

Minutes of Annual Meeting
ACBL District 1
August 16, 2014

Present:

Phyllis Harlan - ACBL President
Leo Weniger - District Director leowen@eastlink.ca
George Retek - Director Emeritus gbridgeretek@gmail.com
Douglas Hamilton - District President dhami@ns.sympatico.ca
Peter Clark - Past President pcreeve@rogers.com
Jean LaTraverse - District Treasurer jlatraverse@videotron.ca
Tim Edwards - Davies Unit 192 time-d@rogers.com
Louise Mascolo - Unit 151 louise.mascolo@sympatico.ca
Raynald Belanger - Unit 152 raynaldd@videotron.ca
Carol Hamilton - Unit 194 c_dhamilton@ns.sympatico.ca
Michel Montplaisir - Unit 152 mplaisir_7@sympatico.ca
Kevin Paul Gregoire - Unit 151 kevingregoire@videotron.ca
Yves Chartrand - Unit 194 bonvoyageboating@mac.com
Heather Peckett - Secretary bridgecat@rogers.com

Action

1. Call to Order and Welcome to Phyllis Harlan-ACBL President

The District President welcomed everyone to the meeting, and noted that a quorum of members was present. Units 230 and 166 were not represented.

Ms Harlan informed us that the ACBL is in good shape, and that we are fortunate to have Robert Hartman as CEO. Ms Harlan reported that the ACBL is introducing a number of new programs including a Tournament Directors' University to help with fast tracking the training of new Directors.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the 2013 AGM were reviewed. It was moved by J. LaTraverse and seconded by Tim Edwards-Davies that the Minutes be approved. Carried.

3. Change to the District By-Laws

It was moved by P. Clark and seconded by T. Edwards-Davies that the following be added to Article 4. Carried.

“The District Board has appointed George Retek to the position of Director Emeritus in recognition of his long outstanding service to the District and ACBL. The Director Emeritus shall be a full voting member of the Board. This is a lifetime appointment.”

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. The George Retek Volunteer Award

L. Weniger reported that H. Peckett was the first recipient of the award which was presented at the Ottawa Regional in October 2013. Through an email vote of the Board in July 2014, it was unanimously agreed that Jean Castonguay would be the 2014 recipient. The presentation will be made on Sunday August 17th.

L. Weniger and G. Retek have developed some criteria to guide the District in the

P. Clark

annual selection process. P. Clark will provide the criteria that he has received from another District to help in the drafting of the final document.

L. Weniger
G. Retek

The selection committee will include: G. Retek-Chair, 3-yr term; Kathie Macnab-2-yr term; and Heather Peckett-1-yr term. All have agreed to serve their terms

b. STAC Scoring Across the District

Montreal Unit 151 had always required that the scoring, for all STACs it sponsored, be done “across the field”. That policy has now been rescinded.

5. Treasurer's Report

J. LaTraverse provided the District Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for 2013 and the Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2013.

The District has \$1,335 from the ACBL Grass Roots Fund. It will be shown as a liability in next year’s statements.

The District has not received the 2013 levy for the 2020 Nationals from Units 230 and 152. G. Retek asked that the Board be given a breakdown of the levies comprising the Fund for the 2020 Nationals. J. LaTraverse will send this information to each Board member.

J. LaTraverse

It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by Louise Mascolo that the financial statements be adopted as presented. Carried.

6. District Director's Report

Leo Weniger informed the Board that his July report is being translated and will be on the District Website soon.

Some of the highlights of his report include:

- a. Changes are being considered to the way master points are awarded. Increases will be made for 3-session K/Os, and Open Pairs events, and a decrease will be made to Swiss Team events.
- b. The “Longest Day” was very successful as over \$150,000 was raised. Unit 151 will contact the Alzheimer’s Society in Quebec to see if they might be able to assist in the translation of the information provided for the “Longest Day” events.
- c. The ACBL is encouraging each District and Unit to have a Facebook page.
- d. The schedule for certain National events is being changed. As well the months designated for special games such as Charity and Junior Fund are being altered.
- e. L. Weniger asked that Unit Presidents send names, by the 1st of October, of members who might be suitable candidates to be appointed to the ACBL Goodwill and Charity committees.
- f. The ACBL Score Plus project is to be terminated and ACBL Score program will be enhanced.

Unit
Presidents

7. New Business

a. Status of the 2010 Nationals Fund

J. LaTraverse reported that units 230 and 152 still had not paid their levies which were outstanding in 2013. Members noted that the decision to initiate these levies was taken by the District in the absence of representation from these two Units. As such, it was moved by J. LaTraverse and seconded by H. Peckett that these two levies be written off by the District. Carried. It was made clear that this was not to set a precedent. The financial situation of Unit 152 has not improved, and 2014 levies from Unit 199 remains outstanding.

Unit 199

b. NAP

Beginning in 2014-2015, the ACBL now permits each District to send four pairs (instead of three) to the National NAP- B and C finals. The ACBL still 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 3rd or fourth.

Club owners

For 2014-15, the Western Area (Quebec and Eastern Ontario) will be entitled to receive the first place award. The 2nd place award will be given to the Eastern Area (Maritimes). There are no card fees to participate in the National Finals. The third and fourth place pairs eligible to represent our District will come from the "Area" having the greatest participation in the event. In the East, the A final will be held at the Halifax Bridge Studio (Suite 160, 6960 Mumford Road) in Halifax on Saturday November 1st. Moncton will host the B event (0-2500) at the Moncton Bridge Club, 620 Coverdale Road, Riverview, NB on Saturday October 25th. Flight C (Non Life Master, 0-500) will be held at the Halifax Bridge Studio on Sunday November 2nd. Montreal will host the Western events for A, B and C on Saturday November 1st at the Club de bridge Quebec in Laval. A minimum of 5 tables is required in our District for each event for the purpose of qualifying for the monetary awards (not for victory or masterpoints). The NAP Conditions of Contest for District 1 have been posted with the ACBL. Club owners should send a list of qualifiers to Louise Mascolo at louise.mascolo@sympatico.ca.

c. Board of ACBL Governors

The Board confirmed the appointment of Peter Clark to the Board of Governors.

d. Trophy in Honour of Three National Directors

A discussion paper was presented to honour the memory of three deceased National Tournament Directors of ACBL District One. These Directors are: Henry Cukoff; Jean LaTraverse; and John Wisler. This trophy is to recognize the best ethical behavior and/or excellence in tournament and/or disciplinary administration in previous years in our District. Committee members appointed to select a recipient from those names proposed by each Unit were George Retek (Chair) 3-yr term, Kathie Macnab, 2-yr term and Heather Peckett 1-yr term. G. Retek will approach the CBF, Unit 151 and the ACBL to ask for contributions to fund the acquisition of the trophy.

G. Retek

e. Grass Roots Fund

The District has approximately \$5,100 in its Grass Roots Fund. It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by H. Peckett that \$200 be given to each member of the B and C pairs eligible to attend the 2015 NAP. Carried.
Funds not claimed/distributed will be added to Fund for the following year.

J. LaTraverse will develop a proposal to determine the distribution of these ongoing Funds.

J. LaTraverse

f. GNT Schedules and Conditions of Contest.

Kathie Macnab was appointed the GNT coordinator. A discussion paper was provided in which K. Macnab developed ideas to increase the attendance in District Finals of the GNT- Open, A, B and C events. It was moved by G. Retek and seconded by K. Gregoire that the District approve in principle these proposals. Carried.

K. Macnab

g. ACBL Play Nice Poster

Unit 151 has translated the poster and will make it available to anyone wishing to have the translation. H. Peckett noted that the Gatineau club in Unit 192 also has a translation available.

h. Doug Heron Award

Unit 230 is once again the recipient for having the greatest growth in members. D. Hamilton will send the "QUIP" reports to each Unit President.

D. Hamilton

i. ACBL Fast Results Program

The ACBL is not able to post the result of a tournament the day after each session played. Jay Whipple is in charge of this program. To register, the ACBL is asking for a \$25 donation to make sectional results available and \$100 for regional results. This item is for information purposes only as it is up to each Unit as to whether or not they wish to participate.

j. Personal Rank Change Information

It was moved by J. LaTraverse and seconded by H. Peckett that L. Weniger make the final decision as to whether he will take on the practice of sending congratulatory notes to all players with rank changes. Carried.

L. Weniger

k. District Charity Game

The John McAdam District-Wide Charity Game will be held on Tuesday afternoon November 4, 2014. The ACBL and the CBF will be contacted by our tournament coordinator to arrange sanctions. Carol Hamilton will look after getting information out to the clubs.

8. Other Business

a. District Conference Calls

The President will institute regular conference calls with the District executive and the Unit Presidents to discuss District business, to reduce the length of the agenda at the AGM.

D Hamilton

b. District Website

Mr. Mike Ritcey will be updating the website to make it more user friendly. D. Hamilton will make the arrangement with Mr. Ritcey. We expect that the cost will not exceed \$500.

9. Election and Appointment of Officers

The District accepted the resignations of Mike Hartop and Bill Halliday who, for several years, have been the District's Tournament Coordinator and Webmaster respectively. A vote of thanks was expressed for their service.

President -----Douglas Hamilton
Past President -----Peter Clark
Director Emeritus -----George Retek
Vice-President -----Yves Chartrand
Secretary -----Heather Peckett
Treasurer-----Jean LaTraverse
Charity -----Carol Hamilton
Discipline -----Peter Clark
Recorder -----Nick L'Ecuyer
Appeals -----Zygmunt Marcinski
Education and Membership -Kathie Macnab
NAP Coordinator -----Louise Mascola
GNT Coordinator ----- Kathie Macnab
Special Events/Tournament Coordinator --- Bill Halliday
Website Coordinator -----Yves Chartrand
Electronic Coordinator -----Douglas Hamilton

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned. The 2015 AGM will be held in Montreal, Saturday evening after the afternoon session on August 22, 2015 during the CANAM.