

## WUMBA Board meeting

8 September 2019

Woodruff, WI

Present: Emalyn Nikstad, Carla Chropkowski, Judy Terrault, Helen Ippel, Cerona Steven, Wayne Peters, Gregg Underheim, George Blaskachek, Adam Gewiss, Marge Morgan, David Raitt, Bill Higbee

President Marge Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

### Approval of Minutes

Freier moved, Ippel seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

### Treasurer's Report

Gewiss presented the Treasurer's report. Our balance sheet indicates that we are \$182.65 in the black, but the current statements include pre-payments for tournament expenses, so it looks like we're in good financial shape for the year so far.

### President's Report

Morgan reported that John Morgan completed the teacher training that WUMBA funded, and is currently teaching a class.

Morgan attended ABTA, and reported that the hot topic seems to be mini-lessons (usually brief introductions to conventions—not an attempt to teach a convention) of five-ten minutes before club games.

Morgan did two Lunch & Learn sessions (without the lunch) at the Eau Claire Regional. Seven people attended each session.

Morgan said that the ACBL is promoting volunteer appreciation, so she took the opportunity to thank board members for their service. She also said that we need to find a concrete way to thank tournament chairs for their work. Raitt (a partnership chair) said that it would be nice to find a way to thank standbys who don't get used; we thank standbys who play with free play for that session, but the other standbys do come out. Morgan suggested a free play at the local club game. Stevens asked if non-ACBL-member standbys had to pay for a temporary membership. Blaskachek said no; they are providing a service to the tournament.

A WUMBA player had a question about qualifying for the North American Pairs. Players qualify at their clubs; there is no unit qualification. Players who qualify at club can play in the District playoffs.

Morgan reported that there's a rumor that Milwaukee has found the regional to be financially burdensome. Morgan also reported that, on her way to the Marquette Sectional, she is going to stop at the casino in Harris to see if they'd consider letting us have the regional there once again.

Flo Erickson was unable to attend, but Morgan reported on the two Lunch & Learn sessions at Eau Claire. Stevens is unable to take on the IN Coordinator position, and Underheim volunteered to take it on and will coordinate activities at LaCrosse, Ripon, and Appleton.

Nikstad gave the membership report. The number of new members is down quite a bit compared to this time of year in previous years. Morgan reminded the board that the ACBL has a recruiter's bonus: if you are listed as the recruiter on a new member application, you will receive \$10, and, if the member renews for another year, you will receive another \$10. Since WUMBA automatically pays the second year of dues, a WUMBA recruiter is guaranteed the second-year bonus. Details are here:

[https://www.acbl.org/marketing\\_page/recruiter/](https://www.acbl.org/marketing_page/recruiter/).

Freier told the group about how she is attempting to start a bridge club at Northern Michigan University with Cooper Smith (a new freshman at NMU). She said that there are a number of incentives for college and university clubs and their teachers, including college mini-tournaments on BBO and equipment (bidding boxes, boards). Full information about this program is here:

<https://www.acbl.org/juniors/college-bridge/collegiate-initiative/>. There is a similar program for schools as well.

Bleskachek gave the tournament report. The Eau Claire regional cleared \$4050, even though attendance was down six tables. He reminded tournament chairs to get their tournament dates to him as soon as possible, along with site information, so he can get a sanction for that tournament. The random method of team creation at this tournament was discussed. Peters moved, Freier seconded that at WUMBA tournaments the teams be either created by the director putting A pairs with C pairs and B pairs with B pairs (as much as is possible) or allow teams to purchase an entry as a team. If the tournament chair wishes to have some Pair/Team games done with one method and some with another, the tournament director should make those distinctions by days to make travel more efficient for people with strong preferences. Motion carried, and this policy will go into effect at the first of the year. When asked why there were no 499er games at this tournament, George apologized, and said that he missed the omission when he approved the schedule.

Raitt asked if WUMBA has archives of minutes, financial statements, and other documents. Chuck Vierthaler, WUMBA secretary, has these documents.

Bill Christenson, WUMBA player and club manager, asked if the Minocqua club could participate in STaC games. He was given instructions about participation in District STaCs.

Morgan thanked Chropkowski for her work on this tournament, especially in overcoming the burning down of the local hotel in Three Lakes, and difficulties in scheduling. Chropkowski said that she will not chair a tournament again. Bleskachek said that some people in Egg Harbor who run a successful invitational tournament have expressed an interest in having a sanctioned tournament. He will talk to them next week during their invitational tournament. A tournament in Egg Harbor could replace Three Lakes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mollie Freier (substituting for Chuck Vierthaler)