

Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta
Board of Directors – Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2012 – 5:30–7:00 pm
Hilton Hotel, Norcross

Attending

Ralph Folkerts, Judy Fendrick, Jack Feagin, Steve Callaham, Marty Nathan, Bob Autrey, Vicki Bell, and Gabriel Fadel

Approval of Prior Minutes

The minutes from the DBAA meeting of March 1, 2012 and the annual membership meeting of March 4, 2012 were both approved.

Treasurer's Report

The 2012 DBAA Balance Sheet and P&L were provided to the board prior to the meeting. Marty covered the first six months' highlights:

- Major expenditures through June 30 were Change of Rank (\$1,318) and Mentoring program (\$1,905). Some mentoring program free plays are still being received.
- Net income from the DBAA game was \$57 in each of the first two quarters of 2012.
- The Roswell Sectional in March had a net profit of \$2,930, of which half was put into the Reserve Fund to cover any future tournament losses. Directors' fees went up in 2011.

Judy moved to approve the financial reports. Bob seconded the motion. *Motion approved.*

Old Business:

NABC Update

Jack stated the NABC Planning Committee is looking for District 7 clubs, and in particular local clubs in Atlanta, to provide volunteers to assist in tournament planning and also to work at the Atlanta NABC in 2013.

Jack also mentioned that some committee members recently visited the hotel and found it had been renovated even more since their last visit several months ago. The hotel looks very nice, and there are plenty of restaurants within walking distance, as well as some parking for \$5 in pay lots close to the hotel. We do not know yet what the daily valet rate will be.

Telephone Directory Update

Ralph reported that Nancy Motes is working on the updates to the directory. Jack suggested we consider using an on-line site with password security to provide members the ability to update their information and/or search for other members' numbers. A suggestion was made to include e-mail addresses as part of the on-line site update.

Follow-Up Action: Ralph will talk to Nancy about the on-line site, and also consult with Nicolas, Larry and/or Dan Osburn to get their insight as to how we could set up the on-line link. We may then need fewer printed directories.

NLM Sectional Tournament

By e-mail ballot, the DBAA board previously approved Sam Marks' Memorandum of Agreement and request to hold a Non-Life Master tournament November 30 to December 2, 2012.

Follow-up Action: DBAA policy issues relating to NLM tournaments at clubs will be addressed at the next DBAA meeting.

New Business:

Change of Rank (COR) Parties

Marty provided insight and background for the newer board members on how COR parties have evolved over the years and offered some suggestions for changes to our current policy.

Prior to 2007, the DBAA sponsored one COR party each year to honor those who had achieved Life Master or a higher ranking during the preceding year. A flyer invitation (free play) showing DBAA as the sponsor was mailed by the DBAA secretary to each honoree. Before the game the director would announce the name of each honoree, and each would stand as their name was called. The event was about recognition rather than just an extra cake and free play.

In an effort to support new players and in consideration of club owners' requests, in 2007 the board modified the COR policy to allow each club to hold a COR party and to recognize those who achieved Regional Life Master or higher. While some club managers made an effort to recognize the honorees at their game, others did not, despite DBAA's requests to do so.

Marty suggested that the DBAA consider holding the COR party in conjunction with the Spring Sectional, and also limit the honorees to those who achieve Life Master and above.

See also Marty's June 30th e-mail to the board for additional comments regarding COR parties held at clubs.

Judy moved that a 3-person committee be established to evaluate the options to: 1) hold the COR party at a sectional tournament each year, 2) change the honoree level back to Life Master and higher, and 3) ensure COR honorees are recognized for their achievements. Jack seconded the motion. *Motion approved.*

Follow-up Action: Ralph will appoint the committee members.

Labor Day Regional On-Line Partnership Request

Vicki suggested that we create an on-line partnership request site similar to what is offered for some Regional (and National) tournaments.

Follow-up Action: Vicki will talk to Jack Feagin about getting the on-line partnership request site set up for the Regional.

Comment Card – Next Sectional

Vicki had another good suggestion for DBAA to pass out comment cards to get feedback from players at the next Sectional and volunteered to handle this for the Sectional in January. Marty moved to have comment cards passed out at the next Sectional. Judy seconded the motion. *Motion approved.*

Follow-up Action: Vicki will coordinate having comment cards distributed to players at the January 2013 Sectional.

Beginning Bridge Lessons at Clubs

Marty brought up that a club owner in the DBAA area inquired if DBAA would support beginning bridge classes at clubs. In the past DBAA subsidized beginning bridge lessons at non-club locations in Roswell and Sandy Springs; however, no one at the meeting recalled that the DBAA had sponsored lessons at clubs. Gaby seemed to recall that the Unit had done this in the past. It was suggested that prior Unit and DBAA meeting minutes be reviewed to determine if this was covered in the past.

Follow-up Action: Ralph or his designee will review prior DBAA and Unit meeting minutes to determine if there is a precedent for this type of subsidy.

Club Owner Request for Compensation Due to Tournaments

Ralph brought up that a club owner submitted a request to him to receive a benefit from DBAA as compensation for lack of revenue during tournaments. The request was for DBAA to provide a case of playing cards to each club.

The discussion by the board did not generate much enthusiasm for this idea due to the fairness issue because of the varying number of games/players at the clubs within the DBAA area.

Follow-up Action: Ralph volunteered to check on the cost of a case of cards.

Next meeting: Thursday, August 30, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia