

Minutes of Regular Zoom Meeting of ACBL Unit 507 Board

November 18, 2025 5:00 PM

The regular monthly meeting was started early to accommodate a District 21 Board meeting later in the evening which three of our Board members would be attending. In **attendance** at the outset of the virtual meeting were: President Mich Ravera, Vice-President Stu Goodgold, Secretary Ray Yuenger, Treasurer Karen O'Connell, and Board members Joanne Cornbleet, Mischel Postas, Milind Girkar, Judy Fisher, and Lynn Bartz. Lynn Yokel joined as a guest of the President at 5:04. Betsy Wagner, who said she'd be arriving late, joined at 5:40.

Regarding the **minutes** of the October meeting, Stu questioned the report of a statement by Mich about the desirability of holding our sectional near in time to a local regional. Mich and Ray confirmed that the statement was accurately reported. The minutes were approved as circulated.

The Treasurer was thanked for the **financial report**.

Regarding the **holiday party**, Stu arranged to pick up a room key from Lynn Yokel. 30 pairs have signed up. Lynn Bartz agreed to send out another promotional blast. Stu said we want accurate sign ups so we know how much food to buy. Mich said he'd make coffee. Lynn Y mentioned the landlord's strong preference that we use and wash their coffee cups and plates by hand instead of using disposable paper cups, paper plates, and plastic utensils. Ray suggested bringing our own trash bags for paper plates and carrying them away. Lynn Y said not to use their dumpster. Members agreed to take away trash bags. Lynn Y and Mich said they would help wash up during the game. Stu said someone should bring ice. Milind volunteered. Stu said he'd bring a small cooler, not his biggest one.

For **sectional planning**, Ray said we have sanctions for two weekends for 2026. He doesn't know the directors. Lynn Bartz said she could have flyers ready by the weekend. Ray said he would find out if we need new sanctions now that our sectionals have been shortened by a day.

From the **Unit Presidents' meeting**, Mich reported that 507 was one of about ten units with positive growth. The ACBL will contact guest members, as should Units. References to 2019 are being removed from the 555 program. Clubs may authorize suspended players to play face-to-face. Membership reports will have a new look. Joanne said the guest information is not being provided in a useful format. Milind pointed out that the date of joining isn't available. Stu mentioned that it would be nice to know their masterpoint totals. Joanne wants the first and last names in separate fields.

Joanne reported that the Unit's **total membership** is 486. We have 48 guests. Joanne has contacted 14 at-risk or newly lapsed members. It was the last day for comments on Joanne's member welcome booklet. She'll review all the comments she received and then revise and recirculate the booklet. Joanne wants to separate out the planned Ask

a Teacher program from any new forum on our website for general bridge questions. Joanne has enlisted five of our teachers, who tend to have ongoing relationships with their students, to answer questions about the boards in the Wednesday game. Joanne will do a write-up about the Teacher program for Milind to post on the website.

Mich and Ray announced that Milind is going to replace Ray in posting the minutes and the President's columns to the **website**. Mischel asked to update the website's descriptions of the positions of board members. Milind made the requested changes during the meeting with feedback from the entire Board. Ray said he had reported the new positions to the ACBL. Ray said he doesn't need to be identified as sectional coordinator on the website, though it may facilitate him obtaining tournament sanctions from the ACBL. Ray explained that he, Lynn Bartz, and Milind all have administrative access to the Unit website, while Lynn is the website manager.

Ray announced that the **District 21 Board** was holding a meeting later the same evening to review the District's budget for 2026 which Lynn B prepared as D21 Treasurer. Also, D21 is currently holding elections for the new positions of Area Directors in two of the five areas of D21. Ray and Stu explained that the D21 Board is reducing from about 40 members to 15 to 17.

Returning to the topic of **Unit membership**, Lynn B. mentioned one member who recently passed away and another couple who isn't expected to return to bridge. There was discussion about the Unit's authority to report to the ACBL the death of a member.

For **continuing business**, Lynn Y reported that jumbo playing cards had arrived for Terry Ahern to examine. Because Terry liked them, Ken Imboden went ahead and purchased four sets of them. Stu pointed out that was not what the prior Board vote had authorized. Ray noted that the remaining issue in light of this development was whether the Board would reimburse Ken. Ray moved that Ken be reimbursed. Mischel seconded the motion. It passed without opposition.

Joanne had a suggestion for **Mich's column**. Stu mentioned a special newcomer event at the Nationals. Judy said that they were being notified by the ACBL.

Details of the **"Ask Me" proposal** were discussed. Ray asked if players should be offering their opponents advice at the end of the round. Stu suggested that new players should be introduced at the beginning of the game so other players will be nice to them. Lynn B said she has invited players to the post-game lunches at Aqui but no one has showed up.

The **next meeting** was scheduled for December 9 although Lynn B and Judy will be unavailable. The meeting adjourned after 55 minutes.

Submitted by

--Ray Yuenger