NVBA Board Meeting November 2, 2025

Attendees as Board Members: President: Georgette Weiss; Vice President: Jay Simon; Treasurer: Ann Atcheson; Secretary: David Goldfrank; Jason Carter; Joe Hertz; Hal Hindman; Hal Jones; Terry Jones.

Attendees as Non-Voting: Weekly Email Production: Daniel Morgan; Jim Gerding; Lucy McCoy; Howard Stevens.

9:32: Georgette called the meeting to order.

9:33: Approval of the draft minutes for the September 7, 2025, meeting

9:34: Ann's brief treasurer's report was followed by a request for guidance regarding next year's budget. She noted that the increase in the Unit Game costs to $16 led to a decrease in the monthly Unit Game loss from $973 for January-March 2025 to $370 for April-September 2025. We are still not reaching our 14-table goal, but we are at 10-12. Ann recommends keeping the $16 entry fee, which has not hurt attendance. Our fall sectional netted an $1843 profit. Also our ACBL 3rd Quarter payment was a little over $1000 – with an extra $200 from Jason's Return to the Fold success. We discussed the pros and cons of separate NVBA and WBL Unit Game evenings—but noted the advantage of having the Unit Game the same night as the Thursday night start of Sectionals, and then we play the same boards on the same night and can combine. Joe noted that the WBL folks travel more to our games than we do to theirs. The Board voted to maintain Unit Game cost at $16.

9:49: Jay's motion proposing three changes to the "NVBA Constitution & By-Laws" passed. He prefaced that such changes must be formally proposed at least 30 days before the general membership vote. Among other things we clarified but did not formally resolve: a contradiction between the constitution and job descriptions.

Below is the proposed new wording that reflects current practices and does not use language requiring a CPA to examine our financial records (Art V, Sections 3, 9, 12):

1) Said Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the ~~mailing of~~ notices of the Annual Meeting and shall prepare a slate of officers and executive directors to be placed in nomination by it at the Annual Meeting of the members

2) Each Year before the Annual Meeting, the President shall be required to appoint ~~an auditor~~ a volunteer who shall perform appropriate procedures on the Association's financial records and the Treasurer will make a report during the Annual Meeting concerning the condition of the books. The ~~auditor~~ volunteer shall not be an official of the Association.

3) Except as authorized by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall make all disbursements by check or electronic payment. All checks drawn on Association

funds shall bear the signature of the Treasurer, ~~and either~~ or the President or the Secretary ~~or, in an emergency, in the absence of the Treasurer, of the President and the Secretary~~. The Treasurer, and such other officers, members, and employees of the Association as the Board of directors may determine, shall be bonded, at the expense of the Association. Also, the Treasurer will arrange annually for a volunteer to look over all NVBA accounts and assets.

Jay's companion motion to change "Board and Committee chair Position Descriptions 2025", also concerning the proper wording for the "looking over" of our financial records likewise passed. In the discussion Jay noted that these Descriptions require major streamlining—an issue to be addressed at another meeting.

10:15: Jay noted that our Newcomer Book is now printed and has been delivered to our Membership person Eric Poskanzer for proper distribution.

10:16: Jay noted concerning the 0-699 Game that none was held in October and that we need to notify Duncan Wainwright and Dan Morgan when games are scheduled

10:10: Return to the Fold: the latest update stated that three people had lapsed from the Recruiter Club; one with less than 5 mps was "at risk" for the Recruiter Club; twenty-five Guest Members had lapsed; and eighteen with less than 5 mps were "at risk". We wondered if some of these eighteen might be Marty's Army-Navy Club beginner-newcomers. Jason will make contact all the ANC beginners and also ascertain if the Georgetown Univesity student players, whom Jim Sandefur has organized and brings to the ANC game, might wish to join NVBA.

10:13: Jay noted that while we have appointed Dan Morgan to be our Good Will Committee liaison, the District Good Will leadership, with himself only temporarily attempting to manage it, is in flux, which may explain why it has not dispatched any communications for quite a while.

10:15: For the combined NVBA-WBL 100th Anniversary of Contract Bridge celebration game at St. James Episcopal Church (11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac MD) on Saturday November 15, Mark Levine now has this on his website.(https://www.gcsii.com/rockvilledbc/makeareservation.asp?gameday=Saturday&gamedate=11/15/2025&gametime=Afternoon&sched=n). Dan will publicize it; we are supplying cake; and it should be announced at all live games.

10:17: The issue of who is our Education Chair came up next, because Ron Kral has been mistakenly so listed on our webpage. Howard Stevens then stepped forward to resume his formal role as such, and he informed us that his key role has been to list the bridge teachers who so wish to be listed. Dan noted that he has already requested such confirmation of those on our list, and all but three of them have responded. Terry then spoke strongly in favor of our need of a formal mode of welcoming new players and informing them of our community and various possibilities for them, including bridge teachers. Accordongy, as part of our welcoming efforts, Jason's email to the guest members will include something

concerning our bridge teachers, and Terry will devise a welcoming letter for teachers and for our website. Regarding who is actually a teacher, it was noted that there is no single, recognized certification of such. Jason also emphasized the need for us to avoid at all costs any rude and unwelcoming behavior as he has personally witnessed, and we all concurred.

10:31: Jay and Jim Gerding reported on the published results of NVBA-WBL 8-person meeting on November 1 at Jim's house to work out the schedule for 2026. It turns out that our July Chantilly Regional and the November Virginia Beach Region are the only District 6 ones scheduled so far, but the Charlottesville regional may be moved from November to the late August usual metropolitan Baltimore slot. Jim Gerding mentioned that Unit championship games can be team games, and we approved Jim's schedule with Hal Hindman's suggestion that we designate April 2, July 16, and August 20 as 2026 team games. We also discussed of printing the schedule and the costs involved in multiple printings to reflect changes. In the end we agreed that Jim should continue to do what he normally does and deems best: 100 copies at the start of the year and then a few updates of 25-30 copies when needed and thinks best.

10:50: The issue of our participation in charity games was on the table, as the ACBL requests that we hold both a national/general and a local charity game each year. Our own general consensus was that our normal Longest Day, week-long effort on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association toward the end of June should be sufficient.

10:54: We reviewed some of the new actions which individuals had agreed to undertake. Georgette will initiate talks with WBL concerning different nights for unit games; she will also send Jason the list of guest members for following up on their possibly joining and informing them of available teachers. Terry will devise a welcoming letter for anyone who shows interest in playing with or joining us or finding a teacher and for our website. Dan will follow up concerning the three teachers who have not responded, while David will check on Jim Sandefur's leadership status with the Georgetown student players.

As we reviewed the above, Terry raised the issue of an Outreach-Hospitality person in the sense of welcoming newcomers. We lacked the time to follow up on whether the Membership person should handle this.

10:58: Joe Q raised the issue of NVBA website DNS payment of 19.95/yr, and we decided to obtain the minor discount of a five-year purchase.

11:00: We discussed the December 18 Unit Game Christmas Party, which will also be the Membership Meeting, where the vote on the proposed constitutional changes will take place, and for which we must give at least 20-days notice. As for the food and drink, we shall provide chicken—Georgette volunteered—and egg nog, both spiked and non-spiked. For everything else it will be potluck.

11:06: We set December 14 for the next meeting.

11:09: We adjourned.