

UNIT 508 – Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2008

Roll Call: Fred Stout called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. at Pickleweed Recreation Center in San Rafael. Present: Fred Stout, Ron Studen, Alex Kinas, Gwen Toso, Bob Chilvers and Richard Mani. Absent: Barbara Cooper and Debbie Levine.

Treasurer's Report: Ron Studen reported: the Unit has approximately \$12,500 in the bank. The Unit's tax return was filed in September, following the new guidelines.

Newsletter Report: Bob Chilvers reported: Several directors expressed appreciation for the article in remembrance of Mayday Card. The next issue of the *Double Dummy* will be distributed about the first of the year.

Education Report: Fred Stout will ask Debbie Levine to present a proposed 2009 education program at the Board's January meeting.

Membership Report: Alex Kinas reported: The Unit had a net loss of one member last month (probably because of seasonal changes of Units by snowbirds), and currently has 587 members.

Tournament Report: Richard Mani reported: The 2009 Marin Sectional will be run with only a very short break between sessions, in order to end sooner. The Unit will supply food and drinks, and encourage players to either grab a quick bite or to eat at the table while continuing play. The food and drinks will either be supplied by Unit members (as in the past) or by increasing the card fees slightly to allow the Unit to purchase it. This is similar to the system used at the 2008 Sonoma Sectional, and it apparently worked well. Several directors commented that a schedule similar to this also worked well at the Nationals. Richard asked for volunteers to help with the set up and tear down.

The ACBL currently has the 2010 Marin Sectional scheduled for the end of March rather than the end of April when we have traditionally held the tournament. Richard Mani will look into this and attempt to straighten it out.

Old Business: The Unit's annual Holiday Party will be held at Terra Linda on December 7th, starting at 12 noon, followed by a charity game. Fred Stout will purchase the food from Scotty's market, and has made arrangements for purchasing the wine. As in the past, members will be asked to bring pot luck desserts. Directors and other members are encouraged to come at 11:15 a.m. to help set up. The directors were asked to make announcements about the party at the various clubs.

Fred Stout presented a revised proposed 2009 Unit calendar. There will be 23 Unit Games, plus two charity games (one of which will follow the Holiday Party) and the NAP Qualifier games. At Richard's request, his telephone number and email address will be put on the calendar under the Marin Sectional entry. Ron Studen agreed to proof the

proposed calendar. Fred will then make any necessary corrections and have it printed in time for distribution at the Holiday Party.

New Business: The Board discussed the need to recruit new directors to replace outgoing directors. The following directors agreed to approach the named Unit members to see if they were interested in serving on the Board: Bob Chilvers will ask Lynn Blankfort and John Michelson; Richard Mani will ask Jim Oser; Alex Kinas will ask Shirley Fiorito; and Fred Stout will ask Gene Simpson and Michael Hartnett.

The Board decided to develop a list of Unit members who have email addresses and who would not object to receiving notices from the Unit by email. Richard Mani will ask Jim Oser for help and guidance on developing the list. The Board approved a budget of \$250 for this task. A signup sheet will be circulated at the Holiday Party to obtain email addresses.

The Board unanimously selected Ellen Weingart as the Unit's official nominee for the District 21 Goodwill Award. Bob Chilvers and Barbara Cooper will prepare the nomination letter.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, January 19, 2009 at Pickleweed Recreation Center. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Chilvers, Acting Secretary for the meeting on November 17, 2008.