

ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
Minutes of the Board of Directors General Meeting
August 1, 2016

Earl Reeve called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. in the Gateway Multipurpose Room #1.

Attendees: Board members in attendance were Jean Autrey, Bobbie Burgess, Bob Elgie, Marj Livingston, Sherry Marks, Kit Miller, Mary Neff, Earl Reeve and Barbara V. Smith. Michael Gosnell, the Club Manager was absent (excused and on vacation).

Approve Minutes: A motion was made and passed to approve the amended June 6, 2016 Minutes.

Treasurer's Report (Jean Autrey): Jean presented the June Financial report. For the month of June, expenses exceeded revenues by \$1,191. Jean explained the plan is to reduce the amount of cash on hand. RDBC is in a position to "give back" to members. The cash balance as of June 30, 2016 is \$39,000 divided between an operating account (\$27,000) and a reserve account (\$12,000). And year-to-date profit as of June 30, 2016 is \$3,184.

The Board has approved a number of events to allow members and guests to play for reduced table fees as part of the goal to "give back". A motion was made and passed to approve the June Financial report.

The July Financial reports will be discussed and approved at next month's meeting. Unfortunately, our Treasurer did not have enough detail on recent class expenses and revenues to close the July books.

Membership Report (Bob Elgie): RDBC membership as of today is 380. Bob also reported that corrections to the 2016 Directory were made available in early July. Directors need to announce the availability of correction sheets.

Hospitality (Bobbie Burgess): The next Unit game is Sunday, September 18. Bobbie reported that Angie expects to be fully recovered from her back surgery before the Unit game. But we all agreed we need to step in to help if needed.

Publicity (Kit Miller): Kit reported that we have had several 70% games. Kudos to Kit for suggesting we publish the events in the first place! Upcoming Rossmoor News articles include:

- STAC week, Aug 22-27: RDBC Members pay \$2 and Guests pay \$7
- Club Championship, Sept. 5-10: Free to RDBC Members and Guests pay \$7
- RDBC will participate in the Rossmoor Games on Monday, September 12 and 19. At this time, no special RDBC games are planned. According to Kit, there will be a free After Games Party at the Event Center on Friday, September 23. There will be a DJ for

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music. They will have some snacks and minimal food for purchase (hotdog type stuff). Everyone may attend.

Club Manager's Report (Earl Reeve for Michael who was on vacation): We reviewed the Club Manager's written report and the action items. The report included the following items:

- **July 9 Board-a-Match Game** - This was a new event for RDBC. According to Michael, setting up the game was a similar effort to a Swiss Team event. He recommends we hold these events once or twice a year. The Board supported the recommendation.
- **New Computer:** The Club Manger recommends RDBC buy a new computer with more memory and faster speed to accommodate new ACBL software. Jean Autrey made a motion to allow the Club Manager to purchase such a computer not costing more than \$1000. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. A second and separate topic was how to dispose of the older computer(s). Jean agreed to email Michael to clarify if we have one or two older computers. The Board supports the idea of selling the older computers to re-coup costs.
- **Education Program** - Michael recommends a Fall class geared toward more experienced players to be taught by Ravi Bhalla. A motion was made by Jean Autrey to approve Michael's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously. Michael will contact Ravi. Michael will also provide Kit Miller with the class details so that she can publish the information.
 - Mary will email Michael to inquire about a second Fall class taught by Marvin Suchman, also proposed for more advanced players. To date, no detail has been provided.
 - Board members agreed to review the process for approving and implementing RDBC classes. The goal is to make the administrative steps like publicity, registration, and accounting run more smoothly. Kit needs about 6 weeks lead time to publicize classes in the Rossmoor News. Barbara needs to plan registration dates. Kit agreed to design a form for instructors to complete so that information is provided early and all steps are completed when the class starts. At next month's meeting, we will review the form with a goal toward improving the administrative side of the educational program.

Old Business (Earl Reeve) - Earl covered the following two topics:

2016 Fall Sectional October 29 and 30 - Jean, Earl, and Addie met with Jackie Zayac to continue the planning for the Unit #499 Fall Sectional in the Event Center.

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Jean recommended the Board endorse the following proposal: RDBC cancel the usual Saturday club game in the Oak Room on the Saturday, October 29 of the Sectional. Instead, offer one \$3 free-play per day to RDBC members who participate in the Sectional. The free-plays will be provided “after the fact”. The list of RDBC members who participate will come from the Unit reports on Sectional attendance. RDBC members may be awarded a maximum of two free-plays, one for participation on each day, worth a total of \$6. Sherry made a motion to endorse Jean’s recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

2017 Room Reservations: Earl met with Sara Runco, Rossmoor’s Clubhouse Reservations Coordinator to ask about reserving the Oak Room and Event Center for 2017. The need for the Event Center is to host the 2017 Unit #499 Spring and Fall Sectionals. The Unit made the request, but there is no commitment at this point. A decision will be made after evaluating the success of the 2016 Fall Sectional on October 29 and 30.

Sara explained that Rossmoor is not yet ready to take 2017 room reservations. When they are ready, forms will be mailed to Earl. Sara said RDBC will be automatically assigned 2017 dates based on 2016 reservations.

Based on what Sara said, RDBC can expect to have reservations for the 2017 Fall Sectional. Requesting dates for the Spring Sectional on April 29 and 30 will take additional effort.

Earl will be out of town until August 20. Upon his return, he will look in his mail for the reservation forms

New Business (Earl Reeve) - We discussed the following 3 items:

Psychic Bidding: Past Board Members reported that RDBC had a policy against psychic bidding. No written record can be found of the policy. Kit contacted ACBL (Dan Plato and Dave Greene) to investigate the current ACBL rules. She summarized her findings: “A club is **not** allowed to bar psyching in a game because they are permissible under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. The website listed below includes a document that discusses the policy regarding psyching along with rulings and FAQ’s.

http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/rulings-faq/

Board members agreed that RDBC will not have a policy barring psychic bidding. However, a note may be added to the 2017 RDBC Directory discouraging the use of psychic bidding.

Late Arrivals: Board members discussed several recent slow starts because of players arriving late. A motion was made and passed to implement a new policy on arrival times. The policy will

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be published in the [Rossmoor News](#) and announced by Directors at games. It will also be included in the 2017 RDBC Directory. The wording is:

In order to allow directors adequate time to set up game formats for the number of players on a given day, the club is requesting ALL PLAYERS be present no later than ten minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of each game. If both partners are not present at that time, the team will not be eligible to play in that game.

New ACBL 1NT Opening Rule: Recently ACBL approved a change to the definition of a notrump opening in the General Convention Chart. Kit will post the new ruling on the bulletin board. The topic will be discussed further at the September Board meeting when Michael is present.

The general meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m for an executive session.

The next meeting is Monday, September 5, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Neff,
Secretary, RDBC