

American Cribbage Congress  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

The Lodge at Deadwood – Deadwood, SD  
October 3, 2025

**I. Call to Order**

President James Morrow called the meeting to order at 0800 MDT.

**A. Attendance**

Present: David Aiken, Rick Baird, Pat Barrett, Joe Bowen, Betty Brumley, Tammy Gibbons, Opal Gunn, Roland Hall, Jerry Hardy, Kat Hartsell, Jennifer Johnson, Bob Joslin, Kai Lemrise, Jason Matheny, James Morrow, Kendra Munkacsy, Megan Player, Sandy Sands, Todd Schaefer, Rick Shea, Mark Soule, Vicki Soule, Darlene Stier, Terry Weber, Keith Widener

Absent: None

Guests: Ivan Wells, Brenda Nason, Richard Frost, Jeanne Jelke, Scott Harker, Pamela Pomeroy, and others.

**B. Approval of Minutes**

Previous meeting date: February 22, 2025

Motion to approve: Mark S.

Seconded: Jennifer J.

✓Approved

**II. Executive Officer Elections**

Jeanne J. explained the election process, and that a simple majority consists of 13 votes. In the case of a tie (if someone declines to vote), there would be a runoff ballot. If only one candidate was running after a motion to close nominations, that candidate was deemed elected by affirmation, as per the procedure previously approved by the BOD. Officers will serve two-year terms and form the Executive Committee.

Nominations were made as follows:

President:

James Morrow, current President choosing to run again.

David Aiken, nominated by Patrick B., David A. accepted.

Keith Widener, nominated by Terry W., Keith W. declined.

Sandy S. made a motion to close nominations for the president, Roland H. seconded.

**Motion approved.**

Voting commenced. James Morrow elected President in 14-11 vote.

Executive Vice President:

Rick Shea

No further nominations. Rick Shea deemed elected by affirmation.

Vice President for Ethics and Policy:

Keith Widener

Megan Player, nominated by Jennifer J., Megan P. accepted.

Jennifer J. made a motion to close nominations for Vice President for Ethics and Policy, Roland H. seconded. Nominations closed.

Voting commenced. Megan Player elected Vice President for Ethics and Policy in 15-10 vote.

Vice President for Operations:

Mark Soule

No further nominations. Mark Soule deemed elected by affirmation.

Vice President for Competition:

David Aiken

No further nominations. David Aiken deemed elected by affirmation.

OFFICE	ELECTED PERSON	VOTE RESULT
President	James Morrow	14-11
Executive Vice President	Rick Shea	Affirmation
Vice President for Ethics & Policy	Megan Player	15-10
Vice President of Operations	Mark Soule	Affirmation
Vice President of Competition	David Aiken	Affirmation

**III. Old Business (Opal G. had to leave early, so these items were discussed at this time).**

**A. Travel, Lodging, and Reimbursement**

Opal G. proposed that the board reimburse one or two nights of hotel expenses for board members attending the annual meeting. This would involve the treasurer calling the hotel in advance to book 25 rooms under the ACC BOD, providing names of all members, the full expense of which would be covered by the ACC. Other members expressed that serving on the board is an honor and that it would be inappropriate to provide these benefits to volunteers. Members in support expressed that a financial barrier to attending meetings may prevent individuals from running for the board. One idea offered was to introduce an application process for individuals if there is financial need. Rough calculations, assuming \$200/night, would mean \$5000 in expenses per meeting. **Action:** Opal G. made a motion to allow reimbursement of one night of hotel costs if an existing or new board member decides to request it; seconded by Megan P. For: 2; Opposed: 23. **Motion denied.**

**B. Welcoming Committee**

Opal G. asked how we identify ourselves as board members and Welcoming Committee members at the door of tournaments. It was determined that this has already been voted on, with approval to buy shirts. Megan P. asked to specify shirts or vests; vests were agreed upon.

### **C. ACC Welcome Banners**

Opal G. noted that tournaments display generic ACC banners at the door/lobby, to raise awareness of and promote the ACC. She proposed that these banners be shipped to tournament directors and grassroots directors as requested for marketing purposes, and then return shipped after use. Prices for both shipping and vinyl banner manufacturing were provided in a written document. Other members suggested creating a QR code for both banners and Cribbage World, instead of writing out Cribbage.org, in order to attract younger members. **Banner design and QR code development deferred to Marketing Committee.**

## **IV. Grand National Updates**

### **A. Deadwood Update**

Patrick B. reported that everything is going smoothly, with 290 players in the midweek. 350 players are expected tomorrow, with possibly more walk-ins. He reported that Scott Kooistra will be cohosting the banquet, and will be presented with the Meritorious Service Award.

### **B. Niagara Falls Update**

Dave A. reported that things are on track, and that he and the other co-directors took a trip to the venue in August to scope it out. Advertising has begun and the directors will be accepting registration payments by Venmo. There are hotel reservations set up for every board member to ensure they get rooms at the hotel from Tuesday to Monday; this also includes board-adjacent members (Marlene L., Ivan W., Scott H., Brenda N., John H.). The hotel is located 25 minutes from Buffalo airport.

### **C. Spokane Update**

Kat H. reported progress with planning, and a venue contract with the DoubleTree Downtown Spokane. This is located approximately ten minutes from an airport, which does not provide an airport shuttle, and there are plans to book rooms specifically for board members.

## **IV. Central Region GN 2028 Bids**

One bid was put forward for Grand National 2028 in the Central Region. Terry W. proposed that GN 2028 be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Milwaukee, WI. This is located five minutes from the Milwaukee Airport, accessible by free shuttle. This would have a room rate of \$140 with no resort fee, a \$15k food and beverage minimum, lunches for \$25 (not including gratuities and tax), banquet attendance would cost \$60, with possible food trucks available on that Wednesday. Co-directors would be Patrick B, Todd S, and Adam Switzer. Megan P. offered her assistance with organization and promotion of food trucks. Grand National in Milwaukee in 2018 took place at the same location, and drew 416 players. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion to accept GN 2028 bid for Milwaukee; Kat H. seconded. **Motion approved.**

## **V. Officer Reports**

### **A. Membership Secretary**

Brenda N. referred to her report saying that this September brought 179 new members, with a total of 6082 as of the end of the month, which is the highest it has been in several years. There were 109 members whose memberships expired at the start of the month. Jason M. suggested tracking data member retention rate and cost per member, which could be useful data for marketing purposes. Bob J. offered to create a retention list if data is provided to him. Dave A. added that as of Dec 2019, the ACC had 6,157 members, so we have not quite returned to pre-Covid membership rates. Brenda N. also brought up that as the keeper of the 1-888-PEGGING number, she receives a lot of sexually inappropriate phone calls, although many people do use it appropriately. It was suggested to not advertise it as 1-888-PEGGING and just use the numbers instead, and Brenda suggested switching to the number 1-82-CRIBBAGE, while forwarding the previous number, which would cost \$50/month. She also suggested a free Google Voice number as an alternative. An argument was made to keep a phone number valid to cater to the older generation of ACC members, although no known cost analysis has been done on the 1-888-PEGGING number's value to the ACC. Further discussion of phone number options deferred to marketing committee.

### **B. Treasurer's Report**

Marlene L. reported that there were some significant expenses last year, including scorecards and new rule books, the postage for which totaled to \$3,211. A total of 500 28-pins were ordered for \$792. The ACC has an investment account which was created in 2014 and as of 8/30/25 has \$52,589, with a plan to take it out when it reaches \$53K. Megan P. brought up concerns that as a non-profit the ACC is bringing in too much income and not spending enough on members, as well as multi-year membership fees being categorized into a single year's income statements. Marlene stated that every two years an unofficial audit is done to look at the bank statements and expenses, and that the auditor has never had any findings or told her to change anything. Further conversation to discuss a comprehensive audit and 501c designation was tabled.

### **C. Grassroots**

Ivan W. reported that the 2024-2025 season ended with 4,260 members, which is almost identical to the previous season. The number of clubs has grown substantially, with five new clubs just in June. A 33% GRNT/GRRT fee system was implemented which saw the payout scale shift upward 33% and excellent participation. Regarding the awards program, there have been no major price increases, although awards are currently delayed getting sent to recipients due to a supplier issue. The GR TOCC from the night prior brought 88 players, which was a drop from last season's 106, likely location-related. Online payments for GR fees are becoming more commonplace, and are on pace to outnumber payments by check. A proposal is being worked on in preparation for the March 2026 BOD meeting, to align and combine GR and ACC membership into one lump payment ("ACC/GR") with a 12-month cycle; it has not yet been established how lifetime memberships would be handled within this system. Bob J. offered to help with electronic payment management. Kat H. suggested using a CRM (customer relationship management tool) for data management and cost analysis as a more robust alternative to an Excel spreadsheet. Megan P. volunteered to help put together a proposal for a CRM for the next BOD meeting in March 2026. Nearly 10,000 "Cribbage Anyone" brochures have been distributed, and Kat H. has been working on redesigning them.

### **D. Internet Tournaments**

Sally H. was not present at the meeting but had sent a report by email. Megan P. suggested that GameColony and eCribbage sites be updated so that Java is not required, and others responded that because we are guests on those sites there is nothing we can do to change them. Rick S. suggested either paying the site owner to make the change, or develop our own site. The Internet Committee (Tammy, John Schaefer, James M.) will discuss this further.

### **E. Youth Program**

Joe B. reported there are four East Coast youth tournaments scheduled for next year. The West Region has a flourishing youth program although the Central Region is lagging. James M. stated that the youth program has faltered since the pandemic, and expressed a desire to get it going again.

## **VI. BOD Committee Reports**

### **A. Promotion/Marketing**

Kat H. has taken over from Jennifer J. has head of this committee due to extensive experience and ideas for furtherance in this arena. Kat H. asked for feedback and/or updated information for the Cribbage Anyone brochure. There is intent to develop structured marketing plans for tournament directors and offer support and direction to new Grand National directors. Dave A. expressed hope to include the Niagara Falls flyer in Cribbage World starting in April. Per Pat B., approximately 10% of entries are torn out of Cribbage World and sent in; Megan P. reports she has received one entry in three years from the Cribbage World flyer. Dave A. proposed the allowance of more free ads in Cribbage World for Grand National tournaments; they are currently given two two-page spreads in the months leading up to the tournament. Keith W. argued that these advertising costs should come out of the \$5k already given to Legacy Tournaments. Those in support of the proposal stated that the flyers should state that an extra \$5K has been added to the prize fund.

**Action:** Terry W. made a motion to give Legacy Tournament directors six additional free pages in Cribbage World (from current four to ten) before their tournaments; directors can use these pages in any way they see fit: ad, flyer, etc; Megan P. seconded. **Approved, 22-3.**

### **B. Rules**

Jeanne J. reported that there is a new green-covered updated rulebook, and thanked the Rules Committee for their hard work.

### **C. Ethics**

Todd S. reported no suspensions since the last BOD meeting. One warning letter was sent for behavior at a club not in alignment with the code of congeniality, with a player berating and intimidating another. One Grassroots ban was upheld after being appealed to the Ethics Committee. There was one reinstatement of directorship. There was also one ban from specific tournaments only. He reminded everyone that the committee does require two independently written letters from two separate people for any official action to occur (the more letters, the better). The committee hashes out complaints via email, and currently consists of the following seven members: Patrick B., Mark S., Rick S., Todd S., Keith W., Darlene S., and Tammy G.

### **D. Judges**

Keith W. reported that two new senior judges have been appointed – Bryan Gurden and Bob Milk. There is a procedure in place to keep an up-to-date list of judges. Any complaints about judges who are making mistakes should be taken to the Ethics Committee. The aim would not be to punish but to replace judges who consistently make poor calls. Megan P. pointed out that few complaints are filed about judges because people do not realize they can make them, and suggested including that information in a future Cribbage World column. Jeanne J. pointed out that most problems with judges do not escalate to the level of being an ethical issue, and should not need to be handled by the Ethics Committee. Judges are reminded to follow protocol by bringing a rulebook to rulings. Tammy G. added a reminder that tournament directors should be announcing at every tournament that calling a judge is not something to be afraid of or embarrassed by.

### **E. Tournament Commissioners**

Patrick B. reported that last season there were 217 sanctioned main tournaments and 205 sanctioned consolations, with an average of 58.4 players in the main events and 36.4 in consolations. 280,000 new scorecards were printed for a total cost of \$10,201, on the higher quality card stock that was used previously, which should last the next five years. Per Mark S., last season saw the highest number of sanctioned tournaments in ACC history. New bracket boards have been created and tournament directors should contact their commissioner if they do not have one; every tournament in the US should have one. Mark S. reminded everyone to avoid including prize money amounts on social media when posting photos of brackets. Rick S. reported that after a previous BOD vote to limit the number of weekday tournaments in a region to 32, the West has reached that limit and sanction requests have started to be denied. Joe B. acknowledged that there are people who are unable to attend weekend tournaments because of work obligations, and so there should be no limit on weekday tournaments. Supporters of this argued that if people are traveling for a tournament, they typically want to play in a Midweek to make the traveling expenses worthwhile, and that if we are trying to grow the game, weekday tournaments make the organization more money. Others cautioned against this as it could cause oversaturation; less tournaments draw higher participation, and many tournaments only attract less than 40 players because there are so many. Bob J. agreed, saying that it's important to consider the wisdom of having higher-value tournaments on the weekends versus giving retired folks an opportunity to chase points. Megan P. suggested analyzing data to determine which weekday tournaments attract the most participants, and to use that information to decide which get sanctioned. Jennifer J. suggested keeping the limit but de-coupling Fridays from weekdays. Megan P. suggested that if the tournament shares a flyer with a weekend tournament, it should not count as a weekday tournament. A committee was created to address this and create a proposal: Patrick B. (chair), Darlene S., Rick S, Roland H., Mark S.

### **F. Social Media**

Vicki S. reported that every Tuesday individual members are allowed to promote cribbage-related items that they are selling on the community Facebook page. An Instagram page is in the works. Kat H. performed a light audit on the Facebook group, and reports that as of August 2025 there are 6,333 group members. Engagement in the group is minimal, with 51 interactions daily. Posts about 28- and 29-hands attract the most engagement. She stressed that the Facebook group is the easiest way to recruit members and it is being underutilized.

### **G. IT/Tech**

Scott H. reported that there is a page on the ACC website that lists all active judges, although this page is currently broken. He stated that currently, youth members age out of their youth membership on their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, at which point any youth points automatically become MRPs. The site was hacked in the past 6 months, but since that time all holes in the system have been repaired and passwords changed. The 20% MRP boost for Legacy tournaments was enacted. Public standings pages and name search are both live data now. A process has been started to flag to tournament directors when they have players whose memberships are expiring. The MRP system currently has no way of flagging if a membership has active, so that is being worked on. Data quality improvements have been made to flag inconsistencies, unreasonable spreads, etc. He is working on a proposal for an app that will do cross-checking. One benefit to this is it would keep track of everyone who attended a tournament, rather than only those who qualify. Megan P. suggested the creation of a button that a tournament director could use to populate a spreadsheet after receiving an entry form. Ideas such as that are directed via email to Mark S. and Scott H. Darlene S. suggested that a program be written to handle payouts in Montana.

#### **H. Awards**

Mark S. announced that the executive committee voted to honor Richard Frost (“Frosty”) and his three stars he is being gifted a watch instead of a jacket. Currently plaques are awarded for regional teams, All-Americans, one stars, two + stars, Hall of Fame Award, Rookie of the Year, and volunteer awards, which together cost roughly \$1300. Rick Pierce provides engraved boards for Master, Life Master, and Grand Master. Jackets or trophies are given for one star or above. Total cost of all (70) awards this year have totaled \$3500. Watch prices have gone up significantly which is why they are no longer routinely given.

### **VII. Executive Committee Reports**

#### **A. President**

James M. stated that a \$1000 gift card has been given to Scott Kooistra for the Meritorious Service Award.

#### **B. Executive Vice President**

Rick S. encouraged Grand National bids to be for new “bucket-list” type locations. The ACC Open has signed a new four-year contract, with Sunday through Thursday nights costing \$59/night, Friday \$119/night, and \$149 Saturday. They have said that they reserve the right to increase these rates by up to 20%.

#### **C. Vice President of Policy**

Keith W. reported that Policy Manuals have been mailed out to all new board members. In the future this will probably be transitioned to only being sent as requested, since they are available online.

#### **D. Vice President of Operations**

Mark S. said that he has been working with Scott H. to sort out MRPs and working on the youth program.

#### **E. Vice President of Competition**

Dave A. mentioned the distribution of new scorecards and rulebooks.

## **VIII. Old Business (continued from earlier in meeting)**

### **A. HOF Member Continuous Appreciation**

**Action:** Rick S. made a motion that the ACC pays for Hall of Fame members' banquet dinners for life, Jennifer J. seconded. **Motion passed, 23-2.**

### **B. Starting Position for Short Games**

Dave A. stated that if games are started short due to slow play, there should be a standard start hole. Ivan W. said that a slow play guidelines document has been published for grassroots directors to have. A committee exists to handle slow play guidelines: Dave A., Rick B., Jerry H., Darlene S., and Ivan W. They plan to come to the board with a proposal at the next meeting.

### **C. Tournament Grants for All**

Jennifer J. brought up that we have a money surplus that we should be giving back as player benefits to support the many tournaments that are held. Keith W. suggested that we lower or eliminate sanction fees, for consolations, for example. Kat H. suggested it be done on a grant system, since some tournaments could really need the extra money while others do not. Pat B. calculated that if we were to eliminate sanction fees for both mains and consolations, that would cost around \$45K. Mark S. cautioned against using the money this way, arguing that the ACC bank account will be depleted in the next 15 years. Darlene S. suggested offering extra money to tournament directors who have better turnouts at their tournaments. Rick B. suggested lowering the sanctioning fee from \$3 to \$2, which would funnel money back into the tournament payouts. Terry W. suggested starting smaller, decreasing from \$3 to \$2.50. Jeanne J. supported Kat H's idea of the grant process, where directors with hardships could apply as needed to offset the cost of the venue, and argued that cutting the sanctioning fee by 50 cents will not help the tournament director in any substantial way. This topic was tabled and will be further discussed by the finance committee.

## **IX. New Business**

### **A. Fundraising Reporting**

Patrick B. brought up that 50/50s and other fundraisers are not being reported. Unreported fundraising income is prohibited in the ACC tournament director guidelines, whether it is money going back into the playing fund or otherwise. This money is income and cannot just be going into someone's pocket. Mark S. suggested that there be a line added under the Expenses section of the director's report, with a box to explain where the money goes; Scott H. said a comment box already exists at the bottom of the form. This will be further discussed between Scott H. and Mark S.

### **B. Policy Update**

#### **1. (Chapter 6.8.A.3) Kentucky Moving from East to Central Region**

Mark Soule reported that Kentucky is in the East Region in Grassroots, but Central in MRP tournament play. This was previously the situation with Ohio, as well. He said that Kentucky should represent a single region in both Grassroots and MRP play. Ivan W. stated that in the Grassroots system, there is no regional competition; although there is a regional tournament, different regions do

not compete against one another. Per Jennifer J., in the GRRT, whichever one a player competes in first is the one that counts for points. Therefore, anyone playing in a GRRT in Kentucky pays into the East's prize fund. Vicki Marchand shared that she and most other players from the one club in Kentucky prefer to be a part of the Central Region. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion to change section 6.8.A.3 in the policy manual to change Kentucky from the East in Grassroots to the Central Region; Rick S. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **2. Chapter 6.1 – Must Be a Member to Play Legacy Tournaments**

Mark S. pointed out that there is conflicting information in the policy manual. Section 6.1 states that you must be a member to play in Legacy Tournaments (the JPW and the GN), and that the National Open should be added to this now that it is a Legacy Tournament. Others added that the National Open should be added to any Legacy Tournament language. Keith W. added that it has been termed a Legacy Tournament since 2015, although it previously lacked the exclusivity rules. Scott H. added that the MRP system does not require someone to be a member to earn points, and it is up to the tournament director to enforce that. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion that the National Open is added to the Policy Manual anywhere where the term "Legacy Tournament" is used; Kat H. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **3. No Grace Period for Membership Expiration**

Mark S. brought up that there is a two-month lapse period after a membership expires during which MRP points can still be collected. He proposed that a new system should involve no MRP points being collected after the expiration date, with a three month grace period to renew their membership, at which point any MRP points earned in that time would become valid. Scott H. has created a program that would achieve this. Once the membership is renewed, even after the grace period, the new expiration date is still one year from the original expiration date, preventing abuse of the system. Dave A. suggested that this be a rolling three-month grace period, and that once the membership is renewed then any points earned in the last three months become valid. Per Scott H., this is currently how the Grassroots membership system works, but with a 60-day rolling grace period. **Action:** Mark S. made a motion to change policy 5.2.A (currently stating that members will be considered active from the date they join the ACC until two months after his or her membership expiration date, unless the membership has been renewed) to say their membership expires at their expiration date; they are then given a rolling three month grace period, as long as they sign up for their membership they're able to retain those points earned in that three months; Roland H. seconded. **Proposal tabled;** committee will work on exact wording for next meeting.

## **4. Sixty Days' Notice to Sanction Tournaments**

Rick S. stated that commissioners need a hard deadline of 60 days notice, and that rare exceptions can be made by the tournament commissioners committee. **Action:** Rick S. made a motion to enforce an absolute minimum of 60 days' notice is needed to sanction a tournament, with the commissioner's discretion; Dave A. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **5. Service Animals**

Joe B. stated that more animals are coming to tournaments with players, which can cause problems with allergies, as well as possible physical harm (biting, scratching, bird pecking, etc along with dangers of leashes). James M. suggested that this be up to the tournament director, with it being their obligation to remove someone or their animal if necessary. Rick S. supported creating a policy on

this to avoid the onus of being the “bad guy” on the tournament director. Kat H. added that there are lots of legal requirements to be an ADA certified service animal, including rabies vaccinations and carrying paperwork on them at all times. **Action:** Joe B. made a motion that while the ACC welcomes certified service animals, pets and emotional support animals are not allowed in tournament playing areas; James M. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **6. Prize Funds**

James M. brought up section 7.B.2 of the tournament directors manual, discussing that not only prize funds, but also expenses and player benefits must be posted by the end of the qualifying round or, in satellites, by the end of the tournament. Darlene S. suggested that this information should be posted the morning before the playoffs start, while others suggested the end of game 3, or lunch, or the end of play, as deadlines. Rick S. suggested that this be done by the end of lunch, so that nothing can be changed based on who may qualify. Dave A. suggested distinguishing between Q pool, which should be posted before the end of the qualifying round, and the general prize fund, which should be posted before the start of the first playoff round, and suggested that side pools have a posting deadline as well. A few individuals expressed difficulty in posting the precise Q-pool payouts, so Bob J. suggested posting approximations of Q pool payouts. James M. reiterated that the purpose of this proposal is for transparency, so that any money that comes in, it should be made public where it is going. **Action:** James M. made a motion that tournament payouts, official side pools, expenses, and player benefits must be posted by the end of the qualifying round, while Q pools must be posted no later than the start of the playoffs; Darlene S. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **7. Room Costs Become Player Benefit**

Vicki S. explained that with venue rents increasing, particularly in New England, tournament directors are losing venues because all of rent goes to expenses and payouts would then fall below 85%. She proposed to move up to \$500 of rent costs to player benefits, and the rest can come out of expenses. Mark S. mentioned a tournament director in the Boston area who pays \$700 for room rent; she runs 50/50 raffles to offset some of the costs but with that being the least expensive option around, it takes a lot of money out of the prize fund. Dave A. suggested that tournament directors can attribute 50% of playing space costs, up to a maximum of \$500. Other individuals suggested raising entry fees. Rick S. questioned why room rent is considered an expense and not a player benefit when every player is benefitting from it. Dave A. then argued that if the playing space is a benefit, then so are playing cards, advertising, flyers, etc. Bob J. suggested that since the room is the single largest expense, the 85% should be reevaluated and possibly increased. Jeanne J. cautioned against increasing entry fees too substantially, which would discourage casual players from participating. **Action:** Vicki S. proposed that we allow tournament directors to allocate up to 50% of the cost of the playing hall as a player benefit, with a maximum of \$500; Roland H. seconded. **Motion passed.**

## **C. Term Limits**

Joe B. asked why BOD members do not have term limits. Mark S. said that since tournament commissioners have to be board members, those roles would have to change as well once someone reaches their term limit. Todd S. argued that there are barely enough people to fill the board so it seems counterintuitive to get rid of people who are doing good work on the board. Terry W. agreed with this, saying that experienced board members are necessary in addition to bringing on the new members. Kat H suggested 12 or 15 years as a term limit. Her argument for term limits was that you want to move an organization forward with new people and new ideas, and that term limits are typical

for nonprofits for the safety of the board. Megan P. suggested that we cross-train multiple people for commissioner-type roles, and that someone should be a backup to each of the commissioners. Proposal tabled for future discussion.

#### **D. Requiring treasurer and secretary to be on the board**

Megan P. suggested that the Treasurer and Secretary should both be board members, since it is important for them to be present for the entirety of board meetings. Currently, the recording secretary and treasurer are appointed by the President. Bob J. suggested forming a Finance Committee to understand the depths of the organization's financial workings, and make financial decisions that can then be relayed to the treasurer. Darlene S. agreed with this, stating that as long as there is a Finance Committee, the treasurer would not need to be a board member. Dave A. suggested a "different tier" of board member, where the treasurer would still have a seat at the table. Mark S. agreed, stating that the board would lose a very skilled treasurer if they decided not to rerun for the board. Kat H. suggested turning the treasurer position into a bookkeeping position. Several individuals asserted that the treasurer should be a part of the board because of the sensitivity and weight of the decisions being made. Megan P. suggested using the term "department" instead of "committee" to promote cohesive cooperation, and suggested that a proposal be made to redefine the "treasurer" role, what it means and what responsibilities this positions holds. Discussion tabled.

#### **E. Slack as an alternate discussion arena**

Megan P. reminded everyone that currently, Facebook is being used as a source of information for the BOD, although Facebook's core purpose is to connect people socially. She suggested Slack, Discord, or Microsoft Teams as alternatives that were designed for communication. Challenges with Facebook include an inability to search, posts and comments "dropping off", poor communication, and the ability for anyone to delete posts. Slack allows for easier following of conversations, team creation, centralized communication, sending of files, real time communication, and integration with CRMs. Slack is a paid service, with a 10% discount if a year is paid ahead of time. It also offers discounts for 501c7-designated non-profits, although the ACC is currently designated as a 501c4. If we were to change that designation, we would be entitled to an 80% discount. Prices are charged per person per month (\$1.25 with discounts, or approximately \$45/mo for 30 people). Kat H. pointed out that Facebook's current configuration does not facilitate committee meetings, whereas Slack's would. One argument for improved online communication is that it would allow for faster, more efficient BOD meetings. Kat H. volunteered to work on an application to change the nonprofit designation. **Action:** Megan P. proposed that once the ACC's nonprofit designation is changed to 501c7 allowing for the 80% discount, BOD communications shift from Facebook to Slack; James M seconded. **Motion passed.**

### **X. New Committees**

#### **A. Finance Committee**

**Action:** James M. made a motion to form a Finance Committee be formed to oversee drafting and reviewing of the annual budget, financial performance, reviewing expenditures and cash flow, ensure compliance with nonprofit regulations, and present clear, understandable reports; Kat H. seconded. **Motion passed.**

**Finance Committee Members:** Bob J. (head), Darlene S., Megan P., Terry W., Marlene L., Kendra M.

## **B. Bylaws and Policy Review Committee**

James M. stated that the Policy Manual and Bylaws were last reviewed in the 1970's/1980's, and that there are a lot of little things that need to be updated and tweaked. **Action:** James M. made a motion to form a Bylaws and Policy Review Committee to examine current bylaws, recommend updates, and ensure alignment with IRS rules and state nonprofits; Jennifer J. seconded. **Motion passed.**

**Bylaws and Policy Review Committee Members:** Kat H., Megan P., Jason M., Kendra M., Dave A.

## **C. MRPs – All qualifiers receive score points**

Terry W. brought up that the lower half of qualifiers get a set number of MRP points, not based on the player's score. He suggested changing this, which would not cost the ACC anything. Tabled for future discussion.

## **XI. Adjournment**

**Action:** Megan P. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mark S. **Motion approved.** The meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.

**Next meeting date: March 12, 2026 3:00 pm PST (Virtual meeting).**

## **Action Items:**

### **Welcoming Committee:**

- Procure vests

### **Marketing Committee:**

- ACC Welcome Banner design
- QR code development
- Explore options for new phone number to replace 1-888-PEGGING
- Map out advertising/flyers in Cribbage World for the three Legacy tournaments to handle overlap/conflict

### **Finance Committee:**

- Comprehensive audit
- Tournament grants for all (Agenda item VIII.C)

### **Internet Committee:**

- Discuss creating alternative to GameColony or eCribbage that would not require Java (or paying owners of these sites to change them)

### **Weekday Tournament Committee:**

- Discuss and draft proposal for uncapping of weekday tournaments

### **Membership Expiration Committee:**

- Finalize wording for proposal for grace period