

**CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**APRIL 3, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Loring Knoblauch. Present and constituting a quorum were:

<b>Bill Anspach</b>	<b>Steve Donahue</b>	<b>Amin Hakim</b>	<b>Missy Ravid</b>
<b>Phyllis Bartlett</b>	<b>Betsy Downs</b>	<b>Bob Maxson</b>	<b>Jamie Rubenstein</b>
<b>Jan Churchwell</b>	<b>Kathy Fortney</b>	<b>Steve McConnell</b>	<b>Mark Stein</b>

**Absent: Adrienne Cohen, Suzi Subeck.**

**Also present: David Joyce**

**MINUTES (Jan Churchwell)**

Steve Donahue moved to approve the Minutes of the meeting of December 19, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT (Missy Ravid)**

A CD was rolled over in late March.

Financial reports for October and December 2024 and January and February 2025 were distributed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance (Missy Ravid):**

Funds will be transferred to keep as much CCCBA money in interest-bearing vehicles as is practical.

**IN/Education (Phyllis Bartlett, Mark Stein):** The Chairs want to hold a Pro-Am game and would like suggestions for a site. They will work with Guy Franklin to continue support for the games at the University of Chicago and Northwestern.

**Nominating (Bob Maxson):**

Kathy Fortney and Mark Stein will serve on the committee, along with members-at-large as required by CCBA policy. Steve McConnell will send Bob information about the timeline for publicizing the candidate search. The slate for 2026 will be presented at the October Board meeting. The Nominating Chair also manages the process for selecting officers. The members whose terms end in 2025 are:

Jan Churchwell  
Adrienne Cohen (appointed by President Knoblauch when Joe Connelly resigned)  
Steve McConnell  
Jamie Rubenstein  
Suzi Subeck

**Tournament Oversight (Jan Churchwell and Suzi Subeck):**

The committee met in February. Betsy Downs had inventoried our current stock of tables and researched replacement costs. After discussion, the committee decided not to recommend replacing tables now. There are 108 tables, 60 of which are usable; we have not used even 50 at any tournament since the pandemic. Of the remaining 48, it may be possible to donate 19. The remainder are unusable and will be trashed.

The committee recommended the purchase of 50 bidding boxes at a total cost not to exceed \$2,000.\* After discussion, Bob Maxson moved to accept the recommendation. Motion passed unanimously.

\*Suzi Subeck will place order; exact amount TBA.

Windy City 2025 is scheduled for 5 days (Wednesday, July 9-Sunday, July 13). If attendance warrants it, future summer Regionals may also be scheduled for 5 days (the Sanction for Windy City 2026 will be for 4 days).

Betsy Downs will be Sanction Coordinator. She has applied for a Sanction for the 2025 Subeck/Central States Regional for Oct. 16-19. The tournament will feature an IMP Pairs game, which will be heavily publicized on the website, Facebook, and the Kibitzer because the CCBA has never run IMP Pairs.

Following discussion, the Board agreed that holding Windy City in early June, 2026 would be preferable than June 24-27, the dates the committee had suggested. Betsy Downs will apply for a Sanction for Thursday, June 4-Sunday, June 7, 2026. Steve McConnell moved to schedule Windy City in early June going forward. Motion passed unanimously.

The committee recommended that Regional tournaments be scheduled far enough in advance that flyers can be taken to at least the NABC most closely preceding each tournament.

Friday, January, 30-Sunday, February 1 were approved for WinterFest 2026 and will include the Annual Meeting. There were 140 tables at WinterFest 2025; not all expenses are in yet, but it is expected that the tournament will at least break even and might show a profit.

A suggestion that the Annual Meeting be held between sessions of the Swiss Team game on Saturday, January 31, rather than after the second session, was well-received.

Steve Donahue will chair the Labor Day Tournament at the Weber Center in Skokie. Bob Maxson and Steve McConnell will assist.

### **Governance (Bill Anspach)**

The Operations Manual will be posted on the website when it is finalized.

### **Communications (Suzi Subeck and Jan Churchwell)**

Ongoing website glitches need to be addressed, and the committee will consider options for the future, including a new website. Amin Hakim needs full access to the website.

The committee reaffirmed its core principle that all publicity for the CCBA must be approved by the chair(s), including all information and articles in the Kibitzer, on the website, in tournament flyers, and Facebook announcements. Approval does not apply to posts by members on Facebook.

The committee recommended that a survey be taken after each tournament. There will be a basic set of questions which may be supplemented by specific questions at each Tournament Chair's discretion.

The committee recommended that the Minutes of board meetings be distributed within 3 days. After discussion, the Board agreed that receiving Minutes within one week would be satisfactory.

The Board accepted all recommendations of the committee.

Amin Hakim will create a webpage and test it for a month. He will ask Richard Strauss to act as tester for club functions.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The 2025 Committees List was distributed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The contract for the Labor Day tournament at the Weber Center is ready to be signed.

Jan Churchwell presented the Minutes of the Board meeting of February 1, 2025 at which officers for 2025 were elected. The Board approved the Minutes by voice vote.

**Next Board Meeting: June 19, 2025, 6:30 pm, at the Glen View Club.**

Steve McConnell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Jan Churchwell  
Secretary

**RECAP OF MOTIONS**

**Steve McConnell moved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of June 26. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Bob Maxson moved to approve the purchase of 50 sets of bidding boxes at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Steve McConnell moved that the CCBA move the summer Regional to early June beginning in 2026. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The Minutes of the Board meeting to elect officers for 2025 were approved by voice vote.**