

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
5/17/2006
8 PM CST
VIA CONFERENCE CALL

Directors Present: Bob Hamman, Jan Martel, Rose Meltzer, and Shawn Quinn
Others Present: Joan Gerard, Gary Blaiss, Barbara Nudelman

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Jan Martel at 8:05 CST

II. 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.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MEETING OF 3/16/06

The minutes were accepted and approved as submitted.

IV. OPPOSITION TO GOODLATTE BILL

Bob presented information about the bill and the Poker Association's position on it. Joan reported that the ACBL Board of Directors had decided not to join with the Poker Association in opposing the bill. After discussion of the benefits of allowing some online bridge to have both an entry fee and prizes, it was moved by Hamman, seconded by Meltzer that we join the Poker Association in its opposition to the bill, so long as it does not cost us any money. Passed unanimously.

V. ADDITION TO SCHOOLS TEAM FOR THAILAND

On motion by Quinn, seconded by Meltzer, the Board unanimously approved the addition of Jason Chiu to the Schools Teams.

VI. POST MINUTES FROM XITT COMMITTEES ON WEBSITE

After discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of posting minutes of meetings of the ITTC, WITTC, SITTC & JITTC on our website, it was moved by Meltzer, seconded by Hamman that subject to approval of each of the committees (in the case of the ITTC, the "Committee of the Whole"), minutes from these committees be posted on the USBF website.

VII. APPROVAL OF USBF TEAMS FOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS & CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

The Board discussed how we should go about approving the winners of each of the USBCs as our teams for World Championships and what the role of the Credentials Committee should be in that process. After much discussion, it was agreed that the Board should first determine whether any issue of ethics, deportment or behavior existed with regard to any member of the team that won the USxBC. If no such issue exists, in the opinion of a majority of the Board, the team will be nominated to represent the USBF at the World Championship. If the Board has any question about any player(s) on a team, it will refer the matter to the Credentials Committee for review. The Credentials Committee shall hold whatever hearings or meetings it considers appropriate and make a recommendation to the Board. Although the Board will not be bound by the Credentials Committee recommendation, it will give great weight to that recommendation in deciding whether to nominate the player(s).

The Credentials Committee procedures for adding players to a winning team that has fewer than 6 players are set forth in the USBF General Conditions of Contest.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Barbara reported that she is now able to sign checks on the USBF Wachovia account, so any bills to be paid can be sent to her. Barbara also recommended that we close the old Bank of America account, that does not pay interest. So far as anyone knows, that account exists only because there was a time when we could not get an account that paid interest and also allowed us to write checks. Since the Wachovia account does pay interest and allow check writing, there is no reason to have a second checking account. The Board authorized Barbara to close the Bank of America account and move the money from that account to the Wachovia account. Barbara also recommended that we open a separate account to hold the Mahaffey Fund money (about \$50,000). Because that fund is substantial, we can get an account just for it that will pay as much interest as our regular account and this will make accounting for that fund simpler and more accurate. The Board authorized Barbara to open a separate account for the Mahaffey Fund.

Joan reported that as soon as the last contributions have been collected, the Junior Fund will have enough money to pay the expenses of our teams going to Thailand (in excess of the \$50,000 from ACBL Junior Fund) and also to pay tuition and entry fees for Juniors going to the WBF camp in Slovakia this summer. The Board thanked Barbara and Joan for the wonderful effort of raising these funds.

IX. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 6 at 8:00 pm CST via conference call. Jan will confirm this date after consultation with the Board members who were unable to attend this meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 CST.