

Minutes of Unit 249's Board of Director's Meeting

at the Goderich Tournament

Sunday, Aug 27, 2023

9:00 am

Present: Jennifer Verdam, Hazel Hewitt, Tom Ramsay, Ted Boyd, Brian Clark, Gary Robertson, Lee Gallacher, Ewoud Van Goch, Linda Tindale

Regrets: Tom Jolliffe, Jed Drew

Absent: Raj Seth

Meeting: A quorum being present, the meeting chaired by Tom Ramsay was called to order at 9:21 am.

Approval of the Previous Minutes:

Moved by Ted Boyd and seconded by Gary Robertson that the minutes of the last Board Meeting held May 27, 2023 be approved as circulated – **CARRIED**

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Gary Robertson and seconded by Hazel Hewitt that the agenda be approved as circulated - **CARRIED**

Results of the Election

All prior board members ran for re-election with the exception of Tom Ramsay and Raj Seth.

The 2023 Board consists of:

Ted Boyd
Jed Drew
Jennifer Verdam
Hazel Hewitt
Lee Gallacher
Tom Jolliffe
Brian Clark
Gary Robertson

Appointment of Board Members

Moved by Hazel Hewitt and seconded by Brian Clark that Linda Tindale and Ewoud van Goch be appointed to the Board of Directors of Unit 249, ACBL - **CARRIED**

Board Positions

Ted Boyd	President
Gary Robertson	Vice President
Jennifer Verdam	Treasurer
Tom Jolliffe	Tournaments
Brian Clark	Memberships
Ewoud Van Goch	Secretary
Tom Jolliffe	Supplies
Tom Jolliffe	Webmaster
Hazel Hewitt	Education
Hazel Hewitt	Intermediate/Novice
Jed Drew	Director at Large
Lee Gallacher	Director at Large
Linda Tindale	Director at Large

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report

The financial statements are attached as Appendices A and B.

Kitchener lost approximately \$9,700.00

He has not yet purchased the GIC

Secretary's Report

Received notices of decision in the matters of James Morin and Detra Connolly, who won the Mini McKenney awards in their categories in 2022.

Moved by Ewoud Van Goch and seconded by Lee Gallacher that the unit disallow awards to be presented to candidates that have been convicted of cheating in events that would have contributed to that award - **CARRIED**

Education Report

No report but Hazel would like to suggest that we do a teacher training for the unit in 2023-2024.

Tournament Chair's Report

Sectionals which have been approved for 2023:

Sarnia ran a Local Sectional on June 3 and 4 at Randy Breuer's club.

Tillsonburg ran on August 12th and 13. Their table count was 97 versus 70 in 2022, and 164 in 2019.
Goderich scheduled for August 26th and 27th
St Thomas scheduled for September 9th and 10th
London scheduled for October 21st and 22nd

The Kitchener Regional ran from July 4th – 9th, 2023 at Bingemans, and a separate report is available. The Directors for the Regional used Square, a digital entry form, and the tournament was CASH FREE. This created no problems and resolved the issue of Directors and Tournament staff walking around with wads of cash. We lost \$9,700 partially due to site costs (\$2,500 a day and Bingemann's tried to add a \$500 a day administration fee a day, which was eventually waived). The next one will be held at the St George Hall in St Jacob's. Finally, attendance was down 150 tables compared to the budget.

Ewoud Van Goch moved and Lee Gallacher seconded that we authorize the tournament chair to put a deposit down on St George Hall for the 2025 Regional - **CARRIED**

It was noted that all ACBL Sanctioned Tournaments will now take pre-registrations, which over time should resolve one of the major headaches for tournaments, which is knowing how many tables to expect.

Marketing

It is unclear if the Pianola marketing effort was worth the money paid. It wasn't clear who received the Blasts and how well they were received. More info to come.

Local Tournaments

The ACBL introduced opportunities for local clubs to offer "Local Tournaments" which partially pay participants in silver points. Tournaments must be a minimum of two days, a maximum of 25 tables at a session and must be run by a trained Local Tournament Director or a regular Tournament Director who is approved by the ACBL for tournament directing. The ACBL, through its District Rep, has advised that the Unit is responsible for Local Tournaments, as they are for Sectional Tournaments; our Unit and District 2 have agreed to require Local Tournaments be sanctioned as are Sectional Tournaments.

As of August 2023, there is only one Local Director who has written and passed the exam in Unit 249 (Kathy Russell in Grand River), and Randy Breuer will have to complete the ACBL course to Direct again in 2024. Sarnia ran the Local Tournament and although table count was low, the financing was break even. Sarnia plans to run one again in 2024.

I am asking that our Unit clarify its role in this activity. Consider, if a local club runs a tournament with 15 tables on Sat am, Sat pm, and Sunday Swiss, with a table fee of \$12.50/person per event, the revenue will be (15 tables x 4 sessions x \$50 per table) \$3,000. The expenses will be a Director

(perhaps \$400, although Randy contributed the fee to the club), and coffee and treats. All other expenses are sunk costs by the club.

According to the ACBL, the Unit is responsible for Tournaments, including profit and loss. Will the Unit dictate entry fees, prices, Director fees, etc for local Tournaments? Will the Unit “share” costs and revenue with local clubs? Since it would seem to be almost impossible for a club to “lose” money for a Local Tournament, I suggest we stay arms length away and perhaps charge a fee and let the balance remain with the local club as a fund raiser / club encouragement.

Ewoud Van Goch doesn't think it's appropriate to take the financial risk. Jennifer Verdam agrees. The concern is that we won't have sectionals. We don't want to take the risk if they don't compensate us.

Membership Report

Submitted by Brian Clark, Membership Chair

We have 74 inactive members since January. We have gained eight members since January, but are down three since last November. Total members count is 1213.

Ewoud Van Goch moves to accept the report, seconded by Hazel Hewitt – **CARRIED**

Supplies

No report. We need printer paper.

Webmaster

No report

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Purchase of pianola credits for advertising

Ted is reluctant to do this again because he is not sure it helped our attendance.

Director courses

London is willing to do it November 4th and 5th. Hazel Hewitt moves and Ewoud Van Goch seconds that it be free for anyone who wishes to take the two day course. – **CARRIED.**

It was clarified that new director candidates are first and the do-overs are second if there are more than capacity.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting, which will be held face to face at St Thomas on September 10th, at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 10:15 am.

Adjournment: Moved by Ewoud Van Goch that the meeting be adjourned at 11:00 am - **CARRIED.**

**CLUB MANAGERS and DIRECTORS,
PLEASE, POST and ANNOUNCE THIS
ASAP TO THE PLAYERS IN YOUR AREA.**