

Unit 356 Board Meeting

October 22, 2025

Minutes

The meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order at 10:00 AM.

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

The minutes of the September 17, 2025, board meeting were approved.

Reports

Steve provided the District update, noting that Taos will be back in the rotation for 2026 in the Fall.

George presented the Treasurer report. We have received the membership payment for the year-to-date fees (including the final quarter). We received \$4,700, with net income (so far) of \$1,200 (membership/tournament fees minus expenses). He reported that the Unit continues to have a surplus of \$97,000. We made \$26 on the Northwest sectional (attendance was down), NW made \$1,000. We expect to offer this tournament to Adobe next year, if they have capacity. Jack said he has submitted the sanction for this tournament. There is no location at this time/no director assigned. Jack has talked to Adobe officials; Penny (the Adobe manager) will talk to the Adobe board about this.

Anita presented the Membership report. She reported that there were 6 new members in September. She estimated there have been 20 new members so far this year.

Jack discussed ACBL changes to the 555 program, with Sheri indicating that email renewals are ineffective, and phone calls will be required instead. The meeting highlighted a 10% annual decline in membership and emphasized the need to engage instructors and clubs to drive new membership. The board discussed developing an education curriculum to attract new members and of working with clubs to identify and encourage inactive members to return to face-to-face play, with Doug, Mike, and Sheri to follow up.

Jack reviewed the guest member program.

Tournaments

Jack discussed logistics for the November 20 NLM regional/sectional. Suzanne identified a need for volunteers for setup. Doug discussed the issue of food; the board agreed a taco bar was a good idea.

The board also discussed a Unit game at Streams on December 6 that will be holiday themed.

Jack said that he will create a Unit calendar for 2026.

Jack noted that there will be a board election in November. Jack won't be running. Steve indicated that he would like to be on the board. Suzanne is not sure. George will stay on board.

The next meeting will be on November 22, 2025, between tournament sessions.

On motion duly seconded the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends towards the upper right corner of the page.

Michael Barry, Secretary