Minutes of the Board of Corvallis Duplicate Bridge Club

Oct 17, 2018

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

Approval of the minutes from August meeting (Decision)

The meeting minutes from August were circulated but most board members had read them. Board members should read them and send any corrections to Allison.

Approval of the August and September financials (Decision)

The club is in good financial shape. It looks like we lost money in September, but part of this is due to learn bridge in a day, 50% of which will be reimbursed. For the year the club is in the black ~ $4000 which means the club should have a carryover of some of the condo money to put in the budget for next year. August and September financials are approved.

2019 Calendar (Decision)

Carr Fire Relief Fund (2018): We could have two charity games in support of the Carr fire Dec 10-16. 14th is the Christmas party. This game costs an extra dollar and money goes to Shasta regional Carr Fire Relief fund game. A motion to have two games (Dec 11th and 12th in the day) for the Carr Fire Relief fund passes. We will charge an extra dollar for the game and ask if people want to donate.

Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve (2018): Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve are on Monday nights. We will cancel the Christmas Eve game. The New Year’s Eve game has been fun, informal, and non-sanctioned, with the ability of people to drop in and out. We will run an informal individual that is non-formal. Becky and Dennis will coordinate this event.

Dennis is working with Dick and Rick to try to automate the calendar process. Dennis passed out a draft of the proposed calendar for 2019.

- Team games and GNTs for 2019: Consensus was to have three GNTs in 2019. How many weekend team games should we have in 2019 in addition to the GNTs? Consensus was to have a weekend team game in May for the decades challenge and to also consider adding an 8 is enough or a mentorship Swiss on a 5th Sunday. We will have to move the unit game on March 17th because it’s the HOV sectional. That unit game is moving to March 24th. We have to move the April 21st unit game to April 28th (which would usually be an evening game) because of Easter. We could have a Swiss on a Sunday, such as a Mentorship Swiss or an 8 is enough on 5th Sunday in June. If not, look for 5th Sunday in March or Sept. Dennis will look at the tournament schedule as well. Albany is having an 8 is enough soon, so we can see how that is received before making a decision on the format for this weekend Swiss.

- Longest Day 2019: This event will be held on Tuesday, June 18th.
Anniversary party 2019: The club was opened on the 4th Friday in August. The 2019 Anniversary party will be on the 23rd of August.

Christmas Party 2019: The Christmas party will be held on Dec 20th, 2019.

STAC games: D20 is going to run their own STACs in 2019, so we will participate in the district STAC. The district has scheduled two STACs already (January and May 2019). The district will not have an August STAC. D20 has not decided yet whether they will have a STAC in December. At this point, even if the Western Conference was to have a STAC game, we would not be able to participate in the WC STAC because the district is no longer supporting its clubs in the WC STAC. A unit can sponsor a STAC game, meaning they can run it and coordinate it.

Grass Roots Fund Games: These games can now be held as a special games. Consensus was to add these as additional games.

Cost of night games: Last year we scheduled all the ACBL charities on night games to allow more of our charity dollars to go to local charities. In 2019, we can continue this schedule, we can split the ACBL charities between day at night game, or we can schedule the night games with ACBL charities and the club can subsidize those games. Directors need to announce the sponsorships.

Amendment to Director Committee in the MOPP (2.4.1.1) (Decision)

The current charges for the Director Committee is:

- Maintains a comprehensive director's manual for directing games which details:
  - How to run the computer and clock.
  - Sets of movements to be followed based on table count.
  - How to stratify a game.
  - How to post game results to the web site.
  - How to correct scores and handle late plays or no plays.
- Sets up director training as needed, including recruiting and training new directors
- Maintains a set of director policies, including:
  - General demeanor as the public face of the club
  - Making rulings, including consulting other directors
  - How to handle disciplinary issues
  - How to handle slow play, policies for warnings, and adjusted scores
- Provides a current Director schedule for the bulletin board in the office.
- Determines convention usage

Proposed Changes include the following additions:

- Change the line “How to stratify a game” to “How to seat and stratify a game.”
- Add a bullet item “Collect money and prepare the game report.”
- Under Maintains a set of director policies, including: Add “Follow the ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations.”

Discussion included adding the following “and conditions of contest for special games” to the last bullet. A motion to accept the changes including the addition of “and conditions of contest for special games” passes.
Movements for 7.5 and 11 tables require an EW sit out, which should be discussed at the directors’ committee meeting.

Motion submitted by Director Committee (Action)

The current policy is to offer late plays when a table hasn’t started a board before the warning. The director committee would like to change the policy to: “Directors should, at their discretion, only have late plays in very special circumstances. Directors should keep on top of the game, push players to keep up, and avoid no plays if at all possible.”

We used to have a policy of offering late plays routinely, but directors feel they should try to keep the game moving and avoid late plays. One option would be to eliminate late plays, but there may be emergency situations in which directors might want to allow a late play. Another option is to offer a no play, but sometimes a director thinks it appropriate to have a late play. If we have the policy of no late plays, then there is no arguing about it. Directors feel that we have a clock, bridge is a timed event, and players need to look at the clock and be responsible. Directors wanted to keep the flexibility of not ruling out late plays in all circumstances but subscribe to the philosophy that late plays are not a routine matter, and that we try to avoid them. A motion to adjust the policy to that stated above passes.

Tuesday night switch to Monday night (Action)

The Tuesday night players really want to switch to Monday night. In August, there were two major concerns: that Albany has an open game on Monday day and ensuring the lessons for the 0-99 game are kept in-tact.

Allison suggested that we contact Albany to see if they would object to moving the Tuesday night game to Monday night. The majority of the Tuesday night players don’t have the option to play in Albany during the day. Those who already play both Tuesday night and Monday day in Albany are people who already play twice a day on Tuesdays. They have no plans to give up their scheduled game in Albany on Mondays if our Tuesday game moves to Monday night. The only pair that has standing games in Albany is Paul and Terry, and they do not play every Tuesday night.

If the Open players congregate in the hall until 7, would the lessons be disrupted? Consensus was that a 6:30 start (which was suggested in August) was too early to allow for a full lesson, but a 7pm game start time would be fine. Monday night players are concerned about keeping the room quiet at the lesson, and if the open players wanted to start at 7:00 or 7:10, the 99ers can have their lessons and get settled.

A motion passed that Allison draft a letter to Albany and send it to the board for their review. If the Tuesday night game moves to Monday night, we will need a new sanction.

Start the process for election of new Board Members

Paul, Sandy, and Mary Alice’s terms expire this year. The three of them need to determine whether or not they want to stand for re-election. Allison will look at the bylaws for the date by which this needs to happen.
Require players be at the game 10 minutes before starting time (Discussion)

It is difficult for directors to balance the field if both players of a pair arrive at the club just at game time. Requiring at least one member of the pair be at the club at least 10 minutes before game time will allow for a much smoother start to games.

Should we require people to be at the club 10 minutes before the game? We can ask people to come early, but we probably aren’t going to turn people away from a game if they arrive just before the game. It’s not a good idea to have a rule unless we are able to enforce it. We can encourage people to arrive early because it’s considerate. Do your best to have one person in your partnership here 10 minutes early. Allison will add it this to emails.

Education Committee report (Information)

The Education Committee report on Fall classes was handed out at the meeting.

Fall classes:
- Learn Bridge in a Day, Eileen 10 students
- Monday am Bridge Basics 1, Stan, 4 students
- Tuesday am Play of the Hand, Rick 25 students
- Wednesday am Conventions Intermediate Players Should Know, Eileen 29 students
- Thursday pm Bridge Basics 1, Sandy 11 students
- Sunday afternoon, Play of the Hand, Mary Alice 4 students

Winter Plans:
- Bridge Basics 2, pm and am, Sandy and Stan
- 2/1, Eileen
- Defense, Rick and Mary Alice
- Considering Bridge Basics 1 Seminars
- January, Real Time Bridge, Irva
- Perhaps follow ups to last year’s seminars.

Adjorned.  6:30