

# ROCHESTER DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## September 9, 2020

Board meeting called to order by President Arne Fockler at 10:03am on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> via teleconference.

Present were Arne, Matt Belau, Mary Jo Kelly, Betty Shidler, Cindy Heins, Gloria Georger, Yvonne Steiroff, Linda Grigoleit, and Ed Prosser. Ex-officio members in attendance were Sue Greenberg and Kathy Maegerlein.

President's quote: "Computers are incredibly fast, accurate, and stupid; humans are incredibly slow, inaccurate and brilliant; together they are powerful beyond imagination." – Albert Einstein.

Board items that required voting included:

- **Treasurer's reports for June and July** were approved with the updated, actual ACBL/BBO income figures (Cindy moved, Linda seconded, approved 9-0).
- **Board Minutes from the July and August meetings** were approved as submitted (Yvonne moved, Mary Jo seconded, approved 9-0).
- **Schedules for Spring 2021 April Open Sectional and May NLM Sectionals** were approved (Betty moved, Cindy seconded, approved 9-0, see schedule details below).
- **Pricing for special upcoming ACBL games online** through November was approved (Linda moved, Matt seconded, approved 9-0, see pricing details below).

Board items discussed that did not require a vote:

- President's report: Arne is planning to engage his **CHAT group** again now that it's after Labor Day; started last month, some of the CHAT players had commitments that prevented regular get-togethers, but hopefully that's over now (and it's back to bridge!).
- Treasurer's report: **August preliminary Treasurer's report** was "pretty basic – nothing exciting." An updated August report was issued with the correct year-to-date figures and will be submitted for approval at the next month's meeting when actual BBO figures have come in.
- Club Manager's report: Earlier this month, a club member **had raised the question about whether paying to have the Hadley Creek building cleaned** each month was worth the money; the Board discussed this and agreed that it was, and that it was the Club Manager's decision (and should be) coming under that of running the business of the Club.
  - There are **lots of upcoming special games online** the next couple of months: the week of 9/21 Club Championships 25% Gold, the Board had agreed to raise the table fee to \$7 (as the ACBL raised their rate from \$1/table to \$5/table). There is a week of Club Appreciation games coming October 26<sup>th</sup>, and another round of local special games November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Board agreed that these games should also require an entry fee of \$7 (in part to cover the ACBL per table increase) with the exception that if the ACBL does not charge extra for the Club Appreciation week in October that the entry fee remain at the standard \$5 per player for those games.
  - The question of **adding a shorter, 12-board game** (lasting about 80 minutes) was raised as an additional game once the weather gets colder; it currently pays the same masterpoints as a regular 18+board match, and the idea was well received by the Board. Sue will look

into when the schedule would be best to hold such a game, and Ed suggested a NLM/LM game on Tuesday or Friday mornings might be good (for Open players who don't have a game those days). Sue will update the Board next month.

- The ACBL has now **cancelled all tournaments through February 28, 2021.**
- Tournament Co-Chairs report:
  - With the ACBL cancelling in-person tournaments through February 28, 2021, if the COVID situation allows, the RDBC tournaments may be some of the very first to be held in person next April and May. The **proposed schedule for the Open Sectional** (subject to Unit 103 approval) includes Compact KOs on Saturday, regionally-rated Swiss Teams on Sunday, and single-session Pairs games for the NLMs, along with a morning session start time of 10am. Location to be determined later (possibly December) depending on conditions outside of our control (ACBL approval or cancellations, COVID concerns, etc.). **The NLM Sectional** in May would be two single-sessions including local teachers providing lessons to attendees. (The NLM Sectional would be run locally [including finances] and not subject to Unit 103 approval.) The Board approved the proposals for the 2021 Spring Sectionals as submitted (see vote, above). Matt will forward the Open Sectional schedule proposal to Unit 103 next month for their approval.

OLD BUSINESS:

- An **update on locations for a new playing venue** was discussed – a couple of spots at Marketplace (off North Broadway) were dismissed as unworkable spaces; parking will continue to be the biggest concern.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Betty and Kathy have been looking into options for **potentially investing some of the Club's current checking account**. They provided a list of local banks and brokerages with different options and interest rates, and will report back to the Board next month. It was noted that wherever the Club will be playing in 2021, the amount of rent to occupy a playing space will be greater than our current agreement, both in terms of higher interest rates but also having fluid money available for the future. Betty and Kathy will look further into everything and report next month.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made (Matt), seconded (Betty) and approved (9-0) to end the meeting at 11:00a. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Belau, Secretary to the Board