

Unit 487 Board Meeting
April 15, 2021

Attendees: Kristin Steinmetz, Monte Garrett, Alan Johnson, Paul Walker, Paula Koeller, Tara McMahon, Ray Robert, Jon Gassaway, Mike Eyer, Staci Christian, David Castles and Dee Poujade.

Board President Kristin Steinmetz called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The current status of the local clubs was discussed. Staci reported that she has been in conversations with the ACBL and with other bridge club owners regarding guidance on what will be involved in re-opening. Some clubs already open in other areas are requiring vaccinations – she doesn't want to "police" but believes it needs to follow ACBL and local governmental guidelines. She hopes to find a better location for the club. David reported that they are in "good standing" to remain in Lloyd Center. He thinks it will be a "while" before things are "back to normal." He does not want to require temperature checks, masks or vaccine "passports." They will re-open when it is safe to do so – no earlier than June or July (and probably later).

Alan announced that, after 28 years as Tournament Manager, he is "retiring." Paul Walker will assume this position. He will work with Alan on getting the Unit's property (tables, bidding boxes, etc.) in one location. Also, Ray Robert announced that he will be stepping down from the role of keeping up the website. We will be looking for someone willing to take on that role going forward and thanked Ray for his efforts getting the website to the place where it is now and supporting the updates.

There was considerable discussion about upcoming tournaments, with the first consideration being the Unit Sectional that is usually held in September (weekend after Labor Day). This year, that would make it Sept. 10,11,12 (or 11/12 if a two-day event). Paul reported that the Kliever Armory (which would be the preferred location because of the high ceilings and space to spread out) is not free these dates but would be the following weekend. There was also some discussion on the Milwaukie Elks' Club or Oaks Park too. Another possibility would be to petition the ACBL to allow us a "split-site" sectional and host at the two clubs.

A big question on planning a tournament would be how many players would participate. It was determined that Paul will make a deposit with the Armory for September 17-19 (and check on their cancellation policy), and to "wait and see" before making further plans.**

Other upcoming tournaments will be Battle of the Willamette, Nov. 6,7 at clubs and the Winter Sectional Feb. 4,5,6 (weekend before Super Bowl). No action was taken on these at this time.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Dee Poujade

**Immediately following the meeting, Kristin forwarded an email she had just received from Mike Eyer, with a memo on ACBL "rules and regulations" for holding in-person tournaments. Kristin's opinion was that these requirements would make it very difficult to hold an in-person September tournament. In response, a variety of opinions were expressed by Board Members. Further discussion will be needed.