

ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes October 21, 2022

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by President Arti Bhargava on Friday, October 21, at 3:30 pm., at the Terra Linda Community Center, San Rafael, CA.

Present: Tracey Bauer, Arti Bhargava, Shirley Ehrlich, Melanie Haddad, Judy Leedy, Steve Levinson, Vince Mueller, Bob Thomson

Absent: Cindy Blum, Ann Schweichler

1. **Minutes. MOTION** (Judy/ Arti): That the Minutes of the Unit 508 Board of Directors Meeting of September 9, 2022, be approved as distributed. Carried.

2. **President's Report.**
 - a. **Correspondent for D21 Diamond in the Ruff unit report:** This is the summary of unit events that we submit to the District 21 Diamond in the Ruff newsletter published electronically every two months. A replacement writer for Gail Haar must be found. In the absence of a volunteer, it was decided that the reports will be prepared by each Board member on a rotating basis. Arti did the first one, and Melanie did the second one. Tracey has agreed to do the next one which will be due in early December.

 - b. **Holiday party:** We agreed to hold the Unit's Holiday party on December 11. It will be a toned-down affair compared to our previous holiday parties; we'll have a bar, serve heavy hors d'oeuvres, and have a sampling of cookies/desserts. The party will be free for unit members, but \$10 for others. Finally, we will solicit donations for Homeward Bound. Shirley graciously agreed to take charge of the party, and Peggy said she will help Shirley manage the event.

 - c. **New Year's Unit Game:** We agreed that it would be nice to start the year with a festive Unit Game. We'll serve refreshments and snacks. Arti will hand out the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Club awards from the past couple of years. Peggy will direct the game. Arti will be in charge of this event. Ann will obtain a sanction for this unit game.

 - d. **Education.** Tabled.

3. **Mentoring.** Jim Cohen asked if his students could enter the mentoring program. It was agreed they can with the stipulation that the student joins the ACBL and our Unit.

4. **Unit Website.** Arti and Melanie will work with Nancy Fox to update and improve our website.

5. **Blast Coordinator.** Nothing to report.

6. **2023 Unit Sectional.** Nothing to report.

7. **Treasurer.** Steve reported that \$500 has been allocated to Cindy Blum for the mentoring program.

8. **Unit Coordinator.** Tabled.

9. **Social Media**. Tracey requested that anything of importance sent to Judy for the blast, should concurrently be sent to her and to Bob Thomson.
10. **Membership**. It was agreed that we need to update our membership directory; most folks agreed that the paper format seems outdated. Shirley will form her own committee to come up with potential solutions for a digital format (tentatively, present ideas in the February Board meeting). Shirley reported that new Unit members are now receiving a welcome letter and a coupon for a free play.
11. **D21 Report**. Melanie reported that attendance at the Santa Clara Regional was 47% of what it was in 2019. District 21 will incur a penalty for failure to meet its room guarantee obligation to the Hyatt. The size of the penalty is still being negotiated, but it will be less than the penalty incurred for the Monterey Regional in January 2022. Room reservations at the bridge rate for the 2023 Monterey Regional are filling fast. The District is seeking nominations for 3 open spots to represent District 21 on the Advisory Council of the ACBL. Nominations must be submitted to Jackie Ortiz by December 15, 2022.
12. **Any Other Business**. Melanie will cancel the Unit's Zoom account.

The next board meeting will take place in person on Friday, November 18, 2022, at 3:30 pm following play at Terra Linda. If Board members are unable to attend in person, they may attend via conference call.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Haddad
Secretary