

DINO

The District Nineteen Organization of The American Contract Bridge League

Synopsis of District 19, ACBL, Internet Board Meeting Actions September 22, 2020

The Board discussed a letter about future regional sanctioning from ACBL President Georgia Heth and District 19 President Cookson's reply. District 19 Director Smith explained that this letter was based on a National Board Special Committee which is to make recommendations on regionals. It was agreed that Smith would relay our District's belief that any changes to scheduling of regionals should not be dictated top down but should originate at the district level.

The District will not hold a District finals of the GNT this year but will hold a District Finals in 2021. There will be no club qualifying games in 2020 and the 2021 finals will be by internet. The 2021 date will be set shortly.

President Cookson told that there was no new formal contract with TournTables but that agreement had been reached via emails on how to proceed until the end of 2021.

Schmidt, District Treasurer, reported that to date yearly District expenses were approximately \$8,500 but that would be reduced by a \$600 check from ACBL from grass root events. He also discussed that the District's Canadian Bank will no longer furnish printed monthly statements. He will try to reach an agreement with the bank on how the District can now do monthly audit of treasurer activities.

President Cookson notified ACBL on the status of Sanctioned District regionals. Tournament Liaisons discussed the following:

(1) Cookson stated that the Victoria 2021 Regional playing site will work with the District in restructuring or cancelling the tournament as needed.

(2) Norden said that a 5 year contract for the Penticton Regional is signed but that the facility will work with the District on required reductions or changes and that no further rent deposits are necessary until a decision is made on whether the 2021 Regional will occur.

(3) Patterson related that decision about the Lynnwood 2021 regional will not be made until January and that the next scheduled January prepaid installment on rent will not be made until a decision is made.

(4) Norden told that while there is a signed contract for a 2021 Whistler Regional, the facility will work with the District if changes or cancellation is necessary and that the facility will shortly make a new proposal to the District.

(5) Rise said that a contract is signed for a Leavenworth 2022 Regional but that no further prepayment is required and that the facility will work to fulfill the District's needs.

(6) Koltnow suggested the Board use the measure of club attendance and sectional participation as milestones to help determine when it is practical to hold face-to-face regionals.

National Director Smith discussed ACBL's decline in membership, its efforts to corral online cheating, and plans to integrate online play with face-to-face club games.

Smith also brought up the trouble that Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, was having in getting a sanction for a club. The District President will send a letter to ACBL requesting prompt sanctioning of a club in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, with the understanding that it would be located in Quesnel Unit 456.

The Board discussed what unit members residing in Whistler, B.C., should be in. It was agreed that they will be placed in Vancouver Unit 430 unless they ask to remain in their current unit when ACBL member Services contacts them.

President Cookson confirmed that he had submitted Charlie Bennett's name to fill a vacancy on the ACBL Board of Governors.

The former method of funding the Canadian Olympiad Fund has been replaced with giving the fund \$100 for each District Canadian regional.

The District will develop a newsletter to be sent to all District members and that a committee comprised of Stock, Smith, and Cookson will be responsible to produce the newsletter and determine how to most economically to send a hard copy to those not getting an email Pianola blast.

The following officers were elected for 2021:

President – Chris Cookson
Vice President – Karen Rise
Secretary – Dudley Brown
Treasurer – David Schmidt

The next internet Board meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by Dudley Brown, District 19 Secretary