

Unit 103 Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 23 (at the Gopher)

Meeting called to order at 6:49pm by President Sue Greenberg; present were Warren Nelson, Connie Nelson, Matt Belau, Keith Thompson, Amy Dutton. Absent were Tom Owens, Rajiv Kapadia, and Lance Chamberlain. Also joining the meeting at the request of the President was Kim Hayward, Patti Stuhlman, and Steve Gaynor.

Prior to the call to order, Patti Stuhlman provided an update on the Gopher Regional which was largely positive; she said she was “quite happy” with how things were going at the tournament, and she credited what she called “such a good committee” to helping with the success. Steve Gaynor talked about Unit 178’s program to encourage new ACBL members by having the Education Fund pay for the 1st year of ACBL membership fees for those students who completed bridge classes.

Board items that required a vote:

- A motion was made (Amy), seconded (Matt), and approved (6-0) to approve the March 26 meeting minutes.
- A motion was made (Warren), seconded (Connie), and approved (6-0) to request the Minnesota Education Fund subsidize the 1st year of ACBL membership fees for students completing a bridge class after having exhausted the ACBL’s free four-month membership.
- A motion was made (Matt), seconded (Amy), and approved (6-0) to authorize no more than \$1,845.00 over the upcoming NAP/GNT season for reimbursement to Unit 103 clubs that run separate Flight “C” NAP/GNT games; the reimbursement would go toward the ACBL table fees for no more than 30 total tables of stand-alone Flight “C” games per club in each of the NAP and GNT competitions.

Board items that did not require a vote:

- The Board agreed to apply for sanctions for Unit 103 Non-Qualifying NAP and GNT Finals for the upcoming year of these events.
- The Board agreed (in principle) to invest some of the Unit funds in various programs to educate (through teaching), inform (through advertising), and expand our player outreach (see below).
- The Board agreed to provide a one-time subsidy to the Rochester DBC for closing an producing the September Regional, however Lance voiced some questions about this prior to the meeting and therefore no action was taken until he would be able to participate in the discussion.
- No action was taken on approving the 1st quarter financial report that was provided by Lance Chamberlain, as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Board discussion items:

- President’s Report:
 - o Sue Greenberg related a thank-you note from the St Cloud DBC following their April 27th NLM sectional. The tournament was a huge success.
 - o Sue proposed a sub-committee be formed to update the Unit 103 Policy document, as some of the items in that document are outdated. It was

agreed that a sub-committee would be formed to take up revising the policy document at a later meeting.

- Sue sat in on a Unit President's meeting with Bronia Jenkins where STaCs around the country are now being run through ACBLlive rather than district STaC coordinators.
- Tournament Chair's Report:
 - Matt indicated upcoming events included the next one-day NLM sectional (this time in Rochester, on June 6) along with the Open Sectional in Sartell (June 20-22).
 - Currently, Unit 103 does nothing Unit-wide for the Alzheimer's Association's The Longest Day; the idea of a Unit-wide fund-raising game (potentially online) was tabled for this year.
 - Everything is currently on track for the Unit 103 Regional in Rochester in September, although Matt acknowledged the Gopher "is a tough act to follow".
 - Matt suggested that since the ACBL was unavailable to sanction an online Unit GNT Final this year that the Unit request non-qualifying Unit sanctions for both the NAP and GNT for next year *now* (see above).
- Financial Report:
 - No financial report was provided as Lance was unable to attend the meeting.
- NAP/GNT Report:
 - Keith reported that future NAP and GNT fees will be sent to the D14 Treasurer (Keith) and that he will explore a paperless payment method for those future payments. STaC fees will now be automatically deducted from club table fees and then remitted to the District.
- Connie provided a comprehensive look at the Unit's Financial situation and recommendations from a sub-committee (which included Sue and Matt) as to how to future invest in our players (both present and future players). It was agreed in principle that we could spend some of the Unit's funds for the items that Connie proposed (the recruitment of new players, support for current players and clubs, getting past players back and ongoing innovative ideas), but that any amount would be determined later when Lance was able to be present.
- Kim suggested that outreach to players would be beneficial to understand where to spend any money ("we want to work for you – what would you propose we do?"). The board agreed this would be part of the plan.

A motion was made (Matt), seconded (Amy), and approved (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. The date of the next Unit 103 Board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 9th, at 5pm online via Zoom.