

Minutes of Annual Meeting  
ACBL District 1  
August 12, 2006

Present:

Leo Weniger, District President ([leowen@primus.ca](mailto:leowen@primus.ca))  
 George Retek, District Director ([bridgeretek@earthlink.net](mailto:bridgeretek@earthlink.net))  
 Heather Peckett, District Secretary ([bridgecat@rogers.com](mailto:bridgecat@rogers.com))  
 Gilbert April, Unit 152 ([gapril@mediom.com](mailto:gapril@mediom.com))  
 Pierre Hamelin, Unit 152 ([pierrehamelin@globetrotter.net](mailto:pierrehamelin@globetrotter.net))  
 Mike Hartop, Unit 230 ([mikehartop@rogers.com](mailto:mikehartop@rogers.com))  
 Jean Castonguay, Unit 151 ([castonguayjean@videotron.ca](mailto:castonguayjean@videotron.ca))  
 Martial Chagnon, Unit 151 ([martialchagnon@hotmail.com](mailto:martialchagnon@hotmail.com))  
 Louise Zicat, Unit 192 ([zicat@primus.ca](mailto:zicat@primus.ca))  
 Jacques Fradette, Unit 192 ([fradette01@videotron.ca](mailto:fradette01@videotron.ca))  
 Ed O'Reilly, Unit 192 ([bridgekingston@sympatico.ca](mailto:bridgekingston@sympatico.ca))  
 John Gillespie, Unit 192 ([ggwhiz@hotmail.com](mailto:ggwhiz@hotmail.com))  
 Peter Clark, District Treasurer ([pclark@scc.ca](mailto:pclark@scc.ca))  
 Zygmunt Marcinski, 1st Alternate Director ([zyg@capital-ideas.ca](mailto:zyg@capital-ideas.ca))

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<p><b>1. Call to Order</b></p> <p>The District President welcomed everyone to the meeting. The agenda will not be followed to allow discussion of the proposal to hold split CanAt-Kingston regionals, as a number of delegates have to leave the meeting early.</p>	
<p><b>2. Proposal to hold Split CanAt-Kingston Regional</b></p> <p>Ed O'Reilly addressed the subject by stating that Kingston wants to split a regional with the CanAt in the odd numbered years. Kingston has informed the Maritimes that \$4,500 (combination of cash and prizes) would be provided to make up for the potential loss of revenue to Fredericton. Kingston would also accommodate the wishes of the Maritimes in terms of what events they wanted to schedule.</p> <p>In response, Mike Hartop spoke on behalf of the Maritime Units who "hold" this regional. He surveyed the members and of the 130 responses he received, only 6 of the replies indicated that they would be in favour of a split regional with Kingston. He noted that the attendance at Halifax was up this year due to a number of professional teams in attendance. If Fredericton were to split its regional, it would not have any chance of increasing its attendance.</p> <p>George Retek spoke that it has been his experience that no District would</p>	

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<p>generally overrule the wishes of the sponsoring Unit. A vote was taken of the delegates and the results were that there would not be a split regional with the CanAt in the odd numbered years..</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes</b>  Moved by Mike Hartop and seconded by John Gillespie that the Minutes be approved as written. Carried.</p>	
<p><b>4. Treasurer's Report</b>  Peter Clark provided copies of the the 2004 and 2005 financial years. He noted that our expenditures approximate \$500 a year, but with anticipated expenditures for District website, we would only have money left for 5 years before we had to levy a fee to the Units. It was moved by Peter Clark and seconded by Mike Hartop that the 2004 and 2005 reports be approved. Carried.</p>	
<p><b>5. Business Arising from the Minutes</b>  <b>a. Doug Heron Award</b>  Unit 194 receives the award due to its 11% increase in membership. Unit 192 had an increase of 4%, representing 50 new members, in 3rd place was Unit 230 with an increase of 3%. Units 151, 152 and 199 all lost members.</p>	
<p><b>b. District Website</b>  Mike Hartop reported that Bill Halliday runs a couple of websites, and might be willing to be a Webmaster for the District. It was noted that most Districts have a website, but yet it was pointed out that we could do without one as long as the District provided each unit with all the information on NAOPs, and GNT events. Mike Hartop estimated that it would cost \$200 for the initial setup and \$50 for each page. Annual cost for a Webmaster would run \$200-\$300. Peter Clark agreed to develop a proposal on what our website should include and speak to Bill Halliday and Gilles who runs the Gatineau-DuParc site and report back to the President. Anyone with ideas is asked to report to Mike Hartop or Peter Clark.</p>	<p>Peter Clark, Leo Weniger  Mike Hartop</p>
<p><b>c. Unit Levy</b>  Two options were brought forward on ways to raise funds for the District. The first was a per capita levy on each Unit and the second was to place a levy on the District regionals. George Retek pointed out that the District does not have the right to place a levy on each Unit. Further discussion was left until next year as the District still has sufficient funds to cover its expenditures.</p>	
<p><b>d. Sanction Process</b>  Mike Hartop reported on the ongoing difficulties working with the ACBL. as he continues to receive conflicting reports. He emphasized that Units should continue to send information to him and he will liaise with the ACBL.</p>	<p>Mike Hartop</p>

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<p><b>6. District Director's Report</b></p> <p>Although the <b>Montreal Gazette</b> has stopped running its tri-weekly bridge column, it has agreed to run feature articles. George Retek reported that a full page on the CanAm was run in the August 6<sup>th</sup> paper.</p> <p>The <b>Insurance policy</b> for Directors and volunteers now covers slander and libel. Our District has sent in its application and each Unit except Unit 199 has applied for coverage.</p> <p>Vancouver has sent an invitation to the WBF to hold the <b>World Championships</b> there in 2010.</p> <p>George Retek pointed out the fact that we have to make further efforts in promoting the <b>GNT events</b>.</p> <p>Jacques Fradette was appointed to the <b>ACBL Goodwill Committee</b>.</p> <p>Our District owes a big thank you for the efforts of Ed O'Reilly, John Gillespie and Mike Hartop for the success of the <b>teaching programs</b> in their Units. Our District has 1/2 of the school children who are in these programs, yet only 4% of the total membership in the ACBL. Last year Julie Greenberg informed the ACBL Board of Directors that teachers would only be paid for 5 classes. This decision was reversed. However, in Chicago this summer at the meeting of the Educational Foundation we learned that ACBL Management did not apply for a teaching grant from the Foundation. Subsequently Management announced that from January 2007, payment will be approved only up to 5 classes per teacher. John Gillespie said that it would be almost impossible to finish the first series of lessons before January 1, 2007 cutoff. He also reported that now there is only one workbook per class instead of one per student. It was moved by Peter Clark and seconded by Jacques Fradette that the President write a letter to the ACBL protesting the changes made to the teaching program. Carried .</p>	<p>Leo Weniger</p>
<p><b>7. Committee Reports</b></p> <p>There was nothing to report from the Judiciary or Education Chairs. The District Charity game will be held November 7, 2006.</p> <p>.</p>	
<p><b>8. NAOP 2006</b></p> <p>The proposed schedule is for the western area to have its District Final on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Montreal at the Gaetan Thibeau bridge club. The Maritimes will hold its A and C finals on October 28/29 in Halifax and its B finals on November 5/6 in Moncton.</p> <p>The ACBL still has not sanctioned the NAOP Distinct finals. The ACBL is having difficulty with the fact that our District has two different sites for our Finals, as well as the fact that one is a 4-session event and the other a 2-</p>	

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<p>session event. Mike and George will liaise with the ACBL so the we can keep the status quo in terms of our planned “finals”. If that is not possible, then there will be one-day events in the Maritimes.</p> <p>It is a condition that each site must have 5 tables in each flight to be eligible for subsidy. The western area gets the subsidy for airfare and hotel and the eastern area gets airfare this year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> place pair will be from that area having the greatest participation in that Flight.</p> <p>John Gillespie noted that it might generate more interest if there was a way the games could be match pointed across the District. Mike Hartop wants a volunteer for the Western area to help with advertising. George Retek said that we should defer further discussion as Jean Castonguay was not present. Unit 192 suggested that the venue for the NAOP Western Final should alternate again between Ottawa and Montreal. John Gillespie and Mike Hartop will look into the possibility of holding the “C” event in Ottawa.</p>	<p>Mike Hartop George Retek</p> <p>John Gillespie Mike Hartop</p>
<p><b>9.GNT 2007/2008</b> The 2007 District Final will be held in conjunction with the Quebec City regional. The super flight and B flight will be held on the Sunday, and the A and C flights will be held on the Monday at the same time as the team game events. The 2008 event will be held in conjunction with the Kingston Regional.</p>	
<p><b>10. Election and Appointment of Officers</b></p> <p>President           Leo Weniger Vice-President     John McAdam Secretary           Heather Peckett Treasurer           Peter Clark Education           John Gillespie Charity              John McAdam Discipline          Martial Chagnon Appeals             Zygmunt Marcinski New Members      Joanne Lynds Special Events/Tournament Coordinator        Mike Hartop Goodwill Committee Chairs                Louise Zicat and Rollande Makarewicz GNT Coordinator   Gilbert April Website Coordinator Peter Clark</p>	
<p><b>11. 2007 Annual Meeting</b> Same time in Montreal next year</p>	
<p><b>12. Meeting was adjourned</b></p>	