

Burlington Bridge Club, Inc.
Minutes of Board Meeting
November 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

The meeting was called to order on Zoom at 7:00 PM by President Mark Oettinger. Those in attendance were Mark Oettinger, Steve Ackerman, Don Sharp, Donna Hale, and Stuart Showalter.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Friday and Monday games*
 - a. Discussion centered around possible changes to the schedule for the Friday game, which has been attracting only about 3 to 3.5 tables in recent weeks and once just two tables. A recent survey of all BBC members showed no consensus on how to improve attendance, but there was some support for a 12:30 PM start time in lieu of the current 10 AM. Donna will ask the Friday players this week whether they would be willing to try starting at 12:30 on a trial basis. A final decision remains pending.
 - b. It was decided not to make changes to the Monday game because it has been relatively well attended recently.
2. *Incentives to increase attendance*
 - a. It was suggested that we should give a “free play” to first-time attendees, players returning after a considerable absence, and members who recruit new or returning players. It was agreed that the director in charge shall have the right to award free plays on a case-by-case basis. This will be communicated to the directors.
 - b. Mark will appoint a committee to study other ways to increase attendance at all games. Possible committee members are Mary Tierney, Lucy Trombley, Ken Kaleita, and Phil Sharpsteen.
3. *Directors’ pay*
 - a. The club has been paying the directors \$40 per session for quite a while, and it was decided that this figure should be increased to \$50 per session beginning Monday, November 18. The rate for directing BBO games will be \$40.
 - b. The directors received a Christmas bonus last year, and whether to continue that practice was discussed briefly. No final action was taken except to say that the Treasurer may use his discretion to decide.
 - c. In addition, it was decided to increase the fee for setting up boards on the dealing machine from \$5 to \$6 per set.

4. *Etiquette and Zero Tolerance*

The board broke into an executive session to discuss issues relating to compliance with the ACBL's Zero Tolerance policy. No specific action was taken; however, Mark will draft a memo to directors encouraging them to be more active in enforcing this policy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

J. Stuart Showalter

J. Stuart Showalter, Secretary