

Unit 205
Annual General Meeting
January 21, 2025

Attending: Nicci Beninger, Charles Chartier, Neal Hayden, Janet Mitchell, Joan Montgomery, Donnie Van Rooy, Cindy Thomson, Jeane Treloar, Mary Ann White

Minutes (2024): Approved

Treasurer's Report (Attached):

- CD is a cashier's check
- Profitable in 2024
- *Question*, 10,000 charity donation – do we want to do that. Answer: was one time donation. More in President's message on this.
- Financials approved

President's Message (Attached):

- PV – not on the beach, how important?
 - o Not important
 - o There to play bridge
 - o Restaurants are important
 - o Beach not critical
 - o Restaurant onsite for lunch
- Question regarding Tequila Tournament and monies received ... Answer, Not a Unit project. Between Federation and the Club.
- No more questions or comments

Election of Officers

- Slate of Candidates
 - o Mary Ann White
 - o Nicci Beninger
 - o Neal Hayden
 - o Joan Montgomery
- Nominations from the floor, none
- Slate Approved

Comments & Questions

- Unit Games summer – low attendance, should we cancel? Answer, keep game, but will consider no potluck lunch

Minutes (2025): Approved

Meeting Adjourned

Treasurer's Report

2024 Unit 205 Balance Sheet		
Cashiers check		\$302,000
Petty Cash 1/1/2024		\$85,869
2024 Income		\$54,833
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Total Assets		\$442,702

2024 Unit 205 Income Statement		
PV income		\$46,370
Sectional income		\$5,744
Other income (expense)		-\$20,151
Interest income		\$22,870
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Total Income		\$54,833

President's Message

1. Introduction of treasurer and treasurer's report
2. Status of tournaments:
 - Last year's Ajijic Sectional was essentially a break-even, earning about 5,700 pesos or \$280 USD. However, because we hosted it at our Club, we were able to offer more hospitality. Although I do not anticipate attendance ever returning to pre-pandemic levels, if we can operate at least at break-even we should be able to keep the playing fee at the current level of 250 pesos. The Ajijic Sectional this year is coming up from February 6-9. San Miguel hosted a sectional February 2-4, and their sectional this year is scheduled for March 27-29. Puerto Vallarta did not host a sectional in 2024, but they are scheduled for February 12-14 in 2025.
 - The Regional Tournament in Puerto Vallarta was financially successful this past year despite some challenges with the hotel. As you probably know, the Westin cancelled our contract last year and relocated us to the Krystal Grand. Although everything went well at the tournament, attendance was down about 15% from 2023. Nonetheless, due to some subsidies that we received from the Westin, we made about 46,000 pesos or \$2,300 USD. We believe the decrease in attendance was primarily due to uncertainty related to the change of venue, and hope it will bounce back in the future.
 - We currently do not have a contract with any hotel to host the 2025 tournament. We cannot go back to the Westin because they are going all-inclusive and their rates are just too high. We have been in contact with a number of possible venues, but have not been able to reach agreement with any of them to host the tournament. Many of the hotels are all-inclusive, which means the room rate is too high, or they want to charge too much for use of the playing space. Based on what we have seen so far, we expect to have to increase the playing fee in Puerto Vallarta, which we have held at \$15 for the last several years.
 - We are still negotiating with a few possible venues for 2025, one of which is the Holiday Inn & Suites. This hotel is on the way from the airport to the Marina, but it is not on the beach. I'd like to get your feedback on the possibility of hosting the tournament away from the beach. Before you comment, please put yourself in the shoes of someone coming from the United States or Canada to play in the tournament, or a professional team looking to attend the tournament. Comments?
3. Unit Games: Our Unit is allotted 24 Unit Games per year to be used at any of our clubs. The Lake Chapala Club typically holds 12 Unit Games per year (one per month). That leaves 12 games available for our other clubs. Unit Games are extra point games, although the Unit pays a slightly higher ACBL table fee for the game compared to a regular club game. If someone in Puerto Vallarta or Mazatlan is interested in holding a Unit Game, you can contact me for information about how to request a sanction, or we can do that for you.
4. The Board was confident enough in the Unit's financial condition to make some expenditures to benefit the community and upgrade our tournament supplies. In 2024, we donated 10,000 pesos to the Lake Chapala Tepehua indigenous community. We also purchased 20 tables of new bidding boxes to be used at tournaments, which will reduce our reliance on Puerto Vallarta for use of their bidding boxes. The boxes we purchased are the type that fold flat for ease of storage and transport to tournaments. The cost was approximately 20,000 pesos.
5. Patricia Herrera, President of the Mexican Bridge Federation, has been working on getting ACBL to allow tournaments in Mexico to use more local directors, which would save a considerable amount of money for the tournaments. For example, if we need to use an ACBL director, we have to pay for their transportation to Mexico in addition to their session fees, room and per diem. Although we are now fortunate to have Michael Farebrother available locally to direct our tournaments, Mexico's regional tournaments in Puerto Vallarta, San Miguel, and Acapulco have also had to bring in directors from the States at considerable cost. It is my

understanding that Mexico now has approval to use our local directors. In addition to Michael, we have Jorge Rosen and Glen Okui, who are qualified as ACBL tournament directors, eliminating the need to bring someone in from the States.

6. By-Laws: The Unit is going to resubmit its by-laws to the ACBL to correct a word processing error that occurred after we approved them at our previous meeting. We discovered that several paragraphs were inadvertently dropped from the by-laws when reformatting from the version that was approved to the clean copy that we sent to ACBL. Following are the omitted paragraphs:

- A statement of the UNIT financial condition shall be made to the members at the annual meeting. Current financial information shall be available to the members at any special meeting which has been called in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws.
- A quorum for the annual meeting or for any special meeting that has been called shall consist of at least eight (8) UNIT members present. In the event the said quorum is not attained, the meeting(s) shall be re-scheduled until a quorum is reached.
- Voting by proxy shall not be permitted at either the membership or special meetings.
- Non-UNIT members may attend said meetings as observers without voting rights.
- The New Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings.

There is no need to re-approve the by-laws, since these paragraphs are unchanged. This is just to inform you of the need to resubmit them.

7. That concludes my remarks. Does anyone have any other questions or comments?

8. Introduction of officer election.