

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

**Tuesday, January 13, 2004  
8:00 PM CST  
Via Conference Call**

Directors Present: Nick Nickell, Chris Compton, Arnold Jones, Jan Martel, Rose Meltzer  
Dan Morse, Marvin Comer, and Bill Pollack

Others Present: Peter Rank, Gary Blaiss, Michael Becker, Rena Hetzer

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Nick Nickell

**II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER**

Outgoing Board member Nickell introduced Bill Pollack, newly elected Board Member and noted the reelection of Board members Titow and Jones.

**III. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The chairman noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

**IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- A. The floor opened for nominations for USBF Board President. Chris Compton nomination by Dan Morse was seconded by Jan Martel. There being no other nominations, Compton was elected USBF Board President.
- B. Outgoing President Nickell turned the Chair over to newly elected President Compton. A motion was proposed, seconded and approved thanking Nickell for his fine work on behalf of the USBF Board and the United States bridge athletes.
- C. The floor opened for nominations for USBF Board Vice President. Martel being the only candidate nominated was elected by acclamation.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MEETING OF 12/09/03**

The minutes were accepted and approved as submitted.

**VI. DUES COLLECTION FOR 2004 ACTIVE MEMBERS**

- A. By the end of January, a request for payment of 2004 dues will go via email to all active USBF members as of 12/31/03.
- B. A notice regarding 2004 dues payment will be posted on the USBF web site. Martel will cooperate with webmaster Fairchild in composing the notice.

- C. Additionally, arrangements will be made for collection of 2004 dues at the Spring Reno NABC immediately prior to the start of the Vanderbilt and immediately prior to the start of the NABC+ Women's Swiss Team event. Any player unpaid at this time will not be eligible to earn PPs toward a bye in the 2004 USBC or the 2005 USWBC.
- D. Players competing in the 2004 USSBC must be USBF active members prior to entry in the 2004 USSBC and may pay their dues at any time prior to the start of that event.

**VII. ACTIVATION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE**

After a brief discussion, this item was deferred to the next USBF meeting

**VIII. \$10,000 LOAN PAYMENT TO ACBL IN EXCHANGE FOR \$5,000 TRIALS SERVICES**

A motion was proposed, seconded and approved to authorize the second \$10,000 payment to ACBL on an original \$50,000 loan (at no interest) leaving an unpaid balance of \$30,000 due 5 years from the date of the original \$50,000 loan.

**IX. DIRECTION OF JUNIORS**

- A. After discussing the merits of whether the focus of the Junior Program should be on developing a greater participation in Junior trials or in selecting teams by a method most likely to produce winning teams in World Championships, the Board reiterated its support of the direction outlined by the JITTC at its Fall 2003 meeting in New Orleans. The report of this committee is contained in the Board Minutes of 12/09/03.
- B. Blaiss requested the approval of the Board for the United States' participation in the upcoming Carrousel Cup, an invitational annual junior event to be held in the Netherlands April 13-17, 2004. It was noted that all expenses for sending a US Junior team plus appropriate NPCs and coaches was entirely financed by the Junior Fund.

The Board unanimously approved participation in this event as well as leaving the selection of the team in the hands of the JITTC as has been done in prior years. As Jade Barrett will not be available to accompany the team as in prior years it was unanimously approved for Charlotte Blaiss, ACBL director of junior programs, to accompany the team to this event.

**X. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR USBF MEMBERS**

Bearing in mind the desire of the Board that players who have previously met the WBF requirements to represent the United States in world competition remain eligible, Nickell and Martel will cooperate in drafting a proposal to either amend Appendix P dealing with such eligibility or suggest a change in the Bylaws that would suit present and future situations.

**XI. FILING OF CONDUCT CHARGES**

Rank suggested and the Board agreed that Disciplinary Procedures established and approved by the USBF Board and recently amended to reflect a 15-day time period from incident to filing of a complaint addressed this situation and no further action need be taken.

**XII. OLD BUSINESS**

Hetzer requested guidance from the board relative to subsidy due Wei-Sender, member of the USA I Venice Cup team. Nickell will resolve this matter.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

**XIV. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 1 at 8:00 PM CST via conference call.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.