

CBA board meeting February 21, 2019

Meeting called to order its 4:42 PM by Pres. Mehta.

Attending in person: Mehta, Meinking, Moese, Campbell, or, Messinger, Outcalt, Williams.
Attending by phone: Mess

Minutes of the previous board meeting were approved on a motion by Campbell and a second by Moese.

A motion was made by Meinking and seconded by Campbell we agreed to extend the discount offered to players of the India Center until May 1, 2019-passed.

A motion was made by Campbell seconded by Moese to hold a progressive sectional with Mike Lipp as the chairperson. So far all of the games at CBC, Northern Kentucky and Anderson are participating. A motion was made by Moese and seconded by Campbell to have the unit subsidize the odd six cents on the additional progressive sectional a CBL fee-passed.

A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Moese to confirm the previously agreed upon proposal to the District for Cincinnati to host the NAP district finals for the next five years for a flat fee of \$1000 per year -passed

A memorial in honor of Debbie Cummings' mother passing was given to the CBA by Cincinnati Country Club bridge players. The money will be used to better equip the director's area at the CBC.

Campbell brought the last conflict of interest form to the meeting tonight which completes the collection of all applicable forms.

The board previously authorized paying \$600 to Pianola to cover their services for the games in our unit who wish to participate. Due to communication issue AJ Stephani's email to include his country club game came late but Mike Lipp is working with the powers that be at Pianola to include this one club at no additional charge.

It was noted that Tricia Smarako-a teacher in northern Kentucky-has developed groups using Bidittle successfully and we might be interested in using this as well.

An addendum to the comp plan was distributed by Moese and a complete new version will be sent by email to board members for consideration at our next meeting.

Moese reviewed ongoing plans for the best practices workshop to be held Monday and Tuesday of the flying pig regional week. He has completed the logistics with AJ and the course will be held at CBC for eight hours on Monday and additional four hours on Tuesday. After the Tuesday session those participants interested in a certification will be able, for a fee of \$25, to take the certification test. Moese is working with ACBL on a sign up genie for participants on their website and to see if he can get ACBL to use their payment system to collect funds from those who want to sign up for the course. Those interested in signing up will be required to take a

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pretest before being accepted to the program and paying their fee. The class size is limited to 36 participants. We are charging \$100 as opposed to the \$125 that ACBL charges. Anyone who wants to sign up as late as the day of the program will have to pay the full \$125. A motion was made by Moese and seconded by Orr to approve up to \$300 to provide snack level hospitOLLity for both days of the program. In addition, the motion covered paying for the dinners of the two teachers and a small number of local people interested in having dinner with them on Monday and Tuesday. The motion passed with Moese recusing himself from the vote. AJ Stephani let us know that there will be a paid for room available in the hotel where we are holding the regional for Wednesday morning in case we have more people who wish to be tested at the end of the best practices seminar.

New oversized table cards with play friendly quotes included for each player were reviewed. Size was an issue but with a few minor formatting tweaks we agreed to a trial. If they are successful we plan to have them laminated.

The membership committee reported its desire to find a way to provide duplicate classes to newer players who have completed bridge classes. The intent is to show players before they start playing in duplicate games the mechanics of the process work. We hope this will reduce the level of intimidation that new players find when confronted with bidding boxes, more stringent rule adherence, electronic scoring and the bid alerting system.

Education committee reported both on its own activities and the interface with the membership committee. Committee chair Larry Newman joined us for the meeting and reported that we have two full OLLI classes with a waiting list. Two spaces in each class were reserved for players who came to us directly rather than through the OLLI program. While the primary purpose is to provide bridge classes to people who did not know about the OLLI program, the students provide an economic benefit to us in that they pay the same rate as OLLI students but we get to keep the money. Education committee expressed the need for some additional volunteers. They would like to explore the possibility of setting up programs in schools and would definitely need additional personnel for that task. Chairman Newman will email the board to remind us of the quest for additional volunteers.

CBC coordinator Mike Lipp reported that the CBC seems to be running well at the moment. Several leaks in the roof have been repaired. After an afternoon game the sighting of a mouse in the bridge center was reported. Lipp has put out sticky traps to evict the offender. Because of the leaks in the roof we do have several discolored ceiling tiles and Lipp is going to contact Victor to have them replaced.

The Columbus and ABC is now just a one year away. Every time there is an NABC in the district every unit is expected to provide significant numbers of volunteers to staff the positions that can be handled by volunteers (registration, prize desk and partnership desk for example). Judy Williamson in Columbus is the coordinator of all volunteers and each unit needs to appoint a unit volunteer coordinator for the Columbus national. All board members are asked to forward by email to Pres. Mehta names of suggested ~~victims~~ volunteers.

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Since AJ Stephani is no longer able to do all of the tournaments in our unit, John Williams has volunteered to be the chairperson of the October Spooktacular sectional. Mike Lipp will be chairperson of the progressive sectional. We still need to find a chairperson for the NLM sectional as well as finding a date for it to be held. Pam Campbell has been the chairperson of this event for the last four years and while she does not wish to continue, she has volunteered to assist the new chairperson.

Award night is set for Tuesday, April 2 and includes recognition of all lot new life Masters during the year as well as other awards.

Bob Fisk has volunteered to run the mentor-mentee program again but the membership committee is going to speak to him and may share that duty with him.

Northern Kentucky is again indicated that they do not intend to run a sectional. Each unit in the district is allocated up to four sectionals per year and if Northern Kentucky is not going to run one, there is an additional sectional available to us. Mehta and Moese are going to discuss the possibility of running the tournament with the people in Northern Kentucky.

AJ Stephani reported to us about the upcoming flying pig regional. He requested and was granted by voice acclamation permission to put larger signs in the CBC promoting the regional. AJ also reported that the ACBL has decided to use Cincinnati as a test market for enhanced digital advertising. The purpose of the campaign is to acquire leads for potential members and we decided to refer those in the same manner as leads we have received from them in the past. We will work out a procedure to be evenhanded in the distribution of those leads among the clubs and teachers within the unit.

Next board meeting is set for Friday, April 5 at 3 PM after the afternoon game.

Meeting was adjourned on time at 6:15 PM.