

ROCHESTER DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2020

Board meeting called to order by President Arne Fockler at 10:00am on Wednesday, August 12th via teleconference.

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

President's quote: "He who laughs - lasts." – Mary Pettibone Poole, 1938.

Board items that required voting included:

- **Increased number of boards played in online games** to 21 boards per game, with the exception of 2-board rounds for Howell movements or at Director's discretion (if they are comfortable with the movement) approved (Cindy moved, Linda seconded, approved 8-0).

Board items discussed that did not require a vote:

- President's report: Arne is **optimistic about how virtual teaching tables will work** for CHAT foursomes and groups as increased familiarization with BBO possibilities. Some other RDBC teachers are also looking into options with students.
 - The suspended **rent payments to the RDBC building owners** continue to be suspended for now; there was some discussion as to the future of the building (both in terms of new owners and RDBC participation as a renter going forward) but nothing concrete as of yet.
- Treasurer's report: **July's income** was roughly \$3,900 (will know when ACBL provides hard numbers next week); two cleaning services during the month (instead of one) due to the calendar; and fewer tables than in June (possibly due to online tournaments). **June's updated actual income** was very close to what was expected (\$3,872.35 vs the estimated \$3,800.)
- Club Manager's report: The idea of a **parking lot event** was re-visited, either as a morning coffee get-together or post-game tailgating "happy hour." Most Board members did not feel comfortable getting together in such a situation, so the idea was tabled for now; Sue reminded all if it's going to happen, it should happen while the weather still permits.
 - **Steve Becker (BBO handle "popsyb") is available to play** in Rochester games as a fill-in or partner (Steve is a "free-range" player and also is physically here in Rochester this summer).
- Tournament Co-Chairs report: **Dates for 2021 RDBC tournaments** have been requested (or are already set) as follows:
 - Spring Sectional (Open) – April 9, 10, 11
 - 499er Sectional – May 14 (Friday)
 - Med City Regional – September 14-19
 - 499er Sectional – October 1 (Friday)
 - Fall Sectional (Open) – October 29, 30, 31

OLD BUSINESS:

- **An effort to update members on each other's BBO names**, phone numbers, etc., was revisited – Matt recommended a mailing of the current (and updated) club membership roster rather than have anything online (so others wouldn't be uncomfortable); Cindy offered we could save the money from mailings by attaching the information via email, and Sue will look into this.
- The ACBL/BBO Guest policy has changed (again), now allowing for anyone to play in anyone else's game (as long as there's no "recruiting" or undercutting of price). Some guest pairs have approached RDBC Directors, asking if they can play in our game, but **the Board's policy of only allowing for a guest to play with an RDBC member was reaffirmed.**
- **The idea of re-opening the Club** was revisited, although there still are too many uncertainties and logistic issues to so at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The **number of boards played** in RDBC online games was changed to 21 per game (with the exception of 2-board rounds for Howell movements or if the Director is comfortable with a 2-board movement). Several players had asked for more Boards to be played, some wishing to have a fairer field by playing more opponents. Betty noted some 499ers prefer playing shorter games, and next month if it turns out there is opposition from NLMs to the extra round, the Board would revisit the idea of a 21-board game for those limited masterpoint games.
- There are roughly 65 RDBC members who are not online, 15 of which have been regulars at our face-to-face games prior to March 13th; the question of **what's the best way to get them online** was raised. While discussed, it was revealed that some of these players have no interest in online playing, while others don't have computers – so any plans for contacting (by phone or in person) were tabled for now.
- With **the RDBC checking account** back up to beginning-of-the-year levels, Betty had raised the idea of not having so much of the money in a checking account (that is not earning any interest). Kathy and Betty will work on some ideas and update the Board with some recommendations next month.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made (Cindy), seconded (Yvonne) and approved (8-0) to end the meeting at 11:05a. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Belau, Secretary to the Board