

Next GNYBA Board Meeting is December 7, 2017. Location to be confirmed.

GNYBA Board Meeting Minutes – October 11, 2017

In Attendance: D. Moss, B. Gellas, P. Lentz, S. Picus, U. Ivatury, J. Bayone, A. Levy, F. Levine, T. Ashmore, S. Levine., G. Wallach, A. Silverstein, J. Arias, R. Pollack, B. Weisgal, R. Moller, M. Berkowitz, P. Ellis, A. Parish, M. Polowan, A. Rosenthal, C. Van Wieck

Secretary's Report

Bonnie reported that as of the beginning of October, the membership in the GNYBA is 3, 267. This represents about a 1% drop in membership from last year at this time.

Action Item: A group consisting of U. Ivatury, J. Arias, B. Gellas, P. Ellis and P. Lentz will send welcome emails to new ACBL/GNYBA members who have joined since April 2017 to promote upcoming GNYBA events and tournaments that will be of interest to them. P. Lentz will update the letter that was sent to new members before the May regional in 2017.

The Nominating Committee selection process resulted in the a committee consisting of: M. Berkowitz, S. Culbertson, P. Ellis, B. Gellas, U. Ivatury, D. Moss and 2 alternates: P. Lentz and K. Mignocchi.

Action Item: Bonnie will schedule a meeting of the Committee in early November to develop a slate of candidates for 2018 that will be presented at the next GNYBA board Meeting on December 7, 2017.

Treasurer's Report (Given by D. Moss)

David reported that the GNYBA 2016 tax return has been submitted to the IRS. T. Ashmore reviewed the detail and S. Picus audited the return.

The GNYBA is still on track to break even for the year.

Tournament Report

NAP – The promotional efforts of Honors and the GNYBA resulted in increased participation in the recent NAPs. There were 15 tables in flight A and 39 tables in flight B/C. The GNYBA netted \$2,000 from the event and the clubs made money as well.

Edgar Kaplan Regional 2017 – In an effort to improve the overall experience of the December tournament, the GNYBA agreed to the following actions:

- We will reinstate Daily Bulletins. The first day bulletin will promote activities that are going on during the tournament and will correct any changes we make to the schedule of events. Subsequent bulletins may only provide results from the previous day.

Action Item: D. Moss will develop the first day bulletin. B. Gellas will review. J. Arias will ask Julien Fernandez if he will format and send subsequent bulletins for printing. The GNYBA will pay him for this service.

- Friday Night Event – A committee was formed to look into holding a barometer game at one on the clubs following the afternoon session. This game will be based on the format of the games that David Gurvich runs periodically. The plan is to offer food and that players can bring their own drinks. Sol Weinstein said he would sanction the game.

Action Item: R. Moller, M. Berkowitz, and D. Gurvich will develop a plan for this event and present it to the Board no later than the December 7 Board meeting.

- BAM – To encourage participation in this event, the GNYBA is offering early registration, probably through Bridge Winners A. Parrish). We are also offering help with finding teams (D.Moss).

Action Item: A motion was made and seconded to provide players who do not qualify for the 2nd day of the BAM ½ off the entry fee in the event they play the next day.

- Social Bridge – U. Ivatury presented the idea of the GNYBA hosting a 1 or 2 session social game following the regular game at the regional.

Action Item: The Board approved a budget of \$600 for U. Ivatury to use to develop a social game during the 2018 Easterns. Uday will research and report back to the board on his plan.

GNTs – The dates and conditions of contest have been set for the 2018 event. The first qualifying round has been completed for Flight C players. It was brought up that there is a potential problem with how many teams qualify after the first round eliminations.

Action Item: A. Rosenthal, P. Lentz and M. Polowan will review the Conditions of Contest for the 2019 GNTs and report back any changes that need to be made.

Eastern States Regional 2018 – A scheduling committee was formed to look into how we can improve the types of events offered in 2018.

Action Item: P. Lentz, S. Levine, T. Ashmore and B. Gellas will develop a schedule for the Board to review at the December meeting.

Pro-Am 2018 – Discussion about whether or not to run a Pro-Am and when resulted in tabling the idea pending further discussion.

Youth Bridge

Adam Parrish reported that he is working with BBO (U. Ivatury) to sponsor an online youth tournament on February 3, 2018. The event is targeting middle school children and to prepare

them for the tournament, there will be daily practice tournaments. Adam reported that age of entrants will be verified through ACBL numbers.

Adam also reported that he is working with Giorgia Botta to develop a collegiate team at Columbia University.

Website

Jesus Arias will assume the role of Web master on an interim basis until a new master is identified.

ACBL Board Report - Al Levy

Al reported that an experimental Regional at the Clubs (RAC) – run through the Common Game – will be held for 5 days in November. Participants will pay a \$25 administration fee to the ACBL and their regular card fee at the Club. Each participant's best 2 scores will be used to determine master point awards, similar to the way side games currently work. With the GNYBA agreeing to participate, there are approximately 9 districts involved.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Gellas
Secretary of the Board