

## **The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club Minutes of June 27, 2017, Board Meeting**

**Call to Order:** Charlie Showalter, President, called the meeting to order at 4:25 pm in the home of Carol Ketterer as no meeting room was available at Lake Miona Recreation Center.

**Members Present:** Alex Boone, Jane Hudson, Carol Ketterer, Jeff Koltenuk, Bob Matthews, Beverly Parrish, and Charlie Showalter. **Guests:** Mike Lotti and Paul Matheson.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The minutes of the May 2, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved.

**New Name Tags with VDBC Logo:** Alex Boone presented renderings of several options for name tags using the new the VDBC Logo. A local vendor has been found and the cost will be 50% less than the current name tags. No shipping charges will effectively reduce the cost further. Alex will contact the vendor to create the new name tags which will be available for purchase at \$6 per tag.

**Financial Report:** Mike Lotti reported that the VDBC is in good financial condition. The Sectional Tournament had the best attendance to date and was very successful. There were 368 tables which is an increase of 16 tables from last year.

**New Pat Ford Sectional Tournament Coordinator/Chairperson:** Alex Boone has been in charge of this tournament for several years and is resigning from these duties. There was discussion about naming a new coordinator/chairperson. Bob Matthews graciously agreed to take on these duties for the 2018 tournament. The dates for 2018 are June 8-10<sup>th</sup>.

**Incorporation of VDBC:** There appears to be some advantages to incorporating the VDBC and preliminary discussion was held. Charlie Showalter will contact the recreation department to see if there are any objections to this. Further discussion will ensue once that information is obtained.

**STAC Games:** There have been questions from members about the number of master points awarded in the Open STAC games. The master point awards and other rules are set by the ACBL. The master point awards for STAC games cannot be combined across sections. If the club decides not to participate in the STAC games only regular games can be held during the designated week for District 9 STAC games. No other type of "special" games can be held that particular week. However, the master point awards at the district level are very good should pairs receive a high enough percentage to place in the top portion of the district overall results. The decision was made to continue participation in the District 9 STAC games.

**Timers:** The use of timers has been very well received by the members. The decision was made to purchase actual bridge timers for use at all remaining recreation centers. These timers will be put into use immediately upon arrival. The use of the timers will be mandatory. When the timers are ordered they can be factory programmed to give either a 2 minute or 4 minute warning. The new timers will be ordered with a programmed 4 minute warning. Bob Matthews will also check with the vendor to see if the bridge timer that we currently have can be returned to have the 4 minute warning programmed. The volume of the warning on the timers can be changed.

**Longest Day Participation:** Participation in The Longest Day fund raiser was very good. The four winners of the 50/50 drawing each received \$260. A total of \$1700 was sent to the ACBL for the Alzheimer's Association. Thanks to everyone who helped made this year's event successful. We anticipate more available events for this worthy cause in 2018.

**Stand-by Partners:** There was discussion about having stand-by partners available for games. Since we have so many different venues it would be hard to have stand-by partners. The suggestion was made to check with the partnership chairpersons to see if they have suggestions.

**Sunday Games:** The participation in several of the Sunday afternoon games has drastically declined. The limited Swiss on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays will be discontinued. The decision was made to have an Open Swiss on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, no game on July 9<sup>th</sup>, the Mentor Pairs on July 16<sup>th</sup>, a Fast Pairs game on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and no game on July 30<sup>th</sup>. The Fast Pairs game will be limited to 5 minutes per board and that time limit will be strictly enforced. Paul Matheson will check with his students to determine their interest in a very limited master point Swiss event. It could be a good learning experience for them if there is enough interest. Further discussion will take place after these changes are evaluated.

**Desk for Directors:** Paul Hassett has volunteered to keep a reserve desk for the director's use at his home should one of the current desks need to be replaced quickly. Thanks to Paul for doing this.

**Board of Governors Letter:** Charlie Showalter received a letter from a committee of the ACBL Board of Governors asking how the BOG can help local clubs. Charlie told them that we were doing very well and that our experience might be helpful to other clubs. The BOG committee will notify Charlie if they need further information from the VDBC.

**Other Business:**

**Unit/District Representative:** Charlie Showalter is an advisor but not a voting member of the District 9 and Unit 128 Boards. He attends the meetings and does provide input but cannot vote.

**Education Programs:** Sharlene Tyler's classes are well attended. There is a need for more games for the newcomer lesson "graduates". A neighborhood recreation center should work for this need and this will be explored.

**Next Meeting:** There will be a succession planning meeting on August 1, 2017. The next regular meeting of the Board will be August 8, 2017. The meeting was adjourned at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beverly Parrish, Secretary