

ACBL Unit 509 Santa Rosa / Petaluma
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
March 12, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

President Neill Ray called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom. In attendance were Cathy Netz, Harley Conner, Jane Drever, Maxine Reagh, Patty Shribbs, and Roy Redlich. This constituted a quorum of Board Members. Also attending were Jackie Ortiz and Kathy Venton.

Approval of Minutes

A motion passed to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting of January 23, 2024.

Treasurer's Report

Maxine Reagh reported on balances for the Unit's checking and savings accounts. Harley Conner provided more detailed information on expenditures and revenues.

Committee Reports

Tournaments – Harley Conner and Maxine Reagh

The Unit's Spring Sectional Tournament was a success with 40 tables on Saturday and 33 on Sunday. Attendance in pairs games was slightly down from the previous Sectional, but attendance in team games was up significantly. Only one team signed up for the single session 499er game, and a minimum of three teams are needed to score the game. The Board discussed ways to encourage 499ers to play in teams games. Jane Drever agreed to talk to Tony Jackson about the possibility of him offering a class in Sonoma on team game mechanics and strategy. Kathy Venton suggested that the Unit Game in January feature a lesson on team games followed by a team game.

Attendees provided favorable comments about the Sectional Tournament including: compliments to Jackie Ortiz for a great lunch on Sunday; refreshments provided by other club members; the attractive and easy-to-get-to tournament venue; excellent directing by Lynn Yokel with assistance from Evelyn Holtz; and Kathy Venton's helpful partnership desk. Caddies received generous compensation for their help with the event.

Minutes of Unit 509 Board of Directors Meeting March 12, 2024

Membership – Harley Conner

Harley reported that the Unit had 231 members as of February 2024.

Education – Kathy Venton and Jane Drever

Kathy Venton reported that all speakers are set for Unit Games through the end of the year. Monthly unit games are now held on Saturdays. Jane, Harley, and Kathy plan to meet and do some more long-range planning of the unit's education and membership needs.

Hospitality – Maxine Reagh

Maxine reported that the Unit's annual holiday party is planned for December 14th with a catered lunch similar to last year's.

Finley 509 Report – Maxine Reagh

Maxine Reagh reported that the Finley Center games are enjoying good attendance with more than nine tables at each of the last three games. The room can accommodate eleven tables. The club's contract with the City of Santa Rosa was extended through August 2024. Games at the Finley club will comprise 24 boards to ensure that play ends by 3:40 p.m.

Unfinished Business

New Player Incentives

Incentives to attract new players will be part of the discussion that Jane, Harley and Kathy plan to have prior to the next Board meeting.

New Business

Advertising

The Board discussed supporting efforts to advertise the availability of classes for those who would like to learn how to play bridge. Kathy Venton agreed to talk with instructor Kathy Juarez about the possibility of having the Unit help pay the costs for advertising for future beginner classes.

Free Play Coupons

The Board passed a motion for Unit 509 to issue two free play coupons for mentors at the completion of their mentorship. This additional coupon will replace the one previously awarded by the host club which had to be redeemed at that club. This change will allow mentored games to be played at different clubs – including online – and mentors will have an additional redemption option.

Minutes of Unit 509 Board of Directors Meeting March 12, 2024

Zero Tolerance Policy

The Board has a responsibility to set and enforce standards of behavior at club games. The Board agreed to table further discussion on this important topic to the next Board Meeting.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14th at 4:30. Neill Ray will host the meeting on Zoom.

Adjournment

A motion was passed to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Redlich, Secretary