



**ACBL UNIT 255 NIAGARA AREA**  
**Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting**  
 Held on Saturday, April 6, 2019, 4:30 pm at  
 The Bridge Centre of Niagara

**Present:** Approximately 85 members of the Unit 255, including 10 Board Members & Chairs: Muriel Tremblay, Paul Cronin, Elinor Grill, Wiebe Hoogland, Chandi Jayawardena, Chris Loat, John Mackay, Lucy McEwen, Kathy Morrison and Claude Tremblay

#	Item
1	<p><b>Welcome from the President</b></p> <p>Muriel made the welcome and called the meeting to order. Muriel thanked 94 players who took part in the AGM special game with 23 ½ tables. She stated that it is quite an accomplishment to go from not existing as an organization to having successfully completed our first year of operation, which was the result of many dedicated and committed members who delivered what was needed. Muriel reminded members the objectives we set for our Unit when it was created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide our members within the Niagara Area opportunities to develop and improve their bridge skills</li> <li>• Provide our members with more opportunities to compete in Sectional Tournaments and Unit Championship competitions</li> <li>• Communicate directly with our members to make them aware of events and achievements within our community</li> <li>• Recognize the achievements of our members</li> <li>• Get our members involved with our special projects.</li> </ul> <p>Muriel thanked all members of Unit 255 Board and Chairs, and briefly outlined the key functions they were responsible for in our first year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Claude Tremblay</b>, our Tournament Coordinator, has worked with each of the Tournament Chairs to establish consistency and balance in our financial statements and budgets, and to schedule all of our tournaments. Claude has introduced two new tournaments for our Unit. Claude successfully negotiated with Unit 166 for the transfer of funds to our Unit based on our membership percentage. Claude also initiated our application for a Government Grant for Seniors. We were successful in being awarded this grant of \$24,400, which we are using for the purchase of tournament equipment to make us independent of the need to rent equipment from Unit 166 and our local clubs.</li> <li>• <b>Chris Loat</b>, our Treasurer and Recorder for our Unit. It has taken some time to establish financial reports that combine the income and expense statements from the various tournaments that we run along with other income sources that the Unit has. We maintained a solid financial position in our first year by not spending more money than we had.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kathy Morrison</b>, our ACBL electronic contact and more importantly our Membership Chair and Web Master. Kathy took on these jobs not knowing how much work was involved because she had never developed or maintained a website previously.</li> <li>• <b>Lucy McEwen</b>, our Intermediate/Novice (I/N) Coordinator. As such she has been responsible for successfully running the Helen Shields Rookie Master and the I/N Tournament in August. Lucy is always available to help us when we need catering for these special games.</li> <li>• <b>Chandi Jayawardena</b>, our Secretary and Education Chair is dedicated and committed to ensuring that the Unit meets our objective for our members to improve their Bridge skills. He communicates with all of the Bridge teachers both within the clubs and individual teachers within our region to learn about their service offerings and to provide support to teachers who are developing new Bridge players. Chandi does an excellent job of producing our minutes of meetings within a timely manner.</li> <li>• <b>Wiebe Hoogland</b>, our Vice President and District 2 Representative brings Unit experience to our group. Wiebe has been around other Units and District organizations for a long time and he knows from past experience what has been successful and what has not. As District 2 Representative, Wiebe took on the responsibility of writing a new simpler and comprehensive By-law for District 2. This will be reviewed in April at the District 2 Board meeting.</li> <li>• <b>John Mackay</b>, our financial auditor has helped us with the structure for our financial statements. As a result, we successfully integrated all of the financial statements from the various tournaments and special games and we balanced our books.</li> <li>• <b>Paul Cronin</b>, our Disciplinary Chair.</li> <li>• <b>Elinor Grill</b>, our Member at Large.</li> </ul> <p>Muriel also thanked all of our members who have contributed to the success of each of our special games and tournaments by coming out and supporting us. Without you we would not exist. There are many other people who should be thanked.</p>
2	<p><b>Review of Minutes from the First AGM held on March 3, 2018</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Motion to approve – Moved by John Mackay and seconded by Denyse Brochu. All in favor.</li> <li>b) Matters arising – None.</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Updates on our First Year</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Tournaments</b> – Claude Tremblay reported that we now have four tournaments each year. We receive Hollswelfth sponsorship of \$2,000 per year. Biyearly Regional will be moved from Niagara Falls Crown Plaza to St. Catharines Holiday Inn in 2021.</li> <li>b) <b>Financial Year End Report</b> – Chris Loat referred to his previously circulated report, which indicated a surplus of \$17,557.76. Moved by Chris Loat and seconded by Janice Petley. All in favor.</li> <li>c) <b>Budget for 2019</b> – Chris Loat referred to his previously circulated budget, which projected a profit of \$13,030. Moved by Chris Loat and seconded by Chandi Jayawardena. Budget was approved.</li> <li>d) <b>Education</b> – Chandi Jayawardena reported that in 2018, the Unit 255 played an important supportive role in developing and promoting Bridge education in the Niagara Region. The Unit invested \$1,413 and communicated regularly with leaders of Bridge educational programs. The Unit has approved a budget of \$2,500 for Bridge educational activities and sponsorship in 2019.</li> </ul>

4	<p><b>Unit 255 Masterpoint (MP) Race Winners for 2018</b> Kathy Morrison announced the winners, and ACBL certificates were awarded to following members for 2018:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="261 296 1403 995"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="261 296 456 443">Category (MP range)</th> <th data-bbox="456 296 748 443">Mini McKenny Race (MPs at clubs + tournaments) Winners</th> <th data-bbox="748 296 1110 443">Ace of Clubs Race (MPs at clubs) Winners</th> <th data-bbox="1110 296 1403 443">Online Race Winners</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 443 456 480">0 to 5</td> <td data-bbox="456 443 748 480">John Henderson</td> <td data-bbox="748 443 1110 480">John Henderson</td> <td data-bbox="1110 443 1403 480">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 480 456 518">5 to 20</td> <td data-bbox="456 480 748 518">Joan Larocque</td> <td data-bbox="748 480 1110 518">Joan Larocque</td> <td data-bbox="1110 480 1403 518">June Lumber</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 518 456 556">20 to 50</td> <td data-bbox="456 518 748 556">Leslie Nash</td> <td data-bbox="748 518 1110 556">Leslie Nash</td> <td data-bbox="1110 518 1403 556">Cam Nelson</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 556 456 594">50 to 100</td> <td data-bbox="456 556 748 594">Tom Perris</td> <td data-bbox="748 556 1110 594">Tom Perris</td> <td data-bbox="1110 556 1403 594">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 594 456 632">100 to 200</td> <td data-bbox="456 594 748 632">Doug Newman</td> <td data-bbox="748 594 1110 632">Doug Newman</td> <td data-bbox="1110 594 1403 632">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 632 456 701">200 to 300</td> <td data-bbox="456 632 748 701">Donald &amp; Darlene Menhennet</td> <td data-bbox="748 632 1110 701">Donald &amp; Darlene Menhennet</td> <td data-bbox="1110 632 1403 701">Dennis Modolo</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 701 456 739">300 to 500</td> <td data-bbox="456 701 748 739">Chandi Jayawardena</td> <td data-bbox="748 701 1110 739">Peter Runcan</td> <td data-bbox="1110 701 1403 739">Rob Kischuk</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 739 456 777">500 to 1000</td> <td data-bbox="456 739 748 777">Robert Forster</td> <td data-bbox="748 739 1110 777">Robert Forster</td> <td data-bbox="1110 739 1403 777">Dorothy Duchnicki</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 777 456 814">1000 to 1500</td> <td data-bbox="456 777 748 814">Sharon Stevens</td> <td data-bbox="748 777 1110 814">Maureen Clark</td> <td data-bbox="1110 777 1403 814">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 814 456 852">1500 to 2500</td> <td data-bbox="456 814 748 852">John Mackay</td> <td data-bbox="748 814 1110 852">John Mackay</td> <td data-bbox="1110 814 1403 852">Stan Szymczak</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 852 456 890">2500 to 3500</td> <td data-bbox="456 852 748 890">Andrew Russell</td> <td data-bbox="748 852 1110 890">Lorna Johnson</td> <td data-bbox="1110 852 1403 890">Carol Leroux</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 890 456 928">3500 to 5000</td> <td data-bbox="456 890 748 928">Brian Macartney</td> <td data-bbox="748 890 1110 928">Brian Macartney</td> <td data-bbox="1110 890 1403 928">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="261 928 456 966">5000 to 7500</td> <td data-bbox="456 928 748 966">Jeremy Smee</td> <td data-bbox="748 928 1110 966">Jeremy Smee</td> <td data-bbox="1110 928 1403 966">-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category (MP range)	Mini McKenny Race (MPs at clubs + tournaments) Winners	Ace of Clubs Race (MPs at clubs) Winners	Online Race Winners	0 to 5	John Henderson	John Henderson	-	5 to 20	Joan Larocque	Joan Larocque	June Lumber	20 to 50	Leslie Nash	Leslie Nash	Cam Nelson	50 to 100	Tom Perris	Tom Perris	-	100 to 200	Doug Newman	Doug Newman	-	200 to 300	Donald & Darlene Menhennet	Donald & Darlene Menhennet	Dennis Modolo	300 to 500	Chandi Jayawardena	Peter Runcan	Rob Kischuk	500 to 1000	Robert Forster	Robert Forster	Dorothy Duchnicki	1000 to 1500	Sharon Stevens	Maureen Clark	-	1500 to 2500	John Mackay	John Mackay	Stan Szymczak	2500 to 3500	Andrew Russell	Lorna Johnson	Carol Leroux	3500 to 5000	Brian Macartney	Brian Macartney	-	5000 to 7500	Jeremy Smee	Jeremy Smee	-
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5	<p><b>Upcoming Event – Helen Shields Rookie-Master</b> Lucy McEwen reported that will be held on April 10, 2019. She would like to see as much support this year as we received last year.</p>																																																								
6	<p><b>Confirmation of Proceedings</b> Motion by Dianne Smith, seconded by Anne Marie Stockwell: 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 same are hereby approved, ratified, and confirmed. All in favor. Carried.</p>																																																								
7	<p><b>New Business – Membership Suggestions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Morrison thanked Muriel and Claude Tremblay for their hard work since Unit 255 was formed, and presented them with a token of appreciation.</li> <li>• Lorna Johnson was thanked by Muriel for organizing the post-AGM dinner.</li> </ul>																																																								
8	<p><b>Adjournment</b> Chris Loat moved that the AGM be adjourned and Kathy Morrison seconded. All in favour and meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm, followed by dinner and social for Unit 255 members.</p>																																																								