

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
MINUTES JULY 7, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: TOM BUSH, JACK FISHER, PAT FORD, BONNIE OVERSON, NEIL TIMM, DOUG WORTHINGTON, PAT POITINGER.

CALL TO ORDER: Tom Bush, President, called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M. at the Laurel Manor Recreation Center. The minutes of June 2, 2008 were approved.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT: Pat Ford presented the quarterly report. Neil Timm made the motion to approve. Doug Worthington seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Jack Fisher suggested future reports include the number of tables, and Pat Ford agreed to do this. The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club is becoming one of the largest bridge clubs in Unit 128, averaging 4000 tables (16,000 players) per year. A few players have suggested raising the player entrance fee; however, it was pointed out that the Club is not structured as a profit-making Club, and there is no need to raise fees.

Earl Vibbard is researching the pay scale for directors in other clubs.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board members voted unanimously to run a special "Eight is Enough" Swiss game on October 26 on a trial basis to see how well it is attended. The "Eight is Enough" concept has been recommended by ACBL to encourage participation by more players. If there are positive comments following the October 26 game, it will be added to the special games calendar for 2009 every month starting in September and ending in May when there is not a 2nd Swiss game scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUSPENSION OF COLONY COTTAGE FRIDAY AFTERNOON GAME: The time slot for the Colony Cottage Friday afternoon game expires in September. The Board members feel it is important to create a game at The Colony Cottage. Discussion also took place regarding the Thursday evening game at Mulberry. The number of tables playing on Thursday evening has been dropping. A game should have eight (8) tables to be cost efficient. There was also discussion concerning another 299er game.

Doug Worthington made the motion to begin a new Saturday afternoon game at 1:00 P.M., beginning September 6, at the Colony Cottage. This game will include two (2) sections: one open section and one 299er section; and to suspend the Thursday evening game at Mulberry on August 28 pending attendance at that game. The Thursday evening game at Mulberry could be suspended earlier if we don't maintain at least 8 tables.

Bonnie Overson seconded the motion. The Board members voted in favor of the motion unanimously.

SPECIAL GAME GUIDELINES: Tom Bush will be working on the special game schedule for 2009.

THE STaC game extra points depend upon other clubs playing STaC games on the same day. The Board members agreed to offer four (4) STaC games per year.

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS: The Board members agreed to offer a North American Pairs game in June, July, and August in 2009. That's a total of three North American Pairs games in 2009. Tom will talk to Chuck Deal about canceling all qualifying games in August, 2008.

CHARITY GAME: The Board members were not interested in increasing the number of Charity games.

SAVE PAPER COPYING COSTS: Pat Ford suggested that Neil Timm try to decrease the number of pages in the BRIDGE NEWS. We encourage members to print their own BRIDGE NEWS from the website. Copies of the BRIDGE NEWS will be available for those people without internet access.

FORMAL BRIDGE LESSONS: Doug Worthington led a discussion on the need for formal bridge instruction. It was pointed out that the Club is a social duplicate club rather than a teaching duplicate club. Chuck Deal is presenting his Tuesday lesson before the game; John Kelsh has teachers for a 20-minute teaching session before the 299er game, and there are private lessons available. This subject is tabled for now.

DIRECTOR IN TRAINING: Pat Poitinger reported that she has given five (5) possible director names to Chuck Deal. These certified directors are interested in additional training. Pat will report again on this subject at the October meeting.

DEALMASTER PROGRAM: Neil Timm recommended that the Club acquire the Dealmaster Program. In addition, Jack Fisher recommended that we investigate the automatic dealer. These items were tabled and will be discussed at the next Board meeting. The cost to the Club for these items would be about \$1600.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held October 6 at 5:30 P.M. at the Laurel Manor Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Poitinger, Secretary