

REGINA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
Minutes of Board Meeting held at the Club January 25, 2025

Present: Ron Miller, Sandy Bingaman, Lorna Bingaman, Frank Fries, Geri Skilnick., Gaylene Spence, Avinash Bhende, Larry McCormick, Leslie Mortin
Unit representatives Claire Jones and Jan Carter, club manager Don Norman

Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 9:55

1. **Approval of the agenda as circulated:** moved by Avinash, seconded by Larry. **Carried.**

2. **Approval of October 19:** moved by Gaylene, seconded by Lorna. **Carried.**

3. Proposal from Unit to share storage and usage of supplies

Claire explained that several years ago, the unit acquired supplies such as tables, boards, cards and forms which were used by several southern Sask. clubs when they hosted tournaments, but now that only the Regina club survived to do this, these supplies were unnecessary and furthermore were costing the unit money to rent storage space for them. Jan presented an inventory of items available and suggested that they be merged with the club's supplies. There was mutual agreement to this, and Ron suggested the formation of a joint committee to figure out storage arrangements and ways to fairly address the finances of this arrangement going forward.

4. President's Report

Ron reported that things at the club continue to go well. Attendance is good enough to provide a small profit each month, Lorna will prepare the tax return necessary now that we are a registered non-profit corporation after our April 30 year-end, the club's GICs are now properly established, Leslie and Avinash are dealing with the broken chairs, and there are sufficient directors, including himself, to cover the games until April.

5. Financial Report

Lorna reported that the finances are still slightly better than budgeted, as shown in her e-mailed monthly statement. She moved acceptance of her report, seconded by Frank. **Carried.**

6. Recap of Christmas Party:

Geri and Sandy reported the success of this event, with eight and a half tables, including three of 299ers. Players brought appetizers and desserts to share and Geri purchased 4 dozen soft drinks, with the leftovers being used at no charge by members in December. Ron noted that he and Claire had decided not to charge players for this game but suggested that the regular \$8 fee should apply from now on

7. Report on new and altered games

Don reported on various games:

The new Thursday evening game for players with less than 20 mps has been well attended with several club members coming out to help participants. This will run until March 1 when Gaylene's lessons start, but maybe start up again in June if there is interest and a director.

Currently the only Tuesday night game is an open team game held on the second Tuesday of the month, which is scheduled to continue up to April.

The Thursday afternoon "4 is Enuf" game is going very well, as is Tuesday afternoon.

The Monday afternoon open game is struggling with very few tables, and Don suggested that lowering the limit on Tuesday afternoon might encourage players no longer eligible there to play on Monday and/or Friday. After considerable discussion, it was decided by consensus to

leave the Tuesday game as is for now and instead try an “4 is Enuf” format on Monday for three months.

8. Liquor at the club

Currently, the club bar is open on only two occasions, the Christmas party and the AGM, and not many players use it. We no longer get a liquor permit because it is too expensive for just two nights. Also, someone has to deal with stocking the bar and making sure that the product isn't stale. For these reasons, there was consensus that we stop operating the bar and use its space more productively, perhaps for storing the unit's supplies.

9. Reimbursement for bridge teachers

Gaylene, who currently conducts our beginner lessons, explained that the long-standing current practice is for the teacher to keep the fees students pay, now \$8 per lesson, and pay any expenses such as Xeroxing and free plays for assistants. This means the teacher bears the risk of low enrolment, so perhaps paying a stated amount would be better. She also mentioned that she serves as both board member and chair of the Education Committee. Larry McCormick, who may soon become the teacher, felt that a fixed payment would be acceptable with the club responsible for expenses. Ron reported his discussion with Joyce Butler who teaches clinics on selected topics which complement Gaylene's curriculum and keeps the fees and covers any expenses.

After some discussion, it was agreed that this was a complex topic which should be revisited at our next meeting.

10. Learning opportunities other than beginner lessons

Deferred to next meeting.

11. Club reimbursement for director course fees and bridge session assistants

Current policies approve the former, and the latter will be decided at the next meeting.

12. Club rental to third parties

Current policy is to charge \$50 for half days and \$100 full day, with all requests being approved by the board.

13. Zero Tolerance Policy and player behavior

There have been instances of misbehavior on Friday afternoons. Ron will write a warning letter to the worst offender and talk to the other player involved, hoping to curtail future problems.

14. Committee reports—no report from any committees

15. Club Management – no report

16. Next meeting

Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 10:00.

Meeting moved adjourned by Gaylene at 12:10.