

Minutes
DBAA Board Meeting
Tuesday, 10 AM, November 14, 2023

Tom Drinkard called the meeting to order at 9:58. In attendance were:

Rich Brody
Candy Cox
Tom Drinkard
Jack Feagin
Jim Fordham
Craig Robinson
Connie Smilowitz
Garry Williams
Sue Williams

Connie had a correction to the minutes of the last meeting. Jack, not she, was going to see if Delta would make a contribution toward the expenses of the Nationals. The minutes and treasurer's reports, which had been previously mailed to Board members, were then approved.

Jack would like to build interest in grand national teams. He proposed that the Unit support events for this purpose, providing \$6/table for up to three events per club. Rich so moved, and Candy seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Georgio Casinovi sent in a proposal for an annual collegiate tournament to be held on the Georgia Tech campus under the sponsorship of the ACBL. This year he would like to hold a tournament for nearby colleges the weekend in February before the Super Bowl. He is asking the Unit for help. Georgia Tech has a good space on campus to hold the tournament and can provide refreshments. He needs tables, supplies, and a director. Jack said that it could not be a regional event. The Unit used to have three sectionals a year and one NLM event. After much discussion it was decided that we would do our best to get a sectional rating. This would not be connected to the Summer Nationals or the Collegiate Bowl. Tech has 3+ teams. Georgio is asking for six tables. Ernie Eayrs has been housing and transporting the tables, but, after his move, the Unit will have to find new housing and transportation for the tables. Still to be determined are costs and compensation for a director.

Craig Robinson would like the Unit to fund a number of mentor-NLM mentee events per year - maybe one per month per club - to help newer players develop skills, success, and confidence, in an effort to strengthen and create new partnerships. Discussion followed. We already sponsor an annual mentoring program in May for all clubs. The ACBL covers the costs for the mentors.

Tom expressed interest in reviving the Quarterly Newsletter. The DBAA used to publish four newsletters per year (February, May, August, and November) which provided the tournament schedules and results, recognition of new Life Masters, the announcement of semi-annual elections, nomination forms for Sports Person of the Year, and interesting hands at both the newer and expert player levels. Sue said she would send out an email asking for volunteers to be in charge of it.

Tom provided the Board members with a calendar of key dates for the year. He reported that the Unit currently sponsors one combined sectional and NLM regional per year. It is recommended that we continue this. He also reported that semi-annual elections have been moved to odd-numbered years.

Judy Fendrick has agreed to handle the Unit Special Games notifications. We need three volunteers to represent our unit at the District Seven Regionals. That will require attending multiple District Seven Regional Tournaments each year.

Tom asked if there was any old business. Connie asked what has happened with the Wednesday night game that used to be held at Dan's club. Peter Martin used to run it. Tom will talk to Dan about it.

Tom thanked Garry for arranging the plaque for Sports Person of the Year.

He adjourned the meeting at 10:40.

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