

MINUTES
ACBL SAN DIEGO UNIT 539 MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

Next meeting: Sunday, October 15 at 11:00 a.m. at Adventures in Bridge

Board members present: John Boackle, Kathy Byrne, Gigette Caldwell, Carolyn Casey, Tom Herzog, Mike Koscielski, Larry Sherman, Martha Woodworth

Absent board members: Lamya Agelidis, Pete Moyer

Meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. by John.

Minutes of August 20, 2017 meeting were circulated by e-mail. **Motion** to approve the minutes passed (unanimously).

NEW BUSINESS

Update on October NLM Sectional. Mike distributed detailed report by e-mail. Lamya and John will assist, help needed for Thursday set-up. Fees were raised \$2 to \$12 and a new \$5 fee for lunch was added. Mike surveyed other sectionals: fees range from \$10-\$12, some serve snacks and some serve lunch, some charge for lunch. He used Oceanside and San Marcos as models for fees. Sectionals pay more MPs than STAC games which we can note in future flyers. Discussed fact that volunteers provide food at other sectionals and in past volunteers provided food at our unit games. Discussed forming volunteer committee to provide food, but noted players have gotten used to current system where Board provides hospitality.

August financials. Pete provided detailed report by e-mail. Data provides us with wonderful transparency in our financial dealings. **Motion** to approve August financials passed (unanimously).

Unit consolidation committee update and approval to proceed. The new committee met to discuss consolidating Units 519 (Coronado) and 526 (La Jolla) with our San Diego Unit 539. Mechanism for consolidation would be to ask ACBL to consolidate zip codes into single unit. List of pros and cons was circulated. **Motion** to move forward with the consolidation by talking with the other units passed (unanimously).

2017 holiday party and New Years' Eve game updates. Kathy secured Soledad Club for Sunday, January 7, 2018 and is working on flyers and budget. Gigette volunteered to be partnership chair. Lamya is working on catering. New Year's Eve game will be run by Wirt as a club game.

Holiday party fee /structure and free-play policies. Discussed all of unit's free-play policies and whether they are meeting our goals.

- Holiday party free-plays. Holiday party free entry was started to encourage players to attend unit game, but some board members feel it is too costly and discourages those who attend other club games from attending our unit holiday party. La Jolla offers \$5 discount rather than free entry. Last year about 40 people had free entry/lunch and

about 36 people paid. This year we will keep same fees/free plays as last year. Discussed many alternatives. **Action:** Before 2018 calendar year schedule is published Martha, John and Gigette will draft list of proposals to encourage folks to attend unit games, but provide a more modest give-back than the existing free-play policy for holiday party.

- Sectional free-plays. Unit awards free plays to those with fewer than 20 MPs at the Friday afternoon session of our open sectionals. Larry noted that at last sectional 14 free plays were awarded and 11 of those are not members of our unit. Discussed purpose of policy and whether it is effective in getting players to attend other sectional events. **Action:** Larry will continue research.
- Milestone and new member free-plays. Carolyn noted that since beginning of year 103 free plays have been awarded to those who reach each ACBL milestone. Discussed whether we should continue to award free plays for all 14 milestones, especially for lower levels. Physical awards are given for only certain levels. Also free-plays are awarded to new members. **Action:** Carolyn will talk to Pete and evaluate whether free plays are being used and propose possible alternatives.
- Partnership free-plays. We provide free plays to those who fill-in as partners and do not want to change this policy.

Sectional tournament fee structure. Discussed raising fee from \$12 to \$13 for open sectionals. We recently raised fees, but noted that although regionals are \$14, if you include parking fees and expensive on-site food, the cost is much higher. Further, Marina Village venue is more expensive than other sectional venues. Discussed charging for all meals at sectionals, not just on Sunday. **Action:** Tabled actions on either option until full board is present.

Other new business. Susan G. Komen breast cancer awareness fundraiser for new players is on October 28. Larry distributed flyer.

OTHER REPORTS

Membership report. Larry e-mailed report. No discussion.

Partnerships report. Mike e-mailed report. No discussion.

Unit Manager Report. John e-mailed updated 2017 schedule of events. No discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:21.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Woodworth, Secretary