

**ACBL Unit 509 Santa Rosa / Petaluma
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
March 26, 2025**

Call to Order and Roll Call

Board President Neill Ray called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. via Zoom. Director Maxine Reagh acted as Secretary. Other members in attendance were Harley Conner, Roy Redlich, and Patty Shribbs. Also attending were Evelyn Holtz and Jackie Ortiz.

Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2025, was deferred to the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Maxine Reagh reported that our 2024 taxes were filed by Tom Pajak from District 21. Harley Conner sent him our year-end Statement of Receipts and Expenditures for the year which he appreciated. Harley filed the 1099s for Finley's contractors as well. Maxine reported the amounts in our savings and checking accounts. Harley announced that we are on budget after the first quarter.

Committee Reports

Tournaments – Harley Conner and Maxine Reagh

Harley Conner and Maxine Reagh reported that they were satisfied that we had a financially successful Sectional. Net receipts were below budget by \$217 (18%) despite a slight increase in attendance over the previous year's event. Increases in ACBL expenses and facility rental charges account for the deficit. Both Maxine and Harley have written summaries of the event, both for the Newsletter and for an email that will be sent to people who attended, thanking them and informing them of our Fall Sectional September 20 and 21. Roy mentioned that he appreciated Harley's seven year analysis of attendance at the tournaments and was glad to see a return to pre-pandemic levels.

After discussion it was agreed not to increase table fees at this time.

Membership – Harley Conner

Harley Conner reported that our membership is holding around 230. He keeps his finger on the pulse of the new formula for determining our reimbursement

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from ACBL by using a tool that informs him whose membership is expired and who needs to renew. He makes phone calls to apprise people of their status and to encourage them to renew their membership.

Education – Kathy Venton, Conrad Larkin There was no report.

Hospitality – Maxine Reagh

Maxine Reagh reported that there are no plans made yet but that she intends to have an event very similar to last year's, using Lombardi's for catering.

Finley 509 Report – Maxine Reagh

Maxine Reagh reported that Santa Rosa Parks and Recreation granted her request for an increase in the payrate per game. The payrate per game in the amount of \$216 effective with the first game in March, the payrate per game will be \$216. This increase of \$24 will offset the approximate cost of snacks, related supplies, and prizes.

Maxine reported she received a request to increase the director fee for each game. After discussion, a motion passed to increase the fee from \$100 to \$125.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business

Sectional game pricing

Though our expenses are up and our revenue is down, after discussion it was agreed that there is no need to change our entry fees of \$15 at this time.

Evelyn Holtz suggested that we consider more ways of marketing. Harley Conner said that with Pianola we reach approximately 6,000 people with each of three email blast we send out prior to a sectional.

Unit Championship lesson honorarium

Evelyn Holtz said that it takes several hours to prepare a lesson and that \$100 is not enough compensation. She suggested we raise the stipend to \$150. The reimbursement of \$25 for handout reproduction would remain unchanged.

Maxine Reagh reported that she spoke with Max Schireson from District 21 to get information on ACBL's speaker reimbursement program. It used to be, pre-Covid, that District 21 would reimburse a unit \$100 for each presentation by a National Champion on their list up to three times a year. He said that District 21

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is in discussion now about resuming that practice and is also considering supporting local lecturers as well. He will let me know what decisions they make. It was decided that we will put this item on our next agenda and discuss it again when we have information from District 21. Jacki Ortiz is on that committee and will let us know of their actions. Patty Shribbs said that Ron Feldman, a National Champion who lives in Petaluma, offered to give a free lecture.

District 21 Report - Jacki Ortiz

Jacki Ortiz is on the planning committee for the NABC to be held in San Francisco in November 27 through December 7. She said that there is an opportunity to name an event for \$150 and money collected from that will be given to Districts. Harley Conner asked Jacki to relay our thanks for District 21 getting the group license for Pianola. It saves approximately \$150 for each sectional.

Next Meeting

We will meet at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2025.

Adjournment

With approved motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Maxine Reagh,
Acting Secretary