Minutes of the Board of Corvallis Duplicate Bridge Club

Aug 29, 2018

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

Meeting minutes: The meeting minutes from Feb 8, 2018, were approved. Allison will get the prior minutes to Dennis to post on the web. Allison will summarize the decisions for the email meeting in May.

Financial statements: Financial statements issued since the Feb 8th meeting were approved.

Temperature at the club: Dennis will tell the directors how to change the thermostat a degree or two. If someone changes the temperature by a degree or two, it will hold it until the next temperature change point. This is a better procedure than using permanent hold. We do not need a cage around the thermometers.

General guidance for the calendar for 2019: District 20 is considering holding its own STAC. The target date for a decision by D20 is October. If there is a D20 STAC, do we play in both the D20 STAC and the Western Conference STAC or do we play in just one? Western conference has 3 STAC’s a year and D20 had one last year. The District does pay something for us to be part of the Western conference STACs. We don’t know whether they will pay for the Dec STAC games until the October decision is made by D20. We may not have a choice to make, meaning that if the District doesn’t pay for us to play in the Western Conference STAC, then we probably can’t participate in the WC STAC.

Should we hold all possible extra point games? These seem to be going well. One question is whether we should or should not hold STAC games at smaller night games. Another is the equitability of the night games being loaded up with the ACBL charity games, which result in night players paying for extra cost games much more often than day players. Having STAC games when the games are small is difficult because strats are defined, so you often cannot have what amounts to rather goofy stratification because of the combination of the demographics of the night games and the defined strats. One reason to put ACBL charities on the night games is so we pay more to local charities than if the day games are the ACBL charities. One option would be to load up all the night games with ACBL charities and having the club absorb the extra dollar. That would cost a dollar a player in the night games. Or we could spread the $7 games evenly across the night and day games easily. The options are that in order to ensure the club gets to donate to local charities, you either make the night players always pay extra or the club absorbs the cost. The general consensus was that it would be best to either absorb the extra cost of having the night games be disproportionately ACBL charities (estimated ~$400-$500 at the meeting; Dennis will get firmer numbers for the next meeting) or spread the ACBL charities equally among day and night games. It wouldn’t cost the club anything to split the ACBL charities 50-50 among night and day games, but it also means a larger proportion of money goes to ACBL charities instead of local charities. For ACBL charities, money from the games goes to the foundation, and the ACBL rotates sending funding to the district and about every 4 years we can apply to get that funding for our local charity of choice. Either splitting the ACBL charities 50-50 between day and night games or having the club absorb the extra cost for loading the ACBL charities at night were seen as better alternatives to loading up night games consistently with the ACBL charities.
**Team games.** We have only had 2 of them so far. One was well attended and one was not as well attended. We had one on the calendar on Sept 8, but we cancelled it owing to the football game and the director being out of town. Should we continue to have occasional team games? Do we want to keep having 4th Tuesday night Swiss? Do we want occasional team games on Saturdays or would we prefer Sundays? The general feeling was that people like Saturdays. Do we want them quarterly? The general consensus for weekend Swisses was that we should target three of them. We should have the two GNTs and one at some other times feasible time. The consensus was to target one Swiss in winter, one in spring, and one in fall.

**Seaside:** Will we have directors for the evening games and Sunday afternoon? Dennis and Eileen will check to see if Dick/Bob/Sandy could direct.

**Civil War:** We are down to needing one more team. It shouldn’t be a problem to field one.

Classes update: Eileen is teaching LBIAD on Sept 15. Beginning classes are being taught by Stan (Monday morning) and Sandy (Thursday evening). Rick is teaching play of the Hand Tuesday mornings and Eileen is teaching Conventions on Wednesday morning.

**Condo fundraiser:** There won’t be a tournament in Sunriver anymore, but the condo donor wants us to use his/her points to benefit the club. These are Vacation International shares in the western US, Hawaii, Canada, and Mexico. How do we accomplish this? What makes the auction appealing is the competition for tournament lodging. Would a similar auction be successful for a vacation? Trying to get dates that work is difficult; it can be hard to guarantee dates. We essentially have 5 1-week rentals donated. Could we do this in conjunction with the Alzheimer’s fundraiser, as an example. If we do this, then we have to pick dates in advance, which may not end up being synchronous with when people want to take vacation. We should all think about how we can use this generous offer to allow it to benefit the club.

**Moving the Tuesday night game to Monday night.** The 3-4 tables of regulars who play on Tuesday night would like to move the game to Monday night. Advantages include being able to attract players who don’t want to play twice a day on Tuesdays but are no longer eligible for Monday night, give the Monday night players a game to play in once they graduate from the 0-100 game, requiring 4 fewer directors a month, freeing up Tuesday night as an option for classes, and being able to count the Monday night game towards the open table count. Tuesday evening players also expressed a desire to start at 6:30, but they felt it was more important to move to Monday than to start at 6:30. Monday night players want to ensure that the Monday night lessons would continue, and the current Tuesday evening players want to ensure the value of the Monday evening lessons continues for newer players. Tuesday evening players are happy to either start at 6:30 so they will not disrupt the lessons or wait to enter the club until 7pm so the 0-100 players can have their lessons as a group. The main reason newer players elect to play Monday night is to participate in the lessons, so we need to ensure the lessons are kept intact. We want to make sure newer players can ask questions during the lessons. An additional concerned is the agreement not having open games on Monday. The Tuesday night regular players either have no option to play on Monday day due to work or are people who play twice a day on Tuesdays and would continue to play in their currently scheduled Monday games in Albany, should the Tuesday evening game move to Monday evening. Therefore moving the Tuesday night game to Monday night should not take anything away from the Albany game in the day on Monday. Additional discussion of this topic was tabled until a future meeting.