

DISTRICT 18 of A.C.B.L.
BOARD MEETING
July 21-22, 1973

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of District 18 was held in Calgary, Alberta on Saturday and Sunday, July 21 and 22, 1973, convening at 9:00 a.m. the 21st.

Present: Dr. Stan Abrams, President, Regina, Saskatchewan
Vonda C. White, Secretary-Treasurer, Cody, Wyoming
Allen L. McAlear, Chair. of the Board, Bozeman, Mont.
Robert Donaldson, Tournament Coord., Ogden, Utah
Jean Erikson, Editor, Edmonton, Alberta
Dr. Boyd D. Bryson, Boise, Idaho
Robin MacNab, National Board Rep., Bozeman, Montana

Absent: Ken McGuirl, Western Conference Rep., Saskatoon, Sask.

Others in attendance for part of the meetings: Phil Wood, John Wodak of Edmonton, Charlie Liergerot and Jack Murphy of Calgary

President Abrams presented a progress report and thanked the board members for their efforts on behalf of the district.

The Edmonton regional report was submitted and approval was granted to disburse their share of the tournament profit (\$638.81). The Salt Lake City regional report was submitted and approved. Bob was commended for holding the losses down in view of the very poor attendance. The financial report was approved.

A question on the rights of the National Board and Western Conference representatives to vote and conduct business was brought up. It was pointed out that the by-laws give them full rights as board members with one vote each.

Bob reported that his negotiations with the Salt Palace to reduce the amount of our bill with them had been unsuccessful and that the entire amount had been paid. The Salt Lake City and Ogden units plan to hold a local tournament to raise money to repay the \$230.00 owed the district from the 1971 regional and perhaps part of the loss on the 1973 regional. If this is not held in the next six to eight months these units will furnish the \$230.00 out of their funds.

In Ken McGuirl's absence Stan presented a report on the district fund game which netted \$1,347.50. A 1974 game was discussed. Mac suggested that the fee of \$2.00 was too high and it was suggested that for future games a set fee of, say \$1.00 or \$1.25 should be submitted to the district and allow the units and clubs to charge in addition to that whatever they feel is necessary to cover expenses of the game. It was also suggested that hand analyses would be an incentive to better attendance. It was pointed out that the biggest factors in

improving the results of this game would be better communication, educating the players regarding the intent of the event and getting the information out sooner. Jerry Flemming of Butte and John Wodak were mentioned as possible candidates to handle a game next year.

John Wodak presented a preliminary budget for the 1974 Edmonton regional and asked that the board consider raising the card fees and continuing profit sharing. He requested, and was granted on condition they are available, two extra red point sessions to allow a game on August 5th, a holiday in Saskatchewan, giving this regional a total of ten red points. The playing space will be donated by the hotel provided 125 rooms are filled by bridge players for any one night. The schedule of events was discussed and John suggested a four-session open pairs. He will present a full schedule later for board approval. The board thanked John for his early efforts on the tournament.

It was decided that the regional schedule of events for this district will run up and down rather than across, and that generally the Masters, Open and Swiss will be the events of the final three days.

Bob Donaldson was given responsibility for printing and distributing programs for all future district 18 regional tournaments. He suggested that these be planned and printed early to allow maximum distribution. This service will also be made available to the units if they wish to use it.

Phil Wood presented some suggestions for improving regionals in the district. A paper should be printed outlining specifically the responsibilities of the host unit and the district. Stan offered to do this and coordinate it with Phil before having it published in the Forum and distributed to the interested units. It is important to state the responsibilities of the units without taking away the warmth and enthusiasm they put into a tournament. It was reported that the Calgary unit is using two sleeping rooms for hospitality. A hotel usually will grant one free room for every 50 registered guests. Better utilization of these rooms in future tournaments will benefit the district.

Bob suggested an additional free room or two might be obtained by approaching neighboring motels who handle overflow from the tournament site. These, of course, would not be advertised at a special rate.

Phil generously offered his services to the district as a liaison manager to work with the tournament chairmen in organizing regionals. The board thanked Phil and resolved that he be designated as head director for all district 18 regionals and act as tournament liaison manager. The treasurer is authorized to compensate him for expenses incurred in this endeavor.

Jean Erikson reported problems in getting information printed in the Forum for the District 18 page. Suggestions were offered that certain features be a regular part of that page: a president's report, a report by the National Board representative, a brief summary of district board meetings and a tournament director's report. Bob Donaldson agreed to discuss this with Luise Embry and see if they couldn't submit something on district sectional tournaments each month. It is hoped that with this additional input we can get enough information to fill a page for District 18. This information should be sent to Jean before the 20th of each month. It was suggested that she send the data directly to Tom. Quinlan to see if this would get better action.

Robin briefly outlined the 1974 Grand National Team conditions as discussed in the National Board meeting. The factor of repechage is definitely out, the deadline for declaring a district champion has been moved up to April 15, the event will pay regional red points at sectional rating based on the entire number of teams entered in the district. Phil suggested that selection of the playoff site be made after the qualification to determine a more central location.

Stan gave Bob full responsibility for outlining and organizing the Grand National Team event in this district.

Phil asked for clarification of district policy in connection with professionalism. It was affirmed that District 18 is against open soliciting at their regionals. Phil informed the board that he intends to file a letter against Jack Murphy for such action in Calgary.

The following locations and dates have been approved for 1974 and 1975 regionals and Bob is to see that the sanctions are submitted:

Boise, Idaho May 6-12, 1974
Edmonton, Alberta July 29-August 5, 1974
Billings, Montana October 1-6, 1974
Calgary, Alberta July 14-20, 1975

Salt Lake City intends to apply for a five-day, six red-point regional in the spring of 1975 and Saskatoon has applied for September 30-October 5, 1975. According to the allotment schedule this tournament should be awarded to western Montana if they are interested. Such applications should be submitted for consideration in Regina.

Jack Murphy and Charlie Liegerot proposed that the district consider raising the card fees for regionals in District 18 to \$3.50. It was brought out that this is paving the way for resumption of profit sharing. They were instructed to obtain written proposals from either one or both of their units outlining this proposal and send it to either Stan or Vonda for distribution to the board members prior to the meeting in Regina.

It was confirmed that after the Calgary regional profit sharing is discontinued for an indeterminate period. It was stated by John Wodak that the Edmonton unit would be considerably less enthusiastic about hosting a regional if there was no financial benefit to them. It was pointed out by Mac that the biggest advantage to the unit is the financial benefit to the players in not being required to travel to the tournament. We should try to educate the players to this way of thinking.

Robin suggested that the board use an open journal for submitting items for the agenda. Anyone may write in suggestions up to 30 days prior to the next meeting. These will be condensed and distributed to the board members in time to study before the next meeting.

Jack Murphy reported that the move to form a Western Canadian District had been abandoned at least for the time being, since the ACEL formula for allocation of red points would give them too few to service the six major cities in the proposed area.

Under the present by-laws it is time to get elections underway. Firm procedures will be established at the Regina meeting for this.

Some by-laws revisions were discussed in preparation for the meeting in Regina:

Using an alternate system to determine a quorum for meetings. Mac suggested using number of votes represented rather than areas, but it was noted that this would mean two people could constitute a quorum.

Desirability of getting the elections of the National Board, Western Conference and the district at one time.

Revising election procedures.

Changing the method of revising the by-laws.

Designating one regional a year for the annual membership meeting; rotating this each year so all areas would be represented.