

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Larry Alexander-President/Treasurer
Cary Rodgers- Vice President
Judy Knox –Secretary

Cecile Skaggs
Tom Dixon
Ed Davis

The meeting was called to order by Larry Alexander at 11:30am. The minutes previously emailed by Judy Knox were approved except for changing Coley McGinnis' speech from the MAL meeting to the Unit 144 meeting. This correction will be made ASAP.

Treasurer's Report – Larry stated that there is \$4,957.56 in the checking account and \$20,000 in Savings. The Treasurer's report was approved.

1. Old Business

- Tunica Regional- Ed Davis, Tournament Chair
- Ed has put down a \$5,000 deposit. A discussion was held regarding the Section top awards and registration gifts for Tunica. Ed has bought Glasses for Section top awards. These are insulated glasses with only the diamond, club, hart and spades on each glass. This would be about \$8,000. If we buy these at one time they last for 4 years and will be cheaper by buying in bulk. They are dishwasher safe. He has purchased Delta Dealin' pins for registration gifts. There was much discussion regarding this issue. We can pay for these items after the tournament.
- Room pick up is good. Caddies are hired. The same caddies that we had last year were hired for this year. We have Fingers and the same people as last year. Donna Touliatos is in charge of registration. Judy Knox is in charge of the Partnership desk. Ed is trying to cut back expenses everywhere he can.
- We feel like the new schedule will be better for the tournament this year. Ed wants to feed people between the morning and afternoon games. Ed is trying to turn around the decline in attendance for Tunica. He thinks the schedule change will help.

2. Nate Silverstein – Judy Knox

- The fliers were sent out and Charlie approved the fliers. The start times have changed to 30 minutes earlier for each game.
- We owe Hilton about \$4,400 for the last Sky Rocket tournament. They gave us a discount for \$260 due to running out of potato salad.
- We discussed what we can do to spice up Nate Silverstein coming up in Jan. 2014. We discussed sending out more fliers this time and trying to bump up advertising the tournament more. We talked about how we were down by 80 tables for the Sky Rocket Sectional in July. Larry wanted to send engraved invitations to all the surrounding areas in Arkansas, MS and TN.
- We need to have a formal advertising program for the 5 or 6 close markets. Mail to president of each club or club manager. Call and tell them it is coming and ask them to post it for us.
- We have all heard that some people will not come back due to some bad experiences at our Sectional Tournaments. We will send fliers to everybody who is going to tournaments between now and January. A mass email will be sent out and fliers will be sent by people to take fliers to these tournaments. 25 to 30 fliers will be mailed out to each of these clubs in this area. A motion was made by Tom Dixon to mail 30/50 fliers to each club in the area. The motion passed. Nashville, Little Rock and Hot Springs will be sent 50 fliers each.
- We will have several hundred fliers at the registration desk in Tunica and ask the registration people to give out Nate Silverstein fliers and Sky Rocket Sectional fliers along with their registration gifts. I will also do this at the Partnership desk. Ed said he will make sure the fliers are given out at the registration desk. Larry volunteered to use his printer to make color copies of the fliers for no extra charge. It will be his donation. I will send Larry the corrected fliers and he will make color copies for us to take to Tunica and mail to the surrounding areas.

3. Sky rocket – Judy Knox

- We are trying to change the date of the Sky Rocket Tournament to July 31 – Aug. 3, 2014. We have finally got the Hilton to agree to change the date. The Unit Board was asked if they wanted Judy to change the Tournament date to July 31 – Aug. 3, 2014 or do you want me to cancel? It will cost at least \$1500 to cancel. The 4th of July last year, was an actual play date. When the 4th is in the middle of the playing dates it will be bad for attendance. Tom Dixon made a motion to change the July Tournament date to July 31- Aug. 3, 2014 instead of canceling it and paying a \$1500 cancellation fee. Ed said he has looked at the Marriott for future tournaments and the parking/traffic will be horrible getting out of the parking lot. The parking is limited and would be very difficult to get out.
- We will do the same things for the Sky Rocket fliers to advertise as we are doing for the Nate Silverstein tournaments in 2014. We just need to work harder to advertise and get out these fliers and to think of anything we can to add some more spice and interest in these sectional tournaments. We need to use Terry and Janice Van Dyke to help advertise these tournaments in Nashville.

Unit 144-TN Bridge Association
Board of Director's Minutes
August 10, 2013

4. Amending the Unit 144 By Laws- Tom Dixon

- Tom has re-done the old by laws and sent them all out to the Unit Board Members for approval.
- Much discussion was held regarding various changes to be made to the new by laws. We will all go home and do the editing and send to Tom for corrections.
- We also discussed the upcoming election for Unit Board Members.
- Tom will make corrections to date and send the bylaws back out to the Unit Board members for more editing and approval.
- Cecile Skaggs, Cary Rodgers and Tom Dixon are all up for re-election this year. Judy Knox, Larry Alexander and Ed Davis will not run for re-election until next year. Cary Rodgers said she will run for the Unit Board again. Cecile and Tom are not sure if they will run for re-election this year.

The MA Lightman Board has taken over the 3rd Saturday for their meetings at the Club. Larry suggested we have our Board meetings on the Second Saturdays. We will have the next Unit 144 Board meeting on October 12, 2013 at 10:30 am.

December 7, 2013 will be the date of our next Annual Meeting. Letters need to be out by November 7, 2013. The nominating committee will have 3 weeks to get the slate together. This issue will be discussed in more detail at the next Board Meeting in October.

Cecile Skaggs made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Cary Rodgers. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Knox
Judy Knox, Secretary Unit 144