



AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2005
SANDS REGENCY HOTEL/CASINO
RENO, NEVADA

Executive Vice-President Syl Lulinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call was taken. Present were: Pat Barrett, Joe Bernard, George Bickford, Kathy Blough, Dave Campbell, Dwight Christiansen, DeLynn Colvert, Larry Hassett, Sharon Hejtmanek, Jeanne Hofbauer, Roy Hofbauer, Bob Julian, Tom Lewis, Al Lindner, Syl Lulinski, Herschel Mack, Bob Milk, Ron Morgan, Cathy Perkins, Joan Rein, Todd Schaefer, Phyllis Schmidt, Jeff Shimp, Jack Shumate, and Fred White. All directors were present, no absences. Also present: Bob McCabe, ACC Treasurer.

Jeanne asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last meeting. Jack Shumate requested a rewording in Agenda item #12: from "Jack Shumate's proposal" to "Western Region Reorganization Proposal as submitted by Jack Shumate". There were no other corrections. George Bickford made a motion that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #5, Hall of Fame voting: Pat Barrett stated that everyone should have received the nomination packet he had sent out, and that there were 36 eligible nominations for 7 nominees. He had received 12 ineligible nominations, due to their length (more than one page), which he had with him for review upon request. He read the criteria for HOF nominations, as printed in the November CW, and stated that he would continue to follow those procedures. There was then discussion regarding these criteria. Larry Hassett, officer in charge of the HOF Committee, stated that he was going to get together with Pat and go over some of the items that had been brought up in discussion and some possible changes of procedures. The vote was then taken. Two nominees were elected to the HOF: Paul Hatcher and Bob Julian.

Agenda Item #6, DeLynn Colvert reported on Executive Committee actions from September 2004 through February 2005: Approved \$300 for youth tournament, Dan Ziesler, Director. Grass Valley, CA event drew 76 players. Approved purchase of \$179 computer program for Bob McCabe, National Statistician, to enable transmission of data to Cribbage World and to ACC web page. Approved agreement with ASC (Apparel Sales Co., Grand Haven, MI) to sell merchandise with ACC logo, with 5% royalty to ACC for all sales with this logo. Edge TV (Joshua Solt) presented 3-page contract for proposed televising of JPW/ACC Open. All five Executive officers felt contract too complicated. Revised, simpler contract presented to Edge TV. They agreed but failed to communicate with ACC, despite several emails. We assume they have lost interest in this project. Approved \$1,000 to Grand National XXIV for items for player's benefit. Joan asked why the approval of \$1,000 for the TOC was not listed as an action, but Syl said that it was a

standing rule and had automatic approval. Phyllis moved to accept the Executive's Report, seconded by Tom Lewis. Motion carried.

Agenda item #7, Marketing fliers, by Dwight Christiansen: Dwight distributed a flier to each BoD member so they could see the final product. He has had 3000 shipped to the Sands for distribution this weekend, including a sheet with suggested locations and a sheet for flier distribution instructions. He has handed out 600 so far at Eastern Region tournaments. He had commitments from about 84 Grass Roots clubs to take fliers from this tournament. Dwight asked for a lifetime membership for the printer, Peter Bartush, as a way of thanking him for doing this work at such a large discount (our cost was \$1000, he would normally charge \$2800). Sharon Hejtmanek made a motion to give Peter a lifetime membership to the ACC, seconded by Ron Morgan. Motion carried.

Agenda item #8, George Bickford asked for discussion on the tournament director's information handbook that he is revamping and had sent out to all BoD members. There were a lot of comments regarding combined/substitute scorecards, slow play, etc. Syl made a motion that the Tournament Rules/Guidelines committee (the three tournament commissioners) study this and make a recommendation, with all these things being taken into account, for the next BoD meeting, seconded by Dave Campbell. Motion carried. George made a motion that by the start of the next cribbage year, all tournament directors will have to take the judge's exam. Seconded by Roy. Motion carried.

Agenda item #9, Committee chairperson, Cathy Perkins reported that there was no action by the committee.

Agenda item #10, Syl had sent out a list of benefits provided by the Sands Regency to the ACC, and also read a letter from Barbara Woodward, asking to bid on the 2007 and ACC Open and TOC. The letter thanked the BoD for awarding the Sands Regency the contract for the 2005 and 2006 tournaments. It stated that the list of benefits would be in effect for the 2007 tournament, plus there would be an increase of added money from \$10,000 to \$15,000, and as an additional bonus, confirmation now for both 2007 and 2008 and the Sands Regency will make the \$15,000 retroactive to begin with the 2006 tournament. Syl made a motion to hold the 2007 and 2008 ACC Open and TOC tournaments at the Sands Regency in Reno, seconded by Jeanne. Motion carried.

Ten minute break 11:20 to 11:30.

Agenda Item 11, Bob Milk gave an update on ACC Internet Cribbage: He said from Aug. 1 through Dec. 31 of 2004 there were 78 regular tournaments with a participation of 4532. He said that the ACC web page had Internet tournament information. He also said that he would like to find a replacement for himself as Internet Commissioner, as he traveled a lot for his job and felt that he could not commit enough time to the position. He said he would do it until a suitable replacement could be found. Larry said that the we had gained 66 new members from the internet base.

Agenda Item, #12, Syl stated that as we had been notified, Joe Bernard had resigned as chairman of the Ethics Committee, but was staying on as a member. Dwight Christiansen has been appointed as the new chairman. Dwight had no major issues to report, but there had been some minor personality issues. Syl extended the BoD's thanks to Joe for his service as chairman.

Agenda item #13, DeLynn on the Edge TV issue: As he stated in the Executive Committee report, he thought they had accepted the condensed version of their proposed contract, but have

not answered e-mails from him for five months. There was some speculation that perhaps their project has been slowed or discontinued.

We departed from the agenda to Item #26, as Dave Aiken was present at this time, and was asked if he would like to make his presentation now, instead of having to wait through most of the meeting. He stated that he had sent out e-mails with a pdf to the BoD members regarding a potential long match tournament. He had initially inquired about sanctioning, but Syl had suggested he run a non-sanctioned tournament first, and get some data to present to the BoD. Right now he was presenting it as a potential new format and wanted to get our input. After discussion, Syl commented that Dave had done some outstanding work, and asked that we study it and send him suggestions, then we can make a decision at a later date.

Agenda item #14, Kathy Blough on GAMA: They have sent her a schedule and committed to supplying three hotel rooms. She would like to have some better handouts and membership application forms that can be tracked to see if they are a direct result of the GAMA convention. She said that Hal Mueller has offered to give them computer CD's of his HALSCRIB cribbage game that would expire after 9 games. She would like to get permission for him to use a label that has the ACC logo on it. After much discussion, Syl suggested that Kathy talk to Hal this weekend to find out what he wants to do and then she can contact the Executive Committee to make a decision on using the logo. Kathy also wants to talk to advertisers in CW to see if she can get samples for use in the ACC booth. The dates of the Gama Convention this year are June 29th through July 3rd. The following couples have volunteered to help: Al and Vicki Lindner, Jeff and Joy Shimp, Cathy and Russ Perkins, and Kathy and her husband Jim. Syl suggested that since we have donated to other things of this kind, like the Puyallup fair, that perhaps we could donate \$300 to this event also. A motion was made that we donate \$300 for Kathy Blough to use as she sees fit, for the GAMA Convention volunteers. Seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried. Larry was asked about the coded membership applications, and he did say he could supply them.

Agenda item #15, DeLynn said that the marketing committee is continuing to search for and analyze new ideas that are cost effective for promoting the ACC. He mentioned Dwight's fliers, internet play, and the ACC Website, and introduced Diane Waite, the new webmaster. He mentioned the \$300 per year subsidy given to the Puyallup fair, which has been very successful in recruiting new memberships. We have entered into a contract with ASC Apparel from Grand Haven, MI to put the ACC Logo on clothing, for which we will receive a 5% royalty, plus the advertising. He then made a motion to reimburse Kathy Blough and Cathy Perkins for \$100 each for parking fees incurred during last year's GAMA convention. Seconded by Jack Shumate. Motion carried.

Agenda item #16, Joan Rein said numbers were down a slightly, right now there are 530 entrants. She said that about \$170 was saved in postage by sending out invitations by e-mail. She said she has received some negative input about playing muggins and also the inclusion of internet players. She felt that muggins should not be an issue because of the level of play, and that only 17 internet players had earned invitations, and of those 7 had already had invitations, and only 2 of the others were fairly new members. She also stated that TOC pins will be given out this year. Roy said that the numbers were also down for the Open, with about 930 registered at this time. Jeanne handed out the printed schedules for the weekend.

Agenda item #17, Rollie Heath gave an update on GN XXIV. He had fliers with him. He said that he had requested a few minutes during the announcements this weekend to promote the tournament. He briefly went over the contracts free benefits: meeting room, playing room, coffee & soft drinks. He also discussed the scheduled events and motel list from the flier. He said that the BoD members will get buffet tickets for lunch at the meeting. He said that there

will be a lot of information on the ACC web site. He said that the Awards Banquet will be a Salmon and Prime Rib buffet for \$26 which includes gratuity. The flier requests that all entries be postmarked by 9/05/05, so we can have the numbers for the banquet, but that we will take entries at the tournament. Also that there will be a no-host bar in the playing area on Friday and Saturday, but not Sunday, and there will be one starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Awards Banquet.

Lunch break, return at 1:30 p.m.

Continuing with item #17, Pat Barrett explained why he had volunteered to run GN XXV: that Tom Gallagher had planned to run the tournament in Green Bay, but had been unable to get a commitment from the Casino there for more than one year in advance, which is obviously necessary for the ACC to have for the GN tournament. He said that Syl had approached him during a tournament that Pat was running at the Hotel Mead, in Wisconsin Rapids, and explained that the Green Bay tournament had fallen through. Syl asked Pat if he would be interested in running the GN tournament at the hotel, as it seemed a suitable place. Pat talked to the person he was working with for the tournament, and she thought it was a great idea. He distributed a packet with a letter from her to the BoD members. The hotel is a 4 star hotel with 2 restaurants; we will be playing in the Grand Ball Room, which has room for 500-550 players. There are 156 guest rooms which normally rent for \$129-\$159 per night, which they are offering a group rate of \$72 for single and \$82 for doubles. The meeting and playing rooms will be provided at no charge. They are working on getting shuttle service from the airport at Mozenie for the players at a reasonable charge. The tournament dates are Sept. 29, 30 & Oct. 1, 2006. Syl made a motion to accept Wisconsin Rapids and Pat Barrett as the tournament director for GN XXV for 2006. Seconded by Phyllis. Motion carried.

Syl asked for a pause the meeting to introduce the Executive Director of Marketing of the Sands, Jennifer Mannix. She thanked us for accepting the proposal for 2007 & 2008. She said that the Sands is going through a \$3 million dollar casino remodel over the next 2 years, and that we were invited at 5 p.m. in the main casino for beer and wine and to see the remodel.

Dave Campbell then updated the 2007 GN: He said he had tentative dates, but since September in Main is "leaf season" the hotel rates are high (\$150 per night), so he is still trying to negotiate that, but that everything else seems to be going good. Syl said we would hold off on voting until the next BoD meeting. It was noted that a GN tournament must be held no earlier than the third week in September, and no later than the second week of October.

Syl departed from the agenda to skip to Item #29, as he wanted to say some things before the meeting was over. He announced that he was now serving his last term and would not be running for re-election. He thanked all the BoD members for their service, and thanked various committee members, officers and others for their work and wanted them to know how much he had enjoyed working with them. Jeanne stated that Syl has dedicated many years of service to the ACC with his heart and soul, and made a motion that he be awarded the position of Executive Vice-President Emeritus. Seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried (with applause!)

Agenda item #18, Bob Julian gave the Reorganization Committee Report: Bob recapped the reasons for the make-up of the committee, plus committee activity, conclusions and recommendations. There was quite a bit of discussion, most of which agreed with the conclusions reached by the committee, that there was no need for a change at this time.

Agenda item #19, Treasurer's report: Bob McCabe stated that we were down about \$10,000 at the beginning year, but that we will probably make-up about half of that. The reason we are

down is because most of the year's budget (awards, GR awards and Grand National) is spent in the first part of the year. He thought that for the balance of the year revenue should exceed expenses and we should end up about even. He said cash position is still strong at about \$125,000, which will probably be at about \$130,000 at end of the year. The director's and officer's liability insurance policy expires today, but the renewal paperwork is in, with no anticipated problems. He mentioned that as National Statistician, he had received approval from the Executive Committee to purchase a new operating system (Windows XP) for his computer, and that all the problems he had had with running the old MRP system have disappeared. After a brief discussion of some of the items on the report, Cathy Perkins moved to accept the report, seconded by Bob Milk. Motion carried.

Agenda item #20, Bob Julian said he has been asked where the ACC Central Office is located. The office of incorporation is in Raleigh, NC. If it were moved to Wisconsin, the incorporation would need to be renewed every year, but in North Carolina it is perpetual. But he wished to discuss an official business office address, and said he believed that it should be the VP of Operation's address. Reasons included that that officer is in charge of both the Membership Secretary and Treasurer. Syl read from Article 1b of the Constitution that "if required by the law the state in which the Congress is incorporated, the Congress shall maintain an office of record in that State, but, the principle business office and other necessary offices shall be located wherever the BoD deems it appropriate." Bob made a motion that the ACC's official business office be recognized as in the city where the VP of Operations resides, seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried. Syl asked that there be an official declaration of this in Cribbage World.

Agenda item #21: Syl said that we needed to correct an amendment to the Constitution because there is a flaw in it. He explained that the job of the Executive VP is to prepare the agenda and preside of the meetings. Since he is not going to run for re-election, there will be no one to prepare the agenda, in fact there will be no officers, and committee make up will be affected. So he wanted to know what the BoD wished to do. After some discussion, Syl proposed that Article IV,a of the ACC Constitution be changed to read: "The management of the Congress shall be vested in its Board of Directors, which shall consist of twenty-five members in good standing, elected by those members of the Congress 18 years of age and older, by mail ballot in the odd-numbered years. The terms of service of all Directors shall expire August 31st of odd-numbered years. New terms of office commence September 1st of odd-numbered years." This amendment will be effective as of the 2005 BoD election. Seconded by Jeanne. Motion carried. Jeff Shimp proposed that the Executive-Vice President Emeritus (Syl) make the next agenda and preside over the meeting until the election of a new Executive Vice President. Seconded by Cathy Perkins. Motion carried.

Agenda item #22; Larry Hassett stated that there are ongoing problems with ballots getting out on time. Larry made a motion that we change the ballot request received date from May 10th to May 31st. Seconded by George Bickford. Motion carried. Larry made a motion that there be a one-time one-month delay for this year only in the election process. Seconded by Bob Milk. Motion carried.

Agenda item #23; Bob Julian asked Larry and Joan if the problems with getting info from each other had been worked out. Joan said that Larry will be getting monthly reports now.

Agenda item #24; Pat Barrett asked that the compensation committee consider a stipend of \$150 per month for the new webmaster, Diane Waite. Roy questioned why we are considering this when we had been previously established that this was to be a strictly volunteer position. Cathy said she has asked Diane for the necessary information, and the committee will make a recommendation at the next meeting. Bob Milk suggested that volunteers could take some of the work load from Diane. Larry suggested that all volunteers that are spending 15 to 20 hours per

week be considered for compensation. Cathy asked him to supply a list of names, so the compensation committee could contact them for information and consideration.

Agenda item #25; Syl went over some information regarding MRP awards. He suggested that the Awards Committee consider a new plateau of awards at the 35-40,000 and 50,000.

Agenda item #26 had already been addressed.

Agenda Item #27: Larry wanted to let the BoD know that he was now e-mailing renewal notices instead of postcards to members with e-mail, which was saving time and postage. Also he had some new membership applications with him which he wanted tournament directors to use, and asked that all old applications be destroyed.

Next BoD Meeting: September 16, 2005 in Lincoln City, Oregon.

Syl thanked the BoD and moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Bob Julilan. Meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.