

Minutes of Unit 241 Board Meeting
August 22, 2024

All Board members were present: Scott McIntyre, Justin Graver, Andrew Clements, Jane Slezak, Jonathan Cohn, Dawnette Kahnk, and Bill Treadway.

Minutes from the last board meeting, July 11, 2024, were approved as revised.

Regional Tournament Update: Financial data is not yet finalized from our August tourney. Hotel room bookings decreased about 40% from last year, and table count dropped about 20%. A noted drop off of two professional teams accounted for much of this decrease. We discussed dropping the Sunday game due to low attendance, but we decided to keep it for team games, as is traditional. At our next Regional, we will consider offering a welcome reception on the first night.

Jonathan has gotten the following tournaments sanctioned and is trying to line up committee chairs going forward.

Bluffs Bridge 0-750, September 12-14, 2024
Fall Sectional October 23-25, 2024
Spring Sectional April 30-May 2, 2025
Bluffs Bridge 0-750, May 8-10, 2025
Omaha Regional August 11-17, 2025
Bluffs Bridge 0-750, September 11-13, 2025
Fall Sectional October 22-24, 2025
Spring Sectional April 29-May 1, 2026 (not at JCC due to conflict)
Omaha Regional August 3-9, 2026
Fall Sectional October 28-30, 2026
Omaha Regional, August 2-8, 2027

Unit 241 Budget: We discussed options to maintaining a reserve to cover the one-month cash flow needed during the Regional. We considered the possibility of fundraising for other unit events. Jonathan proposed that we implement a "players' card" to support our Unit, i.e., a one time purchase providing entry into all of the Regional and Sectional events we sponsor (excluding Bluffs Bridge). It would provide funds to our unit and incentivize people to play.

Player Appreciation Event: We discussed alternative locations for the future, and to begin referring to the event as our Annual Meeting (which is required to be held in our bylaws). Friday afternoon does not interfere with local games, so we proposed June 6, 2025, for next year. Scott will research locations. We may run it as a North American Pairs game to earn extra points.

Grand National Teams and North American Pairs Discussion: Jonathan will find a coordinator and educate our members, and consider running some online training to encourage participation.

Unit-Owned Supplies: Our Unit has provided equipment for area clubs for 20 years, much of it is now old and will need repairs or replacement. We no longer need equipment for tournaments, because we rent it from directors. We decided to cease providing equipment to our local clubs, allowing them to continue to use our equipment until they are finished. After that, the clubs can purchase and maintain their own equipment. The Board voted to adopt this plan and will inform the clubs.

Council Bluffs NLM Tournament: Bill informed us that the upcoming tournament will be non-life master only. Section winners will win an inscribed coffee mug.

Treasurer's Report: Andrew reports that we have \$17k in our checking account, and \$3k in a money market.

Membership: Dawnette received positive feedback about the 8 Is Enough Swiss Team event held in June, and suggested that we schedule another one this year.

Our next meeting will be October 10, 2024, kWElite, 17838 Burke St, Ste 102, at 6 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Slezak, Secretary