

**CHICAGO CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 29, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm by President Loring Knoblauch. Present and constituting a quorum were:

**Bill Anspach**  
**Phyllis Bartlett**  
**Jan Churchwell**

**Betsy Downs**  
**Kathy Fortney**  
**Guy Franklin\***

**Bob Maxson\***  
**Steve McConnell**  
**Missy Ravid**

**Jamie Rubenstein**  
**Mark Stein**  
**Suzi Subeck\***

\* Participated via Zoom.

Absent: **Joe Connelly, Steve Donahue**

Also present: David Joyce.

**MINUTES (Jan Churchwell)**

Steve McConnell moved to approve the Minutes of the meetings of April 11 and June 20, 2024 as corrected.

**TREASURER'S REPORT (Missy Ravid)**

Treasurer Ravid distributed the report at the meeting. \$30,000 of the funds at Wintrust were transferred into a CD. The paperwork has been completed to transfer authorization to her to manage the CD's currently at Consumers Credit Union (they come due September 30, 2024).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance (Suzi Subeck/Missy Ravid):** The committee held a hybrid meeting. A report was sent out in advance of the meeting.

Flyer costs: After discussion, the Board agreed that there should be hard copy flyers for tournaments, but printing costs should be carefully controlled. There will be no daily bulletins during tournaments.

The ACBL's plan for tournament payments now is to rebate moneys back to the sponsoring organization.

Tables: Many are wobbly (and dirty), and we need to know how many we have. The Board will then decide about replacements.

The cost of refreshments at Board meetings should not exceed \$120/meeting. If people wish alcoholic beverages, they will pay for them individually.

There will be no registration gift for the Subeck/Central States Regional in November.

**Executive Committee (Loring Knoblauch):** Suzi Subeck has been made a member of the committee.

The committee met via Zoom on August 28 to discuss Joe Connelly's lack of Board participation in 2024. The committee recommended to the Board that President Knoblauch send a formal letter notifying Joe that he needs to reply stating his intentions with respect to continuing as a Board member. After discussion, VP Maxson made a motion that a letter be sent by Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested. A reply will be required by September 30

**Tournament Oversight (Suzi Subeck/Jan Churchwell):** Sanctions have been obtained for the following tournaments in 2025: WinterFest, Windy City, and Labor Day:

WinterFest Sectional  
Windy City Regional

January 31-February 2  
July 9-13

Both WinterFest and Windy City will be held at White Eagle; Labor Day will be at the Weber Center. Two STaCs have also been sanctioned (April 7-13 and December 8-15). David Joyce was given approval to begin negotiations with both White Eagle and the Weber Center. The contract for WinterFest is needed as soon as possible.

The WinterFest Swiss Team play through will be held Saturday to avoid conflict with a regular Sunday dance club that meets every Sunday at White Eagle at 3:30 pm. The Sunday game schedule will be adjusted to minimize overlap with the dance.

Steve McConnell moved that the committee be authorized to approve rental increases up to 10% without further Board approval. Motion passed unanimously.

**Website/Communications (Betsy Downs/Jamie Rubenstein):** Co-Chair Downs sent a report out in advance of the meeting. Co-Chair Rubenstein reported that feature articles about players, especially younger ones, are being sought for publication in the Kibitzer.

The CCBA Facebook page has 79 members. Keep spreading the word!

Betsy Downs is stepping down as Co-Chair of the Committee in order to concentrate on tournament management. Kathy Fortney will replace her.

**Governance (Bill Anspach):** Jan Churchwell will post the updated By-laws on the CCBA website. Bill would like Board members to send him comments about the Operation Manual by October 10 so a draft can be prepared for discussion at the October meeting.

**Nominating (Steve McConnell):** The five Board members whose terms expire are Betsy Downs, Guy Franklin, Bob Maxson, Missy Ravid, and Mark Stein. Guy Franklin does not wish to be reslated. An ad was placed in the August *Kibitzer*. Nominations are due by October 1.

**I/N/Education (Guy Franklin):** The University of Chicago club has started again. Jan Churchwell donated cards.

## **TOURNAMENTS**

**Labor Day Sectional (Guy Franklin and Bob Maxson):** Co-Chair Franklin reported that the Weber staff has been very good to work with. Eagle Storage has delivered equipment; Hall's Rental is delivering chairs in the morning. Volunteers are wanted to help set up and take down Monday.

The I/P roster has been prepared.

**Stan Subeck Regional (Suzi Subeck):** All arrangements are on track. Since the Swiss Team game will be on Monday, there will be no conflict with the Sunday Dance club at White Eagle.

**WinterFest 2025:** Betsy Downs reported that White Eagle can handle the Annual Dinner. She suggested that David Joyce be involved in price negotiations. Judy Riehs will manage ticket sales, as she did for several years at Chevy Chase. The Board will "reconsider" whether to comp its dinners.

**Re Windy City (Betsy Downs):** Recommendation that game times and the lunch break not be changed. The Gold Rush Swiss will be dropped because of low turnout. Betsy suggested that the strats be revised and reconciled across all CCBA tournaments. Discussion of types of events to vary schedule, hopefully allow for a Knock-out again.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Steve McConnell suggested that reviewing reports that had been sent out ahead of time could be simplified. Jan Churchwell attach reports to the Minutes as possible.

**Next Board Meeting: October 17, 2024, 6:30 pm, GVC.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Jan Churchwell  
Secretary

**RECAP OF MOTIONS**

**The Minutes of the Board meetings of April 11 and June 20, 2024 were approved as corrected. Steve McConnell moved. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The Tournaments/Sites Committee is authorized to approve site rental increases up to 10% without seeking full Board approval.**