

**New Hampshire Bridge Association
Fall Meeting Draft Minutes
September 23, 2019**

The 2019 fall meeting of the New Hampshire Bridge Association Board of Directors was held at Kathy Benjamin's residence 227 Pleasant Street Concord, NH and was called to order, by president, David Lawrence at 5:00 PM. In attendance were: Sarah Widhu, Tink Tysor (by cell phone), Lucia Carlisle, Jane Verdrager, Ross Huntington, David Lawrence, Kathy Benjamin, Ron Ouellet, and Bill Kennedy

Secretary's Report – Ross Huntington

- Lucia Carlisle moved that the minutes of the summer meeting be accepted. Bill Kennedy+ seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Lucia Carlisle

- Lucia Carlisle distributed printouts of the unit's breakdown of income, expenses, and cash balances as of the meeting date.
- Ross Huntington moved that the treasurer's report be accepted as submitted. Bill Kennedy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Following the treasurer's report Kathy Benjamin made a motion that Horace, the Director for the NHBA summer sectional be tipped an additional \$100.00 and that Sharon, the Rivier University Food Service Representative be tipped an additional \$25.00 due to their extra workload from extenuating circumstances at the tournament. Bill Kennedy seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Membership – Kathy Benjamin

Kathy passed out a detailed breakdown of the number of total members, new members, transfers into Unit 150, New Junior Masters (to whom she sends letters of congratulation), as well as a breakdown of the number of members in each Master Point rank. Kathy reported there has been a loss of 47 members over the last fifteen months with membership now at 578. There was a discussion on how to help Bill Kennedy attract more players from the Derry 299er club to join the ACBL and the NHBA. Lucia Carlisle moved that the membership report be accepted as submitted. Ross Huntington seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

District 25 Discussion

Kathy Benjamin, with the aid of Sarah Widhu, for our new President's information, discussed the district 25 meetings and how the NHBA has input. A discussion of the District 25 regional at the cape and its loss of money over the past five years ensued. David Lawrence, Sarah Widhu, and Ross Huntington were nominated to be the NHBA's representatives at the District 25 Board of Director's meeting to be held in November in conjunction with the Mansfield Regional.

(P.S. David Lawrence learned that the NHBA was allotted four spots at the District 25 Board of Director's meeting. The fourth member is to be Tink Tysor, who was a representative last year.)

State Championship Discussion

The board discussed how to improve the state championship. A change from the July 2019 date was considered. Sarah Widhu stated they had trouble with a venue when tournament was held in June. Other dates conflicted with already scheduled tournaments. A December date was rejected as snowbirds would be away and attendance might be low due to Holidays. Lucia Carlisle will contact the Puritan Backroom Restaurant to see if we could hold the tournament there on May 16-17 or April 25-26. (A flip flop of dates with scheduled sectional may need to be done if one of these dates is possible. Lucia will also look into a July date, like this year, and how much their rate will increase.

The board also discussed how to get better attendance at the state championship. Ron Ouelette made a motion that we look into having an overall championship, a strat B championship, and a non-life master championship. David Lawrence seconded this motion and all approved. How to accomplish this is to be determined at the boards January meeting.

Tournament Schedule Discussion

Jane Verdrager stated the sectional tournament scheduled for April 1-2 in 2023 will be changed to April 22-23. Tournament for November of next year will probably be moved to Epsom, New Hampshire from Rivier University. Lucia Carlisle will have Dan McGuire confirm this change is possible. The board also took into consideration that Deane P---- of the Bridge Spot has volunteered to oversee an I/N tournament on a date between March 31 – April 2 next year in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The board need only to apply for a sanction from the ACBL. Bill Kennedy made a motion that we apply for a sanction and Jane Verdrager seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Tournament Flyers

Kathy Benjamin volunteered to be in charge of the distribution of NHBA tournament flyers for 2020. David Lawrence, Jane Verdrager, and Sarah Widhu will provide Kathy with clubs to contact for tournaments in their areas.

ACBL Live Club Results Discussion

There was a general feeling among those present that ACBL Live for Clubs is confusing and those present had a general dislike of the application. David Lawrence stated he will discuss this with Barry Rogoff, our webmaster, and write an email to Live for Clubs support voicing opposition and requesting that they postpone the discontinuation of gamefile upload scheduled to occur on November 1st.

NHBA Board of Directors

Chris Jarosz has informed the board he will no longer be able to carry out his duties as a board member. This leaves the board one member short. All attendees are to talk to possible replacement candidates and present a list of possible replacements to David Lawrence

- The NHBA winter meeting was set tentatively for a Saturday morning in January at the home of Lucia Carlisle in Manchester, New Hampshire
- Ron Ouellet moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by Bill Kennedy and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.