

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2017
9:00 EST
BY CONFERENCE CALL

Directors Present: Marty Fleisher, Greg Humphreys, Bob Katz, Brad Moss, Beth Palmer, Josh Parker

Others Present: Jan Martel, Joe Stokes, Stan Subeck, Howard Weinstein

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Howard Weinstein at 9:05 pm EST.

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2016

The Minutes of November 28, 2016 were unanimously approved.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board unanimously elected the following officers:

President: Marty Fleisher

Vice President: Josh Parker

Secretary: Jan Martel (not on Board)

Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer: Stan Subeck (not on Board)

Chief Operations Officer: Jan Martel (not on Board)

Recorder: Jack Oest (not on Board)

Marty Fleisher took over as Chair of the meeting.

V. MIXED TEAM RULING

Brad Moss raised the issue that there had been a ruling against the Savchenko team in the Round of 8 of the 2016 Mixed USBC. The Savchenko team appealed. The Appeals Committee overruled the Director but imposed a procedural penalty of 3 IMPs on the Savchenko team. The procedural penalty caused the match to be tied. The Savchenko team lost the playoff. The Director subsequently stated that his ruling at the table had been wrong, because he had not read a paragraph in the Conditions of Contest that made it clear that the opponent should have protected herself, and if he had ruled correctly he believed

there would not have been an appeal and the Savchenko team would have won the match. Brad proposed that the USBF compensate the Savchenko team for this in some way.

The Board voted 3 to 2 to provide some recompense to the team. On that motion, Marty, Bob and Brad voted yes; Beth & Josh voted no; Greg abstained because he is a close friend of one of the players on the team.

The Board then unanimously agreed to give each member of the Savchenko team a credit of \$60 (each player's share of the event entry fee in the 2016 Mixed USBC) towards entry in a future USBC.

VI. WBF, ACBL & USBF

Jan described briefly the relationship between WBF, ACBL & USBF. Howard explained the impact of Olympic compliance on USBF. Jan explained that ACBL pays WBF dues (approximately \$165,000 per year) and also distributes the funds raised in International Fund games to USBF to support our players in international competition, and supports our Junior international players.

VII. COMMITTEES

Board members will review the proposed committees and discuss in email in the next week or two.

VIII. LENGTH OF USBC

This year's USBC will select 2 teams for the 2017 Bermuda Bowl. As a result there will be both a USA1 and USA2 bracket. The ITTC previously recommended that the losing USA1 finalist should drop into the USA2 Semifinal, allowing all USA2 matches to run parallel to USA1 matches. If all of the matches in the USBC are 90 boards long, the event will last 11 days. If the USA1 Rounds of 16 and 8 are 90 boards long and the Semifinals and Finals of both USA1 and USA2 are 120 boards long, the event will last 13 days. If all of the matches are 120 boards long, the event will last 14 days. After lengthy discussion, the Board unanimously agreed that all matches should be 120 boards long. Jan will talk with the hotel about revising our playing space and room blocks.

IX. ELDAD GINOSSAR RESIDENT MEMBER APPLICATION

Eldad Ginossar applied for resident membership in the USBF. He meets the standards in the USBF ByLaws. The Board voted unanimously to accept his application.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be at the Spring NABC in Kansas City on Monday, March 13th at 11:00. Marty will invite the ACBL Board members and WBF Executive Committee members.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 pm EST.