

CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by President Angie Clark. Also attending were

Jan Churchwell
Adrienne Cohen
Tom Dressing
Jean Faeth

Kay Hathaway
Les Kent
Carl Sharp
Suzi Subeck

Tom Sucher
John Vincent
Bob Young

Also present: Unit Administrator Kathy Burt and Director Rick Mueller.

SPECIAL EXTRA-MINUTES ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jean Faeth is hosting a party on July 6 to welcome Jackie and Don Addis back from their 2-month European cruise and land trip. All Board members are welcome; Jean will e-mail details closer to the event.

Stan Katz was in a serious accident and is in Chicago.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of April 14 were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Tom Dressing reported that the ACBL had restructured STAC fees which would result in an increase in flat table fees to \$9.50/table; however, by eliminating ancillary costs, the net effect is that there is no "real" fee increase. Tom moved (second by Tom Sucher) that the CCBA not increase the fees to the clubs. The motion passed. All area clubs will be notified.

The on-going financial clean-up from Central States 2007 is (finally) finished. The Grand Geneva has agreed that the CCBA will not pay attrition charges.

Tom Sucher moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Jean Faeth seconded. The motion passed.

UNIT REPORT

Kathy Burt reported that she has received sanctions for ALL CCBA tournaments through 2014 except for SummerFest, which is sanctioned through 2011 at present.

ABA/CCBA TOURNAMENT

Les Kent was the CCBA liaison for this event which was held on June 7 and June 8. The event was once again well-attended; comments from Board members who were present were all

positive, and Les was commended for holding up the CCBA's end. Angie stated that food donations are always welcome and suggested that Board members who can't attend should consider sending a dessert. Rick Mueller stated that the CCBA had shown a profit for its part in the tournament.

MAY 29^{er} TOURNAMENT

The tournament was held at the Holiday Inn-Express in Palatine on May 3 and May 4. The tournament lost \$973 against a projected loss of \$518; table count was down about four tables from 2007. Tournament Chair Jan Churchwell explained that the loss was because she thought that since this was a very small tournament it was a good opportunity to see how people responded to free coffee and a free lunch during the Sunday Swiss. Her feeling was that people would have paid just as easily as not. Had nominal fees been charged for coffee and lunch, the tournament would have come in on budget – which would still have been at a loss. Per Tom Sucher's suggestion, Jan rented a room to use as a "hospitality suite" because the hotel's in-house food costs are OUTRAGEOUS; the room more than paid for itself since we were able to provide our own fruit and snacks.

If the tournament is held in 2009, the Board will increase its publicity for the tournament and will definitely include a "blast" e-mail from the ACBL.

Tom Sucher has developed an excellent working relationship with the hotel; he stated that they definitely want us to return for (any) tournaments. Tom was instructed to get a contract for the tournament for 2009 at the same site; however, the Board will revisit the issue of whether the tournament should be held at a later meeting before the deposit is due. The issues are:

1. Do all tournaments have to show a profit?
2. If not, how long might a particular tournament operate in the red before being cancelled?
3. Is it important to have a Non-LM sectional tournament?
4. Are there other options we might explore for the NLMs?

ACBL GOODWILL COMMITTEE

The annual call for nominations for the Goodwill award has gone out. Send nominations to Eileen (?) Osofsky at the ACBL. Names are due by October 1, 2008. The winner receives transportation to and three nights at the Spring NABC where the award is presented.

FINANCIAL -- No Report

CONTRACTS AND SITES

SummerFest 2009 is the only tournament for 2009 that has nothing in the works at present. The Arlington Park Sheraton has expressed interest in having us return for tournaments. Tom Sucher will follow up and report at the next meeting.

CADDIES

Selma Perlmutter has reported that she cannot guarantee caddies for Central States. Angie and Tom Sucher have talked to the management at the Grand Geneva about the possibility of using resort staff on their days off, which may prove to be an excellent option. The importance of proper training for resort staff was emphasized.

Suzi Subeck will write a notice for the Kibitzer asking for caddies for the tournament. Angie also suggested that Board members could help out if they aren't playing during any given game.

SCHEDULING

Carl Sharp reported that the Scheduling Committee voted to add a new event to the FallFest and WinterFest schedules. The event employs two-way scoring (Pairs AND Teams); winners (all who scratch) are receive whichever award is higher. WinterFest Chair Jan Churchwell will be sure DeMaris has the information for the WinterFest flyer. Kay Hathaway moved to accept the recommendation of the Scheduling Committee; Jan Churchwell seconded. The motion passed.

An explanation of Pair/Team scoring is attached to these Minutes as Appendix A. Thanks to Tom Sucher for supplying the explanation. The event is popular in Milwaukee and Michigan.

HOSPITALITY – No Report

COMMUNICATIONS

At the Annual Meeting in January the membership voted by a show of hands to put the Kibitzer on-line (with a "hard copy option"). Kathy Burt reported that fewer than 50 people have requested a hard copy. Information will be put on the website to remind people to let Kathy know if they want a hard copy. Kathy said that there had been few complaints, and there were also compliments on how polished the on-line version looked (photos are much better, for instance). Based on this information, the Board voted to make the Kibitzer an electronic newsletter. Jan Churchwell made the motion; Tom Sucher seconded.

Suzi Subeck, Communications Chair, and John Goldstein have been taking an active role in working with DeMaris on the Kibitzer.

EDUCATION – No Report

NEWCOMERS – No Report

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee: A notice will be in the July Kibitzer to solicit candidates for the Board. Kay Hathaway will chair the committee; Angie Clark, Les Kent, and Suzi Subeck will serve, and Kay will appoint three non-Board members to serve as well. Tom Dressing, Carl Sharp, Tom Sucher, and John Vincent are the Board members in the final year of their current term.

SUMMERFEST

Tom Sucher stated that he would set up a meeting for himself and Kay Hathaway at the site to discuss hospitality. The Board will “talk up the tournament” since it’s at a new site. Tom pointed out that the site is actually only a few miles west of the European Crystal Banquet Center where WinterFest was held; he suggested that the Board emphasize that fact when talking to people about the tournament.

There is a Quality Inn attached to the playing site, and we have a block of rooms at a rate of \$88/night. There is also a shuttle to and from O’Hare which people can add on to their room rate (\$20/day).

Les Kent moved to adjourn the meeting; Bob Young seconded.

Next meeting: Monday, August 18. Location TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Churchwell
Secretary

RECAP OF MOTIONS

No STaC Fee Increase: Tom Dressing moved; Tom Sucher seconded.

Treasurer’s Report: Tom Sucher moved to accept; Jean Faeth seconded.

Adjournment: Les Kent moved; Bob Young seconded.

Scheduling Committee Report: Kay Hathaway moved; Jan Churchwell seconded.

Kibitzer On-Line: Jan Churchwell moved; Tom Sucher seconded.