the confirmed date of this seminar.

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

- April 2025 Operating Statement
- April 2025 Activity Comparisons - January 2025, February 2025, March 2025 and April 2025
- Balance Sheet Comparisons – 4/30/2025 and 4/30/2024

Tom recapped April, 2025 with the following highlights:

- We hosted 125 games with 1,108.5 tables. There were 66 free plays and we were joined by 20 guests.
- Our April income was \$18,030.98.
- Expenses were \$22,903.01
- Resulting in a negative margin of \$4,872.03.
- Year to date positive margin is \$930.21
- We issued 21 checks totaling \$22,947.16 to our directors and contractors for services provided and reimbursable expenses.
- We contributed \$2,674.00 to The Alzheimer's Association.

At month-end we had the following balances:

- Checking account: \$19,885.98
- CDs: \$60,000
- Equity: \$66,816.89

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

New Beginning Bridge Class begins June 3, 2025.

Janet Matthews will teach a ten-week class at Odell Recreation Center on Tuesday mornings. It will run 10 weeks at \$5/session. Participants may choose to pay \$40 ahead of time for the whole 10 weeks.

Discussion of Scam Emails - Warnings Posted on the Club Website:

There was a feature on BridgeWebs to eliminate direct access to members' emails and Deb Brunoehler is working to reinstate it.

Head Directors, John Quinn and Pat Holmes Propose Hiring of 3 additional Game Directors:

The Board of Directors officially approved the hiring of Jon Greenspan, Janet Matthews, and Terry Oleske as Game Directors.

The Longest Day Date Adjustment:

Nancy Turner reported that we will hold our Longest Day Event on Sunday June 22, 2025 at 9:00am at Sea Breeze. There will be a 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM session. Nancy proposed that the club charge \$5/ person/game throughout Solstice Week, June 16-22. The Board also approved the issuing of 30 free game plays to be raffled off on Sunday, June 22. 50/50 tickets will also be sold.

New Business

- The Board approved the temporary discontinuation of the Tuesday Open & Under 300 Game at Miona for the summer. Targeted continuation of this game will be October,2025.

- Discussion on if and under what circumstances a Game Director may play in a game. Board policy on this changed last year as follows:

Director Play 3.7.1 Directors may not play in games they are directing unless it is a teaching game of less than 50 masterpoints or a limited game of 150 or less. In this scenario: 3.7.1.1 The Director and their partner will be marked "Ineligible". 3.7.1.2 The Director must turn over all "Declarer" play to their partner. 3.7.2 To accommodate mobility impaired players during break, the Director may, at their discretion, extend the break by up to 5 minutes but may not sit in. Boards missed will be marked "no play". 3.7.3 The Director may sort a hand or play the dummy for a player due to an urgent situation (bathroom crisis or emergency call) if requested by the player and agreed to by the table.

- Also discussed was what to do re: late arriving players and leaving some situations up to the discretion of the Game Director as to when No Plays are feasible as laid out in our Policy Procedures:

3.8 Accommodation of Late Arrivals 3.8.1 For all games, the Director should strive to enable late arriving pairs or players to play. Players who are routinely late may be referred to the Head Director and/or the BOD. 3.8.2 The Director will begin the game on time with the assumption that the late arrival is not coming and add the pair whenever possible after they arrive (but before the end of the first round) by filling a table, adding a table (add boards to that table), or adding a Rover pair. This can be done with any Mitchell movement except a Bye stand/Relay or any other movement that changes the number of boards per round or position of the boards. A half table in a Howell Movement may be filled by late arrivals. 3.8.3 The Director may either wait to start the Bridgemates or hit F9 any time during the first round and change the movement. The Bridgemates will update if the number of boards per round or position of the boards is not changed. 3.8.4 When there is a Bye stand/Relay Movement, and a late player is expected momentarily the Director is permitted to delay the start of the game up to five minutes as the arrival would change the entire setup. After that time, the pair/player cannot play. 3.8.5 Scoring for late arrivals: The first two boards missed will be A+/A- and a third will be "no play".

- The Ocala Duplicate Bridge Club has invited the VDBC to participate in their Alzheimer's Longest Day Swiss Team Event on June 19 at 10:00 AM. It will be a 2-Session Swiss Team with lunch between the sessions. The cost is \$\$80/4-person team.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be **June 24, 2025** at 4:30 pm at Lake Miona Recreation Center. It was noted that some Board members will be away this summer.

The May 20, 2025 Board meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Merle Erlich, Secretary.