

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019
11:00 AM CDT
MEMPHIS, TN

Directors Present: Kate Aker, Mark Aquino, Marty Fleisher, Brad Moss, Beth Palmer; Absent: Josh Parker

Others Present: Jan Martel, Stan Subeck, Suzi Subeck, Joe Stokes, Adam Wildavsky, Howard Weinstein, Bonnie Bagley, Al Levy

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Fleisher at 11:00 am CDT.

II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM

The president 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. APPROVE MINUTES OF FEB 12 AND MARCH 8, 2019

The Minutes of the February 12 and March 8, 2019 meetings were unanimously approved.

IV. NABF STRUCTURE

The USBF, CBF, and FMB make up the NABF as governing entity. Their primary task is to appoint representatives to WBF Executive Committee (4-yr terms). The NABF Board is made up of:

- 4 members appointed by USBF
- 2 from ACBL (Georgia Heth, Al Levy)
- 2 from CBF (Canada) (John Carruthers, Nader Hanna)
- 1 from FMB (Mexico). (Beto Cohen)

Brad Moss moves that Jan Martel is the first USBBF appointee. Dave Caprera seconds. Unanimously approved. Mark Aquino moves that Brad Moss, Beth Palmer, and Suzi Subeck are the other appointees. Dave seconds. Unanimously approved.

Suzi Subeck will be appointed communications officer of the USBF.

The USBF must nominate WBF executive committee representatives. The NABF then selects from these nominations. The other executive committee nominations are:

Al Levy - ACBL

Nader Hanna - CBF

Beto Cohen – FMB

Adam Wildavsky and Suzi Subeck speak to their experience in the field, desire for more transparency from the WBF, and opinions on WBF relation to the IOC.

The Board deferred the decision on nominees for the WBF EC to the end of the meeting.

V. 2019 GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Beth moves approval of the 2019 General Conditions of Contest. Brad seconds, unanimously approved.

VI. 2019 EVENT-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

No changes to open CoC.

Senior USBC Round Robin extended from 1.5 to 2 days to avoid starting KOs in second half of day. Round robin matches will also be longer this way.

Women's & Mixed USBC:

-With 4 teams, seeding will be done by random draw (subject to Beth discussing with women players for consensus and input)

-With 6 or 8 teams, RR will qualify top two to USA1 final, remaining teams to USA2 bracket. With 5 or 7 teams, RR will cut to 4 and remaining teams will be eliminated

Amendment: Teams must have dated evidence that they informed Event 1 teammates before Event 1 that player(s) X intend to play in an additional event (assuming players are not already publicly listed on other team).

Brad moves to approve all CoC subject to these changes and Beth's feedback on women's seeding. Beth seconds, unanimously approved

VII. INCOME STATEMENT/BALANCE STATEMENT

USBF should encourage clubs to run more international fund games. They can run these for all of Int'l Fund month – September - and whenever else they want with the exception of two specific months of the year.

ACBL funding to USBF for WBF dues is steadily decreasing over the next few years. IREACH or reduced WBF dues are possible avenues to deal with this.

By end of 4 year cycle, International Fund pot should be 0 – we receive about \$800k in 4 years and plan to spend \$800k in 3 years. The amount we receive depends on how many International Fund games there are and how many players participate. The amount we spend depends on the per diem in the location of the World Championships and our teams' performance in the World Championships.

VIII. SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP (KATE)

From Feb 15-28: 22 new supporting members!

Try to clear misconceptions about what supporting membership goes toward. It doesn't go to sending teams overseas, it goes toward USBF operations, primarily to make up the losses from the USBCs.

IX. IREACH

Jay Whipple suggested USBF runs IREACH in Sept (international fund month). However, it may not be best to overlap with IF month. The last week of October is a possibility. Jan is working on logistics.

Joe Jones (ACBL Exec. Director) can run an experiment with different masterpoint formula than normal for the IREACH event on shorter notice than the normal approval process for a revised masterpoint schedule. Masterpoint awards will be reapportioned - lower at top and spread further, based on feedback from large club owners.

X. NPC STANDARDS

Beth's committee on NPCs proposed policies for NPC selection and a list of NPC duties and responsibilities. The USBF reserves the right to reject a team's NPC selection based on these documents.

The Board amended the policies document by changing the language about "high level experience" so it wasn't a reason for rejection if the NPC had a proposal for dealing with the duties that require experience.

Beth moves to approve these policies, Dave seconds, unanimously approved.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Contract signed with Hyatt in Atlanta for Michael Seamon JUSBC in December 2019 (2020 WYTC will likely be in SE Asia). Michael Rosenberg is heading an ongoing fundraising effort to raise the money to run the JUSBC and provide travel and room for all of the players.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session and invited Julie Arbit and Jan Martel to join; other attendees left.

XIII. WBF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINEES

The Board came out of Executive Session and nominated Suzi Subeck and Adam Wildavsky for the WBF EC.

XIV. NEXT MEETING

Board will communicate by email or conference call to approve final CoC and appoint Suzi Subeck as communications officer of USBF.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm CDT.