

**DISTRICT 6 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MAY 26, 2007, RICHMOND, VA**

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Wegman at 10:50 AM.

Present:

Officers	President:	Dick Wegman
	Secretary:	Judy Bates
	Treasurer:	Steve Robinson

Unit Presidents: Carol Guy (for 146), Fred King (147), Marge Gazzola (for 218), Mike Fine (for 109)

Voting Members: Barbara Doran (Board of Governors), Nadine Wood (District Director), Steve Robinson (1st Alternate)

Non-Voting Members: Bill Cole (GNT/NAOP Coordinator), Michael Carroad (STAC Coordinator), Millard Nachtwey (District Tournament Coordinator), Don Berman (Webmaster), Nancy Witschey (MABC President)

MABC Reps: Lucy McCoy, Lynn Jones (other reps present – Fred King, Judy Bates)

Guests: Terry Lavender (ACBL Director – Bridgemate)

Officers' Reports:

President: Dick Wegman noted that it has been seven months since the last meeting and that a review of activities by District 6 committees and of recent District 6 tournaments was needed. Judy Bates was introduced and welcomed as the new secretary. He asked for an introduction of attendees which was given.

Secretary: Judy Bates asked that the minutes of the Ocean City meeting, prepared by Barbara Moomy, be approved. The motion was made and carried.

Treasurer: Copies of the financial report were distributed by Steve Robinson. Balance on hand as of May 24, 2007 is \$29,547.49.

Committee Reports

Tournaments: Millard Nachtwey announced that table count was up across the board. Richmond was up 12% over the same time two years ago. Dick Wegman suggested that perhaps attendance was up because of novice work and partnership assistance.

Finance: Michael Carroad spoke about the need to provide better and more thorough accounting of District 6 finances. He also said he would work on this with other members of the Finance Committee (Steve Robinson and George Lewis), and would report back to the District 6 Board at our next meeting in North Bethesda

GNT: Michael Carroad reported that the GNT was very successful and thanked Bill Cole and Lynn Jones for their hard work. Bill Cole advised that seventy-eight teams participated; ten additional teams are the goal for next year. The southern site (Newport News) had increased attendance but it will be necessary to keep numbers up in order to retain the site. He and Lynn Jones thanked Judy Bates for her work in increasing attendance in Newport News.

NAOP: Barbara Doran advised that qualifying games would start June 1st. She urged the units to use publicity to increase participation. New for District 6 this year will be the requirement for advance registration. If nine tables do not register for "B", it will not be run. "B" and "C" will be split into two separate sites unless a better deal can be obtained; currently paying \$900.00 for security. District finals will be held September 29th and 30th. Units should submit their game schedules to Barbara Doran and Don Berman, Webmaster.

District Director: Nadine Wood advised that the sale of the ACBL building in Memphis had fallen through at the last minute. She also mentioned that a competitive bridge scoring system, BridgeRF, was now on the market and appeared to be a cheaper version of BridgeMate. The Marketing Director's slot

has not yet been filled. A new marketing plan is being developed and ACBL wants to work further on the plan before filling the marketing position.

Senior Trials are being hosted in North Bethesda, MD concurrently at the July 4th Regional. Mid-Atlantic is contributing \$500.00 for hospitality at the trials. District 6 was asked to make a matching contribution. No objection was made.

STAC: Michael Carroad advised that the sanction fees (\$3000 - \$4000) had not yet been paid to Memphis. The debt to District 6 will be zero. Profits from the December STAC will go for the Summer 2009 Washington D.C. National; from the June/September STAC to the units; and from February/March to the District.

Novice/Intermediate: A District 6 coordinator is needed to work with District 7. Dick Wegman will make a recommendation.

TableTalk: Bill Cole commended Diane Walker, editor of Table Talk, for the good job she has been doing as Table Talk editor. He advised that a novice column was needed and asked that anyone with ideas talk to him.

Webmaster: Don Berman noted that he had received many compliments on the new format used for the last six months. He praised Lucy McCoy and Margot Hennings for their good work.

He would like for TableTalk to be online but needs to convert to PDF.

Lynn Jones would like to have available pairs for the GNT posted online but agreed that a method was needed to remove names once teams were made.

Old Business:

- 1.) Michael Carroad addressed the question of increasing STAC fees. He stated that the District was breaking even although he had no data from the last STAC. He recommended no increase unless needed. Although expenses are escalating, the cessation of sending out hand records has saved a large amount of money.
- 2.) The Bridgemate scoring system was discussed by Terry Lavender, tournament director. District 6 is in the forefront with units already experimenting. Charlottesville has been trying out the system on a pilot basis. WBL will be trying Bridgemate the last week in May. The device is hand held, one per table. The system is expensive at \$175 per box but will likely be reduced with large orders. A concern is the extra time spent starting a game – up to 5 or 10 minutes longer. The game must be set up before the machine is turned on. A novice game tried it and loved it. It is not FCC approved yet.

New Business:

- 1.) Barbara Doran has a guaranteed partner program for unit games. She asks for volunteers at mid-month with the goal of changing the perception that Flight A players are frightening. She also sends congratulatory e-mails for good results.
- 2.) District 6 vacancies have been filled by Judy Bates for Barbara Moomy (Secretary) and Lynn Jones for Kay Afdahl (MABC Rep).
- 3.) It was noted that the by-laws do not address whether the President has the authority to make appointments. A proposal made by Fred King to amend the by-laws can be seen below:

Whenever a vacancy occurs in the District Six offices of Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer, the President, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next scheduled election. As long as the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference assigns to District Six the duty of the selection of representatives to the Board of the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference, whenever a vacancy occurs in such position, the President, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a replacement to serve until the next scheduled election.

In terms of placement within the Bylaws, this would be an addition to Article VIII, A, Duties of Officers, President. The amendment will be voted on at the meeting in North Bethesda.

- 4.) The position of 1st alternate to the ACBL Board of Directors (2007-2008) is vacant.
- 5.) Marge Gazzola advised that the need for a new tournament chair for the Reston Regional is being worked on and should be resolved by Hunt Valley.
- 6.) Election for District 6 will be held at the next meeting in North Bethesda. Nadine Wood will chair the nominating committee; also serving are Nancy Witschey and Leo Cardillo.
- 7.) Bob Bell has agreed to chair the District 6 Appellate Committee. One member from each unit is needed with the total not to exceed 15. Each unit should submit two names.

The next District 6 meeting will be in North Bethesda, MD on Saturday morning, July 7 at 10:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Judy Bates
District 6 Secretary