

**CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 3, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Loring Knoblauch. Present and constituting a quorum were:

<b>Phyllis Bartlett*</b>	<b>Betsy Downs</b>	<b>Steve McConnell</b>	<b>Joe Stokes</b>
<b>Jan Churchwell</b>	<b>Sarik Goyal</b>	<b>Jamie Rubenstein</b>	
<b>Joe Connelly</b>	<b>Bob Maxson</b>	<b>Mark Stein*</b>	

\*Via Zoom.

Absent: Bill Anspach, Guy Franklin, Suzi Subeck.

Also present: Peter Wilke.

**President's Statement:** President Knoblauch requested that Committee Chairs attend meetings and present reports. His focus will be to "grow bridge," not the CCBA bank account. Contact him at 312.280.6250.

**MINUTES (Jan Churchwell)**

Joe Stokes moved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held June 26. Motion passed unanimously.

**TOURNAMENTS**

**September Regional (Guy Franklin):** Tournament will be held on September 5-7 at Temple Beth-El. David Sales is Partnership Chair. Jan Churchwell reminded the Board that Eagle Storage had recently found two crates of CCBA materials; she suggested that Eagle be asked to check them to see if one of them is the missing Tournament Box. Bob Maxson said noone had notified the Weber Center that we were not returning.

**Sanctions for Private Club Sectionals (Tournament Oversight Committee, Jan Churchwell):** Issue is whether a Unit may approve Sectional Sanctions for private clubs, specifically a sanction for the "Jeremiah Clubs" to hold a tournament From October 9-12. District 13 has the right of final approval; a special District Board meeting is scheduled on August 8 via Zoom. President Knoblauch will present the CCBA's position (per vote at the June 26 Board meeting), namely, to try it out. Peter Wilke pointed out potential scheduling problems (and the importance of avoiding them, especially for a "new" type of game).

**FallFest (Joe Connelly):** Tournament is scheduled for October 23-25 at Temple Beth-El. Peter Wilke will talk to Diane Martin and Bill Harris about the DIC job. President Knoblauch reminded the Board that a Free Play policy needs to be established (the current one is generally considered inadequate now; discussion of alternatives needed).

**Central States (Betsy Downs):** A Partnership Chair is needed. Otherwise, plans are on track.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Awards (Phyllis Bartlett):** A call for nominees for the Wilkes and Gran Sportsmanship Awards will be sent to club owners.

**I/N News:** The game at the University of Chicago is thriving, according to Sarik Goyal. He said in his opinion the players are there for enjoyment.

**Finance (by Joe Connelly):** Treasurer Connelly distributed his report to the Board. So far our CD's have garnered about \$2000 in interest. They mature September 30, 2024. Steve McConnell suggested that beginning and ending balances be added to the report in future. Treasurer Connelly will prepare the Annual Income Statement.

**Nominating (Bob Maxson):** Joe Stokes and Sarik Goyal will retire from the Board, leaving two open positions. Several potential candidates have been identified; interviews will be via Zoom. President Knoblauch said he

planned to invite one of the candidates (Missy Ravid) to fill the vacancy created when Jim Diebel resigned.

**Website (Betsy Downs):** Chair Downs reviewed usage data and felt it wasn't a helpful gauge of website effectiveness. The number of hits was up from last year, including 732 in July alone, but there is no way to know what people were looking at. The assumption was that many July hits might have focused on NABC info.

Tom Dressing was hired to create a "variable banner" for the Home Page, and he still handles programming.

She said it is important to keep content current and suggested creating a position to monitor that function. She also reiterated that club information is the responsibility of club owners.

[NB: We will need to find a Webmaster]

**Tournament Oversight (Jan Churchwell):** The CCBA's position on "Tom's Sanction" was reviewed. If District 13 approves private sanctions in principle, the CCBA will need to develop a complete list of criteria. [Deleted: The committee will also continue working on tournament scheduling for 2024.]

The committee suggested returning to the prepandemic schedule: WinterFest Sectional; I/N (Stars of Tomorrow) Sectional in May or June; summer Windy City Regional; a Sectional near Labor Day; Central States Regional in October; and FallFest (Sectional) in November. Three STaCs would be on the schedule (late winter, summer, and late fall/December). The Annual Meeting, which must be held in January per CCBA By-laws, would again be held during WinterFest.

The Kibitzer will include a full calendar in future; the website home page will as well.

**Next Board Meeting: October 19, 2023, time and place TBD.**

Steve McConnell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Jan Churchwell  
Secretary

### **RECAP OF MOTIONS**

**Joe Stokes moved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of June 26. Motion passed unanimously**