

Louisiana Bridge Association
BOD Meeting Minutes
September 2025

DATE: September 8, 2025

Meeting called to order at: 1:30

Attending: Glenn Barnett, Charles Waldrop, Kathy Logue, Vicki Willis, Mike Russell, Sid LeBlanc, Sherrie Goodman and Newt Jackson.

Kathy Plauche attending for her presentation.

Absent: Keenan Romig, John Hurley, Beth Bayer (via telephone)

Minutes from August meeting were approved

Education Cmte (Part 1) – Kathy Plauche presented proposed educational program. The current Beginner Bridge series has started and KP has 30 attendees in both the daytime and nighttime sessions. 6 are repeating in each session with 24 new to the club. She has reverted to the 12-session program instead of the 8 & 8 format that was tried and deemed not as effective.

As a follow-on to Beginner Bridge, Lowen will present a “*Play of the Hand*” series starting in October. These sessions will utilize the boards/topics KP presented in the prior class and focus on strategies for hand play. There will be 7 sessions.

A new series “*Beyond Basics*” will utilize the open 1:30 Wednesday afternoon slot and be taught by Lowen. This will be lectures with no boards and concentrate on Standard American. Prior to committing to this session the committee did a survey and had a positive response of 35 people interested.

Lil Range has agreed to organize an *8 is Enough* game for December 6. Two rounds would be played with the hope that there would be enough time for a third round.

Wayne has expressed interest in an October/November series for the vacant Saturday morning slot. The topic is not yet finalized, but he doesn’t believe that 2/1 could be covered in that short of a period. So, a 2/1 class will be set for a future date.

Planning for 2026 has started. One idea is to bring back a short lesson that preceded the Wednesday 750 lesson in the past. Volunteers would be recruited to make these short lessons. Membership would be polled in December to suggest topics for these lessons. *(NOTE: in later follow-up discussion it was suggested that the Tuesday 299 game would be a more appropriate place for these lessons, (a) lower point players need it more and (b) with an Open game starting soon after it would be easier to recruit volunteers who would already be coming to the club).*

Board members were asked to be mentors at the Sept 15 Chat game at 1:30. Sid, Kathy and Newt agreed to serve if needed.

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Sherrie expressed desire for a mentored Swiss game in September or October and has volunteered to organize that event.

Finance: There was (at the time) an unexplained anomaly in the P&L calculation which showed a large increase in F2F revenues despite a below average daily F2F headcount. It was subsequently cleared up as the cash flow from Iype's lesson was included in F2F revenue. Sid is redoing the monthly statements with an expectation that there will be a small loss for the month.

We did not have a BBO report last month, and an estimate was made. The net profit for BBO was close, but there were two issues. Sanction fees split between BBO and F2F was off \$740. Since we did not have the report, we did not know this. F2F had a big, unexplained, increase in sanction fees. This will result in a \$740 loss in F2F in August. This resulted in an increase in the amount due to other clubs and a decrease in sanction fees for a net zero for BBO. So, August will show a loss of \$740 in F2F and no net impact on BBO. Also, there was a payment of \$726 for May directors fees for BBO which went thru July. Moving that out of July, this also increases the payments to other clubs by \$726, which will be a \$726 loss in BBO in August,

The result is that while the BBO profits were close, the total P&L was off about \$1500, which is a reduction in the profit this month.

ACBL started paying clubs for their participation in BBO clubhouse in April. The first month check was \$738, Subsequent months have been \$100 or a bit higher and August was \$22. Sid has emailed ACBL to ask about this.

Education Cmte (Part 2): Discussion of proposed policy (Attached at end of minutes) for how instructors will be paid for classes that take place at the club. The discussions centered on two main issues (1) should payment come to the club and then paid to instructors and whether a 1099 would be required and (2) is there a difference between the open Saturday versus Wednesday time slots.

Final decision, as confirmed by motion and approval by majority voting, was that if a time slot was available, i.e., there was not a sanctioned game scheduled, it could be utilized for classes and that payment to instructors would be uniformly treated as per adopted policy (see attached).

Nominating Committee; Kathy Logue has agreed to chair.

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Discipline: A make-up for members who signed up but missed one of Iype's classes will be given the opportunity to attend a make-up class Sept 20th. Only those who missed a class will be contacted about this option.

Club Manager:

BBO will be increasing fees. Sherrie is exploring and testing other non-BBO platforms for the Swiss games. BBO is not only platform that can offer sanctioned ACBL games.

Maintenance: Annual A/C inspection (\$700/yr) was done 9/8/25. In 2023 4 of 6 units were replaced and are working well. One older unit (10 yrs) is operating well now but showing signs of problems. The other unit (20+ yrs) is in critical condition and not worth cost of repairing. If needed, the building could function with 5 units for some time period but it is clear that at least one, if not both old units will need to be replaced in foreseeable future.

Suggestion Box; Empty

Meeting adjourned: 2:50

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Russell, Recording Secretary

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Attachment: Club Policy for Payment Classes Held at the Club.

1. Beginner Bridge Classes: - KP teaching. (Currently Tuesdays)
 - a. Cost for series subject to BOD approval.
 - b. Payment for the series is made directly to KP at beginning of series in lump sum.
 - a. Income (self-reported) and expenses are tracked and reported to the BOD on a semi-annual basis with surplus funds turned over to LBA less funds needed to cover initial supply costs for following session.
2. Follow-up Sessions from Beginner Bridge (Friday mornings)
 - a. Cost for series subject to BOD approval.
 - b. Payment for the series made directly to the instructor (the process followed in the past). The instructor would be responsible for reimbursements to the club for applicable fees and costs on a timely basis.
3. All other classes at club:
 - a. Subject to BOD guidelines for when classes can be taught at the club.
 - b. Cost for series would be set by the instructor, subject to BOD approval.
 - c. Lesson payments would be made directly to the instructor (the process followed in the past). The instructor would be responsible for any reimbursements to the club for applicable fees and costs on a timely basis.

Note: Alternatively, other classes at the club could be structured so that payments are made to LBA; instructor has the option of a lump sum series charge or a per-lesson fee to be assessed.

Instructor is paid based on total amount collected, less applicable fees/costs for use of the club's facilities: currently \$2/student attending each lesson and any credit card surcharges, charges for making boards, publicity expenses, or any other payments deemed necessary and agreed to in advance by both parties.

Incremental payments will be made to the instructor by the LBA based on the number of lessons and will be subject to 1099 reporting.