

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

9:00PM EDT
VIA CONFERENCE CALL

Directors Present: Joan Gerard, Cheri Bjerkan, George Jacobs, Ralph Katz,
Sylvia Moss, Mike Passell, Howard Weinstein

Others Present: Barbara Nudelman, Jan Martel, Joe Stokes, Marty Harris, Rena
Hetzer

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Joan Gerard, president , at 9:05pm EDT

II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM

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

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2011

The minutes were accepted and approved as submitted.

IV. CFO REPORT

a. Regional at Sea

Barbara Nudelman reported that we had received a little over \$6000 from the
Regional at Sea.

b. Stipend for 2011 World Championship Teams

The Stipend committee recommended that each player and NPC receive a
stipend of \$377 per day for ten days, to cover the Round Robin phase of the
tournament and that each player and NPC on a team that qualified for the KO
stage receive an additional stipend of \$280 per day for each day the team played
in the KO (if the team qualified for the semi-finals and the player stayed through
the Closing Ceremony, the per diem would be for all of the days through the
Closing Ceremony). The Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

c. Cost to Send Junior Teams to Croatia

It will cost about \$30,000 to send two Junior teams to the World Youth
Championship in Croatia in August.

V. JUNIOR TRIALS

Joe Stokes reported that we will be holding 5 Junior Trials in 2011, 2 to select the Under 26 and Under 21 teams for the World Youth Championship in Croatia Aug. 21-30 this year and 3 to select the Under 28, Under 26 and Under 21 teams for the 2012 World Youth Championships. The Trials for the Croatia teams will be pairs trials held on BBO. The Trials for the Under 26 team will be on April 30-May 1, the Trials for the Under 21 team will be on May 21-22. The top 3 pairs in each trials will be the team. The Trials for the 2012 teams will be online competition to choose either 2 or 4 teams for face to face finals, followed by the face to face KO. The face to face U28 Trials for 4 teams will be held the final weekend of the Women's & Seniors Trials in Detroit. The face to face U26 Trials for 4 teams will be held during the Fall NABC in Seattle. The face to face U21 Trials for 2 teams will be held on Sunday July 31, in Toronto. We will wait to select NPCs for all of these teams until the teams have been selected so that we can consult the team members. Joe & Jan are working on Conditions of Contest for these Trials.

The Board and Marty Harris discussed what release forms we need for Juniors (particularly those under 18) who are attending World Championship events. Marty will put together a form for the players and their parents to sign. We will also get Medical release forms from them.

We have a form that we require each Junior participating in an online Trials to sign that specifically allows us to disqualify anyone who is suspected of using outside assistance during the Trials; there is no appeal from this decision, which is made by our online monitors.

VI. SENIOR & WOMEN'S TRIALS

Sandy and Bill Arlinghaus have raised money to provide lunch between sessions of play. USBF will provide a continental breakfast.

Directors in Charge are Terry Lavender (Women) and Harry Falk (Seniors). Only 2 teams have entered each event, but that is normal for this early. Entry deadline is April 15th.

VII. OPEN TRIALS

Only 3 teams have entered the Open Trials, and not very many players have made hotel reservations. The entry deadline is April 4th, and we would normally have more entries by now.

Our contract with Green Valley Ranch specifies that if either of us is unhappy with the results of this year we will not renew for next year.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Teams approved for the SportAccord event in China this fall are:

Open: David Berkowitz-Alan Sontag, Fred Gitelman-Brad Moss & Bob Hamman-Ralph Katz;

Women: Lynn Deas-Beth Palmer, Irina Levitina-Kerri Sanborn, Tobi Sokolow-Janice Seamon-Molson.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed a motion before the ACBL Board to use the International Fund, which presently is used to provide support to teams representing the US and Canada in the World Championships to pay ACBL's WBF dues (which are \$1 per member). The Board members expressed concern about this and discussed ways to counteract it.

Joan reported that District 14 might be interested in holding the USBF Regional in 2014. She will discuss further with District 14 Board member Sharon Anderson and report back.

The Board discussed how often the USBF President should report to the ACBL Board. Most of USBF activities are in May-June when we hold Trials, so it may be sufficient for the President to report once a year, not at every ACBL Board meeting. No decision was reached on this.

Joan reported that we have run out of the little "stickums" with our logo that we distribute at the USBF Regional and at other Regionals to provide publicity. The Board agreed that we should reorder them.

Joan also reported that Sandy Arlinghaus has ordered pens with the USBF logo for the Women's & Senior's Trials and will contribute any that are left over to us.

The Board approved the application of Yue Deng for Resident Membership in the USBF.

2012 Trials – the Board decided to wait until after this year's Trials to decide where to hold the 2012 Trials.

The Board discussed the possibility of holding the World Championship in the US again in 2018. There was concern about how to raise the money. Several Board members expressed their disapproval of having to ask the players to contribute in order to do this. The Board did not reach a conclusion about this.

X. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2011 at 9pm EDT.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10pm EDT.