

Board of Directors Meeting

ACBL Unit 178 (Viking)

June 19, 2025

The meeting was held online via Zoom

Called to order at 4:48 by Sue Sanger

Attending

Board Members: Sue Sanger, President; Keith Thompson, VP; Jane Schmidt, secretary; Teri Blu; Marilou Doerrie; Todd Flowerday; Jenny Peterson

Others: Steve Gaynor, Patti Stuhlman

Agenda:

1. Minutes of previous meeting (3/30/25).
No comments, corrections, etc. Jenny moved to approve, seconded by Marylou.
Approved, unopposed
2. Financial Report.
Accepted
3. Tournament Report
 - a. Gopher Regional (Patti)
Written report is not yet completed. There were 733 tables this year, about 20 fewer than last year. Biggest decrease was in Gold Rush (-28 tables); Swiss Teams increased by 40 tables. 79 free plays to players under 15 masterpoints. Many Regionals are seeing decreases this year, ours is not bad by comparison. Expect about \$2500 in proceeds to be divided between the units.
Recommendations:
 1. We need a properties person to arrange transport of the trailer and to supervise loading after the tournaments.
 2. Get a sanction for 2027, same dates
 3. Start looking for a new venue; this may mean an increase in prices.
 - b. NABC 2026, July 9-19
PR committee, headed by Warren Nelson, is active. There will be an information table at the other NABC's.
D14 is contributing \$5000. Patti is asking MN units to each sponsor a day for \$1000. She is also selling named games for \$100 per session. Support will go for a

bus from BCoFStP, and parking for volunteers.
No profits will be returned to units.

c. Aquatennial Sectional

Tom Botten passed away in early June. Sue proposed opening the Aquatennial Sectional with a few words about Tom, recognizing his contributions – particularly chairing the Aquatennial the last few years.
This was supported unanimously.

It's not clear what Tom had in place for this year's tournament. Sue and Todd have stepped in as chairs; Barb Zipoy will provide food.

Jane will put a note in the newsletter asking for volunteers to set up on July 9 and take down on July 11.

Jane will send an email to promote the tournament.

d. Fall Sectional, Oct 23-25 (Steve)

Todd made a flyer, will send it to Jane for newsletter.

Steve is planning Pair/Team games all 3 days with 3 strata. A and C pairs will be paired for teams. There will be a standby pair each day, so no sitouts or robots.

4. Board Changes

Recruiting a replacement for Tom was discussed, but is not needed as we still have 7 members.

Jane has resigned as secretary as of July 1. Sue is resigning as President, but will work with the new President. Keith is interested in the position.

5. New Social Bridge Club

Starting July 18, there will be a Social Bridge Club at the Marsh in Minnetonka. This grew out of a non-sanctioned game Keith was running at the Women's Club of Minneapolis. Keith will manage the games, with Steve as backup. A sanction was applied for, pending board approval. He expects about 6 tables regularly. These games will provide training for duplicate bridge, and be a feeder for the Tues or Thurs games.

6. Pilot project to subsidize extra fees for special games.

Keith has data through May, but no written report. Marylou moved to extend the project for 1 month, Teri seconded. Motion passed 6-1 (Sue opposed).

Keith will provide report to board members.

Jane will add data comparing specific days to last year.

7. Second clock for Edina

Jenny moved that we approve \$500 to purchase a second clock for Edina, as the second

room gets behind; Teri seconded.
Approved 6-0 (Sue abstained).

8. Robots in games

Teri does not like robots as they score too high and this seems unfair. She proposed making it optional to play against them with results not scored. Keith pointed out that there is no player option for who you play against. Robots were originally approved to avoid having sitouts, which nobody likes.
The question was judged to be moot.

9. Incentives for new directors

Tom suggested to Keith that we provide a cash payment for people to take training and direct once a week.

Scott will be out again soon for 6+ weeks.

Keith and Tony can provide training especially in the Friday or Tuesday games, which are smaller. Some players have expressed interest in becoming directors.

Jane will put a plea in the newsletter; info from Keith.

The board will pay any fees and books required.

10. Encouraging social bridge players to try duplicate

Sue wrote some ideas a few years ago.

Tabled to the next meeting.

11. Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 16, at 4:45.

Adjourned 6:22

Actions

	Action	Responsible	Update
1	Contact lapsed members, update online list	All	No update
2	Challenge Match proposal	Todd	Continue
3	Meet with Unit 103 on details of possible merger	Sue, Keith, Todd	On-going
4	Warning about "ACBL" scam in newsletter	Jane	Not yet. ACBL sent email
5	Draft questionnaire on table fees	Keith	Pending
6	Recruit new directors	All	
7	Notice in newsletter re: new directors	Jane	Complete 6/23
8	Newsletter plea to setup/take down Aquatennial	Jane	Oops, missed that
9	Email promoting Aquatennial	Jane	Complete 6/27
10	October Sectional flyer to Jane	Todd	Complete 6/19
11	Report on success of subsidized table fees to board	Keith	
12	Day-to-day comparison of table counts	Jane	
13	Ask for new directors in Newsletter	Jane	Complete 6/23