

District 9 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2023

Palm Beach Gardens Regional at Marriott Palm Beach Gardens

Directors attending in Person:

Betty Sandifer, President; John Moschella, Vice-President & Treasurer; Jeff Overby, Regional Director; Deborah Branch, Keith Gellman, Carol Hamilton, Bruce Lang, Sam Phillips, Charlene Predmest, David Rogers

Directors attending via Zoom:

Dan George, Athena Gordon, Secretary; Cabot Jaffee, Tony Munson, Tracy Nolan, Shirley Seals, Jay Whipple

Advisor(s) Present:

Shannon Cappelletti*, Jesse Laird, Harriet Morris

Directors attending via Zoom:

Paul Matheson*

Absent:

Jeff Edelstein, Elizabeth Harris, Patty Johnson, Gayle Marr, Larry Rich, Scott Tumperi

(*Denotes voting advisors)

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 am by Betty Sandifer

Approval of District 9 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes held on March 31, 2023 at Southeasterns in Boca Raton, Florida by Betty Sandifer

Directors were referred to the Board of Governors meeting minutes that had been provided to them in advance of this meeting. After discussion, there were no corrections or amendments.

- A motion was made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Sam Phillips to approve the March 31, 2023, Board of Governors meeting minutes in the form provided to the directors in advance of this meeting. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's/CKKF Report by John Moschella

Prior to the August 18, 2023, board meeting, the District 9 Treasurer distributed the following documents to the Board of Governors and Advisors: July 2023: ACBL District 9, Profit & Loss Statement and July 2023: ACBL District 9, Balance Sheet.

Treasurer, John Moschella reported CD rates will continue to be monitored to insure D9 gets best available rates. CFFK will be reimbursing the Youth for attending the YNABC in Chicago around \$5000-\$6000. Final figures are not available as not all the expenses have been submitted.

- Motion was made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Bruce Lang to approve the treasurer's report. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Regional Director Report/ACBL Codification for Regional Allocations by Jeff Overby

1. In general, D9 membership numbers are down, which jeopardizes the number of regional sanctions the ACBL will grant D9. A detailed discussion of this process followed along with emphasizing the need to develop strategies for raising table counts at the higher attended regionals such as Orlando and Palmetto. By raising a regional's total table count to over 2,000; the ACBL will grant another regional sanction.
2. Membership acquisition and retention continues to be a major topic at the national level. There have been several discussions about the yearly \$11/member compensation that units receive from the ACBL. The ACBL is questioning the merit of this compensation with respect to its usage by the units, including but not limited to a unit's organized effort in membership acquisition and retention as well as player development and education programs.
3. Lapsed membership and membership attrition were discussed. The ACBL has provided lists of lapsed members and is asking the units to investigate. A volunteer is needed to coordinate this effort as well as develop a plan of action.

Recorder Report by Athena Gordon

The following report spans the period from March 23, 2023 through August 18, 2023.

1. There were 2 player memorandums (memos) submitted for the StaC games.
2. 1 player memo was dismissed. The second player memo was processed according to ACBL guidelines, and a Recorder Complaint was submitted to the District 9 President.

Disciplinary Report by Bruce Lang

1. A Recorder Complaint was duly noted, dates were established for a hearing and a committee will be formed.
2. In a prior disciplinary action, the sentence has been served and the probation period has ended.

Sunshine Bridge News (SBN) Report by Scott Tumperi and Jay Whipple

The Editor's report was submitted and distributed prior to the meeting.

Jay Whipple indicated that the cost to produce the SBN is approximately \$1.60/reader, which is similar to District 22's cost structure. In addition, the issue notice email reaches about 12,600 D9 members or about 83% of the membership. Of that about 67% or 8,500 open the email and around 1,600 click through to the publication. The click through rate is 18%. A marketed effort to use the email blast more effectively is being addressed as well as converting from Pianola (a limited format) to Brevo (formerly Sendinblue).

Youth NABC Report *by Per Berg*

Mr. Berg's report was submitted and distributed prior to the meeting. Eleven students participated: 9 played in 4 events; 2 played in 5 events.

Jesse Laird volunteered to be the Youth Coordinator. He will work with Per Berg to monitor Youth participation in bridge games and tournaments across the district.

Tournament Director Report *by Jesse Laird*

1. Palm Beach Gardens Regional table count to date is 418 with projection of 650 - 700 tables.
2. The final numbers for the August D9 StaC was 1655, which is up 32% over last year's count of 1250.
3. The idea of offering an Online Regional in conjunction with a face-to-face regional was discussed. This is only open to D9 members. BBO provides the venue and pop-up advertising. BBO's fee is 25% of the revenue and the ACBL is compensated \$5.00 per table. The online regional requires three directors who are compensated \$250.00 each.

A motion was made by Jeff Overby and seconded by Tracy Nolan to offer a 2-session online game on Saturday at the 2023 Sanibel and 2023 Daytona regionals with an entry fee of \$25.00 per session. Gold points would be awarded. The motion was amended by Jay Whipple and seconded by Charlene Predmest to reduce the entry fee per session to \$20.00. The amended motion was approved.

District Compensation for Meeting Attendance *by John Moschella*

The D9 Treasurer, John Moschella, presented a compensation program for District 9 Board of Governors attending meetings in person. A discussion followed, changes were suggested, and approved. A final document will be distributed.

District 9 Goodwill Committee *by Carol Hamilton*

Unit nominations need to be submitted to the District 9 President, Betty Sandifer prior to November 1, 2023. Recipients will be named at the annual meeting at the Daytona Regional in November.

New Business:

- A. **Naming Tournaments and Games:**
 - A motion was made by Athena Gordon and seconded by Tracy Nolan to table discussion until the next board meeting. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn D9 Board of Governors Meeting made by David Rogers and seconded by Charlene Predmest. Motion to adjourn unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:38am.

D9 Board of Governors Meeting Minutes Submitted By:

Dr. Athena Gordon

District 9 Secretary

Next Board of Governors Meeting is scheduled for: Sanibel in October 2023

Documents distributed and discussed at the meeting:

1. *March 31, 2023 D9 Meeting Minutes*
2. *D9 Balance Sheet*
3. *D9 Profit & Loss Statement*
4. *Recorder Report*
5. *ACBL Codification for Regional Allocations*
6. *SBN Report*
7. *2023 Chicago YNABC*
8. *REVISED D9 Salaries and Compensation*
9. *Motion for discussion submitted by Keith Gellman: Naming Games*