



**MINUTES of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the
Canadian Bridge Federation Incorporated held at the
Delta Hotels Burnaby Conference Centre, Burnaby, BC May 1-3, 2019**

PRESENT: Wade Short - Zone I Director & Vice-President
Hugues Boisvert - Zone II Director
Nader Hanna - Zone III Director
Neil Kimelman - Zone IV Director & President
Jerry Mamer - Zone V Director
Angela Fenton - Zone VI Director
Ina Demme - Executive Assistant, Executive Secretary
Cathy Walsh -- Treasurer
Julie Smith – invited guest - ACBL District Director – May 2nd

NOTE: Throughout these minutes, the following abbreviations are used:

CBF will refer to the Canadian Bridge Federation Incorporated
ACBL will refer to the American Contract Bridge League
CBC will refer to the Canadian Bridge Championships
CNTC will refer to the Canadian National Team Championship with A, B and C designating the flights
CMTC will refer to the Canadian Mixed Team Championship
CWTC will refer to the Canadian Women’s Team Championship
COPC will refer to the Canadian Open Pairs Championship
CSTC will refer to the Canadian Senior Team Championship
CIPC will refer to the Canadian Imp Pairs Championship
COC will refer to the Canadian Olympic Committee
AGM will refer to the Annual General Membership meeting of the CBF
WBF will refer to the World Bridge Federation
BC will refer to the publication Bridge Canada
DIC will refer to director-in-charge
NPC will refer to non-playing captains

Nader Hanna, as CBF President, assumed the Chair and Ina Demme, as Executive Secretary, was directed to act as Secretary of the meeting. **The Chairperson declared a quorum present and the meeting to be regularly constituted.**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & AGENDA

At 8:34 a.m. the President called the meeting to order and welcomed Wade Short and Hugues Boisvert to the Board and their first Board of Directors meeting.

2.0 CORPORATE MATTERS

2.1 Confirmation of Elections

Ina Demme reported the following election results for 2018 elections.

- *Neil Kimelman - Zone IV Term: ends December 31, 2021 - re-elected by acclamation*
- *Wade Short - Zone I Term: ends December 31, 2021 - elected by acclamation*
- *Hugues Boisvert Zone II Term: ends December 31, 2022 – elected in Zone II in special election*

MOTION 19-1: The elections of Wade Short, Hugues Boisvert and Neil Kimelman are ratified by the Board.

MOVED by Nader Hanna

SECONDED by Angela Fenton
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2.2 Upcoming Elections

- *This fall an election will be conducted in Zones V. Jerry Mamer is willing to serve another term.*
- *Nominations are being accepted until September 30, 2019.*
- *Voting procedures were discussed and it was decided to allow email voting by the Unit Boards. Also currently the weighting of votes is by ACBL membership. The Board felt that weighting by CBF membership would be more appropriate.*

MOTION 19-2: That email voting by Unit Boards for CBF Board of Director candidates be allowed.

MOVED by Wade Short.

SECONDED by Angela Fenton.

CARRIED.

MOTION 19-3: That the weighting of votes cast by Unit Boards be based on CBF membership statistics.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

2.3 Annual General Membership Meeting

- *The 2018 meeting was held on May 27, 2018 in Montreal, QC at the 2018 Canadian Bridge Championships.*
- *The minutes of the 2018 AGM have been reviewed by the Board.*
- *2019 AGM is set for Sunday morning, May 5th, 2019*

2.4 Actions done by Email Vote

MOTION 19-4: That email motions 2018/2019 as presented in Appendix A of these minutes, are approved.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Angela Fenton.

CARRIED.

3.0 BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS REVIEW

Nader provided an update on a variety of topics:

- Membership decrease this year is less than in previous years. Membership is only down by 171. Our membership is under 5,000 which is just over 25% of Canadian ACBL members.
- Our junior program is very successful and every Board member is encouraged to find junior players in their Zone. We have 137 junior members across Canada.
- Why is there apathy about Bridge Canada which is a high quality publication. Each month that the reminder about the new magazine goes out, there are increasing numbers of unsubscribes. It could be due to other free resources like the Mark Horton magazine.
- Our average age is 68 and the ACBL's is over 70.

- Membership process is working smoothly, we send out renewal reminders each month. There were problems with direct invoicing and this was stopped until we solve the issues.

Promotions Committee --Neil provided an update:

- Need a program to encourage new players and get people to work with us to promote CBF
- Need a budget to do more
- Do we need a marketing manager? Someone involved with bridge, to do all these things that we don't have the staff or knowledge to do, such as social media presence, marketing ideas etc. We will advertise for a marketing person and they can suggest details of what their job will be and what the cost would be. The overall goal would be to get more members.
- Social media, we have a small presence
- More French content and presence in Quebec.
- The Board discussed creating a document with benefits of the CBF and distributing this.
- The possibility of the CBF separating from the ACBL and becoming more independent was discussed. This was studied in depth around 2001. At the time the conclusion was that we did not have systems to replace what the ACBL has. We now have some systems, but we would need to have cooperation from the ACBL in particular regarding masterpoints . In order for the ACBL to agree to this, it would need to have financial benefits or savings for the ACBL.
- Nader investigated the possibility of CBF affiliated clubs in the Toronto area and did not find anyone interested.
- We need to show clubs and units that it is to their benefit to support the CBF.
- Send a reminder to all Canadians of what the CBF does.
- Promotions Committee to review and update proposed Mission Statement.

Funbridge Update – Neil provided an update:

- Neil has been having discussions with Funbridge regarding a partnership where we promote them and they promote us. They currently run NBO tournaments where revenues are split with the NBO. In France they also run tournaments for clubs. They have a blog area where news can be posted. We will start with the reciprocal arrangement and when we are ready for more we can expand to clubs or tournaments.

MOTION 19-5: To move forward with the partnership with Funbridge.

MOVED by Neil Kimelman.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

4.0 TREASURER REPORT

4.1 Financial Statements

- Cathy Walsh gave the Treasurer's Report.
- The CBF lost \$14,453 in 2018 and we are forecasting higher losses in 2019. Primary reasons are declining membership and increased costs of the CBC.
- Cathy suggested that the per diem of \$35 for dinner that the Board members receive is low.

MOTION 19-6: To raise the per diem dinner amount to \$50.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.
SECONDED by Hugues Boisvert.
CARRIED.

- The ACBL offered to pay by etransfer, but we prefer to receive and US dollar payments directly and not have them convert it, so this was turned down.
- The ACBL tournament print out is not good. It is very difficult to pick out the numbers that we need. Cathy designed a new report and sent it to the ACBL but they were not in favour. We should ask Canadian District directors to bring the issue up at the ACBL Board meeting.
- The weather was terrible during the STaC week and we had lower table counts than usual. It was suggested that we find out if we can have an additional STaC.
- The CIBC is very difficult to deal with. Cathy will look into changing to the Royal Bank.
- Our investment income was down because of a bad month in December.

MOTION 19-7: To approve the audited 2018 financial statements.

MOVED by Neil Kimelman.
SECONDED by Hugues Boisvert.
CARRIED.

5.0 INVESTMENT REPORT

- The market was depressed in December 2018, however the CBF portfolio is conservative and we have 3.15% annual return on investments with Investors Group
- We started with 321,000 at the beginning of the year and this decreased to 318,000 at the end of December due to the market downturn.

6.0 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

2018 Review

- We provided great hospitality and had a successful tournament.

2019 Update

- Hospitality on 21st floor – first Friday there will be a welcome gathering. Logistical problem because elevators locked. Need rotation of people to let people upstairs.
- Expect to spend \$22,000 on hospitality.
- There will be stickers with CBF logo.
- Screens:
 - Gray will bring the screens in
 - Problems with the screens – cost to ship to Vancouver, total for storage, shipping, boxing is approx. 5000.
 - If CBC was in a consistent location, this would cut down on shipping costs.
 - Original cost was \$100 per screen. Can we build more cheaply? Maybe disposable. In China they are made out of fabric, but cost to create was exorbitant.
- Set up volunteers – Ina, Nader, Jerry.
- Screens – when is next western tournament? Maybe Saskatoon in 2022.
- We will honour the ACBL junior rate of \$10

- Eugene Chan is producing a newsletter which will promote the CBF.
- Championship committee – Nader Hanna, Neil Kimelman, Jerry Mamer, Angela Fenton if needed
- Disciplinary/ Zero Tolerance committee— Nader Hanna, Neil Kimelman, Jerry Mamer, Angela Fenton if needed

Future CBC

- Toronto, St. Catharines or Niagara Falls are possibilities for 2020. Since the new schedule spans 2 weekends it is difficult.
- Nader presented a proposed schedule which starts on Wednesday continues through to second Sunday. The new schedule would cut down on overlap between events allowing players to more easily play in multiple events.
- We will try the new schedule in 2020 if we can find a hotel.
- Trophies were discussed. We do not have an opportunity to display, and storing them is difficult. Therefore, there will not be new trophies.
- CBF Directors should be the ones to present medals. We will show medal presentations on the schedule and on hospitality schedule.
- Future CBCs – Toronto 2020, 2023, Montreal 2021, 2024 – Hugues to look into, Saskatoon 2022, maybe Mt. St. Vincent in 2025. Target end of summer to get feedback.
- We need to increase entry fees. We now charge \$180 per team per day. NABC charges \$50 US per person per day plus screen charges.

MOTION 19-8: That the entry fee for team events be \$240 per team per day.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

MOTION 19-9: That the entry fee for the COPC and CIPC be \$50 per pair per session.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Neil Kimelman.

CARRIED.

MOTION 19-10: That the prizes for the CIPC be for 1st and 2nd place, \$600 and \$300 respectively.

MOVED by Angela Fenton.

SECONDED by Hugues Boisvert.

CARRIED.

Suggested Changes

- Tablets for playing are being used on a test basis by the WBF
- Benefits are no duplication is required, it is easy to put on vugraph and caddies and screens would no longer be needed.
- We could try it at one table each round of the round robin of the different team events and collect feedback from the players.

MOTION 19-11: To authorize Nader to obtain the required equipment to test tablets at the 2020 CBC.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.
SECONDED by Wade Short.
CARRIED.

- This year we went to General and Supplementary Conditions of Contest.
- Since players get masterpoints so quickly, they pass through the flight B level quickly.

MOTION 19-12: . To change the flight B masterpoint limit to 3500 from 2500.

MOVED by Angela Fenton.
SECONDED by Neil Kimelman.
CARRIED. Against Nader Hanna, Wade Short

- Suggestion that we post the number of teams registered for different events so people know how many are registered.
- Expand FAQ so that all topics are covered

7.0 INTERNATIONAL MATTERS

- The Mexico playoff will be held in Toronto June 29-30. Mexico is only sending a Womens' team.
- Earlier this year the reorganization of WBF Zone 2 was completed with the creation of the North American Bridge Federation (NABF). John Carruthers and Nader Hanna are the CBF representatives on the 9 member NABF board of directors. The NABF elects the 5 zone representatives to the WBF Executive Council. Nader Hanna was nominated by the CBF board to represent the CBF and was elected as one of the 5 zone representatives.

8.0 ACBL REPORT – Julie Smith presented the ACBL report

- Money and declining membership is a big issue. The Hawaii NABC lost 700,000 dollars. There is an ongoing argument with the Hilton, about what is owed.
- Looking at changing model for planning NABC. Not so tied to selling room nights.
- Lawsuits that were settled, cost money.
- It will be mandatory by 2020 that clubs use ACBL live for clubs. It will publish results and replace ACBLscore.
- Acbl will get more information about club players.
- Tournament estimator – new software. What events to hold when to hold them, how many directors are needed etc.
- Aces and Knives, is a new film, dealing with the cheating issue. The teams played with players who cheated gave back their titles. This is a problem because in ACBL bylaws you can't vacate a title. How to fill it? More than half tainted since 2014/2015
- Reorganization of governing structure of ACBL. There is a task force, looking into. Instead of 25 member Board of Directors, perhaps appoint people who have skills that are needed to run ACBL. 7 member group, council – who chooses and oversee. Oversee would be Senate (4 members from each district for 100 total)
- Temporary membership, will be stopped. Free temporary memberships to people who want to play. In exchange for email.

9.0 JUNIOR BRIDGE

- Next year we will hopefully have a junior trial. Last time was more than 10 years ago. Possible times are during the CBC or during March break.
- Youngsters and kids will have a team but we don't have enough players to have a junior team, so we'll explore the possibility of a girls team.
- The WBF has an online world championship for under 16 and juniors under 26. It is sometimes hard to organize matches against other countries because of the time difference (most of the teams are from Europe and far east). Canada has 2 teams, Danny Miles is the NPC for the junior team, Michael Zhang for the kids team.
- Our players are doing extremely well. At the end of 2018 in the ACBL Youth under 19 masterpoint race, 3 of the top 5 were Canadians from our program.

10.0 BRIDGE CANADA

- Very successful. We have articles for all levels of players. Content has been added for new players.
- Starting in October, we will start the Great Canadian Bidding contest to get more people reading. We will offer a cash prize for members.
- We will post quizzes with answers in magazine.

MOTION 19-13: To approve a budget of \$21,569 for 2019 for Bridge Canada.

MOVED by Hugues Boisvert.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

11.0 WEBSITE

- Louise Mascolo is our webmaster. She also does other translation work and splits her costs between website and miscellaneous translation.

12.0 CBF REGIONAL

- No regional will be held in 2019
- In 2020 the CBF Regional will be held in September in St. Catharines, Ontario

13.0 ONLINE CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The wording in the Conditions of Contest will change to say "one" substitute is allowed in a match, instead of "a" substitute.
- If championship grows we need to reconsider format. If we have 24 or more teams there will be 2 divisions.
- With prior permission of the commissioner teams may be granted extensions. If you play late you get a penalty. It would be best to not make exceptions.
- September 30th is the deadline for registration.

14.0 STaC

- Bad weather during STaC week caused there to be lower numbers of tables.

15.0 ROOKIE MASTER GAMES

- Clubs are having trouble finding rookies. They have suggested moving rookie points up to 100.
- Costs are increasing with postage rates being more expensive. We removed the fee of \$6 per table to increase participation. However, the participation seems higher because clubs are able to hold the game any time during the day rather than due to the fee.
- Ron Bishop will be providing the analysis for the fall Rookie Master game.

MOTION 19-14: To change the definition of Rookie for rookie master games to 100 masterpoints.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

MOTION 19-15: To reinstate the \$6 per table fee for Rookie Master games.

MOVED by Jerry Mamer.

SECONDED by Neil Kimelman.

CARRIED.

16.0 HALL OF FAME

- Nader Hanna and Robert Lebi are being inducted this week.
- Criteria for selection was discussed. How are expats treated? Primary basis should be a distinguished Canadian who is held in high regard.
- The nominee should have played in Canada at some point and should have been a CBF member at some point.

17.0 LONGEST DAY

- Arrangements are ongoing. We should recognize the club that does the most.

18.0 2019 & 2020 BUDGET

- Budgets were reviewed. Since we lost money in 2018 and are forecasted to lose money in 2019 and 2020, we need to increase our dues.
- International subsidies will be a total pool of \$60,000 divided by the number of teams attending up to a maximum of \$20,000 per team.

MOTION 19-16: To increase the CBF dues to \$20 per year effective January 1, 2020.

MOVED by Angela Fenton.

SECONDED by Nader Hanna.

CARRIED.

MOTION 19-17: To approve the 2019/2020 budgets.

MOVED by Nader Hanna.

**SECONDED by Hugues Boisvert.
CARRIED.**

19.0 CBF OFFICE

- The CBF locker address is 10345 Keele St., Maple
- We bought 2 projectors in 2014 and one is no longer working. It is not cost effective to fix it as it will be more expensive than purchasing a replacement. We will wait and see if needed.
- Of the 4 laptops that we purchased for time clocks or vugraph 2 are working. We will wait until next year to review whether more are required.
- Conference calls – schedule monthly, second Monday of every month 7pm Eastern. If we have regular conference calls, we can reduce annual meeting to 2 days from 3.

20.0 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Ina Demme took over the chair to conduct the elections.

20.1 Election of Officers

Motion 19-18: Nader Hanna be elected as CBF President for the 2019/2020 term.

**MOVED by Hugues Boisvert
SECONDED by Neil Kimelman
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion 19-19: Neil Kimelman be elected as CBF Vice President for the 2019/2020 term.

**MOVED by Nader Hanna
SECONDED by Wade Short
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion 19-20: Ina Demme be elected as Executive Secretary for the 2019/2020 term.

**MOVED by Nader Hanna
SECONDED by Angela Fenton
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion 19-21: Cathy Walsh be elected as Treasurer for the 2019/2020 term.

**MOVED by Jerry Mamer
SECONDED by Wade Short
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

20.2 Committees & Assignments

Committees:

<i>Canadian Bridge Championships</i>	<i>Ina Demme, Nader Hanna</i>
<i>National Event Co-ordinator</i>	<i>Ina Demme</i>
<i>Publication</i>	<i>Neil Kimelman, Jude Goodwin, Francine Cimon</i>
<i>International Events & Mexico</i>	<i>Nader Hanna</i>
<i>Francophone Services</i>	<i>Hugues Boisvert</i>
<i>Junior Development</i>	<i>Nader Hanna</i>

<i>Trophies</i>	<i>Ina Demme</i>
<i>Website</i>	<i>Nader Hanna, Hugues Boisvert</i>
<i>Investment & Finance</i>	<i>Jerry Mamer, Nader Hanna, Cathy Walsh</i>
<i>Membership & Promotion</i>	<i>Cathy Walsh, Neil Kimelman, Wade Short, Hugues Boisvert</i>
<i>Ethics Committee</i>	<i>Angela Fenton</i>

Board Assignments:

<i>Translations</i>	<i>Hugues Boisvert</i>
<i>Director Meeting</i>	<i>Ina Demme, Nader Hanna</i>
<i>CBF Regional</i>	<i>2020 Ina Demme, Nader Hanna</i>
<i>Conditions of Contest</i>	<i>Nader Hanna</i>
<i>Hall of Fame</i>	<i>Jerry Mamer</i>
<i>Uniforms</i>	<i>Ina Demme</i>

21.0 NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

Motion 19-22: The next meeting of the CBF Board of Directors will be the 2 days preceding the 2020 CBC.

**MOVED by Wade Short
SECONDED by Angela Fenton
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Motion 19-23: The meeting be adjourned at 1:03pm May 3, 2019

**MOVED by Angela Fenton
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Appendix A – Email Motions 2018/2019

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INCORPORATED
LA FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE INCORPORÉE DE BRIDGE
1 Pietro Dr. Maple, Ont. L6A 3J4
Phone: (416) 706-8550 Fax: (905) 832-7184
E-mail: canbridge@rogers.com

**2018/2019 Email Motions of the Board of Directors of
the Canadian Bridge Federation**

MOTION 1819 -01 To ratify the Canadian Senior team playing in the Rand Senior Teams in Orlando as Nader Hanna, John Rayner, John Carruthers, Michael Roche.

Moved by Marc Lachapelle

Seconded by Neil Kimelman

Carried: June 26, 2018

Motion 1819-02: To ratify the Open team as Paul Thurston, Martin Caley, Jeff Smith, John Zaluski.

Moved by Neil Kimelman

Seconded by Jerry Mamer

Carried: July 10, 2018

Motion 1819-03: The CBF board ratifies the addition of Dan Jacob and Jurek Czyzowicz to the Open team.

Moved by Jerry Mamer

Seconded by Nader Hanna

Carried: August 28, 2018

Motion 1819-04: To award a Special Recognition award to Jane Youngberg for her tireless work in the Vancouver area promoting bridge and bringing new players to the game.

Moved by Angela Fenton

Seconded by Neil Kimelman

Carried September 14, 2018