

GNYBA Board Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2019

In Attendance

J. Bayone; D. Garber; B. Gellas; J. Hu; U. Ivatury; F. Levine; M. Mariaschin; J. Meyers; G. Minitier; D. Moss; A. Parrish; A. Rhodes; J. Rothstein; B. Sigward; N. Trabulus; G. Wallach; J. Wank;

President's Report

B. Gellas opened by presenting an honorary plaque to D. Moss in recognition of his past service and continuing contributions to the GNYBA. In addition to remaining on the GNYBA Board, David is now District 24's Representative on the ACBL Board of Directors.

Treasurer's Report

J. Rothstein reported that he projects a small net loss for FY 2019 of approximately \$2.6 thousand. Net Assets on hand will total approximately \$228 thousand (including \$20 thousand in receivables due from credit card payments at the December Regional). The net loss is not viewed as a major problem at this time due to the significant amount of cash held by the GNYBA.

Subsequent discussion revealed that, going forward, we expect to incur increases in certain expenses associated with conducting the two annual regional tournaments in New York. Specifically, rental expense (at the Hilton) will rise by 3%; while Director Expenses and Sanction Fees are each expected to increase by 10%. These cost increases will commence in 2020. As a result, tournament expenses will increase by at least \$5 thousand; in turn, we may need to increase card fees in order to recover those higher costs. Whether we increase card fees in 2020 is an open issue.

The trend in regionals is that losses are increasing. The Board is hopeful that the 2020 change in dates for the year-end regional, from December to November, will result in an increase in attendance.

There followed discussion of some of the metrics related to operating the regional tournaments; i.e., we need 10 to 14 thousand square feet of playing space, but might get by with as little as 10 thousand sq. ft. One rule of thumb is we need about 70 sq. ft/table.

Secretary's Report

B. Sigward circulated a request for each member to provide their cellphone #'s as well as their ACBL #'s. He will follow up with members not in attendance. The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12.

Committee Sign-ups

G. Miniter circulated sign-up sheets for the committees and assignments that need to be filled in connection with the forthcoming May Regional. She will also follow-up with members unable to attend the Jan 9 meeting.

Some discussion ensued regarding what should be the future role of the website, including how it relates to marketing and generating interest in the regionals. L. Lin's great work with the current website was noted.

Tournament Report

Table count at the December regional declined vs 2018 (-1.4% overall, and -3.5% at the Hilton). Some observations from the regional included:

- Must offer Gold Rush Pairs every day (on Sunday, when no Gold Rush Pairs event was scheduled, players turned up expecting a GR Pairs game);
- We need to increase our focus on marketing to the population of 0-750 mp players;
- U. Ivatory suggested we experiment with, and obtain permission from the ACBL to pursue, different gold-point formats. There was agreement that it was too late to experiment in May, but perhaps could in November.

A. Parrish reviewed the proposed schedule for the May Regional (the proposed schedule discussed at the Jan 9 meeting is appended hereto, below). Some of the points made included:

- There will be Gold Rush Pairs each day;
- The new "K.O. in a Day" game will be held on Thursday, 5/28 (this event was first tried in October in Danbury, and will be offered later in January at Tarrytown);
- Pairs events will be 24 Boards (but still to be determined is whether the Goldman Pairs will be 24 or 26 boards);
- Still to be decided are the guidelines for stratification;
- B. Gellas notes that we need to finalize the schedule with the stratifications and get to the ACBL for approval. Once that is done we can work on the ad/flyer.

Potential Dates for 2021 tournaments were discussed. At the Hilton, only May 17-22 is available. In November, the 6-12 and 16-22 dates are available (in addition, the usual post-Christmas dates are available). No decisions were taken. S. Levine and others will work on dates and space for 2021.

Stand-alone Weekend Sectional

B. Gellas stated that she wanted the Board to know that we are looking into the feasibility/economics of holding a Weekend Sectional. Although no one has inspected potential playing spaces, sites at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (at 59th St. and 9th

Avenue), Hunter College, and Fordham University were mentioned as possible venues. We will probably need 5 thousand sq. ft. of space.

GNTs

The GNT's are "on". A. Rhodes stated there is nothing new to report, and that the GNTs are scheduled for Feb 22/23 and March 1, with the schedule and complete details available on the GNYBA website.

We will be in need of a new GNT/NAP coordinator.

Respectfully Submitted by
Bill Sigward, Secretary of the Board

Addendum

2020 Big Apple Spring Regional Proposed Schedule

As of January 9, 2019

Monday May 25 (Memorial Day)

10:30 and 3:00	Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)
	Stratified Open Pairs*
10:30 and TBA	Bracketed Round Robin Teams

Tuesday May 26

10:30 and 3:00	Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)
	Mid-flight Pairs*
	A/X Pairs*
10:30	Newcomer Pairs (single session)
10:30 and TBA	Bracketed Round Robin Teams

Wednesday May 27

10:30 and 3:00	Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)
	Stratified Open Pairs*
	Spring Newcomer Championship (2 session)
10:30 and TBA	Bracketed Round Robin Teams
7:15	Fast Pairs* (1 st session, continue Thurs. night)

Thursday May 28

10:30 and 3:00	Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)
	Stratified Open Pairs*
10:30	Newcomer Pairs (single session)
10:30 and TBA	One-Day KO Teams "Full KO in a day"

7:15

Fast Pairs* (2nd session)

Friday May 29

10:30 and 3:00

Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)

Stratified Open Pairs*

Goldman Pairs (Sessions 1 & 2 of 4)

10:30

Newcomer Pairs (single session)

10:30 and TBA

Bracketed Round Robin Teams

Saturday May 30

10:30 and 3:00

Gold Rush Pairs* (300/750)

Stratified Open Pairs*

Goldman Pairs (2 final sessions)

10:30

Newcomer Pairs (single session)

10:30 and TBA

Bracketed Round Robin Teams

***24 Boards played each session**

Side games at Honors --

Afternoon:

- **Mon, Tues, Wed side game series 1**
- **Thurs, Fri, Sat side game series 2**

Evening:

- **Mon, Tues, Fri side game series 3**