

MINUTES  
DISTRICT 18 MEETING

October 24, 1969

Intermountain Regional, Finlen Hotel, Butte, Montana

Meeting was called to order by District Representative Robin B. MacNab on Friday, October 24, 1969, at 10:12 a.m.

Present: Robin MacNab, Edgar Theus, Paul Rhodes, Harold Shaw, Robert Donaldson, Vonda White, Allen McAlear, Robert Thometz, Mark Fortsch, Marie Jolley, Mrs. C.L. Taylor, Howard L. Jones, Marge Whitaker, P.E. McBude, Mrs. P.E. McBude, Joan Glynn, Margie Triplitt, Joyce Brillward, Darlene Smith, Sylvia Stanley, Vivian Hill, Hazel Carter, Nelson Roy, Edna Roy, Mr. M.C. Lyons, Mrs. M.C. Lyons, Betsey Walcher, Al Ashlen, Shirley Zabriskie.

Robin MacNab introduced Edgar G. Theus, President of ACBL; Paul Rhodes, President of Western Conference; Harold Shaw, General manager of Western Conference; Bob Donaldson, Tournament Director from Utah.

The Chair arbitrarily appointed Vonda White as temporary secretary.

Robin MacNab stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss organization of District 18, and gave a brief history and background of previous organization. There is a possibility the Western Conference might break up – the Southwestern Conference has already broken away and it looks as if they will be recognized by the ACBL. Since Regional tournaments are awarded to Districts, there is a possibility if we don't have an organization that we might not be awarded a Regional tournament. Organization would also assist in scheduling of Sectional tournaments in the area. It was emphasized that no one is making a proposal to pull out of the Western Conference. The Conference is needed by small Districts, such as ours, where the strength of the big tournaments is needed. In October and December of 1966 attempts were made to organize but little interest was shown.

The meeting was opened to questions and discussion from the floor.

Ed Theus – The units that pull out and form conference of their own are those large enough to be self sufficient. The Western Conference is working together well, with fine district representation. We should try to keep together, but it is advisable for the districts to organize. The eastern and western states differ in unit organizational structure --- western units are small, for the most part, while eastern units are large. It is impossible to please everyone. A conference has no authority, as far as ACBL is concerned, the units are the governing authority.

Harold Shaw – Strongly recommended forming a district organization to eliminate scheduling conflicts and to spread the responsibility for hospitality at tournaments over all the units in the district. He gave the success of the California districts as examples.

Robin MacNab – The reasons listed in my letter of October 31, 1966, for suggesting organization are:

- 1) Representatives on the National Board would be better informed;
- 2) Would provide for better scheduling and less conflict;
- 3) Better and more equitable voice would be provided throughout the District in matters pertaining to it;

- 4) New and capable people would be developed to carry on the business affairs of organized bridge.

Various methods of financing tournaments by assessment, etc. Were discussed.

Robin MacNab – We do not know how much it would cost to finance a district organization. Everyone wants to play but few want to provide the mechanics, which entails a great deal of work. If there is sufficient interest in organization a committee should be appointed to work out proposed by-laws to be submitted to unit vote.

Ed Theus – Financing a district organization costs very little. The meetings should be held at regionals and the cost of organization amounts to just pennies.

Allen McAlear – Something should be done about the conflicting dates of sectionals in this area.

Robin MacNab – If the organization is accepted, a scheduling committee can be appointed to coordinate the tournaments.

It was moved, by Hazel Carter, and seconded that steps be taken to form a district organization. Approved and ordered.

Nominations for chairman included Allen McAlear, Robert Thometz (declined), Marie Jolley, Hazel Carter (declined), Marge Whitaker, Betsey Walcher, Mark Fortsch.

Allen McAlear was elected by secret ballot to act as chairman of the committee and to represent Montana; Betsey Walcher was appointed to represent Idaho; Vonda White to represent Wyoming, .....

(Remainder of Minutes are not available at this time)