

# **Minutes of Unit 255 AGM Meeting**

## **April 29, 2023**



**Present: 68 Unit 255 members including all of the Board of Directors**

### **Welcome from the President:**

Muriel welcomed everyone and thanked them for their support. She reviewed once again the purpose for creating our own Niagara Area Unit to support the local clubs and to provide opportunities for our members to compete in local tournaments to get their “coloured” masterpoints instead of having to incur the cost of travel and accommodation to other Sectional and Regional tournaments.

Unit 255 hosted three tournaments in 2022: two restricted tournaments in June and August and a Regional tournament in November. We have four planned for this year. She also highlighted the special Rookie Master game being held on May 16 to encourage our members to play together and socialize. We have sixteen tables at this point.

Muriel introduced and thanked the current Board of Directors and all of the volunteers who help out when we run tournaments. She reminded everyone that there is an election coming in October this year. It is important that our members get involved and participate in running our Unit.

### **Approval of the AGM Minutes 2022**

Moved by Heather Beckman and seconded by Claude Tremblay to approve the minutes from May 21 2022; approved

### **Treasurer Report:**

The 2022 Financial Statements were presented by Kathy Morrison. She explained that we had a good profit this year even though our attendance at our tournaments was lower than Pre-COVID, primarily due to the sponsorship money that we received from iA Private Wealth.

Moved by Kathy, seconded by Chris Loat to approve the 2022 Financial Statements; approved

The budget for 2023 was presented by Kathy. There were a couple of questions regarding the cost for rentals that were addressed and answered by Claude. Chris Loat moved to approved the budget, seconded by Janet Adamson; approved

## **Tournament Coordinator Report**

Claude reminded the members that there are 4 Sectional Tournaments annually and a Regional Tournament held every other year. It was no surprise that attendance at these tournaments was down over previous years because of COVID. Attendance everywhere at tournaments is down - in some places even more than ours. Every effort was made to reduce costs for these events. For example, ACBL agreed to let us use local directors for the recent Open Sectional with only one ACBL director. As a result, we saved almost \$3000. and achieved a profit of \$629. Unfortunately ACBL would not agree to do this going forward. Since using local directors saves us so much money, these directors will be studying to pass the tests required to qualify them to be local tournament directors.

As well, it was clearly evident that without the sponsorships our tournaments would be struggling to make a profit. Efforts are under way to encourage additional sponsors for next year. Our current very generous sponsor who has been supporting us for many years - Jacqueline Morrison who sponsored us for \$7,000 in 2022 was introduced.

Claude went on to reassure the members of the steps being taken to reduce the costs of our tournaments going forward, such as changes with room reservations, food costs, and complimentary plays. Claude has negotiated a long term contract with the Holiday Inn for the tournaments going forward to 2029.

## **Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney Winners**

After recapping the success of the education programs at both clubs, Steve Williams read the names of the winners of the Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney competitions. As there were so many players involved, the names of the winners were posted on the BCON bulletin board, for all to see and for the winners to pick up their certificates. A hearty congratulations was extended to all of them.

List of Winner attached

## **By-Law Amendments:**

Moved by Muriel and seconded by Margo Carter that Section 6.3 be amended to " At a time reasonably in advance of each annual meeting of the Unit, the President shall appoint a nominating committee." Approved

## **Confirmation of Proceedings**

Motion by Nancy Bowslaugh, seconded by Ellen Deane:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT all the by-laws, resolutions, contracts, acts, and proceedings of the Board of Directors of Unit 255 enacted, passed, made, done or taken since the last meeting of Members be and the same are hereby approved, ratified, and confirmed; approved

## **New Business**

No new business was mentioned

## **Adjournment**

Moved by Steve Williams, seconded by Suzanne Haber to adjourn the meeting

After the meeting was a lovely catered dinner, which was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all our volunteers with setup and clean-up