

Minutes, Unit 249 Board

**July 6, 9:00 am**

## **Zoom Call organized by Jenn Verdam**

**Present: Ted Boyd (Chair), Brian Clark, Hazel Hewitt, Tom Jolliffe, Jed Drew, Linda Tindale, Ewoud VanGoch, Gary Robertson, Lee Gallacher, Jenn Verdam, John Abbott, Malkin Dare**

**1. Call to order** – 9:00 am

**2. New Members**, After a short discussion:

Moved by Hazel Hewitt, seconded by Lee Gallacher, that John Abbott be appointed to the Unit 249 Board effective immediately – passed unanimously

Moved by Jenn Verdam, seconded by Jed Drew, that Malkin Dare be appointed to the Unit 249 Board effective immediately – passed unanimously

John and Malkin joined the meeting at 9:10 am.

**3. Secretary's Report** - Minutes of April 27 – as previously submitted by Ewoud Van Goch,

Moved acceptance by Lee Gallacher, seconded by Tom Jolliffe – passed unanimously

**4. Financial Report** – Jenn Verdam

Jenn shared her screen to show Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet for 2023 and to date 2024. We had a net loss of \$14,000 in 2023 primarily because of the loss of over \$10,000 on the 2023 Regional. To date, we have assets of \$25,900 of which \$21,600 is liquid. We have a net gain of \$200 in 2024, excluding results from the Goderich and Cambridge tournaments.

Discussion about the impact of the new 5/5/5 program instituted by the ACBL and its impact on our finances, suffice to say that we need to be diligent in calling our lapsed members as requested by the ACBL. Ted advised that his latest update showed \$456 accruing to Unit 249, but it was unclear if this was 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 4<sup>th</sup> month or some other number.

Questions around the financial impact of raising the Sectional fees to \$15 per session, but the overall effect is positive. Results for Goderich Sectional will be negative and Cambridge will be positive. Final results are not available.

Moved acceptance of the Financial report by Jenn Verdam, seconded by Gary Robertson – passed unanimously.

**5. Membership Report**, Brian reported that we continue to climb, albeit slowly. Start of year members was 1192 and end of May 1216.

Brian responded to an ACBL report detailing Guest Members that had played at Unit 249 clubs but weren't members. To date he has received one response saying he would be joining. Thanks to Brian for following up.

**6. Tournament Report** – All sanctions for tournaments scheduled for 2024 have been placed and Tom is planning to request dates for 2025. Sites to date include Goderich (Seaforth), Cambridge, Tillsonburg, St Thomas and London. Gary will follow up on the possibility of a Windsor tournament and Hazel will follow up on the possibility of a Parkview tournament.

The 2025 Regional is set for July 1 – 6, 2025 at St George Hall near St. Jacobs, and the first Committee Meeting will be held within 2 weeks. We are confirming a host hotel and will set the schedule of events and submit a flyer to the ACBL (Find a Tournament Site) by month end. A draft budget forecasts breakeven with a small increase in tables from 2023.

**7. Education Report** – Hazel has joyfully handed the job to Malkin, but remains a willing advisor. Malkin is aiming to encourage lessons in many of our clubs and listed a series of clubs that have not responded to her entreaties. Other Board members took on the responsibility of contacting the reticent clubs to encourage contact with Malkin.

London has indicated that they have members willing to travel to teach and there was general agreement that the educational role was an important one for the Unit and we should be willing to make an increased financial involvement.

Grand River Bridge Club and Guelph Bridge Club have indicated at least 7 members who would like to take the Directors' Training, Martin is available, London is available as a site, the cost last time was \$1,566. Question about a Refresher Course and noted that Martin will take previous Directors assuming there was room for the newer ones first.

Moved by Jenn Verdam, seconded by Tom Jolliffe that we offer a Directors Training Course in 2024 - passed unanimously. Tom will take to lead in making the arrangements with Martin and promoting to the clubs in Unit 249.

## **9. Survey Report – Goals –**

Goal 1 Communications with clubs, we have allocated clubs to each Board member for continue dialogue with their clubs, the 5,5,5, activity to call lapsed members can continue by Board Members contacting members within their clubs.

Goal 2 Malkin will take on Hazel's role

Goal 3 Ted has some ideas how to move forward

Goal 4 Tom will provide a report to consider Unit wide online games, being aware of the already contacts with SE Carolina, and other large BBO sites, and the grouping of clubs possible in the Goderich area. How to advertise, who would direct, how would fees be spread are all issues.

Goal 5, underway

**10. Next Meeting** - The AGM will be in St Thomas on September 8 before the Sunday game, Jenn will ask Andy Stark to place a notice in the Kibitzer.

The next Board Meeting will be F2F in Tillsonburg on August 10 at 9:00 am.

**Darlene Scott joined the meeting at 9:40 am.** Unit 249 Board Members will vote for our representative to the ACBL Board and Darlene is running for the position. Darlene spoke briefly and fielded a number of questions.

**Adjourned** - the meeting adjourned at 10:40 am

Here is the web site for Unit 249 Lapsed Members chart. Copy and enter the site into your browser and presto....

[cloud.bridgefinesse.com/PHPPOSTCGS.php?options=LapsedMembers&option=list&user=902494&passwd=7463](http://cloud.bridgefinesse.com/PHPPOSTCGS.php?options=LapsedMembers&option=list&user=902494&passwd=7463)