

**DISTRICT V BOARD MEETING
Sunday August 31, 2008**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Officers Present: Jim Zimmerman, Brian Ellis

Executive Board
Members Present: Mary Paulone Carns (142), Sharon Fairchild, Arlene Port
(142), Mike Ryan, John Toy

Executive Board
Members Absent: Jan Assini

Unit Representatives Present: Jim Sullivan, Carolyn Sullivan (107); Jay Costello, Kathy Pollock, Donna Steffan (116); Barbara Bacon, Hope Ellis, Sue Pisanelli (125); Marc Sylvester (127); Bill Holt, Lou Joseph, Maryanne McNeirney (142); Tom Danford (148); Doug Megill (129); Bud Kury (185); Jim Overcashier (213); Barb Grzegorzewski (226); Mary Lou Ford(229)

Units Not Represented: 111, 177

Guests: Francis Tseng (127); Linda Shantz (148); Lana Creal (129); John Tscholl (213); Steve Grzegorzewski (226); Alex Bealles (229); Dick Rasmus (Tourn. Coordinator)

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 PM. The President, Jim Zimmerman, welcomed everyone to the District V board meeting, and all attendees introduced themselves.

MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were previously emailed to the members, and were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE

A moment of silence was held in memory of Roni Atkins. Jim announced that the Labor Day Tournament will be renamed The Roni Gitchel Atkins Pittsburgh Labor Day Tournament. Max Bazerman, Roni's brother, is providing most of the funds for the name change. Donations are being taken from those who wish to contribute. Send or give donations to Mary Paulone Carns.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Treasurer's Report—Brian Ellis presented financial results as of July 31. Cleveland All American Regional lost money with decreased attendance and increased expenses. There are many nearby regionals around the same time.

National Board Items--Sharon Fairchild previously emailed her report to the unit presidents. Copies of the report were available. Sharon highlighted information about youth membership. Also there will be a change in requirements to attain life master. This will only apply to members who join after 2009. The new president of the ACBL is Jerry Fleming from New Mexico. He plans to attend the Buffalo Regional.

Fifth Column--Sharon Robertson was absent. Jim Zimmerman reported that everything is going well.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT REPORTS

Pittsburgh Labor Day Regional – Lou Joseph reported that many people are working in order to complete the work usually done by Roni. There have been no major problems to date. Attendance was down slightly as of Saturday but picked up on Sunday, possibly as a result of the Compact KO.

Jim Zimmerman reported that the Radisson is closing and reopening as a Doubletree in February. The Wickes Furniture building is being remodeled as a convention center and is expected to open in June. If it isn't open in time for the tournament next year, we will be accommodated in the hotel. Sharon Fairchild is working with Judy Haffner to negotiate with the hotel. Mary Paulone Carns has been added as a tournament co-chair, to work with Judy Haffner and Lou Joseph.

Rock & Roll Regional – Sharon Fairchild passed out fliers. Barb Bacon is co-chair. Compact KOs have been added on days that a KO isn't starting.

Cleveland All American Regional – Sharon Fairchild reported that the next tournament is chaired by Monica Early. Jim commented that in 2008 the tournament lost money, in part because the rent is on a sliding scale depending on room nights and there is much local competition for hotel rooms.

Buffalo Regional – John Toy reported that the tournament held in June was a success and made a profit. Attendance was especially good in the first few days. The next tournament is in October 2009, again on Grand Island.

NAOP and GNT

Steve Grzegorzewski reported that the NAOP is Oct. 11 – 12 in Meadville. The ACBL tracks participation by District. District 5 is 23rd of 25 in percentage of players who participate, and 24th of 25 in percentage move on.

Steve summarized the report of the committee investigating sites for the GNT. The committee recommended rotating sites among Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Buffalo. They suggested that the 2009 event be held May 2 -3 at the Days Inn on Banksville Road in Pittsburgh.

STaC

Mary Paulone Carns reported that the STaC had 921 tables, in line with previous Summer STaCs. There was a profit of \$1086.75. The price will remain the same. Mary investigated using hand records, and decided against it. The main reason is that there are many small clubs, and clubs with fewer than 7 tables need to preduplicate. Since smaller clubs can't predict their exact attendance, many clubs would have to either preduplicate or not participate. The Winter STaC will be held December 8 – 14, 2008.

Sharon Fairchild investigated what the strats are in various districts. There are very many patterns, among them 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+; 0-750, 750-2000, 2000+; and 0-300, 300-1500, 1500+.

Website

Bill Holt received positive feedback about the website. He has been posting tournament results in real time for District 5 Regionals with the help of Dick Rasmus. For the current tournament he is posting the Daily Bulletin in real time. All tournaments can do this if the person doing the bulletin emails a pdf file to Bill. Bill stated that changes of rank used to come to him but they no longer do. Sharon will send them to him. He also asked Sectional Chairs to get the flyers to him so he can post them in a timely fashion.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws – John Toy passed out accurate versions of Article 6 section D for the proposed new bylaws. The version which had been previously distributed was incorrect. Because of a required 90-day waiting period, the planned voting will be delayed until the next meeting of the full board in May. Mary will retype the bylaws and send them to the unit presidents in advance of the 90-day deadline. (The article in question will be Article VI, Section A4 in the new bylaws).

New Location for GNT – The discussion started above in “NAOP and GNT”. Steve stated that the new plan will take place if the contract with the Days Inn in Meadville can be modified. Mike Ryan, a member of the committee, said that each area needs to be proactive about getting as many local players as possible to participate, and needs to have a local coordinator. Steve will continue to be the chair. The board voted to adopt the new plan whereby the GNT will rotate annually among Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Buffalo, with the next event being held in Pittsburgh in 2009.

Caddies – Brian Ellis reported that pay for caddies has been raised to \$37 per session to comply with minimum wage laws.

Education and Marketing – Arlene reported that the program is finding an audience. She encouraged units to apply for the available funds, especially to seed new projects.

NEW BUSINESS

Cross Creek Sunday Events – Barb Grzegorzewski asked for opinions about Sunday events at the Titusville Sectional. She received a suggestion to institute Board-a Match teams. Jim Zimmerman said that BAM usually only appeals to advanced players, and that this schedule change would probably result in fewer tables. John Toy agreed and added that this event requires a large field to be successful.

Election – Mike Ryan took over the meeting. Jim Zimmerman was nominated and unanimously elected as President. Jim mentioned that this was his second and last consecutive term as his position is term-limited. Jim then took over the meeting and the elections continued. Mary Paulone Carns was nominated and unanimously elected as Vice-President. Brian Ellis was nominated and elected as Treasurer.

Presidential Appointments – Jim made the following appointments:
First alternate to Board of Directors: Jan Assini
Second Alternate to Board of Directors: Mary Paulone Carns
Board of Governors member: Bill Holt
Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, at 6:30 PM, the meeting was adjourned.