

**Winter Meeting
New Hampshire Bridge Association
January 14, 2017**

The 2017 winter meeting of the New Hampshire Bridge Association Board of Directors was held at 23 Syracuse Street, Nashua, NH and was called to order by president, Sarah Widhu at 1:00 PM. In attendance were: Sarah Widhu, Lawrence Cheetham, , Nora Miller, Jane Verdrager, Claire Gardner, Anne McCune, Ryan Hickey and Wayne Burt.

Secretary's report – Jane Verdrager

- Claire Gardner moved to accept the minutes for the September meeting, Nora Miller seconded and it was unanimously approved.
- Jane Verdrager presented a spreadsheet of scheduled tournaments through 2020

Treasurer's report - Nora Miller

- Nora Miller presented the treasurer's report and Lawrence Cheetham submitted a comparison of prior years, in order to show trending. An error was found regarding the State Championship and was corrected. Jane Verdrager moved to accept the amended report, which was seconded by Lawrence Cheetham and passed unanimously.

President's Report – Sarah Widhu

- Susan Burt has agreed to take over the tournament management responsibilities for the Nashua tournaments. She will be compensated \$240.00 which is equal to the \$200.00 we have allocated as well as an additional \$40.00 which equates to the two days of free plays, if she were a player.
- District 25 reports that all tournaments are making money.
- Unit 150 needs delegates to meet on Sunday mornings of Regional tournaments in Nashua in June, and November in Mansfield. There was discussion of possible players to fill these spots.
- There was discussion regarding moving one of our tournaments to an East Coast location. Wayne Burt will inquire about a possible site for the April 2018 sectional. Anne McCune will also inquire about a location in Keene for the November tournament sometime in the future. Until then, we will continue to hold these two tournaments at Rivier University in Nashua.

By Laws –

There were concerns expressed regarding the wording of the election of officers. Lawrence Cheetham will write a revision. It was noted that EMBA has a nominating committee present a slate of officers, which is then voted on by the membership.

State Championship

- Discussion about the awards, revealed that the trophies are a major expense for the Unit. It was decided that 1st place winners will get engraved plaques, their name on the trophy and free plays. All others will receive certificates and free plays.
- Last year the State Championship was run as a Charity game. There is some question as to whether or not a donation was actually made to a local Charity, and if not, that will be corrected. This year's donation

will be made to Riverbend Community Health Center in memory of Joan Cook, who had volunteered extensively there.

Unit Games

- Unit Game Schedule -There was discussion regarding the way Unit games are allocated. Wayne Burt is in charge of the schedule and attempts to combine games when schedules allow

New Business

- Scams -Nora Miller has received numerous emails, presumably from the president, instructing her to pay bills, which she questioned. It was determined that these were SCAM attempts. It was decided that no bills will be paid without verification in the form of an actual bill, and that Nora should mark these as SPAM, as well as report this to the NH attorney general's office.
- Board members: -We need Board members. Sarah Widhu and Nora Miller will be stepping down as president and treasurer. Lawrence Cheetham is not going to continue as Vice President and feels he must also resign as a Board member. Some suggestions were made, and Sarah Widhu, Anne McCune and Ryan Hickey volunteered to form a nominating committee.
- Lawrence Cheetham will replace Joan Cook on the Leroy Lake Award committee, joining Claire Gardner and Bruce Downing. There was discussion regarding publicizing this award and asking for nominees. There will be a notice on the website, an email to all members from the president, and also clubs will be encouraged to announce it.
- Anne McCune made a motion that "each club owner or manager in Unit 150 be given up to \$500.00 to help defray the cost of acquiring new equipment. This equipment could be in the form of electronics such as Bridgemates, dealing machines, or computers, or it could be sets of bidding boxes to help in running the weekly games at the club. If the equipment has already been purchased within the past year, a receipt showing the purchase price will be adequate documentation to allow that club to receive the money." Discussion followed, and the motion was withdrawn.

Lawrence Cheetham moved that the Board establish a grant process up to \$500.00 to promote the game of bridge. Any person in NH who will expand a program to start a club or to teach will be eligible. Claire Gardner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

- Lawrence Cheetham suggested that the Board resurrect the Yahoo group email address when communicating any Unit 150 Board information or concerns.

*****Note: after the meeting, the Board@nhbridge.com was retested and recommended for use by Barry Rogoff; the Yahoo groups mailbox was determined to be faulty and has been deleted.*****

At 3:40 PM, Anne McCune moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Lawrence Cheetham and passed unanimously.