

Minutes of Unit 255 Annual General Meeting May 11, 2024



Present: 50 Unit 255 Members including all of the Board of Directors

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Muriel Tremblay

Welcome from the President – see attached Message

Muriel explained the purpose of Unit 255 to provide tournaments for our members locally; to allow them to earn the coloured masterpoints without having to incur the cost of travel; to develop new duplicate bridge players, to support education for our members to improve their bridge. She thanked the tournament chairs and volunteers who make our tournaments so successful. Muriel provided information on the support provided to both the clubs and the bridge teachers and the commitment that has been approved to support BCON's ACBC team games.

Muriel also reported on the review that Brian Jones and she did on the Unit By-laws to ensure that we were compliant with the Ontario Not For Profit Corporations Act. We are fully compliant.

Muriel thanked the Unit 255 Board members who supported the Unit in 2023 announcing the retirement of Wiebe Hoogland and Heather Beckman and introduced the new 2024 Board.

- Brian Jones - Vice – President, Membership Chair and ACBL Electronic Contact (BCON Representative)
- Claude Tremblay, our Tournament Coordinator (NOTL Representative)
- Kathy Morrison, our Treasurer (2024-2026)
- Rod Sumner, our Webmaster (2023-2025)
- Steve Williams, our Education and I/N Coordinator (2022-2024)
- Tim Butt - our Secretary (2024-2026)
- Myself - Your President (2022 – 2024)

We hold our election for 2 new Directors in the fall. If any of you would like to stand for election to the Board please let me know of your interest.

Minutes: of AGM, April 29, 2023 – see attached

Move to accept: W. Hoogland, 2nd C. Jayawardena Approved

Treasurer Report – see attached 2023 Financial Statements and 2024 Budget

The **2023 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. The financial success of our tournaments (22,827.53) is primarily due to the sponsorship money that we received from iA Private Wealth, the increase in table fees and the control of our expenses. Questions were raised from the floor:

- John Stevens asked what we are going to do with the large amount of cash that the Unit has accumulated over the past 5 years. Kathy replied that we have increased the amount of money invested in GIC; we have informed the clubs about requesting funds for special projects that satisfy the criteria of the Unit's purpose
- Wiebe asked why the storage costs were double that of 2022. Kathy explained that in 2023 we paid for both 2023 and 2024 storage
- Jerry Smee asked why the Regional entry fee was \$20. Kathy explained that when we prepared our budget in 2022, we did not know about all of the increase in costs. The \$20 fee for Regional Tournaments is consistent with entry fees charged at all other Regional tournaments in our District and lower than fees charged in the US.
- John Stevens asked if we had an inventory and did we control our capital assets. Claude informed him that we have a complete inventory of our tournament equipment and it is checked after each tournament.

Moved by Kathy, seconded by Chris Loat to approve the 2023 Financial Statements; approved

The **Budget for 2024** was presented by Kathy. A question was raised about why we did not have a budget amount for Pianola (email service provided by ACBL for all members within a target area) since we had an expense of \$690 in 2023. It was agreed that we would add an expense for this on our budget.

Jerry Smee moved to approve the 2024 budget with amendment; Seconded by Elaine Gill Approved

Tournament Report – see attached report

Claude summarized his report by informing the members in attendance that we ran 4 very successful tournaments in 2023. Attendance was still low versus participation that we had pre-COVID, but we were successful financially due to the great tournament chairs: Chandi Jayawardena, Kathy Morrison and Wiebe Hoogland; the use of local directors for three of the four tournaments saved \$1000s of dollars each tournament; financial support from our sponsor: Jackie Morrison (iAWealth). People who participated in our tournaments were very happy due to the great hospitality and directors.

Claude announced a recent decision that the Unit Board approved to give our members a discount on tournament entry fees: \$4 for Regional, \$3 for Open Sectional and \$2 for 750 Sectionals. The difference in the discount amount is based on the cost of the entry fees for each tournament. This change takes place immediately, in time for our Spring Sectional.

Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney Winners – see attached

The Ace of Club winners that were announced had the most masterpoints earned at clubs only in 2023. The Mini McKenney winners have the most masterpoints in 2023 won at both clubs and tournaments.

Confirmation of Proceedings

Moved by Cathy Williams, seconded by Wiebe Hoogland:

“be it resolved that all the bylaws, 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

There was no new business

Adjournment

Wiebe moved to terminate the meeting – dinner to follow