

Unit 487 Board Meeting
October 26, 2021

Attendees: Kristin Steinmetz, Paul Walker, Paula Koeller, Tara McMahon, Mike Eyer. Kathi Marcus, Jon Gassaway, Staci Christian and Dee Poujade

Board President Kristin Steinmetz called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Status of bridge: Staci reported that, while there has not been much interest in open games at Ace of Clubs (online), the limited games are going well. She does not plan to put money into a lease for a “live” club at this time, believing that large numbers of players who want to play F2F are needed to support two clubs. She maintains an online sanction with ACBL and regularly participates in online meetings of club owners across the USA.

Tournament Planning: Tournament Manager Paul Walker reported that plans are well underway for the January 28-30 tournament. He referred the board to his October 13 email, setting out considerations for discussion:

- How to pre-register attendees
 - Jon, any thoughts on how to connect this to the partnership chair process? D20 may have some pointers...
 - Because we will be capacity-limited to 40-45 tables, we would have to truncate registrations if/when we hit the limit.
- Determine the exact maximum table capacity we will have, between PBC and Portland Chess Club square footage
- Health and safety plan - Paula, we will need to work all the rules, connect vaccination confirmations to the registration process, etc. The D20 folks who are planning the OTR may have some thoughts on this
- Hospitality plan - I am in favor of being pretty generous on this, personally, but the board will have to wrestle with this.
- Publicity plan (I have already alerted Amy C, who will post our event prominently in the December Trumpet), but we should really lean into this with unit and district email lists, etc. Our communications should include any pre-registration process details
- ACBL will list our tournament in the Bulletin as well as on-line. We could spend some \$ to have them run a specific ad.
- How to “value-share” revenue back to PBC, and even to some extent to Ace. We’d like Ace to not operate its online games on this weekend so that we can get a solid turnout. And PBC will lose its normal game and on-line revenue too.
- Closer to the tournament, the hospitality committee and I can go to the storage unit and take inventory and start to put that plan together. Needless to say, having the use of PBC’s kitchen and coffee machine will be very helpful. I have storage locker keys and access codes.

Vaccinations will be required, and all attendees will have to show proof of vaccination, with the last shot no later than 14 days before the tournament. Wrist bands were discussed as a means to identify that proof of vaccination has been provided. Paul will talk to the PBC owners about using their vaccination database.

Under current ACBL and Oregon rules, masks are also required, and Board members are all asked to help with enforcement. The “three strike” rule was discussed.

Pre-registration will be required (and all publicity going forward will so state), and, after a discussion on the options for pre-registration, it was decided that we will take PBC up on their offer to use their computer system, with a special page set up for the tournament.

Based upon feedback on other recent tournaments, we might expect 40-50% of the “pre-Covid” attendance. At our last tournament at Kleiver, there were 60-65 tables. PPC has about 28 tables; we have also rented the Chess Club (just across the hall from PBC) for \$300 as a secondary space.

We will discuss hospitality later – at present, ACBL is only allowing beverages at sanctioned tournaments. Tara is new to hospitality and has not previously worked at a tournament; Deanne Takasumi has offered to help and we will take her up on that.

Board Members: A webmaster is still needed – please talk to Kristin if you have any suggestions. Paula reported that she has recruited two new board members (to replace Kristin and Monte) – Karen Douek and Linda Roundtree. The usual information about “self-nominating” will be sent to all Unit members along with other election information.

Treasurer’s Report: Kathi reported that our current checking account balance is \$25,084 (and that we also have \$15,000 in CDs). This includes income of \$3,472 from ACBL for memberships and expenses of \$1,085 for bidding boxes and rental on our storage shed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm

Dee Poujade, Secretary