

Unit 547 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 15, 2025
Temple Beth Torah

Board Members Present: Raeann Koerner, Kay Mendel, Suzanne Brenner, Gerri Knilans, Gary Ansok, Jim Wall, Craig Kavim, and Bunny Raymond.

Guest Member: Mark Eckhout

The meeting was called to order by Raeann Koerner at 11:04 a.m..

Old/Continuing Business

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Bunny Raymond to approve the revised minutes from June 24, 2025 and 2nd by Kay Mendel, M/S/A.

Treasurer's Report (Kay Mendel)

Prior to our meeting Kay had sent her report to the board. In summary:

Sheet 1: Monthly Income and Expense

We had a gain for the month of \$3,099. This includes income and expenses from the Strawberry Tournament.

Sheet 2: TBT Detail

We had a gain for the month of \$256.

Sheet 3: 23-25 Events

This has been revised to reflect the \$200 bonus paid to the Director and now shows a net gain of \$2,832.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer Report by Suzanne Brenner, and 2nd by Gerri Knilans, M/S/A.

Director Liaison Report (Gary Ansok)

- Recruitment of new directors

It was suggested that we generate a list of qualified directors for our current needs and future needs.

- Pay a stipend for Chris and/or Gary advanced director training

A motion was made by Jim Wall to pay a stipend of \$100.00 for successfully

completing the training by the end of the year, 2nd by Gerri Knilans, M/S/A.

A motion was made by Bunny Raymond that we would cover the costs for the beginner director course and test fee of \$75.00 and an incentive bonus of \$100.00 after directing their first game for our club, 2nd by Jim Wall, M/S/A.

Club Operations & Management (Jim Wall)

Prior to the meeting Jim sent to the board the most recent Attendance Report.

Jim discussed the possibility of having games that could be qualifying for the Grand National Teams. He will look into when these games can be held and what is required to meet the necessary requirements for these types of games.

Richard Fox - Outreach Coordinator (Raeann)

Raeann reported that Richard is interested in participating in this role. It was suggested that Richard create an overview of what he envisions his goals/objectives will be. Raeann said that she will work with Richard to create this synopsis. It was also suggested that Richard could attend board meetings on a regular basis (his choice, but possibly every 3 months) to report on his efforts and hopefully successes.

Member recognition awards - Tournament Volunteers' Appreciation Day - Free Play Aug. 6

Mark will provide a list of the volunteers to receive the free play to Raeann, Kay, and Bunny by 7/29/25. Then the list can be divided between board members so that each person can receive a phone call to invite them to this free play day.

Ice Cream Social August 14 - (Susan Lang)

All is scheduled as planned.

Pro-Am Game (Gerri Knilans)

Tabled for discussion until next month.

New Business

Future Sectional (Mark Eckhout)

Mark sent a report to the board prior to the meeting.

VENTURA UNIT 547 BRIDGE CLUB

Board Report: D22 Halloween Regional & VUBC Harvest Sectional

Mark Eckhout, VUBC Tournament Coordinator, Jul 15, 2025

1. For the third year, I was asked by Lamya (or did I volunteer?) to be the Liaison to D22's Halloween Regional
 2. In April, I was asked by Bill Shane (D22's Tournament Growth Chair and Pres of Laguna Woods Bridge Club) to join the D22 Committee **to increase participation in Sectionals and Regionals.**
 3. With the successful Newcomer Table counts at VUBC's and SBBC's three sectionals in 2025, I asked Lamya that the Halloween Regional **add** Newcomer games to the 'already-established' game line-up.
 4. Last week, Lamya agreed to the **addition** of Newcomer games to the Regional and asked me to set-up/propose these games. I will send the proposal to Lamya, Matt Koltnow and Lynn Yokel at the conclusion of this Board meeting.
 5. Newcomer Events for the Halloween Regional
 - a. Currently planned by D22
 - i. **NEW!** Mon, 2:00 pm, Supervised, 0-20, 18 Bds, Red MPs
 - ii. **NEW!** Thurs, Bracketed Pairs, 2 Sessions, Gold MPs
 - b. **Proposed** Newcomer Games. **Board input requested.**
 - i. Tu/Wed/Fr and/or Sa
 - ii. 0-299 (or 0-199?)
 - iii. Single session, Red MPs
 1. 10:00 am or 3:00 pm or staggered.
 - iv. Or 2 Sessions, Gold MPS
 6. Marketing
 - a. I assured Lamya that I (VUBC/Pianola) would vigorously promote all of the Newcomer events
 - b. I have the full support of SBBC & Tish Gainey, SBBC Business Manager.
- VUBC Harvest Sectional - Limited, 499**
1. Venue - in Ventura County
 2. Date - this fall
 3. Sanction - after 1 & 2 are finalized
 4. Marketing
 - a. Highlighting Games for Newcomers
 - b. Tune-Up for Regional
 - c. Focus on VUBC & SBBC with f2f promotion and Pianolas
 - d. Reaching out to LA, D23 via Pianola
 5. Director Requirements
 - a. Ask David Lodge & Matt Koltnow
 - i. What are the parameters for use of a Local Director(s)

The board was in agreement that it was important to focus on the inclusion of Newcomer games/activities. There was discussion as to have morning and/or afternoon games for the newcomers. At this time, morning games seemed to be the majority vote.

The board decided that if we were to proceed with the Harvest Sectional, that a location would need to be decided upon by the end of July. If that occurred, Mark would be in contact with Raeann and if necessary she would be in contact with the board so that a vote could take place to proceed, prior to our meeting in August.

IMG-Instant Matchpoint Game

This game will occur on July 16th.

Celebrating July Birthdays on June 22

Complaints regarding snacks (Jim)

This will be discussed at our next meeting. It was determined that the issue seems to be that people are eating at the table during the games.

Team Game at the club in September (Jim)

It was suggested that this could be an opportunity for players to practice for the Regional Tournament. It was suggested that we should ask our players if they would in fact be interested in participating in a team game, on a regularly scheduled game day. Raeann said she would create something that would explain what we are considering and allow each member the opportunity to vote if they are in favor of participating.

Strategic Play and Need for new members and board member training guidelines (Gerri Knilans)

Tabled for discussion at our next meeting.

Next meeting

Will be held on August 12, 2025.

Raeann Koerner, President, adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.