

Approved

Minutes of the 14 JUN 2014 Meeting Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta

President Marty Nathan called the meeting to order at 9:30 am at the Bridge Club of Atlanta.

The voting members present were: MaryAnn Oakley, George Powell, Roz Howell, Vicki Bell, Bob Jones, Jack Feagin, Dick Myers, and Josie Mitchell. Also attending were Tom Eidson, Elyse Mintz and Ina Parry.

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved as distributed.

The Treasurer' report was approved as distributed. Marty and George emphasized their concern that the Treasury is being depleted at an accelerated rate. This is due to the success of programming and to keeping tournament entry fees as low as possible. It was agreed that this is an issue that must be addressed by the board in the near future.

MaryAnn Oakley reported that the newsletter is due to be published July 25th. Just after July 4th, she will send the usual email alerting all to submit their content. In Old Business, Marty requested a change in the wording of the proposal to form a new unit by substituting DBAA to 'become' the new unit, rather than 'merge' into the new unit. A vote on this amendment passed.

The motion as revised is:

The DBAA will pursue the creation of a new ACBL unit from the six-county DBAA area, and upon creation of such unit, the DBAA will become the new unit, and a committee comprised of Marty Nathan, Roz Howell and Judy Fendrick be created to take the necessary actions to create the new unit.

Discussion on the pros and cons of creating a new unit ensued. Pertinent comments included:

We will benefit by being officially recognized by the ACBL. Transforming into a new unit will greatly simplify our governance. The current structure is very confusing to many members. We have received no evidence of a negative impact to Unit 114, only dire predictions. Atlanta players are getting benefits from the DBAA, but not from the Unit. The Metro area does not have adequate representation on the Unit board. There were also complaints about the Committee chairs and the lack of financial oversight at the Unit. Players from outside the Metro area are opposed as are several former Unit Presidents who are residents of the Metro area.

The motion was defeated by a vote of 5 to 4.

Dick Myers reported on the upcoming Sectional tournament. There has been a good demand for the hotel rooms and the hotel has agreed that all their available rooms will be rented at the bridge rate. This tournament is budgeted for break-even. Menu prices at the location are reasonably priced. Next year, this tournament will be held on Memorial Day weekend due to scheduling adjustments at the District level. If this location proves successful, Dick will negotiate further events with them.

Betty Myers reports that the DBAA website is up to date.

Tom Eidson reported on the implementation of the online database will start beta testing Monday (June 16). There is a full report attached to these minutes.

Jack reported that the DBAA will sponsor ice cream service at the ABA tournament on August 6th, the ABA-ACBL Day, as approved at the last meeting. Unit 114 will most surely agree to split the cost, which will totally approximately \$2400. We will receive a full page in the tournament's souvenir journal and will be allowed to advertise our upcoming events.

Tom Eidson requested assistance on behalf of the Georgia Tech bridge club starting in the fall. They are seeking mentors for their players. They will notify us of the day and time and the number of mentors when the time is closer.

The appointment of Elyse Mintz to head the upcoming Social Bridge Game event was approved by the board. Elyse reported that Social Bridge Game that will be on the first day of the Regional on August 26th, 10 am. There are grant requests as previously reported and it is expected that Unit 114 will split the cost. It was proposed that the DBAA provide \$2300, approximately \$1500 of which will be for free plays at area clubs. The funding motion passed. Elyse is seeking approximately 200 volunteers to assist the players at the event.

Bob Jones agreed to take to the next Unit 114 meeting the DBAA Board's concern that an unauthorized Facebook page has been attributed to Unit 114 and is lobbying against the formation of a new unit for the Metro area.

Jack Feagin has asked for a volunteer to manage a photo project for the upcoming Regional. He will email more details.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am. The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2014 at BCA.

Respectfully submitted

Roz Howell for Judy Fendrick
18 June 2014

Project: DBAA Directory
DBAA Meeting: June 14
Report submitted by: Tom Eidson

Status:

1. Main Implementation

- Complete, Debugging, Installing on DBAA server
- Beta testing: June 16

2. Statistics and Robustness features

- Close to completion

3. Input

- ACBL: complete
- DBAA: need data

General Comments:

1. Implementation approach:

- Some interfaces added/modified
- Some internal data storage added
- Reason: some changes to be consistent with ACBL
- Reason: some changes to make implementation/maintenance better
- Reason: new ideas to show Board
- Reason: easier to turn off or delete than add

2. ACBL database (& Microsoft mail)

- ACBL database uses sloppy design
- Microsoft mail will modify file containing ACBL database
- Current DBAA code contains "kluges" to compensate
- * This could cause a problem if ACBL/Microsoft change anything.

3. For success of project:

- need good quantity and quality of data
 - > need DBAA email addresses to enhance ACBL list
- adding features will increase use and get better basic data as more members join and place importance on accuracy

Specific Comments:

1. Primary Interface:

- Board Interface: similar to Beta-test interface
 - > Tasks will be maintenance & update features (e.g. load ACBL data once per month)
- Member Interface: 2 options
 - i. similar to Beta-test interface
 - > include: "On-Line Directory" section
 - > include: "Learn About Project" section w/ mods
 - ii. Implement "On-Line Directory" buttons in current DBAA pages

2x. Add to Info Update:

- button to reload ACBL data for that member only

2. There is no definitive Zipcode database. (Zipcode to City/County)

- USPS only provides a lookup service---not a database.
- I am using the most reliable, free database that I could find.
- * Use database to determine who lives in DBAA Metro Atlanta.

3. ACBL database contains MANY confidential email addresses

- need DBAA source to enhance

4. Member Name:

- change requires sending email to DBAA Board Rep (like ACBL)
- ADD: Nickname field to give alternative to name change

6. Status: Active vs Inactive

7. Contact Requirement:

- need way of enforcing requirement: 1 phone/email minimum

8. Contact Verification:

- currently: use very minimal test
- Alternate: request Verifier to test and provide feedback
- Alternate: wait for complaint, then verify via email/phone
- Email:
 - > type twice
 - > send "reply" email for verification
 - . good for all changes
 - > use SMTP server verification
 - . free -> limited to 50 per month
- Phone
 - > DBAA reps must do verification

9. Zip Requirement and Verification
- currently: use very minimal test
 - planned: check if in Unit database
 - . what to do with DBAA guest members
 - used to determine: County & Metro

10. Added features:
- Newsletter preference: opt-out
 - Alert preference: opt-in

11. Password: 6+ characters

12. Member data (visable to member only)
- Unit, District, Rank, MP

13. Street Address
- no verification