

The next Board meeting will be June 21st at 11:15am

May 17, 2009 Unit 499 Board of Directors Meeting

Attendees:

Iris Libby, Bill George, Brian Eisenberg , Millie Sherman , Rosalind Juo, Vernita Davidson, Bud Miller, Pat George , Sharon Tarpinian, Dick Mayer, Dan Friedman, Grant Robinson, Judy keilin and Bob Collins. Keith Gunn was absent.

President Iris Libby called the meeting to order at 11:10am.

Minutes:

The April minutes were approved via e-mail and posted on the web and at TBC.

Treasurer's Report:

Total revenues for the Quarter ending March 31, 2009 (from ACBL-Unit Membership fees) amounted to \$708, which is \$20 better than last year. Expenses for this quarter Included \$240 for sponsorship and \$393 food supplies for the January and March Unit games; \$594 for pins and awards, and printing and postage for the Declarer. Total expenses for the quarter amounted to \$1,227 and exceeded revenues for a net loss amounting to (\$519). The fiscal year began with a total cash balance of \$28,289 and ended the quarter with a cash balance of \$27,843.

Iron Horse Sectional:

In April the Unit held its Iron Horse Sectional coupled with the Elegant Pairs event held on Friday night. The sectional generated 13 tables for the Elegant Pairs and 9 tables for the open section on Friday night. Saturday morning had 59 tables and Saturday afternoon had 40 ½ tables. The Sunday double session Swiss Team event had 67 teams. Total tables for the Sectional amounted to 255 1/2. In comparison, the 2008 event generated 16 tables for the Elegant Pairs and 11 1/2 for the Open on Friday night. Total tables amounted to 267 in 2008. This year's Sectional was down 11 1/2 total tables, for a decrease of 4.3% from 2008. This could be because our scheduling ran against two separate Regional events.

The 2009 total Sectional fees amounted to \$9,166, compared to the 2008 fees of \$9565. Operating expenses of \$6500 for the 2009 Sectional were lower than 2008's operating expenses of \$6,882 by \$382. The savings consisted of \$250 in Director expenses and \$132 in General expenses. The net earnings amounted to \$2,666.

Iris complimented the Hospitality and Tournament Committees on a "job well done". Everything went smoothly. Bud thanked Iris for the Handicap signs she made on the computer and said that putting them on the cones worked very well.

New Member Recruitment:

Grant passed out his draft of a 7 page Bridge Mentoring Program for this unit (see attachment). The purpose is to pair a Mentor (life master or better) with a Mentee (a player with 200 master points or less). It would be a 6 month commitment, 2 times per month. A cap of 30 mentor relationships will be subsidized with free plays for the mentor. The preference will be for mentees with the fewest master points. A motion to accept Grant's proposal for the Mentoring Program passed and initial funding of \$2000 was approved.

Membership:

Sharon reported a total Unit 499 membership of 768 (198 of which have 20 master points or less).

Discussions and Motions:

Our Webmaster, Bill George, was recognized for his excellent web page. He reminded us to be sure and hit "refresh" (may need to hold the shift key down at the same time) on the browser to periodically update the web page.

Brian worked up an estimated cost of a Dealing machine purchase. It included \$6,130 for hardware, \$381 for software for an estimated total of \$6,521. Using 24 boards per game, 2 games per day, 288 boards per week, 50 weeks per year (14,400 boards per year), the estimated cost per player per game ranged from \$.08 to \$.10.

It was discussed that it would be more feasible for the larger clubs to own and house the machines, due to a greater volume of bridge tables generated at those clubs. Our Unit would provide funding to help pay for the cost of the machine. The advantage of having a dealing machine is that clubs would have interesting hands to play and hand records to look at afterwards. Clubs have increased their attendance with the machines.

Grant and Brian agreed to have conversations with the club owners and come back to the board next month with a concrete proposal regarding the Dealing machines.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Millie Sherman, secretary