

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**

**December 11, 2001
8:00 A.M. CST - Via Conference Call**

Directors Present: Michael Becker, Shawn Quinn, Bruce Reeve, Dan Morse, Alan Popkin, Bob Friend, Arnold Jones, Nick Nickell, Wayne Hascall

Others Present: Rena Hetzer, Peter Rank and Nadine Wood

Call to Order and Quorum Established

Mike Becker called the meeting to order. A quorum was established

Approval Minutes

Tabled until a future meeting.

Drug Policy

Rank reported that the US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA has a web site, 33 pages on drugs and more on drug testing. IOC has contracted with UCLA for SLC to do drug testing. The Subcommittee was asked to examine whether we want testing at our trials, or, before trials winners play in international events. Perhaps a statement as to drug use should be on the USBC entry form. The Committee will report back to the full Board.

USBF Mission Statement

A motion was moved and seconded to adopt the following mission statement:

It is our mission, in the spirit of competition, to provide for the achievement of excellence in the sport of bridge, with the highest degree of sportsmanship and victory as the standards. We shall hold trials, train and support dedicated individuals so that they may represent themselves and the United States of America, with honor, in all bridge competitions.

Carried without dissent.

Residency Requirements for Trials Participation

The motion regarding residency requirements for USBC participation passed at the 12/03/01 was rescinded and replaced with the following:

Except for events requiring citizenship, USBC eligible non-citizens (subject to Appendix P of USBC Conditions of Contest) may earn PPs, play in USBC events and be eligible for subsidy in international play providing they pay a \$50 fee subject to the same payment timing rules as Active Members.

Carried without dissent

Salt Lake City Event

- A. Media and PR Report by Nadine Wood
Wood reported there will be no financial help from the WBF and there are serious room problems for the players. The USBF is on its own. Wood was appointed as the USBF's Promotion and Hospitality Coordinator for SLC. The USBF is desperate for and welcomes all help offered in these areas. Wood should be advised of any volunteer contributions or developments in these areas. Hetzer will send an email to the appropriate persons alerting them to the need to keep Wood informed.
Wood also reported that Bruce Kiedan, writer for a Pittsburgh paper, was approved by WBF to tend to the "care and feeding" of the SLC press. Omar Sharif was suggested as a celebrity SLC attendee.
- B. Jacobs is still on the table as a commentator. Becker will ask Damiani before asking Jacobs.
- C. Hascall is working on kibitzer pre-clearance.
- D. Buffet is still the best choice for Open Team NPC.
- E. Meyers reports she is friendly with the woman who was hired last week as the Associate General Manager of the Yankees. She was a baseball player's lawyer and knows lots of baseball people and probably would have connections to other sports people. She may help Meyers get in touch with sports celebrities if asked. Meyers asked if there was any particular sports figure we would be interested in or if we were giving up on that angle.

Web Site

Quinn reported on the progress of the USBF web site design. The name USbridge.org was approved. The logo presently shown on the sample web page was temporarily approved

Ryder Cup Format

There was no discussion on this matter.

Other Business

Fred Gitelman has offered to broadcast USBC for expenses (unless he's in the event in the later stages). The ACBL should pursue getting members of its staff trained to broadcast the USBC over Fred's site, saving the expenses. Becker will ask Gitelman

about other table results.

Bjorn Fallenius's eligibility for 2002 was referred to the Tournament Committee. The Committee will look into whether Bjorn can play in the 2002 USBC for the 2003 Bermuda Bowl. Bjorn would pass the WBF 30 month rule for 2003 but not meet it for the USBC. The Committee was directed to ask the WBF on how to interpret the rule and whether a waiver would be granted.

Hetzer will contact those Board members who have not provided their correct phone and fax numbers.

Rank will draw up protocols by which USBF membership can be refused to a citizen or member in good standing of the ABA or ACBL.

Nickell and Quinn again asked USBF Board Members for a list of bridge payers who could be solicited for USBF donations.

The next meeting was set for December 18, 2001 at 8:00 am CST.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.