Minutes of Annual Meeting
ACBL District 1
June 19, 2023
(via ZOOM)

Present:

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| Rob Williams | President | rob.williams@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Leo Weniger | Past District Director | leowen@eastlink.ca |
| Jonathan Steinberg | Regional Director | jonathan.st911@gmail.com |
| George Retek | Director Emeritus | gbridgeretek@gmail.com |
| Heather Peckett | Secretary | bridgecat@rogers.com |
| Jean La Traverse | Treasurer | jlatraverse@videotron.ca |
| Marc-André Fourcaudot | Unit 151 | mafourcaudot@icloud.com |
| Jacques Caouette | Unit 152 | jacques.caouette@videotron.ca |
| Herve Chatagnier | Unit 152 | hervechatagnier@gmail.com |
| Diane Donovan | Unit 230 | didonovan55@gmail.com |
| Kathie Macnab | Unit 194 | ns.kathie@gmail.com |
| Bill Halliday | Unit 194 | ns.bill.halliday@gmail.com |
| Robert Guérard | NAP Coordinator | rguerard@me.com |
| Louise Mascolo | Webmaster | mascolo.louise@gmail.com |

Regrets:

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| Sandra MacPherson | Vice-President | smacpherson67@gmail.com |
| Mark Lacroix | Dist. Tourn Coord. | mark@u2candoit.club |
| Denis Ouellette | Unit 151 | denisouellette@videotron.ca |
| Tim Edwards-Davies | Unit 192 | time-d@rogers.com |

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| **1. Call to Order and Welcome**<br>The President called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.<br>H. Peckett asked that an agenda item entitled “District Recognition of Eric Kokish” be added.<br>It was moved by D. Donovan and seconded by H. Chatagnier that the revised Agenda be approved. Carried.<br>R. Williams noted a housekeeping item to reflect the typo in the Bylaws at item 5.2. It should read as follows: “Each Unit shall be entitled to an additional full voting director on the BOD for every 500 members or fraction thereof ...” L. Mascolo has made the correction on the website. | |
| **2. Minutes**<br>The Minutes of the 2022 AGM were reviewed. J. La Traverse moved, and D. Donovan seconded the motion that the Minutes be approved. Carried. | |
| **3. Treasurer's Report**<br>J. La Traverse presented the financial report for 2022. An independent | |

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| committee consisting of G. Retek and P. McCabe conducted a review of the financial records. J. La Traverse thanked the committee for its work.<br><br>The major income stream for the District comes from the Grass Roots Funds. Typically, these funds are used to cover Unit requests under the Player Development Program and for subsidies for eligible NAP and GNT participants in the National Finals.<br><br>However, the major item of expense in 2022 was for the 1st Royal STAC for which the District covered the entry fees of just under $3,000. This was done to try and get players back to F2F games.<br><br>There is still $2,600 available for subsidies for qualified "Eastern" players to attend the National Finals (Units 194 & 230)<br><br>The item entitled "Summer 2020 Nationals Fund" will be renamed the "District 1 Incentive Program".<br><br>It was moved by H. Peckett and seconded by J. Steinberg that the financial statements be approved. Carried. | |
| **4. Summary of Executive Meetings**<br><br>The President reported that the major decisions taken at the Executive Meetings were related to the District 1 Incentive Program which is a separate agenda item. | |
| **5. Regional Director's Report**<br><br>J. Steinberg is very optimistic, as the ACBL has a new management team including an enthusiastic CEO who has great ideas especially on how we can increase the number of "social" members.<br><br>ACBL membership is slowly increasing as is tournament attendance.<br><br>A major area of difficulty continues to be IT. | |
| **6. Report on the District 1 Incentive Program**<br><br>The District has 52 new members since the start of the program. There have been a few problems with the information received from the ACBL as members have been identified with multiple sponsors. G. Retek will assist the treasurer in getting cheques prepared for the sponsors.<br><br>J. La Traverse will provide Program information for the website.<br><br>G. Retek is preparing an article for the Montreal Gazette on the Program. Once reviewed by the President, he will ask Unit 151 if they would be willing to translate the article for the French Press. | G. Retek<br>R. Williams<br><br>J. La Traverse<br>L. Mascolo<br><br>G. Retek |
| **7. Grass Roots Funds**<br><br>The District will continue to review project requests submitted until November 1, 2023. The 2023 "approval" committee will consist of K. Macnab, D. Donovan and T. Edwards-Davies. | K. Macnab<br>D. Donovan<br>T. Edwards-Davies |

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| **8. Update on GNTs**<br><br>The Open Flight and A flight were held online with 2 teams participating in each. Fourteen ~~Thirteen~~ teams participated in F2F games for the B flight. There was no C event. | G. Malazdrewicz |
| **9. Update on NAPs**<br>Arrangements for the games and Conditions of Contest are being discussed. | R. Guérard |
| **10. Doug Heron Award**<br>The Acadian Unit 230 is the recipient of this award for 2022 | |
| **11. GR and CLW Trophy Winners**<br>As Chair of the 2023 selection committee, H. Chatagnier reported that J. La Traverse was selected to receive the George Retek Trophy. No recipient was identified as the winner of the CLW Trophy. Arrangements will be made to present this award at a Unit 151 tournament.<br>G. Retek will arrange to get an appropriate plaque.<br>H. Peckett will ask Unit 151 to post the tribute on its website.<br>After discussion, it was determined that the candidacy of E. Kokish would not meet the terms for the CLW trophy. L. Weniger mentioned a candidate for consideration. L. Weniger will prepare information in order that the District executive can take a decision on whether this candidate would be suitable.<br>Another committee member to replace H. Chatagnier who finished his 3rd year will have to be selected. S. MacPherson will chair the 2024 committee. The other member is H. Peckett. | L. Weniger<br>G. Retek<br><br>G. Retek<br><br>H. Peckett<br><br>L. Weniger<br>District Exec. |
| **12. District Charity Game**<br><br>The John McAdam District-Wide Charity Game has been scheduled each year during the first week of November. Recently, there has been little interest in these games. It was decided to suspend this game for the foreseeable future- with a confirmation (or not) at each AGM. | |
| **13. Other Business**<br><br>**a. District 1 Recognition of Eric Kokish**<br><br>H. Peckett noted the recent passing of Eric Kokish. A Montreal native, he developed into a top ranked bridge player and a world- renowned coach. M-A Fourcaudot noted that he helped many of the Canadian Juniors. It was moved by H. Peckett and seconded by G. Retek that the District honour him with a plaque for his family and with an annual award in his honour for the Junior in District 1 who earns the greatest number of masterpoints. Carried. | |

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| It was moved by R. Williams and seconded by J. La Traverse that the District approve this proposal and to set aside $200 for a plaque. Carried. The Trophy Committee will develop wording for a plaque and Junior Trophy. | Trophy Committee |
| **b. 2024 Split-Regional**<br><br>The 2024 split-regional is scheduled between Kingston and the Saguenay. M-A Fourcaudot will assist in contacting the Saguenay. If they are not interested in holding the Regional, we could consider asking Summerside if they are interested. | T. Malazdrewicz<br>M-A Fourcaudot<br>B. Halliday |
| **c. Teachers and Clubs Committee**<br><br>K. Macnab is the only Canadian who is a member of this Committee. She wants input on how we can help teachers and clubs as they strive to find new players. Is there a way that the District could find a way to contact each new member to congratulate them? K. Macnab would like to have the name of a club manager who might be interested in being a Committee member. | |

**14. Election and Appointment of Officers**

J. La Traverse presented the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee. There were no further nominations.

The Officers for 2023-24 will be:

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| President | S. MacPherson |
| Past President | R. Williams |
| Vice-President | M-A Fourcaudot |
| Secretary | H. Peckett |
| Treasurer | R. Williams |
| Special Events/Tournament Coord. | T. Malazdrewicz |

B. Halliday has agreed to help T. Malazdrewicz as she assumes her role as Tournament Coordinator.

Other District Chairs to be appointed by the President:

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| Charity | M. Moldovan |
| Discipline | Peter Clark |
| Recorder | Nick Krnjevic |
| Appeals | Tim Edwards-Davies |
| Education and Membership | K. Macnab |
| NAP Coordinator | R. Guérard |
| GNT Coordinator | G. Malazdrewicz |
| Website Coordinator | L. Mascolo |

R. Williams expressed a thank you to both J. La Traverse and M. Lacroix who both decided not to continue for another term in their positions. L. Weniger also expressed a thank you to R. Williams on behalf of the District for his leadership as District President.

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| **15. Adjournment**<br>Meeting was adjourned. | |