NVBA Board Meeting May 3, 2026 – Minutes

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: Past President/Intermediate-Novice Program/Regional Tournament Chair Marty Bley; Unit Game Chief Director Jim Gerding; Publicity/Webmaster Ron Kral; Newsletter Liaison/Editor Lucy McCoy; Weekly Email Production Daniel Morgan; Leesburg and Sterling Senior Center Open Games David Rubin; 0-699 Game Duncan Wainwright.

9:35: Georgette called the meeting to order.

9:36: Approval of the draft **Minutes** for our March 22 meeting.

9:37: Approval of the **Treasurer's Reports** for March and April 2026, and of Harry Potter's **Accounting Letter**. Ann then raised the question of the June 25 **Longest Day** game fee in the light of our agreement with St. Andrews to pay 50% of such proceeds and our normal request on this day for a higher donation instead of the normal Unit Game fee. Jay will check with St. Andrews about how the church wishes to handle this special situation where all of our net proceeds are earmarked for charity.

Regarding St. Andrews, several people felt that the room was **too cold** at the April 30 Unit Game and wondered if we had any thermostat access. Jim Gerding informed us that the church has set dates for turning on and off the heating system.

9:46: Joe with Dan's help has set in motion the registration mechanism for the **Life Masters/Non-Life Masters Game** on June 11, for which four have signed up so far. Given our 22-table limit, as we get closer to the game, we shall post the number of remaining places for each category.

We clarified that for all games early signups with **RSVP responses** are preferable to ease the setups, and the RSVP method is posted (www.rsvpbridge.com), but we must accept the fact that some players are likely to continue to respond by email or just show up.

9:57: Regarding the **Newcomer Welcoming Letter** Terry informed us that at Gatlinburg she had met Cindy Shoemaker, the new ACBL President of the Board, who was excited about our planned letter and suggested we include in it ACBL's "Join Now for Free" up to 20 MPs. Marty said that we have been doing this for three years, and that the newcomers have to sign up to get onto our email list. Terry projected that she would have her letter ready in six weeks (mid-June).

10:02: As for the **Board and Committee chair Position Descriptions 2026"** Jay reported that he sent out his first draft on April 28, that two thirds have responded concerning their specific post, and that he hoped that the remaining third would respond within two weeks.

10:03: David had prepared ballots for the **upcoming elections**, but since no one else had been nominated except for Ann for Treasurer, Jay for Vice President, and Joe (Hertz) and Dan (Morgan) for the open slots for Board members, we resolved to present this slate for an up and down vote, 10:07: Concerning the **Annual Meeting** at 6:00p at the May 7 Unit Game, David will supply from his son's Monterey's Pizza, Alexandria: 18 pizzas: 3 cheese, 3 veggie, 6 pepperoni, 6 sausage. Georgette will take care of the two cakes. People will be urged to bring other dishes, but after a discussion we decided not to charge $5 to those who don't bring anything. We shall inform people that they need to bring their own drinks, as we have only one case of soda left over from the last sectional. We deemed the kitchen counter sufficient for serving. Jay and Mark will handle the set up.

10:17 At the meeting Georgette will announce the **Annual Awards**, commencing with the Mini-McKenney, the Ace of Clubs, and the new Life Masters. We then discussed the question of reviving all of our other awards that have not be given since the initial outbreak of Covid. Ron indicated that he has or can access all the need data for awards based on master points. We then voted to reinstate immediately the Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, and Rookie of the Year awards. Ann will bring the trophies. We shall also work on reviving the others (Dave Murray Sportsmanship, Leo Cardillo Volunteer, Margot and Don Hennings Trophy Pairs, Sara Goodwin Attendance, Rush Buckley NLM) in 2027.

10:30: Jay announced: that we signed the **one-year contract with St. Andrews**, signed on April 22, and that he sent copies to several of us, and that Jim had **refurbished the bridgemates and cards**, which are currently sufficient for the sectionals and regional.

10:32: We then discussed the policy of awarding **a free unit game** play as a reward for **rank advancement,** which Ron with his records handles. We agreed that the offer should be valid for six months.

10:41: We next discussed with our special guest David Rubin about the possibility of his **Friday afternoon game in Leesburg**, which normally starts at 1pm, becoming as soon as this coming September a part of our **Sectionals,** where the Friday afternoon game starts at 2pm. Among the issues raised: A) would the Leesburg players be willing to pay $16 per instead of $10 in order to have a chance to win silver points, and if not could there be some special cut rate for them? B) whether we could use the same boards if starting at different times, and if not, would the older Leesburg players be willing to start later and hence be forced to drive home later and in possible heavier traffic or darker conditions than they wished? C) and would there be any stratification coordination issues? David will check with his players before we proceed, but meanwhile Georgette will check with Margot concerning the registration price.

11:20: Review of **Action Items**:

- Jay will check with St Andrews concerning its share of the (June 25) Longest Day registration contributions which are all earmarked for charity.
- Joe will keep the NVBA membership posted one remaining available places for both categories in the Life Masters/Non-Life Masters game.
- All of us will be sure that Jay has our input concerning our Job Description.
- Terry will have her draft Welcoming Letter in shape by mid-June.
- For the Annual Meeting Unit Game:
  - Georgette will take care of the cakes and the meeting agenda
  - David will take care of the pizzas and meeting minutes.
  - Jay with Mark will anchor the setup.

Ron will determine the Annual Award qualifiers and contact rank advancers concerning their free plays.
Ann will bring the Trophies.

11:25: Seeing no need for the **next Board Meeting** to take place before the Chantilly Regional, we decided to hold a dinner meeting at the regional, tentatively June 30 with dinner, and maybe invite the WBL Board to join us for the first 30 minutes.

A side issue then raised was the example of the Rehobeth Regional where numerous **volunteers helped to clean up**, and that we should follow this example at the upcoming Chantilly Regional.

11:38: Georgette adjourned the meeting.