

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
TUESDAY, SEPT. 26, 2017
9:00 PM EDT
BY CONFERENCE CALL

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

Others Present: Marty Harris, Jan Martel, Stan Subeck, Howie Weinstein

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Fleisher at 9:00 pm EDT.

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 FROM 6/5/17 & 7/24/17 MEETINGS

The Minutes of June 5 and July 24, 2017 were unanimously approved.

IV. WBF/ACBL/CBF/MBF ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

The Board discussed the proposal by ACBL, CBF & MBF that the Zone 2 NBOs should form a new organization to act as the Zonal Authority for Zone 2. There was concern about whether no longer having the ACBL as our Zonal Authority might cause problems in future years. There was also a general expression of opinion that the ACBL has done a good job as our Zonal Authority for many years and should continue.

Marty proposed that USBF agree to go along with setting up a new organization, but we want to have significant control over the terms of the new organization.

Howie pointed out that WBF is going to restructure in 2018 and we should wait until after WBF has restructured to restructure our Zone, so we don't set up something that won't work with the new WBF structure. Howie sent what he understands is the proposal to the Board.

The Board authorized Marty to discuss with Bahar Gidwani, ACBL CEO, whether it makes sense to defer setting up a new Zonal Authority until after WBF restructures and to agree that if Bahar thinks it is necessary to proceed immediately, a representative of the USBF Board will participate in discussions.

V. LYON EXPENSES

Entries: \$27,507.16 (6 teams)

Stipends: \$182,910 (per diem of \$335 per player & NPC for 2 teams for 17 days, 2 teams for 12 days and 2 teams for 10 days).

Uniforms: \$3235.26 (includes purchase of lapel pins that will be used in future years).

VI. NPC PROVISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Marty appointed a subcommittee to review this issue and return to the Board with a proposal: Beth, Brad and Greg. After they report to the Board, the Board will set aside a meeting to discuss the issue. The Board directed Jan to add a provision to the General Conditions of Contest making it clear that the Board has authority to approve NPCs.

VII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Members of the 2017 NC are:

Mitch Dunitz, Chair, served on committee in 2016

Sue Picus, served on committee in 2016

Peggy Sutherlin, served on committee in 2016

Bob Katz

Brian Platnick

The Board directed Jan to email Mitch to make sure the Nominating Committee starts working on this year's election.

VIII. IMSA TOURNAMENT

USBF received an invitation to our "National Open Team" that won in Lyon and "National Women's Team" that won in Wroclaw for the 2017 IMSA tournament to be held in Huai'an, China (about 200 miles from Shanghai) Dec. 8-15 (NABC ends Dec. 3rd).

The 2017 Bermuda Bowl winners are not interested in going. The 2016 Women's Team winners also are not interested in going.

The Board decided to have Marty ask the organizers if they want US teams other than the specific ones they had invited. If the organizers do want teams, Jan will email all USBF members and ask them to submit teams to go and then the Board will select the best of the proposed teams.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 pm EDT.