

Unit 255 Board of Directors' Meeting

October 9 2024, 4:15 pm

Bridge Centre of Niagara

Agenda



- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1) Welcome and Call to Order | Muriel |
| 2) Review and Approval of Minutes from June 10 2024 | |
| • Actions arising | |
| 3) Treasurer's Report | Kathy |
| • 2024 Year to date | |
| 4) Planning and Budget | Muriel |
| • Tournaments in 2025 | Claude |
| • Education | Steve |
| • Membership Programs | Brian |
| • Club Support | Muriel |
| • Unit Expenses | Kathy |
| 5) Nominations for New Directors | Brian |
| • Suggest individuals to approach for election | |
| • Confirm notice and process for election | |

Next Meeting January 6, 2025 4:15 at BCON

Minutes of Unit 255 meeting June 10, 2024



Present: M Tremblay, B Jones, C Tremblay, S Williams, K Morrison, T Butt, R Sumner,

Muriel called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and welcomed all.

Minutes of Last Meeting - Attached

Moved by Rod “to accept the minutes of the March 18 2024, seconded by Steve. Carried

Action arising: Muriel wrote a report to the Unit Board to inform everyone about the decisions and changes made at the District 2 Board meeting. Report attached

Review of Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes - Attached

Moved by Kathy “to accept the minutes of the May 11 2024 Annual General Meeting, seconded by Brian. Carried

These minutes will be presented to Unit 255 Members at our next AGM.

Update from Tournament Coordinator – Report attached

Chandi’s report for the Spring Sectional (attached) was reviewed at the meeting. The tournament had a lower table count than budgeted for, but was able to generate a profit due to controls on expenses; specifically, no cost for transportation and no cost for prizes. Hospitality also came in under budget.

Claude reported on the status of our scheduled tournaments, a possible conflict with a Toronto I/N Sectional in June 2025, which he is addressing, the benefit to our members for the \$2.00 reduction on table fees and the use of the credit card machine.

Claude presented the budget and flyer for August Sectional. No changes were made.

Treasurer's Report - Attached

Moved by Kathy, seconded by Brian "to accept the financial statement". Carried with a change to the 2024 budget to include an expense for Pianola.

Membership Report - Attached

Brian reported an increase 9 members for Unit 255 since his last report in March.

After a discussion on recognizing the advancement of our members, as presented in the In-Out Report from ACBL, a motion was made as follows: Moved by Kathy and seconded by Steve "to send a congratulation card with 2 free plays for the club that the person normally pays in, to each person who has achieved a new ACBL status". Carried

Education Update - Attached

Steve to contact Ginger Grant to learn about BCON's Education Program. Steve to work with the instructors who want to get financial support from the Unit.

Webmaster report - attached

No major revisions to the website.

Other Business

Brian introduced Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD) course that he, Dena and Ginger will be taking at the NABC in Toronto and asked if Unit 255 would sponsor the three of them at a cost of \$315. Once certified all three will be putting a program schedule in place to introduce people to the wonderful game of bridge.

Moved by Brian, seconded by Kathy "Unit 255 to pay for the LBIAD course for Brian, Dena and Ginger at a cost of \$315. Carried

A discussion followed about the payment of the Club Sanction for giving the course. No motion and no decision were made.

Motions made and approved via Email between the March 18th and June 10 Board Meetings

Support for the AC/BC Team games at BCON – Proposal attached

Muriel moved “that Unit 255 offer BCON \$500 financial support for each special AC/BC team game run quarterly in 2024 based on the purpose of such games as provided in the proposal submit to the Unit 255 Board on March 19, 2024 by Kathy”, second by Brian. Carried by email votes of all board members.

Motion to give Unit 255 Member Benefits at our tournaments

Claude moved that “Unit 255 members attending Niagara tournaments be provided with the following benefit through a discount of \$4 for Regional, \$3 for Open Sectional and \$2 for Restricted Sectional”. Seconded by Muriel; Carried

Proposal for Purchase of Computer for BCON – Proposal Attached

Moved by Brian, seconded by Kathy “that Unit 255 cover the cost of a new computer for BCON including keyboard and mouse” Carried

Proposal for Support for Member Relations at BCON – Proposal Attached

Moved by Brian, seconded by Claude that “Unit 255 provide funding to the BCON Membership Chair to purchase 20 Free Plays to be given to members who assist in bringing members back to the club.” carried

Moved by Claude, seconded by Rod to adjourn the meeting Carried.

Muriel Tremblay
President

UNIT 255 2023 FINANCIALS

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
OPENING BALANCE	47,081.60	48,109.45	50,206.63	49,719.44	49,317.45	47,721.61	46,402.85	46,540.41	44,174.38	43,821.92	43,821.92	43,821.92	
TOTAL IN	1,678.75	2,218.19	29.87	400.56	2,108.59	(230.15)	1,012.51	1,244.47	8.38	-	-	-	
TOTAL OUT	\$ 650.90	121.01	517.06	802.55	3,704.43	1,088.61	874.95	3,610.50	360.84	-	-	-	
BANK BALANCE	48,109.45	50,206.63	49,719.44	49,317.45	47,721.61	46,402.85	46,540.41	44,174.38	43,821.92	43,821.92	43,821.92	43,821.92	
REVENUE													
CBF													-
ACBL MEMBERSHIP	1,647.72												1,647.72
AGM					839.10								839.10
MISC INCOME													-
STAC MAY					253.05								253.05
STAC OCTOBER													-
TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY		2,190.31											2,190.31
TOURNAMENT JUNE					1,000.00	(177.64)							822.36
TOURNAMENT AUGUST						(465.39)	1,000.00	1,231.94					1,766.55
TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER													-
INTEREST INCOME	31.03	27.88	29.87	400.56	16.44	412.88	12.51	12.53	8.38				952.08
TOTAL INCOME	1,678.75	2,218.19	29.87	400.56	2,108.59	(230.15)	1,012.51	1,244.47	8.38	-	-	-	8,471.17
OPERATING EXPENSES													
AUDIT				300.00									300.00
ADMINISTRATION		-	100.00			90.17							190.17
BANK CHARGES	3.90	11.55	1.35	2.55	3.15	175.64	2.55	8.40	3.90				212.99
EDUCATION							315.00	3,548.38					3,863.38
EXPENDIBLE SUPPLIES					761.57	641.80	32.99						1,436.36
CLUB SUPPORT BCON				500.00	756.39		500.00						1,756.39
CLUB SUPPORT NOTL													-
NABC	500.00												500.00
INSURANCE					270.00								270.00
MEMBERS BENEFITS						181.00			190.00				371.00
KIBITIZER	147.00								166.94				313.94
PIANOLA					706.02								706.02
SPECIAL GAMES AGM					1,207.30								1,207.30
SPECIAL ROOKIE GAME													-
STORAGE													-
WEBSITE		109.46	337.74				24.41						471.61
TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT			77.97					53.72					131.69
ZOOM													-
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 650.90	121.01	517.06	802.55	3,704.43	1,088.61	874.95	3,610.50	360.84	-	-	-	11,730.85
Total Income or Loss	\$ 1,027.85	\$ 2,097.18	\$ (487.19)	\$ (401.99)	\$ (1,595.84)	\$ (1,318.76)	137.56	(2,366.03)	(352.46)	-	-	-	\$ (3,259.68)

UNIT 255 2022 ACTUAL AND BUDGET

	Actual	Budget
REVENUE	2024	2024
CBF	-	
ACBL MEMBERSHIP	1,647.72	1700
AGM	839.10	1800
MISC INCOME	-	
STAC MAY	253.05	60
STAC OCTOBER	-	60
TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY	2,190.31	2000
TOURNAMENT JUNE	822.36	1000
TOURNAMENT AUGUST	1,766.55	1000
TOURNAMENT NOVEMBER	-	3000
INTEREST INCOME	952.08	300
	-	
	-	
TOTAL INCOME	8,471.17	10920
OPERATING EXPENSES		
AUDIT	300.00	300
ADMINISTRATION	190.17	200
BANK CHARGES	212.99	100
EDUCATION	3,863.38	750
EXPENDIBLE SUPPLIES	1,436.36	1000
CLUB SUPPORT BCON	1,756.39	800
CLUB SUPPORT NOTL	-	200
NABC	500.00	500
INSURANCE	270.00	260
MEMBERS BENEFIT	371.00	
KIBITZER	313.94	500
PIANOLA	706.02	
SPECIAL GAMES AGM	1,207.30	1500
SPECIAL ROOKIE MASTER	-	150
STORAGE	-	2500
WEBSITE	471.61	600
TOURNAMENT EQUIPMENT	131.69	100
ZOOM	-	
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,730.85	9460
	-	
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEA	(3,259.68)	1460

Unit 255 Tournament Chair Report October 9th, 2024

The attendance and associated financial results of U255 Tournaments for the past few years are shown below. Unit 255 has made \$75,193 from the tournaments since 2018.

Unit 255 Tournaments Summary															
Year	Regional			Sectional											
	November			February			May			August			November		
	Tables	%	\$	Tables	%	\$	Tables	%	\$	Tables	%	\$	Tables	%	\$
2004															
2005															
2017	1,166	6	12,314	355	4	2,345							113	(10)	
2018				252	(29)	(2,391)							97	(14)	1,231
2019	1,129	(3)	20,052	334	33	2,913	198		3,634				125	29	3,936
2020				261	(22)	1,891									
2021			COVID			COVID			COVID						COVID
2022	729	(35)	8,305			COVID	83	(58)	1,728	57	(54)	1,275			
2023	725	(1)	19,071	219	(16)	742	77	(7)	988	65	14	2,021			
2024				221	0	2,190	65	(16)	817	79	21	1,766			
2025															
2026															
2027															
2028															
Total			47,428			5,345			7,167			10,229			5,024
Grand Total			75,193												

Unit 255 Tournament Schedule

In general, U255 will hold a Sectional in February (Open) at the Holiday Inn in St Catharines, June (750), August (750) and November (Open) at NOTL. We hold all our Regional in November and Sectional in February at the Holiday Inn in St Catharines. We have all our tournament sanctions approved up to 2031 inclusive.

We now have in place a contract with the Holiday Inn that covers all our Regionals until 2028 (incl) and our Sectionals until 2028. We were able to negotiate a much better deal for our Sectionals compared to our previous years and we now have a great room (Brock) to hold our hospitality.

You will find below the list of all the tournaments that have been sanctioned for Unit 255.

Tournament Changes

We plan to use Local Directors to as many of our tournaments since we know that there are significant cost savings. This year we will use local directors for our Open Sectional in November. The May and August tournaments are run by local directors. It should be noted that none of our tournaments are **downgraded**.

Budget Changes

The storage space for our equipment has been renewed for 2024 and the total cost for 2024 will be \$2,413.68 an increase of approximately \$100. We should plan for an increase of \$200 for 2025.

I wanted to share a few key updates with you:

- **Convention Cards:** I've ordered two cases of convention cards from Vince Oddy. However, it's worth noting that the prices of certain goods have increased significantly. For example, one case of convention cards now costs the Unit \$500!
- **August Sectional:** Brian Jones and his team did a terrific job organizing the August Sectional. Brian will provide a detailed report on the event, but you can find the financial summary of the August Sectional below.
- **November Sectional:** I've attached the flyer for our upcoming November Sectional, which has been posted on the ACBL website. You will also find the budget for that tournament. Since we ran this tournament back in 2018, the table count is difficult to forecast.
- **Member's Benefit Program:** The \$2 member benefit for the Restricted Sectional has been very well received, with 122 uses in August alone. Since the program's inception, it has been used 238 times. This program will continue until March 2025, but we should review it when we meet in October to plan for 2025.
- **Niagara Bucks:** Players redeemed \$216 worth of Niagara Bucks in August, which is a positive sign. It shows that the Bucks are appreciated and more useful to members compared to other prize options.
- **Sponsor Support:** The financial success of the August tournament would not have been possible without the support of our key sponsor, Jackie Morrison. Her contribution made a significant difference.
- **New Chair Needed:** Please note, we've been informed by Chandi that he no longer wishes to continue as Chair of our June tournament, so we are actively looking for a replacement.
- **Director Course:** Muriel and I conducted a director course on August 24-25, with 12 members participating in total. Eight were new potential directors, while four were current members refreshing their skills. I'm pleased to report that of the eight new potential directors, seven have already completed and passed their exam.
- **Upcoming Sectional:** For the November Sectional we'll provide the members with a \$3 benefit and a \$7 Niagara Bucks as prize.

August 16-18, 2024

08-Oct-2024				Open 2024	
Probability of Table Count	100%	\$US	Budget	Actual	
No. Tables.	65.00		65.00	78.5	
Entry Fee	\$ 15.00				
Student Fee	\$ 10.00				
Exchange Rate	35%				
Sanction Fee per table \$US	\$ 2.50				
Equipment Rental & Supplies					
Per Diem (Local)	\$ 50.00				
Per Diem (ACBL)	\$ 109.45				
Director Fee/session	\$ 200.00				
Associate Director/session	\$ 180.00				
Pre-Dealing	\$ 10.00				
Caddies	\$ 55.00				
Income					
Tables	65.00	78.5	\$ 3,900.00	4,710.00	
Non-ACBL members					
Students. EXTRA FEES					
Free Entries (Volunteers)		5		(75.00)	
Niagara Bucks Redeemed				(216.00)	
Niagara Bucks Member's Benefit				(244.00)	
Free Fill-ins	??			9.00	
Sponsorship			\$ 1,000.00	1,000.00	
Total Income			\$ 4,900.00	5,184.00	
Expenses					
Honorarium \$200/day			\$ 500.00	500.00	
Hospitality Honorarium			\$ -	0.00	
Hospitality Room			\$ -	0.00	
Director fees/session		5	\$ 1,000.00	1,000.00	
Associate Director/session		4	\$ 720.00	720.00	
Accommodation			\$ -		
Transportation			\$ -		
Per Diem (ACBL)			\$ -		
Per diem			\$ -		
A C B L	Directing ACBL (US)	\$ -	\$ -	0.00	
	ACBL sanction fees: \$2.50/tab	\$ 196.25	\$ 219.38	264.94	
	Surcharge (US)	\$ -	\$ 52.99	52.99	
	ACBL duplicated hands (US)	\$ -	\$ -		
	Non Member Fees (US)	\$ -	\$ -	0.00	
	Sub-Total (US)	\$ 196.25			
Venue			\$ 465.38	465.38	
Equipment Rental & Supplies cube Van					
Hand records and Printouts					
Pre-dealing	11	11	\$ 110.00	110.00	
Caddies	0	0	\$ -		
Volunteers (Exclusive of Free Entries)			\$ 60.00		
Prizes			\$ 144.00		
Publicity			\$ 150.00	23.71	
Hospitality			\$ 600.00	230.24	
Entertainment					
Credit Card Charge			\$ 40.00	50.02	
Miscellaneous (see UTC)			\$ 500.00	0.00	
Total Expenses			\$ 4,561.74	3,417.27	
Profit/(Loss)			\$ 338.26	1,766.73	



Niagara Open Sectional November 15-17, 2024

NOTL Community Centre
14 Anderson Lane, Niagara on the Lake, ON
(off Hwy 55/Mississauga Rd)
905-468-4386



Friday November 15, 2024

Open Pairs 2:30pm & 7:00pm
499^{er} Pairs 2:30pm & 7:00pm

Hospitality will follow evening game

Saturday November 16, 2024

Open Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm
499^{er} Pairs 10:00am & 2:30pm

Lunch will be available for purchase
Hospitality will follow afternoon game

Sunday November 17, 2024

Bracketed Teams 10:00am playthrough

30 minutes break after 4th Round
Lunch will be available for purchase

FREE Parking
Fantastic Niagara Hospitality

Tournament Chair:

Cathy Williams 905-979-5063
Email chair@unit255.org

Partnership Chair:

Sheila Langstaff 905-246-3309
Email partnership@unit255.org

Stratification

(Subject to Director's discretion)

Open Pairs 0 to ∞ masterpoints
499^{er} Pairs 0 to 500 masterpoints

General Information

Events can be Playthrough or Single Session
All events will have 3 strata at the Director's discretion.
\$17/player/session for ACBL members
Extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL members
All events stratified by average masterpoint.
Cash (preferred) and Credit Card accepted

Sectional Tournament Sponsors

Denise Chambers



(905) 650-9294

Denise.chambers@aspiralife.ca

Jaclyn Morrison



(905) 937-0962

jac.morrison@iaprivatewealth.ca



Open Sectional Budget & Actual

November 15-17, 2024

08-Oct-2024				
Probability of Table Count		100%	Open 2024	
		\$US	Budget	Actual
No.Tables.	190.00		190.00	0
Entry Fee	\$ 17.00			
Student Fee	\$ 10.00			
Exchange Rate	35%			
Sanction Fee per table \$US	\$ 4.00			
Equipment Rental & Supplies				
Per Diem (Local)	\$ 50.00			
Per Diem (ACBL)	\$ 109.45			
Director Fee/session	\$ 200.00			
Associate Director/session	\$ 180.00			
Pre-Dealing	\$ 10.00			
Caddies	\$ 55.00			
Income				
Tables	190.00	0	\$ 12,920.00	0.00
Non-ACBL members				
Students. EXTRA FEES				
Free Entries (Volunteers)		7		
Niagara Bucks Redeemed				
Niagara Bucks Member's Benefit			(400.00)	
Free Fill-ins				
Sponsorship 1			\$ 3,000.00	
Sponsorship 2				
Total Income			\$ 15,520.00	0.00
Expenses				
Honorarium \$200/day			\$ 600.00	0.00
Hospitality Honorarium			\$ 150.00	0.00
Hospitality Room			\$ 320.00	0.00
Director fees/session			\$ -	0.00
Associate Director/session		17	\$ 3,060.00	
Accommodation			\$ 300.00	
Transportation			\$ 250.00	
Per Diem (ACBL)			\$ 328.35	
Per diem		8	\$ 400.00	
A	Directing ACBL (US)		\$ 1,386.00	\$ 1,871.10
C	ACBL sanction fees: \$3.56/table		\$ -	\$ 1,026.00
B	Surcharge (US)		\$ 190.00	\$ 256.50
L	ACBL duplicated hands (US)		\$ -	\$ -
	Non Member Fees (US)		\$ -	\$ -
	Sub-Total (US)		\$ 1,576.00	0.00
Venue			\$ 806.05	0.00
Equipment Rental & Supplies cube Van			\$ 200.00	
Hand records and Printouts			\$ 100.00	
Pre-dealing	14	0	\$ 140.00	
Caddies	2	0	\$ 110.00	
Volunteers (Exclusive of Free Entries)			\$ 135.00	
Prizes			\$ 1,092.00	
Publicity			\$ 150.00	
Hospitality			\$ 1,200.00	
Entertainment				
Credit Card Charge			\$ 60.00	
Miscellaneous (see UTC)			\$ 500.00	
Total Expenses			\$ 13,055.00	0.00
Profit/(Loss)			\$ 2,465.00	0.00

Unit 255 Tournaments List

	October 8, 2024							
	Month	Date	Tournament	Location	Venue	Sanction	Chair	Comments
2024	February	9-11	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2402324	Cathy	Contract Signed
	February	12-18	STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	May	31-2	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2406308	Chandi	Booked
	July	18-28	NABC	Toronto				
	August	16-18	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2408304	Brian	Booked
	November	15-17	Sectional Open	NOTL	Com Centre	2411309	Cathy	Booked
2025	February	7-9	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2502316	Cathy	Contract Signed
	February	14-20	STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	6-8	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2506303	Chandi	Booked
	August	15-17	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2508302	Brian	Booked
	November	11-16	Regional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2511103	Kathy	Contract Signed
2026	February	13-15	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2602304	Cathy	Contract Signed
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	5-7	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2606302	Chandi	Submitted
	August	14-16	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	2608303	Brian	Submitted
	November	6-8	Sectional Open	NOTL	Com Centre	2611304	Cathy	Submitted
2027	February	19-21	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2702303		Contract Signed
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	4-6	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2706303		Submitted
	August	13-15	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	2708301		Submitted
	November	9-14	Regional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2711101		Contract Signed
2028	February	18-20	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2802303		Contract Signed
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	2-4	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2806301		
	August	18-20	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	2808301		
	November	10-12	Sectional Open	NOTL	Com Centre	2811301		
2029	February	16-18	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2902301		
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	1-3	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	2906301		
	August	17-19	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	2908301		
	November	6-11	Regional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	2911101		
2030	February	15-17	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	3002301		
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	7-9	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	3006301		
	August	16-18	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	3008301		
	November	8-10	Sectional Open	NOTL	Com Centre	3011301		
2031	February	14-16	Sectional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn	3102301		
	February		STAC	CBF	Clubs			
	June	6-8	Sectional 750	NOTL	Com Centre	3106301		
	August	15-17	Sectional 750	St Catharines	BCON	3108301		
	November	4-9	Regional	St Catharines	Holiday Inn			

Educational Report for Unit 255 Board Meeting Oct 9, 2024

Beginner Course

Chandi Jayawardena is currently teaching a beginner course at NOTL on Tuesday mornings, ending on Oct. 22, 2024. There are 9 students enrolled.

Ads were placed in The Lake Report newspaper in August to promote the course – 2 weeks in the paper version and 2 weeks in the online version of the newspaper. The total cost was \$587.60, and the forms have been submitted to the ACBL for 50% reimbursement. Once that money is received, I will submit the balance of the costs to the Unit for payment as previously approved by the board (done via email motion).

Mentoring Workshops

Kathy Morrison is spearheading mentoring workshops on Tuesday afternoons at BCON. Up to 24 boards can be reviewed and discussed, depending on how much time each board takes. On average, there have been 16 to 20 people attending each week.

Marg Dykstra has been assisting and Clyde Paul has also helped a few times in the mentoring.

Competitive Bidding

Sophie Chess started a competitive bidding course at BCON on Sept. 7th - a 9-lesson course held on Saturday mornings for 3 weeks each month. On average, Sophie has had 22 students each week.

Improving Your Bridge

Muriel Tremblay is starting a 6-lesson course on Improving Your Bridge, to be held at BCON on Wednesday mornings, starting Oct. 9.

Upcoming Courses

Chandi is planning to teach a Defensive bridge course sometime in early 2025, as long as his schedule permits.

That is all for this report.

Submitted by Steve Williams

Unit 255 Membership Report

October 2024

Membership numbers as of September 30, 2024 is 301 a decline from my June report of 3 persons. This is largely due to transfers out of 3 persons to Florida.

It should be noted that based on the ACBL QUIP report, our unit is doing well when comparing the rate of change in our members from 12 months past. Our % change is +4.51% compared to a D2 wide reduction of 0.41% and an ACBL wide reduction of 1.94%.

There are no members to call at this moment as there are none that have been listed as delinquent, though several are showing as receiving notices for payment of fees.

Submitted by:

Brian Jones