

DISTRICT 22 BOARD MEETING

January 23, 2025: 6:30PM via Zoom

PRESENT:

- Lamy Agelidis
- Lou Arevalo
- Janet Crossley
- Millie Garrison
- Cornelia Gould
- Vicki Graves
- Paul Markovitz
- Richard Picheny (presiding)
- Bill Shane
- Alan Turner

ABSENT:

- David Lodge

VIA EMAIL VOTE PRIOR TO THE MEETING:

The minutes of the December 2024 meetings were approved.

DISCUSSION:

Richard welcomed the new board members and discussed **Roles on the Board** as follows:

- Richard: President and Treasurer
- Lamy: Vice President, D22 Connection Editor, Website Liaison, Tournament Chair, Venue Selection and Terms Negotiator
- Vicki: Secretary
- Alan: I/N Chair (Emphasizing strategy to get new players to tournaments). Website Liaison helping Lamy/Nick
- Bill: Tournament Growth Chair
- Cornelia: Advisory Council Rep, STaC coordinator and Tournament Coordinator
- David: ACBL representative
- Janet: Treasurer in training and D22 Connection Proofreader
- Lou: NAP & GNT Coordinator
- Millie: Education Chair & Grants
- Paul: Goodwill Chair, Special Projects, Unit Liaison

Lou reviewed the **status of the GNT competitions**. Bill Shane's club is an example of one that runs recurring and successful team games but most do not. Janet said she thought the sheen of GNT competitions wasn't there anymore as a motivation. Vicki said she found it ironic that we asked the clubs to run these games but then added an

extra sanction fee to make them more expensive—noting that with unit championship games their unit reimburses clubs for the higher ACBL sanction as a give-back. Alan asked if team games at a sectional could be designated as GNT and Lou will check that out. A report on other districts' best practices will be provided at the April meeting.

Richard had sent the EOY 2024 **Financials** prior to the meeting for review. Our net loss of \$10,952 was a drop of \$63,967 from 2023's net profit of \$53,015. The swing was due in large part to lower table counts and fewer hotel nights at our tournaments. He emphasized efforts to increase table counts and hotel nights as a priority for 2025.

Paul presented an update on the idea of a **Charter Bus** from the areas around Santa Barbara to the **Orange County Regional** in September. He has preliminary figures for a bus run on Monday, Wednesday & Friday which would cost \$7,000 and hold 64 people. If it were full and each rider paid \$50, we would break even. He plans to canvass bridge players in his area for interest and will report again in April.

Richard said we needed a consistent **brand** for the **Orange County Regional** and it was agreed that we use Orange County Regional going forward and NOT the Labor Day Regional or the Irvine Regional.

Cornelia said that the dates for the three **D22 STaCs** for 2025 would be May 5-11 (a Royal STaC), August 18-24, and November 17-23 (a Royal STaC). Her motion to spend \$150 on flyers to advertise these events was approved. Cornelia also recommended that we not hold joint STaCs with D23 as they are unwilling to share the profits with D22. Given ACBL's new rules for STaCs there is no advantage to player masterpoints if the table count is larger. In closing Cornelia reported that our district could expect approximately \$8,000 after final expenses are calculated from the announced end of the Western Conference.

Millie reviewed proposed **Education Grant** requests from Santa Barbara Bridge Center (\$510) and South Orange County Bridge Club (\$1000). She said she believed both requests are in line with the district's plan to teach, offer next steps, and encourage ACBL membership. Alan moved to fund these grand requests and it was approved. (Richard recused himself from the South Orange County vote.)

Richard said Gary Waldron had asked if **District Advisory Council Members** (in addition to Cornelia) could be invited to attend our board meetings. After discussion it was agreed that they would be welcome to attend but not invited.

Lamya said two new events would be offered at the **San Diego Regional**: Supervised Bid & Play for 0-20 players and Bracketed Pairs on the Wednesday of the tournament. She encouraged all to promote this event.

The **next meeting** will be held after the afternoon session on **Wednesday April 16** at the San Diego Regional. Richard mentioned that board members would be reimbursed for one night at the hotel in conjunction with the meeting and there was also a mileage reimbursement for round trip travel to San Diego of 35 cents per mile.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50PM.

Submitted by Vicki Graves