

ACBL District 22
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
October 17, 2020
Online via Zoom

Members Present:

Area 1: Deb Cameron & Tish Gainey (Secretary)
Area 2: Linda Decquir & Barbara Maniscalco
Area 3: Lamy Agelidis & Bill Grant (Vice President)
Area 4: Ron Lien (President) & Richard Picheny (Treasurer)
ACBL District Director: David Lodge

I. Call to Order

President Lien called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Minutes

The minutes from the August 22, 2020 meeting had been circulated and will be posted on the District's website

III. President's Report

Lien welcomed Barbara Maniscalco to her first official board meeting. He reminded members of scam emails targeting names posted on club and unit websites and asked that the word get out to units about these email scams.

The dealing machine has been sent out for repair.

The District's commitments with all tournament hotels for this year have been resolved.

The January regional in Costa Mesa is still on the books but Lien and Agelidis have been in communication with the hotel there and anticipate no problem if the tournament is cancelled. Cancellation is imminent, as the tournament would need to be advertised by the middle of November. Picheny added that no more refunds have been received and no more deposits have been paid.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Picheny reported he ran a Profit & Loss Statement for the period September 1, 2020 to October 13, 2020 showing a loss of \$3300. Although there is virtually no income as a result of tournament cancellations, the expenses are light.

V. 99er Nite Club

Agelidis gave the background on this special game that is a collaborative project with Districts 21, 22 and 23. The project will provide a 99er game with post-game analysis via Zoom, Monday – Thursday, for players from enrolled clubs. Already close to 40 clubs have enrolled. The district reps for the project are Ray Yuenger (D21), Lamy Agelidis (D22) and Dave White (D23). Ellis Feigenbaum will be the acting club manager. Each district has contributed seed money to help with the set-up and underwrite director and teacher fees. Lodge moved, second by

Maniscalco, to confirm the email vote authorizing a \$500 contribution from D22 for this project. The motion was approved.

VI. Super Club Pools

There is a two-fold concern about large virtual club alliances. First, that the low player fee charged by some of these alliance will send less money back to the clubs in the alliance undermining the ability of those clubs to support their brick-and-mortar commitments. Secondly, players who can play as guests will pull players from their home club virtual games. There was discussion among board members as to what action the district could take in response to the concerns raised. A statement from the district could be made if there was data available to support the claims that players are leaving their home clubs to play in large alliances and/or the player fees paid out to the small clubs in such alliances are a cause of income instability for those small clubs. The district would need data, not anecdotes in order to make a statement to ACBL on the matter.

VII. GNT

Grant reported the finals next year would take place in July in Providence R.I. Players will be able to participate at the same level as they qualified for in March 2020. District 22 did not finish its finals prior to the COVID 19 shutdown and has requested to complete the finals online. There would be a need for monitoring. Lien has discussed procedures with McKenzie Myers and will write up Conditions of Contest.

(At 10:12 a.m., Bill Grant left the meeting.)

VIII. Funding for District Dynamos

Agelidis estimates one Dynamo per month per Area. A request was made to fund this program until the end of the year. Motion made (Agelidis/Maniscalco) to approve \$350 to fund the Dynamo program through the end of 2020.

IX. Website and D22 Connection

Agelidis gave a brief report on website viewership and updates. A give-away incentive to boost newsletter readership did not increase numbers. The readership has been slightly declining over the past three months and hovers around 1500.

X. Goodwill

Dequir reported a total of nine nominations had been received and approved. There was a discussion about the criteria for the Goodwill designation and the differences between goodwill and volunteerism. There was consensus that efforts should be made to adhere to the characteristics laid out in the Goodwill Charter. Dequir will send out write-ups of the current nominees to the board members.

XI. Board Election

Gainey reported that outreach had been made to all the units and no further nominations had been received by the deadline. Therefore, Barbara Maniscalco

(Area 2); Lamya Agelidis (Area 3); and Ron Lien (Area 4) are appointed in lieu of an election, each to a four-year term on the board. Lien added that the election of officers for 2021 would take place following the December 12 board meeting.

XII. By-Laws

Lien asked to form a committee to review and propose amendments to the by-laws. Picheny, Gainey, and Lien volunteered for the committee. Lien will also ask Grant to participate. For the next board meeting members were asked to bring a list of things they thought needed changing in the by-laws.

XIII. National Report

Lodge reported that as a member of the national board, he can select two people for the National Goodwill Committee. He has chosen Linda Dequir and Richard Picheny. He is also able to designate two people for membership on the National Charity Committee. He has selected Marilyn and Jerry Gitt. He has discretion over \$1,000 to be given to a charity of his choice. He has chosen the Water Buffalo Club, a charitable organization that raises money to support children's organizations in Southern California.

Discussion at the national level has focused on education; efforts to bring more face-to-face players to ACBL online games; and the issue of cheating.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the president at 11:50 a.m.

Date of next meeting: December 12, 2020.

Submitted by:

Tish Gainey, Secretary