

Unit 487 Board Meeting Minutes for May 6, 2024, 2:45pm

- The Unit 487 Board Meeting was called to order at 2:45. Tara McMahon, Paula Koeller, Paul Walker, Karen Douek, Linda Redman and Linda Rountree were in attendance.
- The Minutes from the March Board Meeting were approved unanimously.
- Sunday Social Bridge (SSB) update: Tara McMahon has completed the schedule for SSB through August 2024. Volunteers and board members will supervise SSB. If the person scheduled to supervise is unable to attend, then that person is responsible for finding a substitute supervisor. In other business re: SSB, Tara will remind Carol Holman to send a brief email to promote a taste of duplicate and the potluck prior to the duplicate lesson.
- Update on getting new/novice players to participate in Sectionals and in Duplicate bridge was given by Paul Walker and Linda Redman. The following items were discussed:
 - A flyer specific for the 199er games at the June Sectional will be worked on by Paul Walker, Jennifer Samuels and members of the ad hoc committee working on increasing new/novice player participation. This flyer will be distributed to the ACBL members with 199 or less master points. SSB participants and members of bridge classes and games in the Portland metro area may also be targeted to receive the flyer.
 - The plan is having volunteers at an information table for the 199er game to help players make a convention card, explain the rules in a tournament, etc.
 - There will be a short lesson on playing in tournaments, "Tournament Play 101" given at SSB. Tara McMahon will email Carol Holman to ask that she give the lesson on either May 12, 2024, or June 2, 2024.
 - The recommendation was made by the committee to reinstate Friday night mentorship game or hold a supervised game. Paul Walker volunteered to talk with the Portland Bridge Club Owners about the feasibility of doing so.
 - Welcoming 199er players at Sectional-see below under sectional
- Paula Koeller gave an update on the 5/5/5 program the ACBL is now using for unit payments of their portion of the membership fees. Previously all units were given 11% of membership of fees for their members. Now all units will automatically receive 5% of membership fees. An additional 2.5% can be earned for actively contacting lapsing and at-risk members and logging these actions in the Return to the Fold Tool. Up to another 2.5% can be earned based on the success rate of renewals of these contacted

members. And finally, up to an additional 5% can be earned for successfully recruiting new members into the unit.

- In the past year we received ~ \$2500 for our 11% portion of the ACBL membership fees. Much of our money is gained through holding Sectionals.
 - Carol Holman will continue to email at risk and lapsed ACBL members and Karen Douek will continue to call those members who do have not given the ACBL an email address. Paula Koeller will assist as needed with the process.
 - The board will continue to support bridge lessons in the community and SSB to help recruit new members to the ACBL.
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- June Sectional issues to address:
 - Transportation issues to the location of the Sectional: There are several members of the unit without cars or who prefer not to drive. To encourage these members to attend the Sectionals, Paul Walker will make announcements at bridge games for those needing a ride to the Sectional to contact Paul and he will work on finding that person a ride
 - Hospitality: Linda Rountree plans to have much of the same foods. A pizza will be lunch served on Sunday; donations will be encouraged.
 - Greeter and parking assistant: Karen Douek will greet players as they arrive. Elliot Wahba will assist drivers in finding parking.
 - Publicity: Paula Koeller will send out a “Save the Date” email for the June Sectional in 1-2 weeks and another reminder email about the Sectional 2 weeks prior to the start of the June Sectional. Tara McMahon to assist in editing and content.
 - Caddies for the sectional. Linda Redman reports that she has or expects to have the required state documents for the caddies prior to the June Sectional Tournament.
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- Tournament dates for 2025: Paul Walker to confirm the dates for 2025 with Al Kader Shrine Center and will send out an email with those dates, once confirmed.
 - Financials: Paul Walker reports finances are sound. The Board decide to write off the 2020 \$400 deposit put on the Elk’s Lodge.
 - There was discussion about recognizing those that have volunteered their time to help promote bridge in our community and to help Unit 487. Specifically, board members wished to give back something to Karen and Gary Gitner for their help. After discussion the board voted on and unanimously agreed that the Gitners should receive 2 free plays

a piece at the Portland Bridge Club along with a Thank you card. In addition, Carol Holman prior to the board meeting, had suggested that an article be submitted to the Declarer regarding their contributions. Paula Koeller will ask Carol Holman to follow up on the article and will purchase the free plays from the Portland Bridge Club and the card.

- Next Unit 487 Board Meeting was scheduled for July 8th, 2024, at ~2:45pm.
- Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45pm.