

Regina Duplicate Bridge Clubs
Minutes of Informal Board Meeting November 7 2020

Present: Leslie Morton, Angela Duczek, Lorna Bingaman, Sandra Bingaman, Gaylene Spence, Paul Omilon, Greg Hutchinson, Donna Barber

1. Reopening survey report

Greg reported the results of the Survey Monkey recently sent to members. Of 200 invitations, there were 92 returned with the following results:

24.2 % were not comfortable returning to the club until there were no Covid-19 cases

29.07% would return if active cases in Regina were below 20

9.3 % would return if cases below 50

3.49 % would return if cases below 120

33.72% would return with proper safety measures in most circumstances.

There was considerable discussion about when we might consider reopening based on these results. The consensus was that we need to have a flat curve of new cases before we consider taking this action, but that we should start a few small games as soon as it seems safe to do so.

2. Community Bridge

Donna reported that no games are currently being played and there is not yet a schedule for play to resume, although she has dates for our club to submit when conditions permit.

3. A member had suggested to Leslie that since schools might be looking for space so they could have smaller classes, perhaps the two nearby high schools might be interested in subletting our club. Leslie will pursue this idea.

4. Manager Jim Bingaman has received notification from the ACBL that they want clubs to apply for sanctions for games for 2021, the cost of which is \$15.53 per game. Angela moved and Gaylene seconded that our club should apply for sanctions for the ten games we normally run each week. Carried.

5. Barb Miller presented a report on Real Bridge, a new online platform which would allow our members a choice other than the current BBO games some are playing. The advantages of Real Bridge are as follows:

- a. It allows players to see and talk to each other
- b. It eliminates several types of cheating
- c. Our club has three directors who can use this system, Joyce, Claire, and Lorraine

There are also some drawbacks:

- a. Not all our members are comfortable with using computers, and some may not have computers with cameras
- b. No ACBL points are available on Real Bridge

- c. The ACBL has plans to improve the BBO system so that players can see and hear each other there too, so joining a second organization would be somewhat redundant.
- d. Real Bridge would like a guarantee of 5 tables per week.

There was discussion about these issues and others. Greg and Barb both pointed out that it's hard to know when the ACBL's new program will be available. Another point raised was how exactly we would collect fees (\$.53/ per player/ game) and how much we would pay our director. We need to be sure that any games we schedule do not interfere with the Saskatoon Bridge Club's BBO games in which several of our members are playing and for which the Saskatoon Club gives us a portion of their fees.

Angela moved and Greg seconded that we try four sessions of Real Bridge on Monday evenings which would be free to all players and then evaluate whether or not to continue after we see the results. A committee of Barb Miller, Greg Hutchinson, and Joyce Butler will arrange these four sessions. Carried.

- 6. Barb reported on an e-mail from the Canadian Bridge Federation asking for volunteers to provide material for their publication, but we declined to participate at this time.
- 7. Lorna presented a brief financial report showing that the club has \$27,148.29 in the chequing account, \$6,661.86 in savings, and \$75,350.04 in GICs for a total of \$109,160.19. She also presented a chart showing how the federal government rent subsidy had paid portions of our rent over the past seven months. This program has now expired but a new one is in the works which could provide as much as 65% of our rent costs. She is watching for applications for this to become available.
- 8. Gaylene moved adjournment.