

REGINA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB  
Minutes of Board Meeting held at the Club May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Present:** Leslie Mortin, Donna Barber , Paul Omilon, Sandy Bingaman, Nancy Welta, Greg Hutchinson, Lance Connell, Gaylene Spence, Lorna Bingaman, Angela Ducek, Ilsa Krukoff

**Regrets:** Larry Lazaruko

**Leslie Mortin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.**

No formal agenda. Meeting was held, with care to follow all COVID 19 rules, as a way to discuss Club finances and procedures moving forward.

**1 .Finances:**

- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) has been considered, but must be applied for by the landlord. However, our landlord does not wish to do so at this time, so this will not be available to us.

-Our rent plus internet amounts to circa \$4000 per month. Landlord is not charging the additional amount for parking at this time.

-We have been using our chequing account and in addition have moved money from our high interest account to chequing. At present, we have circa \$5300 in chequing, and circa \$6700 in high interest.

-Lorna Bingaman said that we have a \$25,000 GIC maturing in June. It was felt that having this money available to use for rent and any other expenses would be a helpful buffer.

**Motion** by Lorna Bingaman, seconded by Angela Ducek, that we not reinvest the maturing GIC , but rather that it be placed in our high interest account. **Carried.**

**2. Insurance: cost is up \$100 this year**

**3. Honorarium for Club Manager**

-**Motion** by Gaylene Spence, seconded by Greg Hutchinson that for 2019/2020 fiscal year we give our Club Manager, Jim Bingaman, an honorarium of \$2400. **Carried.**

-Jim Bingaman has indicated that for any honorarium that may be awarded at the end of fiscal year 2020/2021, he requests that it be pro-rated to reflect a decrease for months that the Club is closed.

**4. Next year's Board**

Leslie Mortin asked if there were current Board members who did not wish to let their names stand for the fiscal year 2020/2021. All Board members present at the meeting indicated that they wished to let their names stand, citing the importance for as much continuity as possible at this unusual time.

**5 .Education**

The Board acknowledged that importance of our educational programs to the growth of our Club.

Gaylene Spence said that lessons planned for May had to cancelled. However, she will advise interested participants at such time that lessons can be resumed.

**6. Possible suggestions of things to consider for in-person games once we are able to reopen**

-Require hand washing

-Wear masks

-No eating or drinking to ensure that masks stay on

-Everyone sanitize bidding boxes prior to game - E/W carries boxes table-to-table so that no-one else uses that bidding box. Alternately, bidding is oral

-Sanitizer at every table

- To control numbers, require pre-registration for games, and ask anyone who pre-registers and finds they cannot attend to advise the Club.
- No table cloths. Sanitize tables between movements
- Card decks remain a concern, sanitizing seems impossible, but if all players have sanitized their hands and follow all other rules, this can mitigate the concern re: shared cards.
- Might it be possible to have virtual decks (ie, using personal laptops or iPads at the table)?
- ACBL will likely provide useful guidelines

## **7. Online Play**

- BBO offers options to keep our players interested. Greg Hutchinson suggested various options people could consider. Eg Pairs games of 18 hands, Pairs speedball games of 1 hour duration, Casual games either with a larger field or with friends.
- BBO option for Virtual Club games allows for some income for our Club. At present, Saskatoon has such games, and our members can play in these games. Players pay to play, and a portion of the money comes back to our Club. To date, this has netted our Club over \$400. Perhaps we could encourage more participation from our members.
- There are positives and negatives to consider regarding Online play. At present, this provides an alternative to keep people engaged in bridge. However, it remains to be seen if some people continue to prefer this option once Clubs begin to operate with in-person games, even though it does not offer the in-person social aspects.

## **8. Membership**

- Current memberships expire at the end of each fiscal year, hence at the end of May, 2020. However, both because we are not offering in-person games and because it would be very difficult and impractical in any event to collect fees during the time of the pandemic, it was suggested to waive fees at this time, and rather to extend current memberships for the time being.

**Motion** by Nancy Welta, seconded by Paul Omilon, that we extend current memberships until such time as we can re-open. **Carried.**

## **9. Payment of Fees**

- Both for membership fees and for game fees, once we are operational, handling of cash is problematic.
- Going cashless would be the best approach. Ways to do this would need to be considered: cheques, electronic transfer, debit machine, punch card, etc
- Question: Directors at present are paid out of cash collected, so how would this be dealt with?

## **10. Community Bridge**

Donna Barber reported that there are two games scheduled for July and two for August. It was agreed that the July games should be cancelled, but that we would wait and see regarding August games.

## **11. AGM**

- It will not be possible to hold an in-person AGM in June this year. Instead, information would need to be sent out to members by email, to which members can respond with any input.

**Motion** by Gaylene Spence, seconded by Nancy Welta, that we do not hold an in-person AGM for fiscal year 2019/2020. **Carried.**

Meeting Adjourned by Gaylene Spence at 11:15