

**Louisiana Bridge Association
BOD Meeting Minutes
May 2025**

DATE: May 12, 2025

Meeting called to order at: 1:30

Attending: Keenan Romig, John Hurley, Quin Bates, Glenn Barnett, Charles Waldrop, Kathy Logue, Vicki Willis, Mike Russell, Sherrie Goodman and Newt Jackson

Absent: Sid LeBlanc

Minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Finance: KR presented financial reports for April that Sid had already emailed to members. April showed \$4,789 profit. BBO payments have not diminished to as great a degree as feared. At this point, the club shows a profit from the Regional tournament of \$6,655 since we do not have to share the Jefferson Parish rebate with District 10. The exact rebate amount was not yet known at the time of the meeting but has since been confirmed as \$1,990. Overall success of the tournament has to take into account table fees for that week which the club would have made - estimated that an average week has 94 tables; at \$32 per table the amount missed would be \$3,008.

Quin was not yet able to report on the reason for the noticeable increase in coffee expense. He will set up a meeting with Community Coffee and meet with our current rep as well.

Club Manager: Sherrie confirmed/proposed dates for upcoming tournaments:

2025: July 2- July 4- Wes Busy Firecracker

Oct 29 – Oct 31 Dottie Toledano

2026: Jan 8 – Jan 10 – Rosenblum

April 30- May 2 Derby Day (to be renamed John Onstott Derby Day)

2027: Regional -April 12- April 16

NAP qualifying games will be held in two weeks of June, July and August. Tuesday and Wednesday games during those weeks will be 499 games (instead of 299 and 750, respectively) An Open Game will be held on Wednesdays of NAP weeks at 10:00 AM.

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Saturday special games have not had a sufficient number of players committed to attend and are often cancelled. Players need to follow instructions for sign-up in advance if they wish to play. Saturday games are currently scheduled for May 31st as well as June 7th. The Board will review these numbers and decided on the viability of future Saturday games.

Sherrie will update website with a “Breaking News” section to alert members about such things as last-minute game cancellations. Those who had signed up for the past Saturday game were all notified.

Movie being Made at the Club: The club has agreed to rent the use of the building to a crew making a movie based on bridge. The club will be closed June 4,5 and 6 for the filming. The crew will set-up their equipment after completion of games on June 3rd – with the evening game being cancelled.

- The club will get a fee of \$1,250 per day plus set up and dismantle fees for a total of \$4,550.
- Sherrie has a list of clubs in the area with STAC games during that period for players who may want to go. Carpooling can be arranged. Sherrie is also looking into alternative local play arrangements for our members.
- The movie will need players as Extras for those three days and for other days when filming will be at the Jung Hotel. Extras will be paid and fed for their participation. Someone from the crew will come to the club to speak to all who are interested. The date is tentatively set as May 20th.
- LBA will be part of a publicity campaign when film is released and we will have a screening at the club.

Maintenance: The JP Fire Marshal inspected the club and said that the fire sprinkler system was overdue for its 5-year testing. Charles surveyed providers and got quotes from two. The board authorized that he contracts with Coastal to do the required pipe inspection and pressure test for \$1,750.

A small roof leak was discovered in the janitor’s closet. Newt authorized Steve Castjohn to do a patch job of flashing for a cost of \$200.

F2F Outreach Committee proposals: Mike reported on the several proposals made by the F2F committee (George Jeansonne, Richard Jeansonne, Raphael Velazquez, Mary Belcher, Carol Jambon, Sue Guarisco, Greg Browne with Glenn Barnett and Mike Russell as BOD reps). Their proposals:

- Annual membership fee
- Kibitzer/TV Ads
- Free Play for recruiting players

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- Transition game for players with less than 5 points.
- Recruiting members who are only playing online
- Setting up a Legacy Gift program

The financial situation of the club is better than was anticipated at end of '24 and beginning of '25. This easing has relieved some of the need for the board to implement immediate and significant changes in the operations of the club.

After discussing each proposal from the committee, the following actions were decided:

- Membership fee – postpone any action until Fall when financial situation becomes clearer.
- Kibitzer/TV Ads – move forward with this under the condition that the Board can recruit several members to take responsibility for running and maintaining the program.
- Free play for recruiting members – The Board rejected this proposal.
- Transition Game: This proposal was accepted with decision to have Kathy Plauche implement such a game on Thursday mornings.
- Recruiting On-line players – This approach has been taken since Covid on other occasions with limited results. The Board does not want to pursue this again.
- Legacy Gift – The Board is in favor of developing a program for Legacy giving. A follow-up will be needed to move this forward. Keenan asked that it be deferred until next month's meeting.

Thanks to the members of the committee for their time and valued input.

Some members have complained to Board members about excessive amounts of perfume worn by members that aggravate allergies. A notice will be published in the Kibitzer and a sign posted asking that members respect their fellow players and refrain from strong fragrances when they come to the club.

A cleanup of the janitor's closet was done in April. Keenan and Mike will do a reorganization/ decluttering of the kitchen supply closet. Vicki and Glenn will do the same for the Board room.

Keenan reported that Beth Bayer has ordered several different cup holder types. Apparently, none are suitable. The cup holders we now have are apparently from Bridge Buddy and Keenan will order a sufficient number to have them on all tables. They are reasonably priced at \$16 per table.

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Suggestion Box: Two items: 1. A housekeeping complaint about the Ladies Room that will be given to Jackie Madden to address. 2. A complaint about a low number of boards being played in a recent Wednesday game. The board agreed that we should try to play 24 boards if possible; Keenan will address in the Kibitzer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40.