

GNYBA Board Meeting Minutes 2024-10-01

- Attendees: Alan Davidson, Lee Lin, Amy Rhodes, David Moss, Jeff Bayone, Jeffrey Rothstein, Marla Lawson, Melanie Petsch, Barbara Marcin, Norman Trabulus, Philip Lentz, Rich M, Steve Levine, Tom Romeo, Adam Parrish, Jin Hu, Rachael Moller, Stephannie Culbertson, Maya Jonas-Silver, Bill Sigward
- 5/5/5 program:
 - We're at 100% of our contact goal for the quarter. but it's now a new quarter, so time to start in again.
 - Most units were not hitting ACBL's thresholds, so ACBL is changing the thresholds to fit the units' actual behavior.
 - Our budget (along with many others) was hurt, but hopefully will be better in the future.
 - Alan had an insight: the experienced players typically know about the ACBL and did not renew their membership on purpose, while the newcomers might not realize what's going on. So, focus on contacting the newcomers. Jeff agrees.
 - Jeff: we should consider asking the private clubs to contact their members on our behalf, *if* we can split up the list by where folks play.
- Pro-Am^3:
 - Stephannie is organizing. There are roughly 11 teams registered, one of which is two half-teams she has joined together.
 - Thanks to Amy for doing outreach!
 - We haven't yet emailed out payment info; wanted to wait to be sure teams wouldn't fall apart
 - We're aiming for 3 hours of playtime, not yet sure how many boards that will be
 - It would be neat to have 16 teams total, so we have 4 teams per bracket
 - The pro-am^3 is appropriate for people who have never played duplicate before! Newcomers welcome.
 - Jeff is nervous about the disruption from people who have never played duplicate
 - David: We have 21 confirmed "pros" which should be plenty
 - Maximum capacity of the room is 30 teams.
 - On the day of the event, we'll need 2-3 volunteers to greet people and make sure pros and ams find each other, get nametags, table assignments, caddies, etc.
 - There will be wine and cheese, and pigs in a blanket
- NAPs:
 - Lee has everything still on track as planned
 - Bridge Express (hosting flight B) is nervous about attendance, and wants RSVPs ahead of time, for November 3.
 - but the draft of the flyer was sent to BridgeExpress this morning, and they didn't ask it to be amended re: RSVPs. Jeff will check with the Bridge Express owners about this.

- Flights A and C are still at Honors with Alan Miller, like previous years
- GNTs:
 - schedule-your-own-KO has always been a pain. Even for flights A, B, and C, we will mandate 2 specific days for the KOs.
 - Maya and Alan are surprised and pushed back on this: not requiring specific dates for schedules will hurt attendance
 - Jeff suggests going back to a scheduled day 2 that is optional, but in the past, only half the teams have attended that second day, rather than rescheduling on their own
 - Stephannie thinks we're too accommodating
 - Lee has another idea: two days of Swiss (one for everyone, one round robin of the finalists)
 - Adam wants a one-day swiss for flight C, to be welcoming
 - Stephannie: If we ease the parameters of the contest, we open ourselves up to negotiation. We don't want to be draconian later ("if you can't play on the day we didn't tell you originally, you're out")
 - David: there is a district-wide GNT committee working over email
 - straw poll: a plurality of the board is in favor of the flexibility of scheduling KOs on your own
 - subsidies: only flight A, B, and C winners get a decent subsidy, and B and C second-place get token subsidies (\$300 per team? doesn't cover airfare let alone anything else)
- Regionals:
 - Bill, Phil, and Pedro went to the Marriott again, had a walkthrough of the rooms and the loading dock. Looking good!
 - How do we handle pre-registration? We want a decision so we can send out the flyer.
 - pre-registration is no longer a requirement, but should we do it as an option?
 - We don't want to do pre-payment
 - pre-registration would help directors prepare for the pairs/teams split
 - pre-registration would not give a discount when paying
 - consensus seems to be to drop pre-registration entirely because it no longer helps us with anything major
 - need volunteers for partnership desk and hospitality desk: will have a sign-up sheet
 - The Common Game wants to email out surveys and bulletins. It's \$200: the board seems willing to pay it. Phil to talk to Jin re: The Common Game
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