

**The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club
Minutes October 10, 2017, Board Meeting**

Call to Order: Charlie Showalter, President, called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm at the Lake Miona Recreation Center.

Members Present: Alex Booke, 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 September 19, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved.

Financial Report: In spite of lost revenues from Hurricane Irma closings and several recent purchases, the VDBC is in sound financial condition according to Mike Lotti. Mike did a study of attendance at all games. The Monday, Tuesday and Saturday afternoon games are close to capacity even in the off-season. The Board approved the following recommendations.

- Publish game statistics on the website so that attendees can decide whether to attend crowded games or games that are less crowded
- Change the Saturday limited game to 0-750 NLM—beginning Nov 1st
- Add a 0-500 NLM game to the regularly scheduled open game on Monday evenings—this had been requested by a letter to the Board by a member speaking for several in this category—beginning Nov 1st

Member Appreciation Week will be held November 5-11th. The card fees will be reduced by one dollar that week.

499er/NLM Sectional Tournament: Carol Ketterer, Tournament Chairperson, gave a status report on preparations and include:

The movers will pick up tables and deliver them to Savannah Center and return after the tournament to take the tables back to storage. Arrangements with the Savannah Center are completed. A tentative food order will be placed with Publix in the near future. Carol is doing presentations at the limited games, and the tournament schedule is posted on the VDBC Website as of 10-10-17.

Gatlinburg Regional, April 2018: Carol Ketterer has 20 definite reservations and 4 tentative reservations. Some concerns were expressed about liability to the VDBC with a chartered bus. Carol will communicate with the bus company to determine their insurance policy and indemnification of VDBC against any accident or loss etc.

Chairs with Arms and Venue Changes: Charlie Showalter reported that The Villages Recreation Department is ordering chairs with arms to be used by our members who need them. There will be six chairs at each venue, however, we are unsure when they will be delivered or exactly what they will look like. There are two wheel chairs currently available at each venue available for members' use. The decision was made to keep the recent venue changes on Saturday in place. The limited game will be at Colony Cottage, and the open game will be at Lake Miona.

Balancing the Field of Players: Jeff Koltunek provided a list of 28 players that he felt should be seeded at all games in which they are present. He looked at overall matchpoints accrued as well as how the players have performed this calendar year. There was some discussion during the meeting and the motion was approved to be effective November 1st. Jeff is to contact the players on the list individually.

Election of Officers: The slate of candidates for members of the Board is:

Larry Abramovitz, Philip Benner, Donna Brown, Sheila Goad, Gordon Pfeiffer and Marilyn Williams.

Each candidate is requested to provide a short "bio" to Alex Booke by Nov 1st to be published on the website. The election will be held the first two weeks in December. The Board will have a special meeting to count the ballots.

Expert Lecturer: Marty Bergen will be the guest lecturer in March 2018. Frank Stewart is also coming to The Villages to visit and wants to give some impromptu type lectures. Bob Matthews will coordinate both these events.

Head Director: Paul has broken down the current duties of the Head Director into two distinct parts. A Database Manager and Head Director. Paul is willing to continue to as the Database Manager but will no longer serve as Head Director after December 31, 2017. A separate meeting to be held on October 14, 2017 to discuss filling that position. Please see those minutes in a separate document.

Other Business:

Education Programs: Several very good education programs are ongoing and planned for early 2018. Bob Matthews is coordinating these programs, and the current classes are posted on the VDBC Website.

Venue Changes Due to Scheduling Conflicts: Several craft fairs, pottery shows, etc. are planned for the fall and require temporary venue changes for our games. These changes are posted on the VDBC Website.

November Game Schedule: Due to the 499er Sectional Nov 17-19, 2017, all the limited masterpoint games scheduled during this time will be cancelled, including the Mentor/Novice game on Sunday, November 19th.

Regionals at Club Games: In coordination with the Chesapeake Regional November 13-17, 2017 there will be a 5 Day Side Series in which gold points can be earned. Details are on the Website for interested players. Because these Side Series games will be scored across “pools” of strength, the decision was made to change all the afternoon limited games Monday-Thursday of that week to 499er games so that the “pool” in which participants compete will be the same each day. The Friday game will be at the 499er Sectional and will be stratified as such.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board will be October 14, 2017 to discuss the Head Director position. The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Parrish, Secretary