

ACBL UNIT 508 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, Minutes June 23, 2026

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Carolyn Farren on Tuesday, June 23, at 3:06 pm, at the home of Pat Irwin, 2 Narragansett Cove, San Rafael

Present: Carolyn Farren, John Loftus, Pat Irwin, Steve Levinson, Mary Warner, Shirley Ehrlich, and new Board Members: Gary Grande, Jim Boswell, Tess Offord, Chris Ohland, and Anita Sinclair,

Minutes: The Board approved the minutes of Unit 508 Board of Directors Meeting of April 14, 2026

Financial Report: Steve reported that the Unit is financially secure with approximately \$18,000 in the bank. The Unit earned about a \$2,800 net profit on the 2026 Spring Sectional, pending a bill from the District for Calvin's expenses.

Carolyn asked all members to give a brief overview of their background or involvement. Susan Sundberg had to decline the board position due to family conflicts.

- Pat Irwin-on the board for two years. She is the Unit Secretary. Lives in San Rafael
- Mary Warner – Blast newsletter editor and member of the board. Lives in Corte Madera
- Gary Grande - lives in Mill Valley. Retired from his San Francisco auto repair business.
- Jim Boswell – lives in San Anselmo, retired from his wine barrel business.
- John Loftus – Vice President. Retired anesthesiologist. Lives in Larkspur
- Tess Offord – lives in San Anselmo. Has her own aesthetic business in Larkspur.
- Shirley Ehrlich – retired software engineer. Lives in Mill Valley. On board for six years. Has run the Spring Fling Sectionals for the past several years, as well as the Robert Todd special event.
- Steve Levinson – has been Treasurer for six years. Lives in San Rafael.

- Anita Sinclair – born in Sweden, worked for the Swedish State Dept.
- Chris Ohland – lives in San Rafael, is a chemist and is currently a director of Technical Services.
- Carolyn Farren – has been President for four years. Lives in Larkspur. Coordinates with District 21 and other Units on mutual promotions. Oversees all activities.

John Loftus reported that the remaining name badges that were not picked up at the June 6 Awards party are in a box at Terra Linda. Mary to add that to the Blast.

Description of Board Activities. There are three main Activities:

1. Spring Fling Sectional-gives silver points
2. June awards party
3. December Holiday party and Fund Raiser for Homeward Bound. No table fees. Election of new Board Members will be moved to December due to Bylaws change.

Other options:

Unit games are available. ACBL gives us 24 sanctions per year which provide extra masterpoints and some might be colored points. Henry has been using the sanctions. Formerly Peggy held Unit games on Sundays but they were discontinued due to low table count. Henry has occasional Saturday unit games.

Guest speaker programs: In the past we've had Larry Cohen and another time Robert Todd come to Marin. Their fees typically run about \$10, 000. Arti Bhargava has connections that might make a speaker event possible in the future.

Membership: ACBL pays us a small stipend when members sign up or renew membership.

Mentor Program. Tess Offord and Chris Ohland offered to develop a Mentorship program to encourage the beginning students from Henry's teaching classes to join ACBL and come to Terra Linda games. Mary has

occasionally helped at some of the students' casual games as a mentor with positive feedback.

Carolyn indicated we need to have volunteers to head up the Spring Fling, the June Awards Party, and the December Holiday Party. Tess offered Keith Offord to head the Holiday Party and fund raiser.

Jim and Gary asked Shirley to give the details involved for the Spring Fling. There is a detailed outline of all the steps involved. The last two years the Sectional has been successfully held at Marin Catholic High School in Kentfield. The school cannot solidify a date until the Fall term begins. Then the date must be cleared with ACBL and the other units in District 15. A flyer with details must be created and sent to ACBL who assigns a director. Steve has keys to our locker where supplies are kept, e.g. the boards that Henry arranges with his machine the day before play begins. Tables are delivered by Calvin.

Tess suggested there is a need to develop another night game to accommodate bridge players who still work and cannot attend day games.

Pat said there is a problem with accessibility with our Domain name. Chris and Tess offered to look into the issue and come up with a solution.

Pat has been working on our new Directory and will be helped by Shirley to finalize it.

Next Meeting: July 21, 4 – 5:30 pm on Zoom. Shirley to send invite.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Warner, Unit 508