

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

May 22, 2003 – 2:30 P.M. CST

Directors Present: Jay Baum
Nick Nickell
Ken Titow
Dan Morse
Chris Compton
Marvin Comer
Arnold Jones
Jan Martel
Rose Meltzer

Others Present: Peter Rank, Esq.
Gary Blaiss
Mike Becker

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Nick Nickell.

II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM

The acting 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. Minutes of 4/10 Approved

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Appeals: It was decided to appoint Rich Colker (chair), Hugh Ross, John Sutherlin, Ron Gerard, Eric Kokish and Ira Chorush to the USBC Appeals Committee. (Bobby Wolff is playing in the event.) A speakerphone should be installed at the Hilton and the committee will “meet” by conference call. If go through these five people and don’t have three, Rich Colker has authority to use his judgment to get Committee together, with the help of Director.

Chris made a motion to approve Amendments to COC’s regarding Credentials, Security and Appeals.

Nick suggested in COC’s where list 5 members, below that – “This Committee has been recommended by ITT; where not available the Appeals Committee will replace them.”

After discussion, it was agreed to include in the Conditions of Contest section on the Tournament Appeals Committee: “The ITTC Appeals Committee may appoint members in addition to those listed on the front page of this document to the Tournament Appeals

Committee.”

Motion Passed

B. E-mail Discussion: What happens when e-mails are directed to USBF. Who answers what e-mail?

Nick: Wait for subsequent meeting to decide.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion Re Dues: Nick recommended we resolve before next year.

Rose stated that if people need to get dues before Spingold they need to be informed.

Chris stated we need to look after the financial health of the organization.

Nick and Dan strongly believe that there is a class of potential members who would not pay their dues if they did not earn positioning points.

Gary stated we need to have more reasons to get people to join.

Nick said we should send dues notice in the fall.

Gary stated notices to people who aren't members be accomplished through ACBL Bulletin, Daily Bulletins at NABC's, and forms available at NABC's.

B. Reverse Motion made in last meeting regarding Credentials Committee:

Jan: On matters dealing with Credentials, especially residency, it should come before the Board. In order to accomplish that, we had to change Conditions. Changed all matters of Credentials Committee to USBF Board.

Nick suggested to go back to where we were prior to that Board Meeting. Re-create the Committee and let them deal with these matters.

Motion made to reverse this back to Credentials Committee, back to status quo.

Motion Passed.

C. Issue of Play Requirements in USBF tournaments (raised because Lynn Deas might have been able to play in USWBC but not play 50% of the boards played by her team):

Two issues involved: What happens if someone doesn't play enough boards? Team added person who gave them more placing points. If that person doesn't play 50%, take punitive action.

Also, another case, team is way behind and someone leaves the tournament; also grounds for punitive action.

Nick: This gets dealt with by Conduct Committee. “If fail to play 50%, that player will appear before Conduct Committee.” This covers all situations when people don't play. Conditions don't say DIC can waive. Have to turn over to Conduct Committee. What if someone is sick? Or cannot play for some other legitimate reason? USWBC Conditions of Contest say DIC can waive 50% play requirement in Emergency. But, nobody can waive the rule that a person cannot continue to play if it is mathematically impossible for him or her to play 40%. USBC Conditions of Contest are silent on any possibility of waiver.

Nick stated that Conditions were drawn up to deal with people who have bad conduct; do not deal with other emergencies. Need to address for next year at Conditions of

Contest meeting.

- D. Senior Trials: Board voted if 55 by November 3, can play.
Jan stated that WBF has authorized ACBL to send as many as 3 teams. Jan said this is not a decision we should be making; technically is a Zonal Event. ACBL does not pay expenses.
Chris said entry fees for two teams are out of SITT entries.
Nick asked what decision we need to make.
Jan stated decision with respect to Conditions of Contest.
Nick asked what we were asking in poll?
Gary said 2 Teams or 3 Teams.
Nick asked if this was USBF authority.
ACBL asked USBF to write up Conditions and qualify some teams.
Nick asked if ACBL can make decision on number of teams.
Dan stated ACBL already has made decision.
Dan made a motion we have two teams.
Nick made the motion that we accept ACBL's decision to have two teams and USBF to run Trials as they've asked us to do.

Motion Passed.

- E. SITT COC's: Jan said we need to approve SITT COC's.
Chris made the motion that we approve the SITT Conditions as written.
Nick thought we could take the position we will run Senior Trials and when we do so, we will run in accordance with SITT Conditions.
Peter said he thinks the Board has the responsibility to approve.
Chris said we have two choices:
1) Approve as written
2) Send by e-mail and approve later on.
Nick stated no one has read them.
Jan suggested making a motion to review by June 2 and approve by e-mail vote by June 12.
Peter said we do not need a motion. If vote by e-mail, really calling a meeting.
Consent was unanimous. (Later determined that e-mail not legal in CA; fax was used.)
- F. By-Laws: Jan stated that Nick promised to add to the agenda.
Jan made the motion that we send By-laws back to By-Laws Committee – that Jay has said he is no longer acting USBF CEO and no longer wants to serve as a voting member of USBF Board of Directors, so some additional changes need to be made.

Motion passed.

- G. Internet Viewgraph of USWBC:
Motion made to use \$500 for Semis, Finals and Play-offs if people can find Volunteers.

Motion passed.

VI. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 30, 2:30 Central time.

VII. Meeting Adjourned.