

## DISTRICT 22 BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM

JULY 31, 2024: 5-6:30PM

### ATTENDING:

- Christine Denny-President
- Lamy Agelidis
- Millie Garrison
- Vicki Graves
- David Lodge
- Paul Markovitz
- Richard Picheny
- Gary Waldron

### ABSENT:

- Subba Ravipudi
- Frank Swanson

### DISCUSSION:

Lamy reported that our room commitment for the Labor Day Regional in Irvine 9/2-9/8 was 630 and we currently had 250. She noted that the absence of the tournament in recent years had possibly changed player habits and that only 2-3 pros planned to attend. She said she was in conversation with Marriott about adjustments to the contract that might be made but said we could end up with a deficit of \$70k. She asked each of us to promote the event. A suggestion was made to emphasize the location as well as “Labor Day”.

As to the Ventura Regional, Lamy said that the Marriott there wanted to confirm a contract for an additional 2 years. They had agreed to keep the room rate at \$169 but wanted a slight increase in food and beverage which she felt was reasonable.

Lamy next addressed the idea of online regional play (2 session) at the Palm Springs Regional. The consensus of the board was that a Sunday online game would be the best option and that we’d pursue a \$20 charge per session.

For San Diego’s 2025 Regional, Lamy said we still have no good hotel options. The Marriott Del Mar has said that they will improve the lighting and try to be more flexible with available space—noting that the location was a positive in favor of using that site again.

David said he believed that attendance at the Toronto NABC had been 9500 (+1000) but had not seen the financials.

Millie reviewed a request from Unit 549 (San Diego North County) for an \$800 reimbursement for two Beginning Bridge Classes that had been offered there and the Board approved. She said this will bring the board’s education grants for 2024 to \$4329.

She said she was still working on revised guidelines for these grants. One question was how often a unit could request reimbursement for a teacher and the general thought was once a year but with the possibility of exceptions. Millie noted that another issue was the fact that promoting a Guest Membership was problematic to the Unit's as these people became part of a ghost unit 999. Christine said that one unit was paying the \$29 to move them to their organizations. David commented that Bronia had suggested an always free guest membership with restrictions and Vicki and Richard both noted there had been pushback from unit presidents when she'd raised the idea.

Millie also said that the response to the idea that we offer a Best Practices Teachers Workshop on the Sunday following the Palm Springs Regional had been low—i.e. only seven had expressed interest to date and we needed about 20. She will send out a second email blast.

Christine said that she and Lamya had on an impromptu basis attended the District 23 board meeting while at the Long Beach Regional. Christine said the idea of combining the two districts came up given the similarities in geography (LA/So Cal) and demographics. The benefits would be the elimination of duplicative operations and from a volunteer perspective while the challenge might be impacts to GNT/NAP's and regional sanctions. She said that only one person on the D23 board seemed resistant to the idea but felt the next step was up to them. David cautioned that a clear review of the financials would be advisable and said that districts had never been combined at ACBL as of this date.

The query for Goodwill candidates has not gone out yet and the information is due from the units by 9/30. Christine asked Paul, who did this last year, to follow-up with Subba to make sure he gets it out asap.

Christine asked the status of Paul's efforts as Unit Liaison. He said he had visited northern units but getting to the southern units was a challenge to pull off with a reasonable effort of time and cost. Millie offered to help. Paul said there was a notable difference between the needs of the smaller units as compared to the larger ones.

Lamya reported that the All-Western Nite Club (199er's) had been absorbed into ACBL's Club House as of August 1. This was necessary given the sanction structure and the technical support needed to continue to operate this west coast game.

The next meeting will be on Thursday September 5 at Irvine Marriott.

Minutes Submitted by:

Vicki Graves