



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY BRIDGE CENTER
NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

President Richard Picheny called the meeting to order at 3:51 P.M. Board members present were Susan Bristol, Mary Dee Kienstra, Tricia Jennings, John Jonas, and Maggie Briskie. Club Manager Gail Schneider was also present.

Tricia Jennings made the motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from October 21, 2024. Mary Dee Kienstra seconded. The motion was approved.

President's Update

Richard Picheny reported that the new carpet will be installed November 29 - 30 and December 1 if needed. The game on Saturday, November 30 will be cancelled.

Financial Report

Richard Picheny reported on the financial condition of SOCBC.

Club Manager

Gail Schneider reported that Rick Araujo will be directing the Holiday Party. Eight Is Enough will be cancelled on Wednesday, December 11. SOCBC will hold a regular game on that Wednesday.

Special games will be held the week of December 16.

Gail Schneider announced that there is a conflict with the Saddleback Unit holding a Sectional on Saturday and Sunday, January 18 - 19, that results in a conflict with our Saturday game on January 18 and our Sunday Unit Game on January 19. The decision was made to keep our games as scheduled.

Maggie Briskie requested that we need to have some of our bridge-mates cleaned as they are sticking. Gail Schneider requested that whenever a bridge-mate is not working well, to put a note on it and bring it to the front desk.

Membership

Susan Bristol reported that we have 458 members.

It has come to the attention of the Board members that the Saddleback Unit is reimbursing the first-year membership fee of their students who take a beginner class and then join ACBL. Richard Picheny led a discussion on this topic and the decision was made to bring this item into consideration at a later time.

Susan Bristol asked if SOCBC could send a welcome letter to our new members along with a free play.

Richard Picheny made the motion to send out two \$5 coupons to be used on two different days along with our new member letter. Tricia Jennings seconded. The motion was approved.

Susan Bristol led a discussion on allowing players who play or take a lesson in the morning and play in the afternoon be allowed to have a reduced card fee of \$5.

Susan Bristol made the motion to reinstate the policy that we allow a member who attends a morning session or class be able to play that afternoon for \$5 unless it's a special game with lunch served. Richard Picheny seconded. The motion was approved.

Facilities

John Jonas reported that he will be working on cleaning the bidding boxes as well as developing a system to rotate the boards that go through the dealing machine. John Jonas also reported that he donated our unusable boards and cards to charity.

Education

Richard Picheny announced that classes will begin in January with Bob Levine and Gary Waldron coordinating their classes. Beginning bridge will begin again in the Spring.

Mary Dee Kienstra asked for suggestions that would encourage our members to volunteer on Wednesday afternoons as a mentor for our newer players.

Richard Picheny made the motion to give out one free play to two members who volunteer to mentor on Wednesday afternoons. Mary Dee Kienstra seconded. The motion was approved.

Old Business

Nominating Committee

Mary Dee Kienstra reported that Susan Bristol, John Jonas, and Steve Rounds are running for the three vacant positions on the Board. The three candidates will have their pictures and biographies published in the Newsletter. The new Board Members will be announced at the general meeting.

Awards

Richard Picheny announced that the selections for the Sally Palmear Award and the SOCBC Sportsman and Citizenship Award have been decided by their committees. The recipients of both awards will be announced at the Holiday Party.

Holiday Party

Maggie Briskie reported that the Holiday Party to be held on Thursday, December 19 has almost reached the goal of 120 attendees.

New Business

Replacing the Chairs

Richard Picheny led a discussion on the cost to replace the chairs versus reupholstering the chairs. John Jonas agreed to look into getting several quotes to reupholster the chairs as well as quotes to replace the chairs. This item was tabled until January.

Baileys Bids

ACBL does not require players to alert the Bailey's 2 bids. However, the decision was made that SOCBC will require that the Baileys 2 Diamond, 2 Heart, and 2 Spade bids be alerted at our club.

Susan Bristol attended the Long Beach Sectional and they used the bridge-mates for Swiss Teams on Sunday. The hands were set up ahead of time and hand records were available after the game. Richard Picheny asked Gail Schneider to see if our club would be able to do this at our next Sectional.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 23, 2024

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 P.M.