

**American Contract Bridge League
District 8 Annual Board Meeting
Saturday 11/4/2023
Via Zoom**

Board and Committee Members present: Dennis Abeln, Pam Ames, Debbie Avery, Sandy Bigg, Mark Boswell, Bill Bulfer, Marilyn Croft, Terry Goodykoontz, Paul Hartke, Georgia Heth, Martha Leary, Lori Moore, John Pree, Debbie Romero, Mary Beth Shaw, and Van Stone.

Board and Committee Members absent: Jay Coleman, Larry Sealy, Phyllis Siegel, Grant Sterling, Karen Walker, and Peter Wilke.

Ms. Romero called the November 4, 2023 Annual District Board meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

President's Report:

Ms. Romero appointed Sandy Bigg as District Secretary, Debbie Avery District Treasurer, Peter Wilke Tournament Coordinator, Mark Boswell Disciplinary Chair, Georgia Heth Appellate Chair, Grant Sterling STaC Chair, Martha Leary NAP Chair, Dennis Abeln Financial Review Chair, Phyllis Siegel GNT Chair, Pam Ames Charity Chair, and Lori Moore NABC Funding Coordinator.

Marilyn Croft and Phyllis Siegel were nominated to the ACBL Goodwill Committee as the representatives from District 8 for 2024. There were no District 8 nominees to the ACBL Charity Committee for 2024.

In special recognition, Ms. Romero noted that Paul Hartke was retiring from the District Board, and she thanked him for all of his years of service to the District and his Unit. Georgia Heth is retiring from her many years on the ACBL Board of Directors. The District has elected Ms. Heth as an Honorary Member to the District 8 Board for life. She was awarded 12 free plays to District Regional tournaments.

In consideration of the revised District 8 Standing Rules, Ms. Romero reviewed the proposed changes by section. An addition to Section 17 will include the following: *Annual compensation for the District 8 Webmaster and Advocate Editor shall be determined by the District Board at each Annual Meeting with the adoption of the budget.* Ms. Leary moved to accept the new revised District 8 Standing Rules along with the addition. Seconded by Mr. Boswell. Motion carried.

Ms. Romero called for the approval of the June 3, 2023 meeting minutes as distributed. The minutes shall be amended to reflect a change in the Tournament Coordinator's report to read there are no Tournament Directors in District 8 (at this time). Ms. Moore moved to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Leary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Avery presented the income and expense reports and the Annual Budget for the District 8 Board review. Ms. Leary moved to accept the documents as presented. Seconded by Pam Ames. Motion carried.

Ms. Romero reported that District 8 has been approved for the Spring NABC in 2026. In the past, the appointment of a Tournament Chairperson has been handled by Unit 143. Mr. Boswell will start the process of finding someone, which should be determined within 6-9 months. Fundraising efforts are needed in 2024, 2025, and 2026 to supplement the \$28,000 fund currently designated for the NABC.

Nominating: Ms. Croft presented the proposed slate of officers for 2024: Debbie Romero, President and Lori Moore, Vice President. Mr. Abeln moved to accept the slate as presented. Seconded by Mr. Stone. Motion carried.

Financial Review: No report.

ACBL Director's Report: No report.

Standing Committee Reports:

Charity: No report.

Education and Youth Bridge: Ms. Shaw reported that a 499r Adult Bridge Camp is scheduled for April, 2024 at Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, Illinois.

Goodwill: No report.

Judiciary: No report.

Tournament Coordinator: No report.

STaC Report: Ms. Romero reported on behalf of Mr. Sterling that there were 23 clubs and 300 tables participating in the STaC events. She noted that STaC District fees and table fees will be going up.

GNT: The GNT event will be held through BBO in April.

NAP: Ms. Leary reported that the 2023 District 8 NAP Finals will be held November 12 on BBO. She informed the Board that the Tournament Director requested that fill-in pairs be available for the event.

Open Regional Reports:

Crystal Lake: Ms. Croft reported that they hosted 382.5 tables over 5 days.

Effingham: Mr. Hartke reported that expenses exceeded income for the 2023 tournament.

St. Louis: Mr. Abeln reported that they hosted 833 tables and cut back on hospitality; I/N event attendance was down, but the open events were up compared to 2022.

Champaign: Ms. Moore reported that they hosted 333.5 tables; they charged \$16 entry fees and \$5 for students.

NLM Regional Reports:

Crystal Lake: Ms. Croft reported that the event sustained a loss and that they will have to decide if they will host another NLM event in the future.

NLM Regional Reports (continued):

Bloomington: Ms. Moore reported that the event sustained a loss but that they will hold another NLM event in 2024.

St. Louis: Mr. Abeln reported that they sustained a loss and will host another NLM event in January, 2024.

Ms. Leary moved that NLM Regional events will not be allowed within a week of a District 8 Open Regional event. Seconded by Pam Ames. Motion carried.

Future Regional Reports:

Champaign: Ms. Moore reported that they are moving forward.

Crystal Lake: Ms. Croft reported that they are moving forward with a 5-day Regional, Monday-Friday, and a \$15 entry fee.

St. Louis: Mr. Abeln reported that they have the Regional sanctioned.

Effingham: Mr. Hartke reported that the Effingham Regional will be moving to Collinsville, IL and will be held Sept 10-14 at the Collinsville Convention Center and will have a daylight game schedule.

New Business: Ms. Croft proposed that District 8 approve a GNT subsidy of \$250 per team to supplement this year's Grass Roots Fund of \$550 per team amounting to \$800 per winning team. Cost to the District would be \$250 x 4 teams = \$1000. Pam Ames moved to accept the proposal as stated. Seconded by Van Stone. Motion carried.

Old Business: Mr. Abeln reported that all unit repayments to District 8 for unit publicity that used the District's Pianola account have been settled.

There being no further business before the District 8 Board of Directors, Van Stone moved to adjourn the November 4, 2023 Annual Meeting. Seconded by Marilyn Croft. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Deborah Avery and Sandy Bigg
Minutes of the 11/04/2023 Annual District 8 Board meeting

Appendix A to November 4, 2023 District 8 Board Meeting Minutes

Summary of District 8 Email Voting Actions

(Period June 3, 2023 through November 3, 2023)

Date Requested	Date Approved	Email Proposal	Submitted By
6/22/2023	6/24/2023	Approval of St. Louis NLM Regional Flyer for October 20-22, 2023	Dennis Abeln
9/17/2023	9/18/2023	Approval of the purchase of a gift valued at up to \$200 for Georgia Heth for distinguished service to District 8 for over twenty years	Debbie Romero
9/17/2023	9/18/2023	Approval of the St. Louis NLM Regional Flyer for January 12-14, 2024	Dennis Abeln
10/12/2023	10/13/2023	Approval of the 2024 Crystal Lake Regional Flyer for June 17-21, 2024	Marilyn Croft
10/19/2023	10/21/2023	Approval for the election of Georgia Heth as an Honorary Member of District 8 for life in recognition of long-standing and meritorious service to District 8 and the ACBL for over twenty years. Honorary members are invited to District 8 Board meetings, but have no vote.	Debbie Romero