

**MINUTES  
of the  
Unit 164 Board of Directors Meeting**

Held January 22, 2022, at the Bridge Club of Lexington  
Lexington, Kentucky

**Members Present:** Ted Addleton, Brad Beck, Andra Gyor, Darryl Bennett, Ellen Hume, Bob Korten, Melena VanArsdall

**Members Participating Remotely:** Terrell Holt via phone and Michael Proctor via Zoom.

**Members Absent:** Susan Dance, Norma Greely, Mina Hedayati, John Kennedy, Pat Matheny

**Guests:** Sondra Holt via phone and Bob Houtrow

The meeting was called to order by the Unit 164 President and Director Andra Gyor at 5:45PM. Secretary and Director Ellen Hume said we have a quorum present so the meeting can proceed. Andra welcomed the members and guest to the meeting.

**Opening Remarks/Covid-19 Adjustments to our Board:** Andra made opening remarks. She said she made the assumption that since the Board has not met or been active for two years all Board member's term limits could be adjusted forward two years (except for the Secretary and Treasurer positions whose terms are not limited). There were no objections. She then said that two Unit 164 members who had agreed to serve on the Board beginning in 2020 have since decided not to take positions on the board. She said she has spoken with Bob Korten, and he has agreed to be president of the Board beginning in July. She said that Tom Stanwix-Hay agreed to take Norma Greely's position and Jennifer Coffman has agreed to replace Brad Beck (Brad becomes Vice-President of the board in July). She spoke with Chuck Dean, and he has agreed to take Bob Korten's Board position. These positions will require election by the Unit Membership. Andra said she talked to Director Susan Dance and since Susan has not been able to attend recent Board meetings, she might want to resign. She then said that Director Melena VanArsdall is the Chair of the Nominating Committee, and she will report further on these positions in May 2022.

**Minutes from January 18, 2020 Unit 164 Board Meeting—**Ellen distributed minutes from the January 18, 2020 Board meeting for review and approval. After a brief review, Andra said the minutes stand as written.

**Treasurer's Reports:** Treasurer and Director Ted Addleton distributed copies of the Treasurer's report. Ted summarized the report. He did point out that Year 2021, despite the Club being closed, was financially a break-even year with just a \$65 dollar loss.

Minutes of the ACBL Board of Director's Meeting  
January 22, 2022

1. Unit 164 Financial Reports—Attached to original minutes.
2. Investment Status—Attached to original minutes.

After brief discussion and questions for Ted, Andra said the report is accepted and we will file for audit.

**Cabin Fever Sectional/2022 Status:** Director Bob Korten reported that on Friday we had 25½ tables and Saturday 30 tables. He said we are at 65% participation compared to two years ago. Bob said Andra and he decided to go with \$5 entry fees and \$5 lunch. Andra then said the decision to offer lower prices was to welcome people back to tournaments.

### **Committee Chair Reports**

1. **Education** -- Director Darryl Bennett reported that Carole Fox is currently teaching classes at the club. He said that Tom Stanwix-Hay will teach bidding classes via OLLI at the Lexington Bridge Club starting in March. Darryl said he will teach Play of the Hand also via OLLI.
2. **Membership:** Ellen reported that there are currently 297 Unit 164 members. She said she has sent 16 New Member packets to new Unit members since January 2020. She has sent numerous expired members letters, made phone calls, or talked to members who have not renewed their memberships. To get people back to the club Terrell suggested that Board members call Unit members who have not come back since COVID closed the club. This strategy was agreed to. Further, Board members agreed to send a list of members who are no longer playing to Ellen or Andra.

Andra then asked about mentor/mentee games. Director Sondra Holt said we will have one next month. Discussion ensued about mentor/mentee games and games for beginning bridge players and how important it is for Unit board members and club members to participate in these games. Terrell said we currently have seven beginner games at the club, but it is difficult to get enough beginner players and many games are cancelled. Sondra said she has a list of the beginner games with point limits, and she will bring copies to the club. Andra suggested that since the Club has extra money at this time that perhaps we should offer games for free. There was discussion but no motion was made. Sondra said we have the classroom area for OLLI during the Tuesday 499er game.

3. **Publicity:** Andra reported that she has started the process for a new Membership Directory. By February 1<sup>st</sup> everyone should have their personal information updated on the ACBL website and by April we should have a directory.

### **Youth Camp “Learn Bridge in a Day”**

Darryl said we do not have Learn Bridge in a Day currently scheduled. There followed lengthy discussion about our past efforts to attract new players and specifically younger players. We have not been successful with getting youth players. It was also noted that, in the past two to

three years, Cincinnati and Atlanta bridge clubs have not been successful in attracting youth players. After discussion there was no consensus on how we will move forward with attempts to attract younger players. We will continue with Carole Fox's classes and OLLI classes.

### Old Business

1. **Update on Sectional & Regional Sanctions (through 2026)** – Darryl reported that Tourneytrax has all our sanctions going forward except the 2026 Regional Tournament. Terrell said that, in Kentucky, only Lexington and Corbin bridge clubs have sanctions. Darryl said that the Lexington Club can hold 24 special games per year. Sondra said we must get a sanction number from ACBL in order to do so. There was consensus to pursue having special games.
2. **Update on May Spring Sectional** -- Andra said that she and Terrell will be Co-Chairs. Andra suggested that we include Grass-Roots pairs games in the May Sectional. We could subsidize the additional \$1 fee. There was consensus to do this. Andra asked if we still wanted to raise the 299er to 499er at the May Sectional. After brief discussion there was agreement not to raise the 299er to 499er at the Sectional.
3. **Update on NLM Sectional**—Andra said she will chair this Sectional.
4. **Update on Louisville/Lexington Regional 2022**—Sondra said it is scheduled for the first week in November. We have a contract with Horseshoe Casino through 2025 and we have financial obligations to the Casino of \$30,000 over these four years.
5. **Items approved 1/18/20 (to be presented at Annual membership Meeting May 14, 2022)**. Revisions to Unit 164 By-laws and Slate of Officers – Andra reported that on January 19, 2020, the Board approved changes to the Unit 164 By-Laws. She asked if the date should remain January 19<sup>th</sup> or move it forward to present day. It was agreed that the date should remain as is. The revised By-Laws will be presented to Unit Members in May.
6. **Audit Report** – Restart Process – Ted said that the last audit we conducted was 2019 and we need to complete audits for 2020 and 2021. Ted said, going forward, we should do a more professional job with audits. Ted said he is willing to teach someone to conduct the audit appropriately. Director Mike Proctor agreed to serve as the Auditor for 2020 and 2021. He will meet with Ted for training.
7. **Pianola – Unit 164**— Bob said he used the Pianola system to advertise this tournament (January 2022). He sent 5,000 emails to ACBL members within a 200-mile radius of Lexington and 2,000 went out to members within a 100-mile radius.
8. **Discontinuation of Building Plan for Lexington Bridge Club**: Sondra said we have discontinued our pursuit of the new bridge club. She went on to say that if we should have to move from the Lansdowne Drive facility, we will have to renovate a new facility and we should stay cognizant of the cost of such a venture. She said we spent \$110,000 in 2009 to renovate our current facility. Andra pointed out that we have put aside a lot of money for the building project and questioned what we should do with these funds. She went on to say that she and Bob decided to “give back” to the members via subsidized lunches and decreased fees for the current

tournament. Terrell reported on weak tournament comebacks around the country. For example, Orlando was down 78%. Monterrey California was down in participants and had a bill of \$89,000 that the Unit had to pay to the facility. He suggested that it behooves us to consider these issues before we spend down too much of our savings. There was discussion and it was suggested that, while keeping Terrell's suggestion in mind, we can still have monthly subsidized ST@C games as well as subsidized Sectional Tournaments. This was agreed to as we want to encourage people to play more and to play in the ST@C games and Sectional tournaments. Bob then asked Ted to propose an annual give-back budget so the Unit could offer discounted fees at tournaments without running down our savings beyond what is comfortable. Ted agreed to make this calculation then propose to the Board.

### **New Business**

1. **District 11 Board Meeting Reports from Zoom Meetings** –Terrell reported. Indianapolis 2020 – The district bought 110,000 e-mails from Pianola for use by the District. Any Unit desiring e-mails from Pianola in order to communicate with their members should purchase them directly from Pianola.

The ACBL Board has formed a task force to work on the following:

- a. Reduce the number of Directors from 25 to 13 by 2024.
  - b. Relieve the Board of Directors of trivial tasks so they can focus on major items.
  - c. Change the method of election of District Directors to the ACBL from the Unit boards electing them to all Unit members electing them.
  - d. ACBL finalized with Square Technologies to allow the use of credit cards at Regional Tournaments. The Region will see a financial hit for this change but will recoup due to the increased cost of sanction fees. Also, session charges for tournaments increased by approximately 20% starting in 2021 in order to bring charges for director labor in line with actual expenses.
1. Cincinnati Regional 2020 – This tournament was cancelled due to Covid. The meeting was held via zoom on July 9, 2020.  
Columbus NABC cancelled due to Covid.

Face-to-Face Bridge – All face-to-face bridge was cancelled for an extended period. Lexington Club closed its doors in early March 2020 and on-line bridge became a way of life for many. Recruitment, retention and integration is now of utmost importance. LBIAD, OLLI classes, member/guest games, education classes, and Eight is Enough games are important.

2. Columbus-Dayton Regional 2020 – This meeting was held via Zoom on August 13, 2020. It was reported that all District 11 tournaments are cancelled for the foreseeable future. ACBL has said they will not supply tournament directors due to health concerns.

Minutes of the ACBL Board of Director's Meeting  
January 22, 2022

Emphasis should be on recruiting new members while games are on-line. Members can support their club by playing club games on-line.

It was reported that there are changes made to the D-11 Bylaws which can be accessed via the D-11 web page.

3. Louisville-Lexington Regional 2020. This meeting was held on Zoom, November 5, 2020. Discussion focused on returning to face-to-face bridge, recruiting and retaining new members by offering 0-5 games on-line. The District has 3,901 members as of December 2020 which is down 281 from December 2019.
4. Indianapolis Regional 2021 was held on Zoom, February 4, 2021. It was reported that the ACBL has a new logo, but the old one can still be used.

New Alert charts are in effect starting January 2021. Notably support doubles are not alertable and partner must alert transfers differently by stating the name of the suit.

It was reported that the ACBL Bylaws have been revised to reduce Board of Governors from 125 to 75. First and second alternates to the ACBL Board will be eliminated. The ACBL Board of Directors will be reduced from 25 to 13 over the next two years.

The Lexington club formed a youth task force under Bob Korten's leadership and sent flyers to area middle and high schools. Unfortunately, this effort was unsuccessful in recruiting young players.

The Lexington Club held 8 virtual games thanks to Bob Korten and Club Directors. These virtual games brought in a net of \$15,522 and the Club still lost over \$10,000 in 2020.

5. Cincinnati Regional Report held via Zoom on June 10, 2021.

Cincinnati tournament attendance was down. The Cincinnati Regional will be moved to October and will be an "Un-Regional" Which means 65% of gold will be awarded.

It was noted that members are playing online instead of going back to clubs. If this continues, regional and sectional tournaments may be cancelled. ACBL made a profit last year from BBO.

ACBL data shows that attendance for those under 500 MPS has dropped significantly. It was strongly suggested that Unit and Club members should get on the phone and invite members back to face-to-face games.

Minutes of the ACBL Board of Director's Meeting  
January 22, 2022

District 11 will be combined with the region west of Lexington to include Illinois, Missouri, and the region south that includes New Orleans.

6. Zoom meeting October 14, 2021. This was the final D-11 Board meeting of the year. It was reported that Cincinnati held their Un-regional in October with poor attendance.

Lexington cancelled their Sizzlin' Swiss in September 2021 because they could not meet the positivity rate requirement and other requirements of ACBL.

Lexington Club lost \$8,500 in 2021 through October. \$12,200 lost for the year.

2. **Chair for Sizzlin' Swiss Sectional 2022**—Sondra and Terrell will Chair.
3. **Chair for Cabin Fever Sectional – January 2022** -- Bob volunteered to be Chair of this Sectional.
4. **Chair for May Spring Sectional 2023**—Andra said there is currently no chair for this Sectional. She said we will revisit this in May 2022.
5. **Unit Business Insurance Policy**—Terrell reporting. He said that the Unit has a Business Liability Policy of \$1 million with Hartford (held by Cambridge Insurance in Lexington) which includes \$16,000 of property. The Club also has a separate Business Liability policy with Hartford of \$2 million for liability; an aggregate of \$4 million with \$160 thousand in property coverage. The Club wants to add liability for officers and directors for \$1 million.

Terrell then said that he reviewed the two policies and there is significant duplication. We have asked Cambridge to quote the club policy with \$1 million liability for Club officers and directors and fold the Unit coverage in as a rider. To date there has been no answer from Cambridge. Further, Powell-Walton-Milward advised that the Unit does not need a separate policy to cover assets since their address is the same as the Club.

Terrell then said that the Unit does not need liability for officers and directors because ACBL has a \$5 million policy to cover District and Unit officers and directors. Unit 164 and Unit 117 (Louisville) own the regional trailer and the assets stored within, but the Louisville Club has a separate policy to cover the trailer. Ted said we pay a couple of hundred in insurance for the trailer. Terrell said it appears we may be able to cancel the current Unit policy.

6. **District 11 ST@C Game – Unit 164's Support** – A motion was made by Darryl that we subsidize the ST@C fee. Melena seconded. Motion carried.
7. **Decline in Players 0-500 mp** – Already discussed
8. **Unit 164 Sponsored Championship Games**—Andra asked about hosting Unit 164 Championship games. After brief discussion it was decided that this issue needs to

Minutes of the ACBL Board of Director's Meeting  
January 22, 2022

go before the Lexington Club Board in order to determine dates for these games. Andra said it will be put on the agenda for the May board meeting.

A discussion ensued about items that the Unit owns but are not on-hand in Lexington. For example, the Somerset Club has a laptop that belongs to the Unit. There are additional assets that we should track down.

**Other Items for Discussion – Board**

**Adjourn--** Darryl moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Melena and carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Hume, Secretary, ACBL Unit 164.