

November 2021 Membership Meeting

9 November 2021

20 attendees: Pam Campbell, Potter Orr, Larry Newman, Judy Crotty Hall, Cecilia Kloecker, Jim Barrett, John Williams, Margaret Young, Mike Burns, Robert Lail, Stephen Vogel, Tom Mess, John Altman, Amy Gerowitz, John McHugh, John Williams, Margaret Young, Tom Mess, Barbara Levinson, Steve Moese.

Potter Orr welcomed everyone and the meeting began at 7:05 PM.

ACBL canceled the Dayton Sectional Tournament.

Financial facts for the CBA:

- As of today, we have \$22K in bank account. Assets \$207K. 2020 assets were \$242 K
- Operating loss through November is \$36K.
- Operating Loss in 2020 was \$33K
- 2020 – more VACB and SYC games contributed funds to the CBA. This year no online income to speak of. VACBs cancelled.
- Rent mitigation in 2020 reduced costs.
- Un-Regional broke even.
- Spooktacular earned \$500 but when rent included the loss is \$700
- Steve reviewed the table count for breakeven, and discussed the path forward.

John McHugh suggested a questionnaire to find out what is holding our members back from playing or playing more. Potter mentioned a phone tree run by members might be more effective.

Amy Gerowitz mentioned that the monies we have are purposed for the bridge center. Steve mentioned that they are for Unit business of which the CBC is a part.

Rob Lail plays daily in non-sanctioned games with new people. We shouldn't be promoting online bridge.

Joy Singerman asked why we weren't meeting at the Bridge Center.

Robert Lail played at Mason today (tables with a waiting list of 5 tables). Why can't open players play with new players and increase the table count.

Pam Campbell raised the question about how to get input from the people who do not play often at the bridge center.

John Altman mentioned he plays in the evening when he can. He cannot play during the day. Judy Crotty Hall – need to make direct personal phone calls to get people to come. Amy Gerowitz mentioned she plays on Thursday but not at night. Several people she knows do not come any more. People don't pick up phone calls from people they do not know. It's hard to reach out to people. Perhaps we need more daytime games. There is still a level of discomfort even though we are requiring vaccines.

If we lift the requirement for vaccines. Would you still come? Many say no. Delta is the concern because it can be passed among vaccinated people.

A lot of people are LMs now and they still want to have fun playing bridge. A lot of the open players are not fun to be with. Open players don't reach out to others to play.

Why have so many people gone out to the Mason games? They want a fun game. Many play in the Thursday game. Blue Ash on Friday. Non sanctioned games are \$3. Springdale bridge is free. Money is not the issue. www.cincybridge.weebly.com shows an organized non sanctioned bridge effort underway in Cincinnati. Bob Letourneau is on point. Robert Lail has been introducing these players to the Thursday game at the CBC

Pam asked if we had a quorum for the meeting. Steve confirmed that we did not have a quorum present for this meeting. Quorum would require 39 or 40 members.

Consider a "pick up" game - pick partner out of the hat. Play standard system. Consider an individual game.

Consider behavior "fines" Every eye-roll costs your \$10. Curse Jar for table fines.

There was much discussion about the Unit website being too complicated for people to use. The people do not know where to find games or classes and are not using the CBC website yet. Some wanted dated material removed, even though they couldn't specify what it was they wanted removed.

John Altman wanted icons at the top of the page directing people to the three websites. He also mentioned that he couldn't find classes nor how to get to results for his games. When Steve mentioned the results menu listed the three icons, John said he didn't know that the icons were live. Steve mentioned that we have to promote all clubs in the Unit fairly, not just the 3 big Cincinnati/NKY clubs.

Amy wanted us to hire a web designer to simplify the website. Larry mentioned that the ACBL recently simplified their website. Steve mentioned that the jury is out on the ACBL website and that it uses the technology suite from their customer management software – technology we do not have access to. Larry mentioned that the information about classes on the website was out of date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Moese, Secretary Unit 124