

Canadian Bridge Federation – Board of Directors Meeting

Date: July 20, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM ET

Location: Online Meeting (Zoom)

ATTENDEES	Title	
Shelley Burns	President, Director Zone VI	Present
Allan Callard	Vice-President, Director - Zone I	Present
Xavier Combey	Director - Zone II	Present (left at 8:05 p.m.)
Terry Du	Director - Zone III	Present
Marielle Decelles-Brentnall	Director - Zone IV	Present
Lois Matton	Treasurer, Director - Zone V	Present (joined at 6:35 p.m.)
Paul Janicki	Director at Large	Present
Sondra Blank	Executive Administrator	Present
Louise Mascolo	Webmaster	Present
Danny Miles	Guest: JR Coordinator	joined at 7:41 p.m. and left at 7:54 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Shelley Burns called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM Eastern Time. The meeting was conducted via zoom video conference.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 2026 Board Meeting Minutes (Penticton).

- Moved by: Allan Callard
- Seconded by: Shelley Burns
- Result: Carried
- **Motion 26-31**

3. RATIFICATION OF EMAIL MOTIONS

The following motions, previously passed by email vote, were ratified by the Board:

Motion 26-28 – Erin Berry Fund

- That \$3,250 be paid out of the Erin Berry Trust Fund to support these six youth (Annie Zhang, Weizhuo (Casper Gu), Zachariah Willie, William Liu, Rudy Cheng, and Nina Ke), \$500 to each with an additional \$250 to Casper Gu.
- Moved by: Lois Matton | Seconded by: Terry Du | **Carried**

Motion 26-29 – 2026 World Bridge Series

- That in recognition of the unique nature of the 2026 World Bridge Series, the Board adopts the following interpretations and exceptions for the 2026 Canadian representatives:
 1. **Team Composition:** As the 2026 World Bridge Series is a transnational event, qualifying teams will not be required to augment to six players. Teams may represent Canada with four, five or six players.
- **Entry Fee Reimbursement:** The CBF will reimburse the cost of the Teams Package for eligible team members upon registration. Players who choose to purchase the All Inclusive Package may apply for reimbursement of the additional cost after the event. The CBF will reimburse the difference between the Teams Package and the All Inclusive Package upon proof that the player participated in one or more of the additional World Bridge Series events included in the All Inclusive Package.
- Moved by: Allan Callard | Seconded by: Xavier Combey | **Carried**
(Paul Janicki abstained)

Motion 26-30 – 2026 World Bridge Series Augmentation

- That Gur Baykal and Yimei Cao be approved as additions to the Canadian Senior Team and Women Team, and that Jingyuan Gong be approved as an addition to the Canadian Women's Team under the special-circumstances provision of the Conditions of Contest.
- Moved by: Shelley Burns | Seconded by: Xavier Combey | **Carried**
(Marielle Decelles-Brentnall abstained)

4. UPDATE ON EVENTS

4a. Maple Leaf Games

The Friday game has returned to 7:00 p.m. ET. Attendance increased to seven and eight tables in the two most recent games. Board members were encouraged to participate and promote the game.

4b. Celebrity Auction

- Recruitment and promotion are underway, with the auction expected to open in the fall.
- The auction spreadsheet will continue to track confirmed participants, videos and follow-up responsibilities.
- The committee will assess an auction plug-in hosted on the CBF website and decide whether bidding should be in Canadian or U.S. dollars.

4c. 2027 Canadian Championships

The Board supported using Canadian directors where practical. Dominique Guay has tentatively agreed to direct three round robins (confirmation pending); Trish Malazdrewicz will direct the Mixed event (January 8–10).

Motion 26-32: That 2027 Canadian Championship entry fees be increased as follows — Round Robin (per day): CNTC-A, CWTC, CMTC, CSTC: from \$280 to \$320; CNTC-B from \$220 to \$240; CNTC-C from \$160 to \$180. Playoffs (per day): CNTC-A, CWTC, CMTC, CSTC: from \$360 to \$450; CNTC-B from \$260 to \$300; CNTC-C from \$200 to \$240.

- Moved by: Shelley Burns
- Seconded by: Marielle Decelles-Brentnall
- Result: **Carried**

The Board agreed that third-place matches will be required and charged in advance. The Open third-place match will be one day. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded. These requirements are to be clearly included in the Conditions of Contest.

The in-person Board meetings will begin Monday, May 17, 2027, at a time to be determined, and continue all day Tuesday. Travel arrangements will be coordinated later.

4d. 2026 Fall Team League

- Regular season: October 1–November 26, 2026, at 8:00 p.m. ET, using the existing format.
- A protected 0–1,500 masterpoint division will be offered if entries permit.
- Other teams will be divided into balanced divisions based on team masterpoint averages.
- Sondra and Lois will work together on moving event registration and payments to WooCommerce/Stripe to improve administration.

4e. 2026 Canadian Mixed Pairs Championship (CMPC)

The Board approved a new online (RealBridge) transnational-style event, to be held October 24–25. After discussion of match points vs. IMPs, the Board agreed to run the inaugural event as mixed match points (leaving the door open to add an open IMP pairs event in a future year).

- The event will be open to CBF members only
- Entry fee: \$40 per player per day (\$160 for the two-day event)
- Awards: Masterpoints and medals
- No prequalification is required for this event

Action: *Shelley will consult with Trish & Shireen regarding directing, movement and capacity.*

Action: *Xavier and the CoC committee to prepare the CoC for this event*

Action: *Sondra to create an ad for the September Bridge Canada Magazine issue.*

5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

CBFEF – Educational Foundation Proposal

The officers held a side meeting and decided the Board is unable to continue its commitment to this project with Gim Ong for this year; Gim has been notified. The initiative is on hold and should not appear on future agendas until further notice, pending a possible revisit next year.

Junior Committee

Danny Miles outlined priorities to recruit and develop juniors, expand bridge in schools and universities, mentor emerging players, prepare teams for championships and establish fair selection processes. Juniors had a strong showing at the Minneapolis NABC, including a first-place Youth Swiss Teams finish and individual pairs trophies; several university teams (Alberta, Queen's, Western) also competed in NABC collegiate events.

- The Junior Committee will develop a funding model and allocation policy for future international participation, recognizing that CBF funding will not necessarily cover all expenses.
- The committee will review supervision, room-sharing and travel requirements in the existing youth policy and recommend updates.
- The committee will explore grant opportunities through the ACBL Educational Foundation and other sources.

6. TREASURER REPORTS

Financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2026 were presented

6.1 Financial Statements

- Cash remained approximately \$55,000, with the term deposit unchanged. Additional funds are still to be considered for a GIC.
- Accounts receivable and payable have declined. General Fund, International Fund and Junior Fund balances were reported at approximately \$103,000, \$52,000 and \$117,000 respectively.
- The General Fund showed an approximately \$15,000 year-to-date surplus against an \$18,000 budgeted annual surplus.
- Bridge Week revenue exceeded the adjusted budget, while costs remained below budget. Some expenses remain outstanding.
- For Maple Leaf Games club sharing, the Board supported communicating earnings to clubs, explaining how players identify a club, and using a \$10 payment threshold. Shelley and Lois will consult Shireen and/or Andy before issuing the communication.

7. IT AND WEBSITE

Sondra presented a mock-up of the new website landing page, developed with Itsik Romano of Definite Image.

- Once the platform is updated, WooCommerce, Stripe, Ultimate Auctions and other plug-ins can be tested.
- A policy for external links and website advertising will need to be developed as we are receiving many requests to place links on our website.
- The Board responded enthusiastically to the mock-ups and directed the Executive Administrator to move forward on the website project.

8. DISCOUNT POLICIES

This item was deferred to a future meeting for formal policy documentation. In the interim, it was clarified that Board members and juniors are entitled to discounts / free play in some CBF events;

9. ACTION ITEMS FOLLOW-UP

- Tony Reus has agreed to continue as Discipline & Ethics Chair
- Mini-Richmond Awards: Winners in all approved categories, through 1,500 masterpoints will receive digital certificates. Pins remain available on request. Sondra will complete and distribute the certificates and email addresses to the Zone Directors.
- Charitable donations: Each Zone Director will recommend a registered charity. Lois will resend the applicable information to the Board.
- Elections: The call for nominations must go out by August 1. Allan will draft the notice for Sondra to distribute.
- Hall of Fame: Marielle will circulate Nader Hanna's response to Barry Senenskys proposal once it is received.
- Canada-Mexico Playoff arrangements will be discussed at the Aug Board meeting.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

All items deferred to the August Board meeting

- Naming conventions for teams and pairs.
- Richmond Trophy Eligibility (RE: Jonathan Steinberg)
- Late applications (Erin Berry)
- Links on CBF website

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

Motion	Moved / Seconded	Result
26-31: Approve June minutes	Callard / Burn	Carried
26-28: Ratify email motion: That \$3,250 be paid from the Erin Berry Trust Fund to support six youth players: \$500 each to Annie Zhang, Weizhuo (Casper) Gu, Zachariah Willie, William Liu, Rudy Cheng, and Nina Ke, plus an additional \$250 to Casper Gu.	Matton / Du	Ratified (carried by email)
26-29: Ratify email motion: That Canadian qualifying teams may consist of four to six players and that the CBF reimburse eligible players' Teams Package fees, plus the additional All Inclusive Package cost upon proof of participation in another included event.	Callard / Combey	Ratified (carried by email)
26-30: Ratify email motion: That Gur Baykal and Yimei Cao be approved as additions to the Canadian Senior Team and Women Team, and that Jingyuan Gong be approved as an addition to the Canadian Women's Team under the special-circumstances provision of the Conditions of Contest.	Burns / Combey	Ratified (carried by email)
26-32: 2027 Canadian Championship Entry Fees: That the 2027 Canadian Championship entry fees be increased as presented for all Round Robin and Playoff events	Burns / Decelles-Brentnall	Carried
26-33: To adjourn the meeting	Callard / Janicki	Carried

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

Action	Owner	Due / Target	Completed
Add the third-place match requirements, advance payment and medal awards to the 2027 Canadian Championships Conditions of Contest.	Xavier / Committee	Ongoing	
Consult RealBridge for capacity for the Canadian Mixed Pairs Championship.	Shelley	ASAP	
Prepare the Conditions of Contest for the Canadian Mixed Pairs Championship.	Xavier / Committee	ASAP	
Create an advertisement for the Canadian Mixed Pairs Championship for the September issue of <i>Bridge Canada</i> .	Sondra	Aug 15	
Develop a funding model and allocation policy for international participation	Jr. committee	Ongoing	
Consult RealBridge regarding Maple Leaf Games club-sharing payments before communicating the details to clubs.	Shelley / Lois	ASAP	
Develop a policy governing external links and advertising on the CBF website	Board	Ongoing	
Formally document the discount policies at a future meeting.	Board	Aug 15	
Complete and distribute the Mini-Richmond digital certificates and provide the recipients email addresses to the Directors.	Sondra	Next meeting	
Recommend a registered charity for their respective zones.	Zone Directors	Next meeting	
Draft and distribute the call for nominations	Allan / Sondra	ASAP	July 2026

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2026, at 6:00 PM Eastern.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion 26-33: to adjourn moved by Allan Callard, seconded by Paul Janicki.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM Eastern Time.

_____ Shelley Burns, President Date: _____	_____ Sondra Blank, Executive Administrator Date: _____
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