

2023-09-18 Unit 255 Board meeting minutes

Present: Weibe Hoogland, Steve Williams, Kathy Morrison, Muriel Tremblay, Claude Tremblay
Rod Sumner, Brian Jones Absent: Heather Beckman

Meeting was called to order by Muriel at 4:20pm

1. Brian Jones was welcomed to the board as the representative of BCON replacing Wiebe.
2. Minutes of B of D meeting of 2023-02-27 were unanimously approved. Moved by Wiebe, seconded by Steve.
3. Action arising out of 2023-02-27 minutes: Claude will contact ACBL about allowing the continuation of the policy of using local directors at Sectionals
4. Financial report by Kathy
 - a) Muriel suggested that miscellaneous income be split into Canadian Bridge Federation and miscellaneous to better track items.
 - b) Muriel will send to Jane Jennings a copy of the agreement between BCON and Unit 255 for Unit 255's use of BCON facilities
 - c) Kathy will reflect changes to financials as discussed. Moved Rod, seconded Claude Passed
5. Claude gave an update on tournaments. Revenue is down due to lower table numbers, so this has required careful budgeting to be done. Funds were generated by renting unit 255 equipment to CBF's regional tournament. November 7, 2023 tournament will use the Solway format for team games. iA Private Wealth continues their sponsorship of our tournaments. Claude has a new sponsor for next year - details later. Kathy is tournament chair for the November tournament. Cathy Williams and Brian Jones will be chairs for 2024 tournaments. Chandi will be chair of the limited tournaments depending on his availability.
6. Unit 255 membership: Now has 298 members. Brian to assume membership duties and electronic contact with ACBL from Wiebe.
7. Brian to confirm the current terms of the Unit board members and send out required notices for elections, etc.
8. Kathy will revise budget based on our discussion and send out an updated budget
9. Unit 255 will be a 2024 silver sponsor at 2024 NABC, costing \$500. Moved Kathy, seconded Claude - Pass
10. Muriel thanked Weibe for his contributions to Unit 255 over the years
11. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.
12. Next board meeting November 20 2023. Location TBD

2023-09-27

ACBL Unit 255
2023 Summer NOTL Sectional Tournament
Report from the Tournament Chair

General

On August 18th, 19th and 20th, the Unit 255 organized our summer tournament with five games for bridge players with fewer than 750 masterpoints. The actual table count was 65 for five games with an average of 13 tables per game (slightly better than the average at our June 2023 sectional). It was the first time we organized a 750 MP tournament in summer. Although our total income was 19% less than the budget, in terms of customer satisfaction and profit, this tournament was successful.

Our volunteers ensured that Bridge players from BCON and NOTL DBC, as well as Bridge Clubs from Buffalo, Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Mississauga, Cambridge, Guelph, Toronto, etc., enjoyed bridge and great hospitality of the Niagara Region. Members of BCON and NOTL DBC represented only 42% of the total players (improved from 38% in June 2023).

Nearly 45% of the total attendance were from the two games on Saturday (August 19th). The attendance from 199ers was poor and we could not justify holding separate 199ers sections. As the highest attendance for a game was 16 tables, we decided to manage with only one section per game. The profit % of this tournament was 46% of the revenue.

Promotions

Through Kibitzer Magazine, flyers, and announcements at our two clubs, we promoted the tournament. Wiebe Hoogland helped with the circulation of promotional e-mails twice to ACBL members with fewer than 750 masterpoints, living within a radius of 100 miles and 75 miles from the Niagara Region.

Venue

NOTL Community Centre once again proved to be an excellent venue for Bridge tournaments. Sweets & Swirls Café in the centre provided three lunch packages on Saturday and Sunday. In total, they served around 36 lunches (33% of the players from the 10:00 am games). They offered three lunch products reasonably priced \$12, \$13, and \$14.

Partnerships

Peggy-Sue Verkerk did a very good job as the Partnership Chair. She arranged around 20 partnerships.

Logistics

Steve Williams worked hard handling the pickup and transport our belongings from and to the Abbot Self Service Storage facility. Cathy Williams helped with the logistics on both days. Peggy-Sue Verkerk and Cathy Williams helped Steve to do the clean up and packing after the tournament.

Directing

Jerry Smee was the TD for all five games. As usual, he did an excellent job being firm and fair. Jerry reported on the revenues promptly and efficiently, at lightning speed 😊. In the absence of an Associate TD and a tournament treasurer, Sandy Smee volunteered to assist Jerry.

Prizes

We handed the prizes for North-South and East-West winners of three strata per section. We used books donated by Claude, Muriel and Jerry to keep this line item at zero cost. We did not use any Niagara Bucks, budgeted at \$ 360. Moving forward, it is fair to assume that we need an average of eight prizes (for four pairs) per section.

Hospitality

We provided mid game snacks, which were highly appreciated by the players. We also provided bottled water.

Satisfaction

Judging from the verbal feedback from the players, it was clear that they were satisfied about the efforts and the commitment of the Unit 255 in planning four tournaments, every year.

Sponsorship

Generous sponsorship of \$1,000 from Jaclyn Morrison of iA Private Wealth helped us to make a good profit.

Financials

After Muriel Tremblay reconciles accounts, there may be slight changes, but in providing an un-audited flash report our tournament KPIs can be estimated as:

- Actual revenue of \$4,673 against a budget of \$5,800 (-19%)
- Actual expenses of \$2,537 against a budget of \$ 4,164 (-39%)
- **Actual profit of \$2,136 against a budget of \$ 1,636 (+31%)**

Special Thanks

I thank the team of volunteers. I owe a very special thank you to Jerry and Sandra for work during the tournament, and Claude and Muriel for advance preparations. Thank you!

Chandi Jayawardena

August 20th, 2023

UNIT 255 2023 FINANCIALS

OPENING BALANCE	31,986.89	29,408.00	29,633.95	27,950.24	27,220.30	28,252.06	29,270.76	29,283.15	29,097.96	30,139.99	29,715.12	29,715.12
TOTAL IN	192.50	631.61	33.28	1,821.76	2,188.67	1,521.26	13.29	(184.14)	1,075.47	14.39	-	-
TOTAL OUT	\$ 2,771.39	405.66	1,716.99	2,551.70	1,156.91	502.56	0.90	1.05	33.44	439.26	-	-
BANK BALANCE	29,408.00	29,633.95	27,950.24	27,220.30	28,252.06	29,270.76	29,283.15	29,097.96	30,139.99	29,715.12	29,715.12	29,715.12

REVENUE

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CBF						1,492.00						1,492.00
ACBL MEMBERSHIP	1,690.43											1,690.43
AGM				1,808.75								1,808.75
MISC INCOME									40.00			40.00
STAC MAY					55.52							55.52
STAC OCTOBER												-
TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY		629.52	113.00									742.52
TOURNAMENT JUNE					1,000.00	(68.72)		60.26				991.54
TOURNAMENT AUGUST					1,000.00				1,021.58			2,021.58
TOURNAMENT NOVEMI	(1,500.00)		(92.65)					(258.72)				(1,851.37)
INTEREST INCOME	2.07	2.09	12.93	13.01	133.15	97.98	13.29	14.32	13.89	14.39		317.12
TOTAL INCOME	192.50	631.61	33.28	1,821.76	2,188.67	1,521.26	13.29	(184.14)	1,075.47	14.39	-	-

OPERATING EXPENSES

ADMINISTRATION		-	400.00									400.00
BANK CHARGES	8.40	11.55	7.05	4.20	4.65	3.15	0.90	1.05	1.80	2.55		45.30
EDUCATION		340.25	354.00									694.25
EXPENDIBLE SUPPLIES	90.17	53.86	819.23	95.09	763.88							1,822.23
CLUB SUPPORT BCON	247.50					280.00				300.00		827.50
CLUB SUPPORT NOTL						93.00						93.00
NABC												-
INSURANCE					260.00							260.00
KIBITIZER	120.12		136.71			126.41				136.71		519.95
PIANOLA				689.96								689.96
SPECIAL GAMES AGM				1,536.45								1,536.45
SPECIAL ROOKIE GAME					128.38							128.38
STORAGE	2,305.20											2,305.20
WEBSITE									31.64			31.64
TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT												-
ZOOM				226.00								226.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,771.39	405.66	1,716.99	2,551.70	1,156.91	502.56	0.90	1.05	33.44	439.26	-	-

Total Income or Loss	\$ (2,578.89)	\$ 225.95	\$ (1,683.71)	\$ (729.94)	\$ 1,031.76	\$ 1,018.70	12.39	(185.19)	1,042.03	(424.87)	-	-	\$ (2,271.77)
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pizza bcon club sup 1500 deposit to hotel regional	rental \$100 audit \$300 admin photo copies reg 92.65	reg bulletin service 258.72 10 non mmbers @4 august tour
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cbf % to
bcon and notl
\$373

UNIT 255 2022 ACTUAL AND BUDGET

	ACTUAL	Budget	Budget
REVENUE	2023	2023	2024
CBF	1,492.00		
ACBL MEMBERSHIP	1,690.43	1500	1700
AGM	1,808.75	850	1800
MISC INCOME	40.00		
STAC MAY	55.52		60
STAC OCTOBER	-		60
TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY	742.52	1000	2000
TOURNAMENT JUNE	991.54	1000	1000
TOURNAMENT AUGUST	2,021.58	1000	1000
TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER	(1,851.37)	5000	3000
INTEREST INCOME	317.12	260	300
	-		
	-		
TOTAL INCOME	<u>7,308.09</u>	<u>10610</u>	10920
OPERATING EXPENSES			
	-		
ADMINISTRATION	400.00	500	500
BANK CHARGES	45.30	150	100
EDUCATION	694.25	1500	750
EXPENDIBLE SUPPLIES	1,822.23	800	1000
CLUB SUPPORT BCON	827.50	1500	800
CLUB SUPPORT NOTL	93.00		200
NABC	-		500
INSURANCE	260.00	260	260
KIBITZER	519.95	500	500
PIANOLA	689.96		
SPECIAL GAMES AGM	1,536.45	850	1500
SPECIAL ROOKIE MASTER	128.38	500	150
STORAGE	2,305.20	2500	2500
WEBSITE	31.64	550	600
TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT	-	500	100
ZOOM	226.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	9,579.86	10110	9460
	-		
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(2,271.77)	500.00	1460

Educational Update for Unit 255 Board Meeting Sep 18, 2023

Beginner course at BCON – taught by Selina Volpatti

Selina is advertising a beginner course at BCON to start Oct. 14, 2023 and run for 9 or 10 weeks, depending on the appetite for a 10th lesson. Selina has 8 students signed up so far, but looking for at least 4 more. Selina plans to advertise in the newspaper for this course and will seek reimbursement from the ACBL (50%) and the balance from Unit 255.

Play of the Hand course at NOTL – taught by Chandi Jayawardena

Chandi had 23 students for his Play of the Hand course, which ran from June 9th to Aug 4th at NOTL this summer.

Depending on his schedule and other commitments, Chandi is tentatively planning a **Defense** course in spring 2024 at NOTL (9 lessons of 3 hours each).

Rookie / Master Game at NOTL – chaired by Muriel Tremblay

There were 20 tables at the Rookie / Master game on May 16th at NOTL.

2 over 1 Course at BCON – taught by Muriel & Claude Tremblay

There were 35 students for this course that ran in the spring 2023.

That is all for this report.

Submitted by Steve Williams

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Nearly 45% of the total attendance were from the two games on Saturday (August 19th). The attendance from 199ers was poor and we could not justify holding separate 199ers sections. As the highest attendance for a game was 16 tables, we decided to manage with only one section per game. The profit % of this tournament was 46% of the revenue.

Promotions

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Partnerships

Peggy-Sue Verkerk did a very good job as the Partnership Chair. She arranged around 20 partnerships.

Logistics

Steve Williams worked hard handling the pickup and transport our belongings from and to the Abbot Self Service Storage facility. Cathy Williams helped with the logistics on both days. Peggy-Sue Verkerk and Cathy Williams helped Steve to do the clean up and packing after the tournament.

Directing

Jerry Smee was the TD for all five games. As usual, he did an excellent job being firm and fair. Jerry reported on the revenues promptly and efficiently, at lightning speed 😊. In the absence of an Associate TD and a tournament treasurer, Sandy Smee volunteered to assist Jerry.

Prizes

We handed the prizes for North-South and East-West winners of three strata per section. We used books donated by Claude, Muriel and Jerry to keep this line item at zero cost. We did not use any Niagara Bucks, budgeted at \$ 360. Moving forward, it is fair to assume that we need an average of eight prizes (for four pairs) per section.

Hospitality

We provided mid game snacks, which were highly appreciated by the players. We also provided bottled water.

Satisfaction

Judging from the verbal feedback from the players, it was clear that they were satisfied about the efforts and the commitment of the Unit 255 in planning four tournaments, every year.

Sponsorship

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Financials

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Chandi Jayawardena

August 20th, 2023

ACBL Unit 255
2023 Spring NOTL Sectional Tournament
Report from the Tournament Chair

General

On June 2nd, 3rd and 4th, the Unit 255 organized our spring tournament for bridge players with fewer than 750 masterpoints. Although the actual table count and total income were around 35% short of our budget, in terms of customer satisfaction, the tournament held in NOTL was a tremendous success. Our volunteers ensured that Bridge players from BCON and NOTL DBC, as well as Bridge Clubs from Buffalo, Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Mississauga, Cambridge, Guelph, Toronto, etc., enjoyed bridge and great hospitality of the Niagara Region. Members of BCON and NOTL DBC represented only 38% of the total players. Nearly 50% of the attendance were from Saturday (June 3rd) games, only day we had two sections per game. The attendance from 199ers was poor and we could not justify holding sperate 199ers sections. The Unit 255 made a small profit.

Venue

NOTL Community Centre once again proved to be an excellent venue for Bridge tournaments. Sweets & Swirls Café in the centre provided three lunch packages on Saturday and Sunday. In total, they served around 38 lunches (33% of the players from the 10:00 am games). They offered three lunch products reasonably priced between \$12 and \$14.

Partnerships

Peggy-Sue Verkerk did a very good job as the Partnership Chair. She arranged around 12 partnerships.

Logistics

Steve Williams assisted me to pick and transport our belongings from and to the Abbot Self Service Storage facility. Keith Burkell assisted with the logistics on day one. Wiebe Hoogland helped with the circulation of promotional e-mails to ACBL members with fewer than 750 masterpoints, living within a radius of 75 miles from the Niagara Region. Peggy-Sue Verkerk and Cathy Williams helped Steve to do the clean up and packing after the tournament.

Directing

Claude Tremblay was the TD for all six games. Jerry Smee was the Associate TD for four games. As usual, they did an excellent job.

Prizes

We handed the prizes for North-South and East-West winners of three strata per section. We used books donated by Claude and Muriel to keep this line item at zero cost. We did not use any Niagara Bucks, budgeted at \$ 696.

Hospitality

Muriel Tremblay coordinated mid game and end of the day snacks, which were highly appreciated by the players. We also provided bottle water.

Mini Lessons

Muriel Tremblay delivered pre-game mini lessons 40-minutes prior to the start of the first games on Saturday and Sunday. This effort was appreciated by the players. 15 players attended these mini lesson on Saturday and 10 on Sunday.

Promotions

Through flyers and announcements, we promoted the Unit 255 Summer 750 Sectional.

Satisfaction

Judging from the verbal feedback from the players, it was clearly evident that they were satisfied about the efforts and the commitment of the Unit 255 in planning four tournaments, every year.

Sponsorship

Generous sponsorship of \$1,000 from Jaclyn Morrison of iA Private Wealth helped us to cover the costs of hospitality etc.

Financials

Muriel Tremblay performed the duties of the Tournament Treasurer. Compared to the budgeted 120 tables, last year's spring tournament attendance of 83 tables, the actual table count was 77. As a result, the total income of \$5,338 was 35% short of the top line of our budget. However, through timely cost reductions (Associate TD shifts, equipment transport, cost of prizes etc.), we were able to make a small profit of \$988.

Special Thanks

I thank the team of volunteers. I owe a very special thank you to Claude and Muriel for their support, advise, mentorship, hard work and commitment. Thank you!

Chandi Jayawardena

June 7th, 2023