

Unit 356 Board Meeting

January 15, 2025

Minutes

Present: Jack Shoemaker, Steve Reynolds, George Harger, Sheri Morris, and David Pearlman, Suzanne Greenwood, Anita Froehlich, and Doug Cain.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM.

The minutes of the October 16 and November 13, 2024, board meetings, and November 25, 2024, annual meeting, were approved.

Reports

Steve presented a brief update on District 17.

George presented the Treasurer report: In 2024 the Unit made \$8,200, down from \$9,800 in 2023. Revenue came primarily from tournament fees. There were new expenditures in 2024 for food and table subsidies of around \$3,400. We are getting less money from ACBL, and costs at the church venue have gone up. We expect to spend the same amounts for 2025 as for 2024.

We lost \$350 on January 2025 tournament. Table count was down, especially from out-of-towners. There was also a tournament the weekend of 1/18 in Mesa.

The Board also discussed the playing format and the preferences of lower-level and higher-level players.

George then discussed end-of-month team games in the clubs, noting that turnout seems to be good for these.

Anita presented the Membership report: no new members. Total membership for December was 887.

Tournaments: Jack noted that we have received feedback that some players don't like the 9 AM start time. It was noted that (on the other hand) Saddlebrooke players don't like a later start because they don't want to have to drive home in the dark. There was also a discussion of alternative venues; of complaints about the chairs; and of complaints about having so few brackets.

For the 2026 Spring Regional, Jack said that we have a contract from the University Marriott for April 6-11. He and George will review it with the Regional Committee. There was a brief discussion of alternatives.

New business

Anita discussed the patch to be used for tournaments and comments were made on the proposed design. Anita will circulate another design.

There was a discussion of a possible Intermediate and Newcomer sectional in 2025, at a club. George will look for a date at Northwest; David will discuss with Adobe.

There will be a Unit 356 STaC week in April. The Board agreed that our share of table fees could be rebated to the clubs, who would be expected to provide food.

Doug agreed to look at ideas for moving partnership matching online.

There was a general discussion about how to promote our tournaments, including a discussion of creating/using a database of prior attendees.

There was a general discussion about how to recruit new people into the Unit and how to encourage renewals. David agreed to raise this issue with the Adobe Board.

There was a general discussion of upcoming club Unit games/director needs.

Officers

Officers of the 2025 Board were appointed: Jack Shoemaker (President); David Pearlman (Vice President); George Harger (Treasurer); Doug Cain (Partnership); Sheri Morris (Membership); Suzanne Greenwood (Tournament Chair); and Mike Barry (Secretary).

On motion by Mike, seconded by David, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Michael Barry', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Michael Barry, Secretary