

Minutes of Annual Meeting
ACBL District 1
August 12, 2017

Present:

Leo Weniger	District Director	leowen@eastlink.ca
George Retek	Director Emeritus	gbridgeretek@gmail.com
Jean LaTraverse	District President	jlatraverse@videotron.ca
Hugues Boisvert	District Treasurer	hugues.boisvert@hec.ca
Richard Kenny	Unit 230	rakenny53@gmail.com
Heather Peckett	Secretary	bridgecat@rogers.com
Louise Mascolo	District NAP Coordinator	louise.mascolo@sympatico.ca
France Roy Dion	Unit 152	France.roydion@videotron.ca
Christine Bourbeau	Unit 151	christine1.bourbeau@gmail.com
Rob Williams	Unit 194	rob.williams@ns.sympatico.ca
Yves Chartrand	Unit 194	bonvoyageboating@mac.com
Tim Edwards- Davies	Unit 192	time-d@ogers.com

1. Call to Order

The District President welcomed everyone to the meeting. J. LaTraverse thanked the Unit 151 members for organizing the meal for the delegates.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the 2016 AGM were reviewed. It was moved by R. Williams and seconded by R. Kenny that the Minutes be approved. Carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. 2020 Unit Levies

All levies have been paid.

b. Timing of Canadian Championships and CBF Regionals

J. LaTraverse has had conversations with the CBF President. The CBF promises to do its best to avoid conflicts with all Canadian regional tournaments when scheduling the Canadian Championships.

The tentative schedule for the Canadian Championships is 2018-Montreal (confirmed), 2019-Vancouver, 2020-Toronto, 2021-Montreal.

4. Treasurer's Report

J. LaTraverse provided the District Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for 2016 and the Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2016. In response to a question, J. LaTraverse noted that the District does not earn any revenue. From time to time, It imposes a levy on each Unit to raise money to support its disbursements, most of which are the costs of the AGM. Last year the District spent \$1,400 in subsidies to help C. Murray get Director experience and training at the CANAM. For the first time, the statements now include the revenue and expenditures related to the GNT events.

We have \$9,296 remaining in the Grass Roots Fund. Two payments were received for 2016, but none has been received yet from the ACBL for 2017.

\$39,533 has been collected for the 2020 Nationals. \$75,000 is to be collected through Unit levies by 2020. The forecast of funding is very close to the forecast, however, we must ensure that we meet the \$75,000 commitment. The District could look at the possibility of holding special games in order to raise additional funds.

The President (after many hours of searching) has not been able to find a \$200 difference between the Assets and Liabilities on the Balance Sheet. It was moved by R. Williams and seconded by L. Mascolo that the Retained Earnings be lowered by \$200 to balance the statements. Carried

5. Grass Roots Funds

The ACBL instituted GR games in 2013, so it was very difficult to determine how much we would collect each year. Since 2015, from these funds, the District decided it would provide \$800 to each team winning the B and C flights of the GNTs. Similarly, each member of the B and C NAP winning pair (not otherwise funded by the ACBL) participants would receive \$200. As the term "Grass Roots" implies, the District felt that it should support the lower level players. It was moved by L. Mascolo and Seconded by R. Williams that the policy be continued. Carried.

The District did not disburse any of the GR funds received in 2013 and 2014. It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by Y. Chartrand that \$4,000 be transferred to the District treasury to cover its general operating costs. Carried.

6. District Director's Report

L. Weniger informed the Board that his July report will be posted on the District Website after it has been translated. L. Weniger congratulated Unit 152 for running a very good regional this year.

Some of the highlights of his report included:

- ! new CEO is seriously considering that the fees collected in \$Can be remitted in \$Can, not i\$US as is the current practice
- ! new workplace harassment policy
- ! revised Code of Discipline
- ! STOP card is to be eliminated effective Jan 1, 2018
- ! new game using teaching hands for players having fewer than 20 master points
- ! Peter Nagy inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame
- ! Convention Charts being revised
- ! Board of Governors members are Sandra MacPherson, Peter Clark and Ron Carriere.
- ! For the first time, all 4 of our District GNT Teams made the playoffs.

7. New Business

a. District Website

Yves Chartrand will continue his administration of the website. AGM minutes are posted, but not those of any conference calls as they are not "Official". T. Edwards-Davies said it was important to take advantage of all info that is available, such as points races and members new milestones. Links can be posted. Info on GNTs and NAPs should be posted. The coordinators will ensure this is done. **Action L. Mascolo and K. Macnab**

b. George Retek (GR) and the CLW Trophies

G. Retek gave the report of the committees. He noted the poor response that was received. Each year each Unit is to put forward names of meritorious individuals, for each trophy, along with a short paragraph of justification for its nominations.

Congratulations were given to the GR winner- Rollande Makarewicz and the CLW winner- Gus Duchesne. The winners have opted to receive their trophies at local club games.

L. Weniger volunteered to be the replacement member on the selection committees for a 3-year term. The other members are J. LaTraverse and R. Kenny.

The Board thanked George for his 3 years of service on these committees. Jean LaTraverse will be the Chair of the Committees for the upcoming year.

c. 2017-18 District Tournament Calendar

Y. Chartrand will get a copy to put on the website. G. Retek noted that the 2018 CANAM schedule has not been posted on the ACBL site. It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by H. Peckett that the incoming President

ask all Units to get their Regional sanctions approved 2 yrs in advance and 1 year in advance for their sectionals. Carried. **Action. L. Weniger**

d. NAP

The ACBL pays \$700 to each member of the A, B and C pairs entitled to receive the first place award and \$300 to each member of the pairs entitled to receive the second place award. No subsidy is provided for pairs placing third (Flights A, B and C) or fourth (Flights B and C).

For 2017-18, the winner and 3rd place will be deemed to come from the Eastern Area (Maritimes) and 2nd and 4th place from the Western Area (Quebec and Eastern Ontario).

The NAP finals for the Western Area will be October 14th in Montreal. For the eastern Area, Moncton will host the Flight A Final on October 28th. Moncton will host Flight C on October 29th, Halifax will host Flight B on November 4th. Please check the District website for times and locations.

e. District Charity Game

The John McAdam District-Wide Charity Game will be held on the afternoon on November 7, 2017. Rob Williams has volunteered to be the coordinator for this event. J. LaTraverse congratulated R. Williams for his excellent work organizing the 2016 game.

f. Doug Heron Award

Unit 194 is the winner -having the greatest % increase in membership.

g. 2017 GNT Financial

Fifty teams participated in the District finals- an exceptional turnout. The President expressed appreciation to the coordinators for their efforts in making the event such a success..The organization of the events in the Eastern and Western areas remains different (entry fees, distribution of profits etc). After discussion it was decided to let the organizers do what they think is best for their players. In the East, all profits were distributed among the A and C flights. The Western area made a profit of \$1,380. No monies were provided as subsidies. G. Retek asked if it might be possible to schedule the dates of these events to accommodate the “snowbirds”who do not get back until the end of April. L. Mascolo noted that they already take this point into consideration. She noted that there are many different events with which they do not want to have a conflict.

h. Recommendations from Unit 192 Regarding NAP and GNT Policies

T. Edwards-Davies spoke to the proposals from Unit 192. Because of the distances players often have to travel to play in these events, the first proposal recommended that unified multi-site Finals be held as long as each location had a minimum of 5 tables. Scoring would be made across all locations.

Delegates noted that when STACs were scored across the field that often the winners came from clubs with very few players. Players might choose to play in an area with weaker competition.

A suggestion was made to hold the NAP events in conjunction with a Regional tournament as a 3- hr trip is not worthwhile to play for only one event.

In the Western Area, Unit 192 used to host the NAP events, but in the last several years the organization and hosting of the event have been left to Montreal. Montreal holds the finals for all three Flight on the same day, whereas the Eastern Area holds them on 2 separate days at different locations.

District 2 has tried holding on-line events.

It was moved by T. Edwards-Davies and seconded by R. Williams that the District host simultaneous multi-site events for its NAP Finals. Not carried

R. Williams made an amendment motion to read that each Unit be empowered to hold a "one location" final, with scoring across the District. Motion was seconded by G. Retek. Not carried.

Unit 192 proposed that the District strike a Task Force to examine how unified GNT finals can best be held for 2018-19.

L. Mascolo noted that the District asked Kathie Macnab to try and establish better ways of running the GNTs. They are running well, with much support evident in Montreal and Halifax. Members expressed their support for Louise and Kathie for the significant work they have done in raising the interest and attendance at these events.

The motion to set up this Task Force was moved by T. Edwards-Davies and seconded by R. Williams. Not carried.

Unit 192 proposed that GR Funds be allocated to all flights. Motion was withdrawn pending further review of available funds.

Unit 192 proposed in its 4th motion that the District encourage all clubs to

hold the maximum number of GR games permitted. There was unanimous agreement.

8. Election and Appointment of Officers

Delegates tried to convince J. LaTraverse to continue as District President. He declined. A vote of great appreciation was given for his leadership and hard work.

President	Leo Weniger
Past President	Jean LaTraverse
Vice-President	Yves Chartrand
Secretary	Heather Peckett
Treasurer	Rob Williams
Charity	Rob Williams
Discipline	Peter Clark
Recorder	Nick L'Ecuyer
Appeals	Zygmunt Marcinski
Education and Membership	Kathie Macnab
NAP Coordinator	Louise Mascolo
GNT Coordinator	Kathie Macnab
Special Events/Tournament Coordinator	Bill Halliday
Website Coordinator	Yves Chartrand

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. The 2018 AGM will be held in Montreal during the CANAM. The date and time will be decided later.