

CORNHUSKER UNIT 241 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2015 9:30 a.m.
OMAHA BRIDGE STUDIO

The following members were present: Jonathan Cohn, Sharon Emery, Mel Patterson, Ken McNary, Cookie Hoberman and Mitzi Jahn. Absent members: Greg Ruhe, Gil Kruehl and Trudy Woska. Guest Attendance: Lonnie Seikman
The president called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

The minutes of the June 27th Board of Directors meeting were approved with all in favor.

Regional Tournament

Cookie reported that the preliminary results appear that the Unit broke even financially despite being down by 100 tables. She will be meeting next Wed. Aug. 26th with Elise to get the exact profit and loss numbers. She will also be discussing next year's event schedule with the DIC. Cookie was commended for a successful Regional Tournament and all her hard work. Cookie discussed the costs associated with the Daily Bulletins and possible alternatives to lower this cost. Jonathan indicated that the Daily Bulletins are a District requirement. Jonathan will bring up the suggested alternatives at the next District meeting.

299er Tournament

The House of Cards will be hosting the Tournament Sept. 12th and 13th. Jim Nash will be the DIC. He will be presenting a discussion on Team Play prior to the game. A printed flyer has been posted at both clubs but additional advertising is needed to include posters and announcements at selected games. Jonathan and Cookie will send out Tournament information via email to all members in the 0-300 point category. Mel indicated that he would work on getting the sanction for next year's Tournament. Jonathan expressed the possibility of a date change for the Tournament next year due to a scheduled STAC during the second week of Sept. A spring schedule for this Tournament was discussed along with changing the Tournament to a 499er Tournament.

Sectional Tournament

Jonathan recommended that we have flyers available at the Fall Sectional (Oct. 22-25) for the Unit's next Sectional in Feb. 2016. He had also discussed the requirements for the number of Directors needed at Sectional Tournaments with Larry Brobst. Larry's recommendation was to change the event starting times on Saturdays to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. if he were to be the only Director. Any changes in Directors or the event starting times was tabled for future discussion. Jonathan did report that the German American Club venue for the 2016 Fall Sectional seemed to be a good fit except for some lightning adjustments that may be necessary in the South Ballroom.

Unit 241 Elections

A total of 5 Unit Board member terms expire at the end of 2015. The current positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Coordinator will be up for election. Several of the current Unit Board members have decided not to run while others are undecided. Jonathan made a recommendation that there be three members counting votes instead of only two as in previous years.

Mitzi plans to review the by-laws and election procedures and coordinate the process with Jonathan.

Mentoring Program

Jonathan reported that he has 20 pairs of mentees in the Program and all had been assigned their mentor except for 2 of the pairs. Jonathan indicated his difficulty in getting Mentors for the Program. He indicated that the mentors have already started mentoring their assigned pair after their games. Some of the feedback he has received involved the format and experience of the Mentors. Jonathan then indicated that he plans to discontinue his chairing of this Program due to time constraints.

District Meeting

Jonathan reported that he and Elise had attended the District meeting. He indicated that the District had passed a motion that starting in Feb. 2016 at least one game of each Sectional would be a Grassroots Fund Game. This \$1.00 extra entry fee will help fund the District's Grand National Team and North American Pairs. The District North American Pairs final will be October 3rd and 4th in

Minnesota. The District will fund \$700 for 1st place, \$500 for 2nd place and \$350 for 3rd and 4th places. The funding for the District's GNT will be \$2000. The Friday afternoon and evening Sectional games are the most attended games and good possibilities to hold as a Grassroots Fund Game.

GNT District Finals

Jonathan was pleased to report that Unit 241 would be hosting the District's GNT finals in Omaha next year. The finals will be held May 14-16, 2015. He then presented two options for Member consideration. The first option was to run the event as an extra Unit Sectional held in May. The GNT's would have their own separate section. The second option would be to have the qualifying team finals on Sat. and Sun. with an open Swiss Team event on Sun. A motion was made to vote on the options presented. The option to enjoy an additional Sectional Tournament in May was passed with all in favor. Mel plans to check with the Westside Community Center for their availability.

Educational Foundation Grant

Jonathan indicated that he would like to submit a grant to the Educational Foundation to cover the costs for an educational presentation on GNT qualifying events at approximately five of the limited games currently held at the Clubs. A motion was made for Jonathan to proceed with the grant proposal. The motion passed with all in favor. Rebecca and GK Rhoads will be informed that the grant for the Bridge in Schools Program will not be submitted. Ken plans to look into the financial accountability and past expenditures of the Program.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Kuhn has agreed to perform the Unit's required audit. Ken presented current copies of both the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss by Class. The Regional account as of July 31, 2015 is \$88,266.14. Elise will have the final accounting for the Regional at their meeting on Wed. Ken indicated that only the caddy and ACBL fees have been paid to date. The Unit's total assets as of Aug. 22, 2015 are \$112,308.67.

Miscellaneous

Lonnie Sieckmann arrived at the meeting and briefly discussed her desire to donate a beautiful I bridge vest all done by hand in needlepoint. She would like to see it used as a fundraising raffle item. It was suggested that this would be a great item to use for the next Longest Day Event fundraiser. She was thanked for her donation.

The Unit has bought and provided all new playing cards for both Clubs and the Bridge in Schools Program. Mitzi has been donating the old cards to local shelters.

The work on the Membership Roster continues. Ken will check on the associated costs with publication and inform the Board.

The bridgemates at the House of Cards have been cleaned to improve their functioning.

A printer has been purchased for the Omaha Bridge Studio as per the agreement. GK Rhoads has volunteered to be the Duplimate Coordinator for the Omaha Bridge Studio.

The Board has purchased a black and white laser printer.

Sharon reported that June 21st of 2016 falls on a Monday for the Longest Day Event. There was discussion of having the Event as a Unit Fundraiser for the Alzheimer's charity on Sat. and not participating with the ACBL's Event on Monday. The suggested events would include an Eight is Enough Team game and a Pairs game.

The next meeting will be held October 17, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at the Omaha Bridge Studio unless otherwise noted.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitzi Jahn
Unit 241 Secretary

