

Minutes of WITT Committee Meeting in Dallas
March 28, 2014

Attending: Cindy Bernstein, Cheri Bjerkan, Jan Martel, Beth Palmer, Rozanne Pollack, David Sokolow

Phoenix Minutes: Unanimously approved.

NABC Event Schedule: The ACBL board has not made up its mind about the schedule. One idea is having the same schedule at each NABC (a 3-day pair event followed by a 7-day team event, with a 3-day Swiss at the end).

Increasing Attendance at Women's Events: We discussed several ideas: helping find teammates; sending emails to people who booked a hotel through the ACBL; having an online site (BBO? Bridgewinners?); getting help from the district where the NABC will be held to get more local women; contacting the new ACBL marketing director; finding a sponsor to offer incentives to women playing in the team events; asking women who played in the pairs, but not the teams, why they did not play the team event.

2015 Trials: To be held at the end of the Ft. Lauderdale Regional (April 6-12, 2015). The committee voted unanimously to keep the number of boards the same as it has been (64 in the semis, 120 in the final & secondary final). Beth will send out a poll (really, she will!) to the likely participants about the WITT. Contrary to what we decided in Phoenix, it *will* ask about a repechage. The main advantage of a repechage is that you get an extra chance to represent the US; a lesser advantage is getting to play an extra day. The negatives: it costs more, may entail hiring another director, and makes things "messier." Cindy suggests having a repechage only if there are more than 8 teams.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 a.m. CDT.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, July 20, 2014, at the Las Vegas Hotel in Las Vegas.