

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

**Wednesday, October 10, 2001
Via Phone @ 7:00pm CDT**

Directors Present: Michael Becker, Shawn Quinn, Bruce Reeve, Wayne Hascall,

Others Present: Rena Hetzer

Directors Not Present: Arnold Jones, Bob Friend, Alan Popkin, Nick Nickell, Dan Morse

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Michael Becker, USBF President. The President noted the absence of a quorum thus designating this meeting as a discussion group only with no official business to be transacted.

Approval of Minutes

Due to the lack of a quorum, the approval of the minutes of the September 13, 2001 meeting is postponed until the next meeting.

Update on USOC Matters

Postponed to next meeting.

Salt Lake City Event

A. Format and structure of event

It was reported that the event will begin with a round robin coming down to four teams. These four teams will then play a BAM format. There will be one USA junior team in a four-team junior event also playing in a BAM format.

B. Uniforms

It was reported that uniforms were expected to be as in previous IOC Grand Prix – matching blazers and trousers for the men and similar outfits for the ladies. Hetzer reported that the previous budget for uniforms was approximately \$350 per person. Further discussion was tabled as obtaining a sponsor may make a difference.

C. Local Attendance

Hascall reported that Richard Anderson, ACBL District 18 Board Member, has assured him that the local bridge population would be there to support the event.

D. Commentators for VuGraph

It is reported that Damiani would welcome any celebrity on the panel that the USBF might persuade to attend. Quinn and Nickell will ask Damiani in Paris what is planned for the VuGraph. Quinn mentioned Audrey Grant as a possible panel member.

E. **Contacting Celebrities**

Jill Meyers will be asked to use her source to contact Navratilova. It was discussed that paying her expenses and offering her a bridge game with an expert world champion player might be enough of an inducement.

F. **Junior Team Selection**

A motion to select the current World Junior Championship team as the SLC junior team was moved and seconded. All voting members present voted yes to this motion. The remaining absent board members will be asked to cast their vote via email.

It was agreed that before this team was officially invited each member would be contacted by Reeve and/or Becker in order to stress to them what would be expected in terms of their behavior and readiness to be drug-tested.

The need for chaperones was briefly discussed. Becker suggested that there would be ample supervision from the members of the open and ladies team.

Financial Issues

A. **Corporate Sponsorship**

Quinn reported that Nickell/Quinn had composed and sent a letter to Bill Gates to be followed up with a phone call from Bob Hamman. Quinn reported that presently there were no other possibilities on the horizon.

B. **Private Donations**

It was agreed that all should ask their clients and friends at the nationals for donations. The following pledges were made from those at the meeting: Quinn \$100, Becker \$200, Hetzer \$100 and Judy Becker \$100. Some ACBL BOD members have/will donate their annual \$1000 discretionary charity donation to the USBF. Reeve and Hascall have already done so.

C. **Update on Expenses**

We have \$11,000 left of the \$50,000 loan proceeds. *(See attached exhibit).*

D. **Setting annual dues for various membership categories**

The following parameters were suggested: \$10 for juniors/students; \$50 for Senior Active Members defined as 55 yrs old or older; timing of the respective dues should be prior to the trials entry. There are no PPs involved in the junior or senior trials.

Also discussed was a possible method for "student" members to prove their status as full-time students and therefore eligibility for the reduced-price USBF membership.

A formal motion setting the dues structure needs to be put forth and voted upon.

Charity Kickoff Event

Hascall will email the proposed plan to the Board prior to the next meeting.

Bylaws Amendment

1. Becker will send out to everyone the table of contents added by Chris Compton.
2. Who is eligible to play in WBF non-trials qualifying events:
ABA members? ACBL members? Those who have paid the .50 fee when they became members of the ABA or ACBL?

Morse will find out if anything has changed because of ABA and USBF before we propose any amendments to our Bylaws. Some think a Bylaws amendment is not necessary because the USBF is not the determiner of who plays in these events.

Attached is a proposed Bylaws amendment for consideration at the next USBF Board meeting.

Web Site Update

Quinn reported that a site map is being drawn up. ITTC and WITTC members and others will be asked to do some writing for the site on a volunteer basis. \$25 is owed to Quinn for obtaining the site.

Drug Policy Report

Rank is to get drug information from the IOC. Reeve is seeking information from testing labs.

USBF Mission Statement

Reeve and Popkin are looking at the ACBL mission statement and may have something by the end of the month.

Old and New Business

It was proposed that Dr. Clarice Reid be made an honorary captain of the ladies SLC team. It is expected that a motion proposing such will be put forth and voted on at the next meeting.

PROPOSED BYAWS AMENDMENT
FOR CONSIDERATION AT LEAST 30 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT.

Bylaws Amendment: (for consideration at next Board Meeting)

II. Membership

- A. Regular Membership. A Regular Member of the USBF shall receive all publications and notices of the organization, shall be on the organization membership rolls, *and shall be entitled to compete in international competition not arising from qualifying through a trials*. Regular Members shall not pay dues, shall not be entitled to vote for members of the Board or Directors or hold office in the USBF and shall not be entitled to compete in USBF trials to qualify to represent the United States in international competition. A Regular Member may be qualified as follows:
1. A person who is a citizen of the United States of America and who is a member in good standing of the American Contract Bridge League ("ACBL") or the American Bridge Association ("ABA") is automatically a member in the United States Bridge Federation;
 2. A person who is a citizen of the USA and who is a member in good standing of an amateur bridge organization which is certified by the USBF Board of Directors as an organization described in Article IV, Section 4(c)(a) of the constitution of the USOC; or
 3. A person who is a citizen of the USA who is interested in the game of bridge and in its international competition.
- B. Active Members. An Active Member of the USBF shall: receive all publications and notices of the organization, be on the organization's membership rolls, pay dues as established from time to time by the Board of Directors, be entitled to be a member of the Board of Directors, vote for members of the Board, hold office in the USBF, *be entitled to compete in international competition not arising from qualifying through a trials*, compete in USBF trials to qualify to represent the United States in international competition and be eligible for subsidy when training for or participating in international competition. An Active Member shall qualify by being a Regular Member as set forth in Article II.A. and paying Active Member dues as set by the Board of Directors.