

Unit 547 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2025
Temple Beth Torah

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

Absent: Craig Kavin and Bunny Raymond

Guest Member: Mark Eckhout

The meeting was called to order by Raeann Koerner at 11:07 a.m..

Old/Continuing Business

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Kay Mendel to approve the minutes from August 12, 2025 and 2nd by Jim Wall , 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 \$5,329. This was primarily due to a donation from Hank Oster of \$5,00

Sheet 2: TBT Detail: TBT Detail

We had a loss for the month of \$290. Contributing factors:

- a) Low table count of 152 vs. 199 in July and 165 average for the first 7 months of 2025.
- b) Low snack donations of \$58 vs. \$216 in July and \$194 average for the first 7 months of 2025.
- c) We had additional expenses of \$90 for the ice cream social.

The \$5,000 donation is not included in the TBT report as I considered it a donation to the club and not necessarily exclusive to Temple events.

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

Club Operations & Management (Jim Wall)

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

The team game is planned for September 25 and will begin at 12:00. Players need to arrive by 11:45, and there will not be a GP for that day. He also stated that Bob Gruber has some of the materials needed to proceed with the game, and it was agreed that Gary will procure any other necessary materials.

Director Liaison Report (Gary)

Gary reported that Stan has more availability at this time if necessary, and that Rosemary and Don will work together in the role of a director if necessary.

Raeann asked Gary to create a step-by-step guide to assist a director in using the computer for directing a game.

Gary shared that he had recently completed the class necessary to become a local sectional director which would allow him to work a limited sectional, and can assist at our events in the future with ACBL directors. He shared that Chris had told him that he also completed a class recently.

Pro-Am Game (Gerri Knilans)

Raeann thanked Gerri for her efforts in researching with other clubs as to how they run such games, and for the materials shared. After discussion it was decided to proceed with a Mentor/Mentee game because we have a limited number of players that would be considered a Pro. The game will be on November 11th. Suzanne will create a form for members to sign-up to play.

Saturday/Sunday Game (Raeann)

Raeann shared that having a game on a Saturday and/or Sunday might be possible on occasion at the temple. It was agreed that we preferred a location where we could hold a game on a consistent basis to determine if there was interest in a weekend game. Mark shared that the small room at the Senior Center in Camarillo might be an option for a 3 month commitment. After discussion, it was agreed that we would like to pursue this option beginning in January of 2026, with the understanding that this could be a financial loss, but worth the effort to offer as an option for our current and potential future players.

Birthday Celebration

This will be held on Tuesday, September 16th.

Mentoring program

We would like to begin the program after the first of the year. We need a coordinator for the program. Stan will be asked as a potential coordinator. Ideally a mentor will play a minimum of 4 times with a mentee, and will be willing to discuss a limited amount of hands after their play. The mentor will play for free.

Gerri also suggested that Donna Bell might be a potential coordinator.

We will discuss further next month.

Complaints regarding food at the tables

Raeann will continue to include in the announcements that players should not have food at the table or eat during play.

New Business

New GP Coordinator

Joy Kobayashi has volunteered to take on the responsibilities of this role.

Thank you to Hank Oster

The team game on Sept. 25 will be named in his honor and the board will purchase a Ventura Bridge club name tag for him as well.

Engagement Party for Chris and Janice 9/18

Sue Houk has volunteered to be responsible to get the cake for that day.

Future Sectional Tournaments (Mark Eckhout)

Prior to meeting Mark sent the board the following report:

SECTIONALS - Cost Increases To Host Sectionals

A NEW PVRPD RENTAL RULE - **A cost Increase to VUBC**

1. Multiple-Day renters shall be charged for the full day - to 10:00 pm

a. Because the District is unable to rent their facility while the renter is occupying the space, the renter is financially responsible for the hours their equipment is in place.

2. BTW, the rental rates were increased by 2% effective July 1, 2025

a. Auditorium,

+ \$3/hr to \$158/hr

b. Kitchen,

+ \$2/hr to \$52/hr

3. Whereas VUBC has rented the Auditorium & Kitchen to 6:00 pm on the first day of a two day event, PVRPD will now charge VUBC to 10:00 pm on the first day.

a. 6pm to 10pm is 4hours.

b. $4\text{hr} \times (\$158/\text{hr} + \$52/\text{hr}) = \text{\$820 additional rental fee for the first day.}$

4. Conjecture: It will not be long before they set up an "end-time" to the rental.

"If the

renter is renting till "6pm"

, the renter will be charged for the full day.

a. Ex: We rent the second day to 7:00 pm (game ends at 6pm, cleanup till 7pm).

7pm (or 6 or 5pm) triggers the "rent for the full day" clause. To 10pm.

5. Note: PVRPD's strategic goals include sustaining financial stability and commencing its drive to build a new community/senior center. Or, said another way,

'find me the money'!

ALTERNATIVE CAMARILLO VENUES - **reducing costs**

1. Ventura Office of Education (VCOE), previously discussed, great site
2. Boy's and Girl's Club, 600 person capacity
3. Camarillo Banquet Hall, 200 person capacity
4. Camarillo Ranch House, 600 person capacity
5. McCormick Home Ranch, 250 person capacity
6. McGrath Family Farm by Public Domain, 200 person capacity
7. Serra Center, 750 person capacity
8. The Saticoy Club, Somis, 300 person capacity

Several people/venues have suggested/asked about a Thursday/Friday tournament! Some venues have more weekday flexibility. The drawback is it eliminates working players.

TABLES - **added cost** at venues without tables

1. As previously reported, most venues provide banquet tables; few provide card tables. To my knowledge, PVRPD is the only large venue with 40 card tables.
2. VUBC's inventory - 44 Tablesa. White plastic 36" tables - Qty 21
b. Black faux leather 34" tables, rectangular leg support, BAI - Qty 6
c. Black faux leather 34" tables, straight legs - Qty 10
i. The black tables have been denigrated and suggested as incompatible with the stature of our club.
ii. They get the job done; some are beat-up.
d. Assortment of sturdy, sound, small tables: 5 brown 30" and 1 brown/grain 30"

,
1 blue/grey 34"

. Indeed, ugly & small. But we used them at Strawberry '24 Cam-YMCA!

e. **How many new tables are needed to be purchased?**

i. **What is our Table Count Goals for our Sectionals?**

3. Table Transportation
a. Opt 1. **Hire 'party-movers' to transport our tables** and set up our tables at a non-PVRPD venue. Round trip. Odd hours. We will oversee their work.
b. Opt 2. Rent a trailer for a few days and use our muscle.

DIRECTOR - **added cost**

- a. We are adding a Director to our Open Sectionals
- b. I am contacting tournament chairs at other clubs to learn their approach to Directors to conserve money; both Open & Limited Sectionals ... before talking to Matt Koltnow.

501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION - reducing costs

Changing VUBC from a 501(c)(7) to a 501(c)(3) Organization

1. 501(c)(3) organizations receive considerable financial benefits. At PVRPD, a 501(c)(3) organization pays half the rent we are currently paying. One must be a 501(c)(3) to receive donated berries from Driscoll. But for my connection, *The Berry Man* requires the same.
2. I am meeting with Ronnie Morris after Sep 14 to discuss what is required to create a 501(c)(3) org.
a. Ronnie is a SBBC Member, former Treasurer and an accountant. He oversaw the application and the granting of 501(c)(3) status for the SBBC club.

HALLOWEEN REGIONAL

1. I will have 80% of our requirements handled and volunteers in place by September 30th. The remainder of the follow-up work will be handled through October.

It was discussed and confirmed that at this time the board's plan is to host one open 2

day tournament(that could include a limited game) to be held in the spring and one sectional in the fall (Sept./ Oct.) that could be a one day event.

Raeann offered to create a flyer to provide out-of-town players with information about restaurants and food options near the Ventura Regional.

501(3) C

Mark will follow up on what is required for this process. He will call and discuss with other clubs to learn how they were able to make this happen.

Member Issue

Raeann shared that we have a member that is in need of assistance at the table during games. She is making inquiries to see if she can find someone who would be willing to read cards to the player during play.

Strategic Play and Need for new members and board member training guidelines

Raeann sent a handout from the ACBL that described duties associated with a board position. She requested that we review the handout and we could discuss it at next month's meeting.

It was confirmed that typically the process for recruiting new board members is done with a nominating committee, which includes one board member and two other non-board members. There were a number of individuals that were mentioned as potential new board members, but we did not proceed with the creation of a nominating committee at this time.

Next meeting

Will be held on October 7, 2025.

Raeann Koerner, President, adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Suzanne Brenner, Secretary.