

Minutes of WITT Committee Meeting in San Francisco
November 24, 2012

Attending: Cindy Bernstein, Cheri Bjerkan, Joan Gerard, Gail Greenberg, Joanne Glasson, Jan Martel, Sylvia Moss, Beth Palmer, Janet Robertson, Rozanne Pollack, David Sokolow (by phone)

Format: Play a KO from the start (if we had the perfect number) or stay with RR format? People were not sure which would produce the best team, and there was concern that if we started with a KO, the low-seeded teams from the last few years would not play. The Committee voted unanimously to stay with RR format.

Number of Boards: How many boards should be played if there is a bye? We voted on this in Philadelphia, but Beth did not have the results handy.

Penalties: For arriving late? The Committee unanimously passed this resolution: There is a one-minute grace period. If you arrive 1-5 minutes late, there is a one VP penalty in the RR, and a 3 IMP penalty in a KO. The same penalties will be assessed for each additional 5-minute period of lateness (*e.g.*, 7 minutes late incurs an *additional* one VP or 3 IMP penalty). [Points of clarification for our next meeting: If players from the same team are late at both tables, is that one penalty or two? If someone is 5 minutes and 16 seconds late, is that 5 or 6 minutes late? Jan thinks the answer to the first question is two, but is not sure if the COC are clear.]

For finishing late? The general COC allow a director to pull boards and penalize the offenders.

McConnell Cup 2014: Joan heard that Poland is a possibility, but it could be China.

2015 Trials: We looked at regionals early in the year. The most popular were Mesa, Sacramento, Richmond, Ft. Lauderdale and Denver (especially the last two since they are easiest to get to). [*Postscript:* Jan talked to Shannon Cappelletti, who's running the Florida regionals, and she is happy to have us at Ft. Lauderdale. There's space, and they can let us use their hospitality suite during the day because they only use it after the evening session.]

Women's Bridge: A meeting with Sharon Anderson is scheduled for Tuesday, 11/27, to discuss ways to increase attendance in women's events at NABCs (*e.g.*, how to get more young women to play). Beth encouraged people to think of ideas we or the ACBL could implement to achieve this longstanding goal.

Hall of Fame: Cheri raised the problem women have getting into the Hall of Fame.

Next Meeting: Friday, March 22, 2013, at the St. Louis Marriott Marquis.