

**MINUTES**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**TUESDAY, SEPT 21, 2021**  
**4:00 PM EDT**  
**BY ZOOM CALL**

Directors Present: Kate Aker, Mark Aquino, Lynn Baker, Dave Caprera, Steve Garner, Aaron Silverstein, Sheri Winestock,

Others Present: Jan Martel, Brad Moss, Suzi Subeck

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Brad Moss at 4:05pm EDT.

**II. USBC ISSUES**

**A. Players in Each Room**

After discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of each, the Board voted unanimously to have 2 players in each room.

**B. Testing**

After discussing several possibilities for testing, including requiring a negative COVID test before arrival, requiring testing of players who played in more than one event, and checking temperatures daily, the Board voted unanimously not to require any testing of players, but to provide information about the availability of testing. The Board authorized Jan to require tournament staff and volunteers who were on-site for more than a week to obtain a negative test.

**C. Masks**

The Board took note of the fact that Illinois currently requires masks in public indoor spaces, so masks will be required in the hotel lobby and other public areas. The Board directed Brad to ask Marty Harris to determine whether a hotel room in which 2 people are playing bridge in a tournament would be considered a public space. If not, the Board unanimously agreed that the default would be to require masks, but the two players could agree to something else.

**D. Cameras**

After discussion, the Board decided that with only 2 players in a room it wasn't necessary to have a video record of play. They then discussed an audio record and decided that if it was inexpensive and easy to do an audio recording in each room, that should be done, but if it was at all difficult it wouldn't add enough to be needed.

### **E. Liability Waiver**

The Board unanimously agreed that each player in any of the 2021 USBCs should be required to sign a waiver of liability for anything related to COVID. Brad will ask Marty Harris to draft a waiver. Jan will inform all of the players by email of the requirement and the text of the waiver, and will have them sign it in Schaumburg before they play.

### **F. Waiving Requirements for Roster Changes for the KO**

The Board discussed whether there were any situations in which the requirement that a team had to have four players who played in the online Round Robin to be eligible for the KO, and that for the Mixed USBC, the team must retain 2 men and 2 women from the Round Robin. The Board voted unanimously to make no changes to the announced conditions for roster changes.

### **G. Hospitality**

Jan reported that because David Berkowitz's team had not qualified for the Quarterfinal, Lisa will not be able to come to spearhead the hospitality. Julie Arbit has generously agreed to handle hospitality for the Mixed & Seniors. Jan is still looking for someone for the Open [after the meeting, Jan reported that Evvie Gilbert from Houston has agreed to be the lead hostess for the Open].

The hospitality plan is to provide grab and go breakfast and lunch in the hospitality suite. There will be no eating in the suite, players will be required to wear masks, and no more than 6 players will be allowed in the suite at one time. There will be bottled water in the playing rooms, the hospitality suite and the Players' Break Room. There will be some packaged snacks, fruit, soft drinks and nespresso coffee in the Players' Break Room, but no eating in the room and a limit of 6 players at any one time. The Board unanimously approved this hospitality plan.

## **III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 pm EDT.