

Unit 487 Board Meeting
January 4, 2021

Attendees: Kristin Steinmetz, Monte Garrett, Alan Johnson, Paul Walker, Paula Koeller, Tara McMahon, Ray Robert, Jon Gassaway, Mike Eyer, Staci Christian 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. Kristin reported that, while the limited games continue to attract players, the open games are small, with games often having to be canceled because of insufficient numbers. Staci added that, when players are looking for an open game and there is more than one option, they will wait until they see what game appears larger, then register. Staci also mentioned that the current ACBL "guest" policy is hurting local games. Kristin will send an email to all Unit members, encouraging them to participate in local club games, and pointing out the importance of supporting the local clubs going so they will be there when in-person play returns.

There was some discussion about when and how the return to "in person" play will occur. Staci mentioned that she has been experimenting with different sanitation measures. It is expected/hoped that the district and/or ACBL will offer guidelines as clubs prepare to re-open. As to when that will occur, Mike said that the district is looking at the possibility that the Seaside tournament in September/October may be the first event to be held in this area. The unit also normally holds a September tournament, but it was agreed that it is too early to begin making plans for this, although Paul will be contacting the two venues we have been using to find out about their policies and availability and report back to the board next meeting.

Kristin reported that Beau Hovda offered some money to honor his mother, Mary. Kristin suggested that an annual award be established for the "limited" (fewer than 750 points) player who scores the best in unit sectionals. The exact nature of the award (gift certificate for club play, free sectional play, trophy, etc.) will be determined. Tara seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

There was some discussion on how to hold unit elections, which would normally be in March. Because the Board has not been very active for the past year, it was suggested that every board member extend their board term by one year. Kristin proposed and Tara seconded and motion passed unanimously. Information will be sent to all unit members in the event that they wish to support another candidate. The unit membership will need to vote on the extension of the board members. The (virtual) "Election Party" will be on March 7, with the Ace of Clubs holding two limited games and Portland Bridge Club holding two open games; times proposed as 10:30 and 2:00. Players will earn 150% black points.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Dee Poujade
Secretary