

**CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE  
ASSOCIATION MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Mark Stein. Present and constituting a quorum were:

<b>Bill Anspach</b>	<b>Guy Franklin</b>	<b>Steve McConnell</b>
<b>Jan Churchwell</b>	<b>Sarik Goyal</b>	<b>Jamie Rubenstein</b>
<b>Joe Connelly</b>	<b>Bob Maxson</b>	<b>Suzi Subeck</b>
<b>Betsy Downs</b>		

Not present: Phyllis Bartlett, Loring Knoblauch, Joe Stokes

**MINUTES (Jan Churchwell)**

Bill Anspach moved to approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2022 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Jan Churchwell told the Board that the Minutes of the Board meeting of January 22, 2023 would be submitted for approval at the April Board meeting.

The formal election of officers was held via email vote following the January 22 Board meeting. The following people will serve as officers of the CCBA for 2023:

Mark Stein:	President
Loring Knoblauch:	Vice President
Treasurer:	Joe Connelly
Secretary:	Jan Churchwell

The vote passed with no "Nay" votes and one abstention.

**TREASURER'S REPORT (Joe Connelly)**

Treasurer Connelly sent his report out in advance of the meeting. He reported a loss of approximately \$12,000 in 2022. The CCBA's CD's were rolled over at a higher interest rate than has been available for several years.

The Labor Day Tournament experienced the biggest loss; attendance did not cover fixed expenses, including a higher-than-acceptable space rent. Labor Day 2021 had seen an even larger loss. Treasurer Connelly recommended looking for a new site. Bob Maxson said he had been told by Weber Center personnel that the rent would be increased for 2023.

WinterFest 2023 showed a small profit. Steve McConnell questioned the number of Free Plays at the tournament. A contributing factor was that Pair-Team games require more guaranteed stand-by players. The Free Play policy will be discussed in detail.

Lack of adequate timely publicity has probably also contributed to poor tournament attendance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

President Stein thanked Bill Anspach for his time and effort revising sections of the CCBA By-laws and Operational Manual. Draft proposals were sent to the Board in advance of the meeting.

### **Proposed Changes to the By-laws:**

Amend Article V.2: Instead of a fixed Board of 15 Directors, the number may vary from 11-15. Conform language as needed in related provisions.

1. Delete Article V.3, which covered the original establishment of the 15-member Board. Set up a variable-size Board (11-15 members).
2. Delete Article V.10; replace with new Sections 10 and 11: Sec. 10 covers Resignation and Removal of Directors. Sec. 11 provides for meetings by means other than in-person.
3. V.10 is being cut because the ACBL moved all conduct and ethics issues to the District level. Nik Demirev is the current Chair of the D13 Conduct & Ethics Committee.
4. Amend Article VI by adding Sec. 11, which provides for the removal of officers.
5. Amend Article VIII.2: Shorten nominating period from 120 days to 60 days. Other time-specific periods are shortened to conform, and notification methods are expanded.

Add Article XII: Indemnification of officers and Board members against legal action, including purchase of insurance.

Add Article XIII: Arbitration

Jan Churchwell explained (again) that at the January, 2019 Annual Meeting the membership approved amending the By-laws to include an Arbitration Policy as part of Article V.10 that followed the policy adopted by the ACBL. Technological issues had prevented the By-laws being published with that update. She will send the approved amendment to Bill Anspach for inclusion in the By-laws draft that is to be sent to Board members so they can compare both versions easily.

The proposed changes will be voted on at the April Board meeting (April 16).

Amendments to the By-laws must be approved by the general membership, Bill Anspach suggested calling a special meeting for that purpose. The By-laws state that the By-laws may be amended at either the Annual Meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose. A quorum of 25 is needed.

### **Proposed Changes to the Operational Manual (“the Manual”):**

A Table of Contents has been added, and the Manual has been paginated.

The division of financial functions between the Treasurer and the Bookkeeper is not finalized.

President Stein questioned whether the Nominating process has been followed properly recently. Jan Churchwell reminded the Board that all the Board members whose terms ended in 2022 ran for reelection, so there was no need to convene a committee. She also stated that she believed the process had been followed until the pandemic.

The current policies surrounding Free Plays and complimentary rooms were revised.

President Stein directed Secretary Churchwell to send the current Manual, including complete Appendices, to Bill Anspach so he could forward it to all Board members.

When all Board members have the current and proposed versions of the By-laws and the Manual, we will discuss the changes via email.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Summer NABC Update (Suzi Subeck):** Plans for the NABC are well underway. The Reservation Desk is open, stickers will soon be available “everywhere,” game schedules are ready, and committee chairs are planning entertainment and awards. There will be a restaurant guide and shuttle buses. For questions or to volunteer, contact Suzi Subeck.

**2023 GNT Tournament (Suzi Subeck):** The tournament will take place February 25 and 26 at the Renaissance in Northbrook. 24 teams have signed up.

**2023 Tournaments (Suzi Subeck):** The Labor Day tournament will move from the Weber Center due to fees. It can be held at Temple Beth-El (Northbrook), but not over the Labor Day week-end. Planned 2023 dates therefore are Tuesday, Sept. 5-Thursday, Sept. 7 and may be recast as a Regional. An IP game may be on the schedule.

The Central States Regional is tentatively planned for October 23-26.

A Sectional tentatively named “Holiday Sectional Tournament” is scheduled to begin December 11. It replaces FallFest, normally held in mid-November.

Both tournaments will take place at Temple Beth-El.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** At the January 22 Board meeting President Stein asked members to let him know if they had items they wanted on the Agenda. Bob Maxson requested that “the board explore how and why... members... left the board and what is needed to help all of us with the board’s mission.” Jan Churchwell asked why Bob’s request wasn’t on the Agenda. President Stein said he did not consider it an appropriate issue for the Board to discuss, but he would be happy to discuss any Board-related matter privately with any Board member anytime.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 16, 6:30 pm. Location tbd.

Jan Churchwell  
Secretary

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Complete division of Treasurer’s and Bookkeeper’s tasks.**

**Secretary Churchwell will send current By-laws to Bill Anspach.**

**Ditto current Manual and Appendices.**

**Bill Anspach will forward By-laws, Appendices, and Manual to all Board members.**

**Board members will discuss proposed changes to By-laws and Manual before April meeting.**

## **MOTIONS**

**The Minutes of the meeting of December 18, 2022 were approved. Bill Anspach moved.**