

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Unit 163 of the ACBL was convened on May 4th, 2024, via Zoom. Members present: Carol Panzer, President; Melissa Heston, Vice-President, Vickki Shelley, Tournament Coordinator; Nancy Klein, Martha Peterson, Keith Sutherland, Debra Woodhouse, Maureen Busta, Secretary.

Sending regrets: Ralph Anderson, Lynda Kuehn

Guest: Bonnie Stettler

President Carol Panzer called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM

Bonne Stettler was welcomed as a guest.

Vickki Shelley motioned, and Martha Peterson seconded to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

Nancy Klein motioned, and Keith Sutherland seconded the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, Unit 163 Board minutes with revisions. Motion approved.

Martha Peterson motioned, and Melissa Heston seconded the Treasurer's report. Bonnie was thanked for including the details of each Tournament in separate tabs in the report.

Waterloo tournament - Bonnie Stettler reported on the Waterloo Regional Tournament. Currently there will be two free lessons offered by Mark and Carol/John. One more presenter is being sought. Wednesday or Thursday needs someone. The hospitality desk, set up, daily clean up, helpers to serve lunch each day, and treats are needed. A sign-up sheet will be sent to all Unit 163 Board members.

Tournament Coordinator Report (Vickki) reported that all tournament dates are set, and fliers have been dispersed. Melissa Heston will start working on the 2025 Tournaments in August. Maureen Busta reported that at the District 14 Board meeting they recognized Vickki Shelley for her excellent work.

Communications Committee Report (Nancy) Nancy Klein will be taking over the pianola. Bonnie will get Nancy on the account.

Unit project reports

a. Budget – Keith discussed a draft of budget info. (see attached sheet). Keith shared the following list of priorities and proposed actions:

**Priorities**

- 1 Recruit new members to the unit and its clubs.
- 2 Reward the people who consistently support the unit and make it function.
- 3 Spend down funds to point where year-end balance would cover a year's expenses, even if we took in no income.

**Proposed Actions**

- 1 Revoke increase in tournament fee, and return to \$10 per session per player

- 2 Make the awards banquet a high-end affair (budget \$25 per meal, charge \$5 for general participants, award winners are free)
- 3 Provide more free plays at tournaments: 2 free plays for members under 20 MP; fourth session is free if you pay for three if you have been a unit member for 10 years or more.
- 4 Increase hospitality funding by unit to \$200 for each tournament
- 5 Find a way to spend \$1,000 effectively on recruitment and promotion.

The proposed budget was discussed: monies need to be secured to cover unexpected expenses (Bonnie has recommended that \$10,000 be reserved in the account.) NAP and GNT games need to be added to the budget, Carol recommended that the budget include a zoom license. Keith is concerned that we are dropping in membership by 10% each year and need to secure new members. Vickki will send info regarding an Ambassador Event which has been recommended to increase membership.

Vickki Shelley Motioned and Nancy Klein seconded that Tournament fees be reviewed in the fall and based on Tournament number info from 2024 it will be decided whether to decrease Tournament fees in 2025 to \$10.

Vickki motioned and Martha Peterson seconded that hospitality fees will be reviewed at the fall meeting and it will then be decided whether to increase the current \$100

If there is going to be a separate event for the Award's Banquet in 2025, Charity events for managers would be impacted. A definite decision must be made at November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Must be decided at this meeting.

- b. Projects supporting existing members – Martha
- c. Projects supporting new members – Deb

Deb Woodhouse suggested a bonus be provided to anyone who secures a new player with the new player receiving a bonus as well. Vickki shared that Club managers currently get \$30 for recruiting new ACBL members. Vickki and Carol will prepare a summary of the programs for Deb that ACBL offers. Fliers were tried in the past with no result. An ad hoc subgroup was formed of Vickki, Deb and Martha to bring proposals to the August meeting. Keith recommended that Mary Ann Boardman be a source for recruitment. Vickki did a manager survey in 2023. The results will be sent to all Board members.

- d. Education - Carol – no report

Awards lunch at Hills Tournament - Carol shared that Feather Stone at Hickory Hill in Iowa City would like to sponsor the lunch on Friday. The current flier lists the price of the meal at \$5. The flier will be updated later. The menu for the Awards Banquet on Saturday was discussed and it was recommended that in addition to the pulled pork an additional menu item be available for those who have dietary restrictions. A member of the Board could pick up a deli tray. Carol and Martha will discuss how they will approach this. Unit 163 members who have increased their ranks during 2023 will be honored in addition to the other medal awards. Nancy recommended that members who have passed away be honored. Club managers could let Carol know of those that passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Agenda items for November meeting:

Tournament fees for 2025 – decrease to \$10?

Hospitality fee – increase the \$100 fee?

Will there be an Award's Banquet in 2025?