



American Contract Bridge League, District 22
Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2023

President Lamya Agelidis called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Present were: Christine Denny, Ron Lien, David Lodge, Nance Lodge, Richard Picheny, Paul Markowitz, Sam Reddy and Frank Swanson. Absent was: Barbara Maniscalco

The meeting was held during the San Diego Regional Tournament. Ken Horewedel, Director in Charge, provided a tournament update: attendance is well ahead of 2022 and he anticipates that we will finish with 940-960 tables (versus 923 last year). He advised that the space at the Mission Valley Marriott could accommodate 1100 tables.

The Minutes from the March 20 special meeting were approved by the board.

Old Business:

President's report – Agelidis updated that Barbara Maniscalco has resigned for personal reasons. With Maniscalco's exit, the Board will need to fill her functional responsibilities of Secretary and District Recorder. Agelidis advised that a potential candidate to replace Maniscalco has been identified: Vicki Graves.

Agelidis reviewed the various problems that the San Diego Tournament Chairs have faced while working with the Mission Valley Marriott. Based on these issues, there is some question as to whether we will be able to come to terms with them for future tournaments and asked if anyone had any ideas for securing a different property. Markowitz suggested we reach out to the Visitor's Conference Bureau. Denny mentioned that we have been discussing venue scouting for both Orange County and San Diego for some time and recommended that we post a collaborative Google Doc with venue requirements to be updated by Board members who can work on this. Swanson mentioned that he would share his information on places he had scouted.

Treasurer's report – Picheny advised that our checking account had a net loss of \$22,000 based on tournament losses.

Education chair's report – Reddy updated that the grant proposal for Unit 534 was approved. He further advised that Kathy Heckerton in Murrietta was hosting bridge classes for free, including a book and lunch. The Board discussed other outreach efforts; the Senior Center has free videos and notes, and the AARP is hosting a series of five lessons with Larry Cohen.

National representative's report – D. Lodge continues to participate in the recruitment process for a new CEO of the NABC. The National Board is focusing on online cheating and the use of a new cheating detector called EDGAR. D. Lodge also advised that, in an effort to increase face-to-face bridge play, the ACBL has increased awards by 20% through May. There is also a new proposal to change Masterpoint

awards based on the number of boards played, with 19+ boards awarding more MPs than 18 or fewer. D. Lodge advised that in March 2023, the ACBL had the lowest number of lapsed memberships in the last four-five years with a net loss of only 179 members.

New Business

The Ridgecrest Unit has been dissolved.

Agelidis advised that the ACBL has updated their Covid policy, allowing individual policies to be set by the host of the game or tournament. Based on this update, the Board voted on whether or not we should retain our requirement for proof of vaccination in order to play in District 22-sponsored events. The vote was unanimous to remove the requirement; N. Lodge abstained from the vote.

Denny volunteered to reach out to dormant players and club managers advising them of the change in vaccination policy

San Diego NABC 2026: D. Lodge and Agelidis discussed the logistics of running the National back-to-back with the Palm Springs Regional. She is worried about player fatigue and insufficient volunteers to cover both events. Agelidis will work with the Westin to identify options.

Picheny discussed that there are potential IRS issues related to 501(c)7 non-profit organizations. He stated that there is a risk that income from non-ACBL members could be deemed business income. Picheny is researching the issue further with the ACBL.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Denny