Meeting minutes for the Corvallis Bridge Club  
10-19-16

Present: Bob Sandy Allen, Allison Evans, Dennis Harms, Paul Hochfeld, Karla Layton, Becky McKenzie, Eileen Milligan, Bob Peery, and Mary Alice Seville

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

Minutes and financial statements: The minutes of the 7-26-16 meeting were approved and the July, August, and September financial statements were approved. In September, the month started out well but table count was very low the week of Seaside. As a result, total table count was down. September was better than it might have been because we didn't pay for any coffee - usually $100+. Cash decreased from last month disproportionately to the operating loss because we paid for textbooks for the fall classes and haven’t been reimbursed. Cash will increase by ~$500 after textbooks reimbursements occur. Cash continues to be more than adequate.

Director questions:

- Should we have a nonplaying director on Tuesday afternoon?

Discussions centered on the fact that when there is a big game, it can be stressful for the director and it takes from the directors’ ability to helping the 199ers. A director may prefer not to play in A if playing in B allows him/her to help move boards. However, the Board agreed that the policy we have currently (any player can show up and expect to play) is a good policy and represents how we would like the club to run. The following combination of items were seen to achieve both the goal of allowing maximum flexibility for the director as well as adhering to our club policy:
  o All players (in all games) that are planning to come single need to notify the director 30 minutes prior to the game. This notification could come in the form of being at the club 30 minutes early or calling the club (541-740-1072) and letting the director know you plan to come single 30 minutes before the game. This will make it easier for the director to know in advance when someone needs a partner.
  o Directors have the option of either being willing to play while they direct or having someone on standby to serve as a partner for a single. One difficulty with Tuesday is that the game is large and it can be difficult to find someone who is free. For our largest game, we should ask people to let Allison know if they put their names forward if they are available to be called.
  o The Board recommends the director should not play on the A side on Tuesday day.
  o If the unusual situation would occur in which a person would show up single and the director would be unable to find a partner, offering the single a free game would be appropriate.

This slate of options was approved by vote.

- Should we allow Friday am directors to schedule games?

Currently we are looking to for directors for the Friday morning game. Many directors already have standing Friday morning games. Dennis will canvas directors to ask about Friday morning
availability. The Board would like to ensure that players who show up single can play. For the immediate term, Friday morning substitute directors can maintain their standing games and should plan to have a stand-in on call. When the schedule for Friday day directing is set, directors should not have a pre-arranged game on the days they direct. This option was approved by vote.

- Should we always have 5 pairs/teams in the lowest strat?

The most effective way to ensure points in the bottom strat (usually C, but in some games, B) is that Mitchells should always have 5 pairs in the lowest strat and Howells should have at least 4 lowest pairs in the lowest strat. When there is a reasonable breakpoint at more than this number of pairs for the lowest strat, having additional pairs is fine.

Wrap up of Civil War challenge plans

- Shall we pay half the cost of having Jeff Jacobs direct the Civil War Challenge?

Last year Eugene split the cost with us. The motion passed to pay for half of Jeff Jacobs’ cost.

There are cups and prosecco (donated by Karla). A case of talking rain will be provided by the club. Six players are not riding the bus, leaving 42 people riding the bus. People should bring a sack lunch for the way down if they like. Eugene will have finger food. Game is at 1pm. Bus leaves at 11:45. Refreshments will be available for the ride home. We will have trail mix in individual bags. People need to be reminded that they need to not me messy.

Charity games

Dennis has asked to have a charity game the 3rd Wed of Oct., Nov., and Dec. He will pay the extra money for all players. Mary Alice approved this for October 19th. Would we like to continue this in Nov. and Dec?

A motion passed to continue the charity games in November and December. For Wednesday, Becky will send the charity game funds to Community Outreach. The totally donation is $26 sponsored and it was sponsored by Dennis. The charity can be any 501(c)(3) charity. Allison will include information about this in the email to the club. The Board would like to open up charity games for others to sponsor if desired.

Mentorship

Allison circulated a proposal for feedback. Please read it and send comments directly to her so the Mentorship Committee can propose something concrete at the next board meeting.

New computer

The current director’s computer needs more power in order to run Windows 10. This is what appears to be causing the hang-ups during the games, which have been very frequent. Dick and Dennis have looked around and found one that is usually $950, but is on now on sale for $700. Dick thought this was the best deal around. Dennis will look for both the sale price and employee discount. A motion passed to purchase a new computer for $700.

2017 Calendar
It is time to set parameters for the 2017 calendar so that the Calendar Committee can propose a calendar to the Board. One question is: do we have more charity games throughout the year? In 2016, we had only charity game per sanction per quarter, but in 8 months of the year, we could have as many as one charity game per sanction per month. One suggestion was to have only one charity game a quarter in which we would charge extra, but we could increase the number of charity games if club members were willing to sponsor a charity game. Albany is moving some Monday unit games because of tournaments/holidays/etc. The Board tabled discussion of other calendar questions such as whether teams games should be on the second Saturdays (consistent with last year) and of whether or not we have or not have team games on the Wednesday day game until the next board meeting.

**Howell movements when you need stationary tables**

What should we do when we need stationary tables and we can’t accommodate as many as is necessary in a Howell? We should have a Howell when we can, as that is preferred. However, when you are asking members to move who aren’t really mobile, we should have a Mitchell even though directors realize that this is not truly the most “fair” format. A motion passed that when more stationary tables are really required than can be achieved through a Howell, we will use a Mitchell movement in the interest of our players’ health and safety.

**Action items:**

- **Allison:** Email the club reminding them of the “players can come single policy”, informing them of the change that singles should report 30 minutes in advance, and asking folks with Tuesday afternoons free to volunteer to be called if they are willing.
- **Dennis:** canvas directors to ask about Friday morning and evening availability. Tell directors that for the immediate term, Friday morning substitute directors can maintain their standing games and if they have a standing game, they should plan to have a stand-in on call. When the schedule for Friday day direct is set, directors should not have a pre-arranged game on the days they direct.
- **Allison:** Notify the club about the option to sponsor a charity game. Also notify the club about this past Wednesday’s charity game and where funds are going.
- **Becky:** send the charity game funds to Community Outreach from the game on Wed, Oct 19th.
- **Allison:** Email the club to ask if someone would be interested in or knows someone interested in cleaning the club.
- **Allison:** Email the club letting them know that Frances Hewes family has asked to have a gathering her honor at the Center in January and that there are no other services planned.
- **Everyone:** Please read the mentorship proposal and send comments directly to Allison so the Mentorship Committee can propose something concrete at the next board meeting.
- **Everyone:** Mark your calendar for the next board meeting: Wednesday, Nov 9th starting at 4:30pm.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.