

CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm by President Loring Knoblauch. Present and constituting a quorum were:

Bill Anspach	Betsy Downs	Bob Maxson	Mark Stein*
Phyllis Bartlett*	Guy Franklin	Missy Ravid	Joe Stokes
Jan Churchwell	Sarik Goyal	Jamie Rubenstein	Suzi Subeck*
Joe Connelly	Steve McConnell		

*Via Zoom.

Also present: Matthew Dyer, Kibitzer Editor DeMaris Johnson*, David Joyce.

MINUTES

Joe Stokes moved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of August 3. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Loring Knoblauch)

Memorial for Stan Subeck: Jan Churchwell moved that the CCBA send a \$50 donation to the USBF Junior Fund in Stan's name. Motion passes unanimously.

Steve McConnell moved to rename the Harmon Wilkes Award in honor of Stan Subeck. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice President position: Guy Franklin moved to leave the position open until the election in January. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Missy Ravid: The Board approved Missy Ravid's appointment to the Board to fill out the remainder of Jim Diebel's term. She will be a member of the Finance Committee.

COMMITTEE and TOURNAMENT REPORTS

Finance: Treasurer Joe Connelly stated that CCBA funds (cash and CD's) total more than \$140,00 currently. He will present a full report at the Annual Meeting. Missy Ravid and Suzi Subeck suggested that a report should be made at each Board meeting, including tournament results as applicable. The Board agreed.

Tournament Oversight (Jan Churchwell): Guy Franklin wants to plan the I/N Sectional for a week-end next June. President Knoblauch will contact UIC personnel about summer dates for a the Windy City Regional. Jan introduced David Joyce who has joined the committee with the stated purpose of finding feasible sites that include week-end days; besides searching himself, he will check out any place suggested to him. He also volunteered to go to UIC with President Knoblauch.

Discussion about problems finding sites and looking for some in locations other than far north. David Joyce will contact Diane Martin about possibilities in the west and south.

Matthew Dyer expressed his agreement with what David said and added that in his opinion the Board should not expect much interest from students; their schedules do not mesh well with tournament schedules. He also suggested that a tournament might include one day with a night game.

When dates are sanctioned, Site Chair Suzi Subeck can begin looking for places.

A general annual schedule will be sent out again.

Website (Betsy Downs): Jamie Rubenstein will be "article editor" for information on the website's home page.

Chair Downs asked that the list of Harmon Wilkes Award winners be updated.

She thanked Sarik Goyal for his work as webmaster and stressed the need to find someone to fill the position.

Since the website is “communication,” Chair Downs suggested combining the Website and Communication Committees. Jamie Rubenstein asked for personal stories for feature articles.

Betsy Downs is also chairing the Central States Regional in December. In that capacity, she would like information on various points, e.g., what might be in the Operation Manual and District 13’s covid policy.

By-laws (Bill Anspach): A draft of proposed revisions to the By-laws and an annotated version explaining the changes were emailed before the meeting. Both will be sent to the general membership for review. He suggested that all changes be presented for a vote at the 2024 Annual Meeting – a “one and done” update. A final draft will be sent out before the December meeting.

WinterFest (Joe Connelly): The tournament will be held at Countryside Church in Palatine on Thursday, January 18-Saturday, January 20. The Annual Dinner and Meeting will take place on Friday, January 19, beginning at 5:30 pm. Joe Connelly is arranging the dinner as well and will investigate the possibility of using Zoom for the Annual Meeting.

Authorized Check Signers (Loring Knoblauch): Bill Anspach will be added to the Chase account as an authorized signer.

September Regional (Guy Franklin): Next year September tournament games will start at 10:00 and 2:30.

Education/IN (Guy Franklin): 6 tables had been loaned to Northwestern University bridge players. Motion to make the loan a permanent gift passed unanimously. Motion to raise caddy fees to \$60/session (\$125 for two consecutive sessions, plus a meal allowance), effective immediately, also passed unanimously.

Guy wants to create a list of local bridge teachers and asked Board members for assistance compiling it.

Nominating Committee (Bob Maxson):

Board Member slate for 2024-2027: Despite difficulties arranging interviews, two people have been nominated to join the Board in 2024. The complete slate is:

Phyllis Bartlett
Steve Donahue
Kathy Fortney
Guy Franklin
Loring Knoblauch

Joe Stokes and Sarik Goyal were thanked for their work as Board members.

Officer slate for 2024: President Knoblauch was asked whether he would run for President. He will notify Bob Maxson by Thanksgiving. Joe Connelly will run for Treasurer, and Jan Churchwell will run for Secretary. She also agreed she would run for President if President Knoblauch does not. In that case, Bob Maxson said he was willing to run for Secretary. Loring Knoblauch repeated his offer to serve as Vice President if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Representatives to the District 13 Board (Loring Knoblauch): There are two vacancies. President Knoblauch would like suggestions. Both CCBA board members and non-board members serve on the District Board (8 total now, based on Unit membership). Suzi Subeck said Mark Stein is interested in being on the District Board.

Awards (Phyllis Bartlett): A letter was sent to club owners, and a notice was posted on the website. Two suggestions have been received for the Harmon Wilkes Award and five for the Gran Sportsmanship Award. Winners (if any) will be selected at the December Board meeting.

Miscellaneous: President Knoblauch asked Board members to contribute to the cost of refreshments at the Glen View Club. Guests are not expected to contribute.

Secretary Churchwell thanked Jamie Rubenstein for bringing his computer to manage the zoom and Matthew Dyer for his assistance in set-up and logistics.

Next Meeting: GVC, December 19, time TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Churchwell
Secretary

RECAP OF MOTIONS

Joe Stokes moved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of August 3. Motion passed unanimously.

Jan Churchwell moved to approve a \$50 donation to the USBF Junior Fund in memory of Stan Subeck. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve McConnell moved to rename the Harmon Wilkes Award for Stan Subeck. Motion passed unanimously.

Guy Franklin moved to leave the position of Vice President unfilled until the election in January. Motion passed unanimously.

Board approved appointment of Missy Ravid to the Board.

Guy Franklin moved to donate six bridge tables to the bridge club at Northwestern. Motion passed unanimously.

Guy Franklin moved to raise caddy pay to \$60/session (\$125 for two consecutive sessions and a \$15 meal allowance). Motion passed unanimously.

Board approved slate of Board members for 2024-2027.