

Unit 142 Board Meeting

July 8, 2025 at Beth El

The Unit 142 Board Meeting was held at South Pittsburgh Bridge Club Beth El location on July 8, 2025.

Attendance: Ron Franck (President), Mike Pascal (Treasurer), Maureen Loeb (Secretary), Jim Gump, David Loeb, June Threlkeld, Terri Tunick, and Robyn Fennell.

President's Remarks

Ron stated how appreciative he is for all the work the board is doing, and for the progress the Board is making.

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Michael Pascal distributed the financial report. The unit is in good shape financially.

Committee Reports

- Education

Bill stated that the Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon supervised play classes are well attended as well as the Wednesday evening Mount Lebanon classes. We have over 100 active students in our Unit.

- IN/Publicity/Marketing/Facebook

The Board discussed hiring a marketing firm to augment the Unit's efforts to promote bridge. Terri agreed to interview marketing firms, and come back to the Board with a recommendation.

The Pittsburgh Regional is offering a Newcomer Pairs game (0-99 masterpoints). Ron Franck generously offered to donate Steeler tickets for a newcomers raffle.

- Membership

Nothing new to report.

- Tournaments

The menu was finalized for the Summer Sectional. The Board reviewed the Regional schedule, the need for volunteers, and working with D5 to provide breakfast coupons for bridge players staying at the host hotel.

- Special Games

David Loeb reported the Unit is offering clubs the opportunity to host Unit Championships.

- Pro-Am

June Threlkeld gave a report on the successful Pro-Am which raised over \$12,000 for the Alzheimer's Association.

- Club Liaison

Jim Gump stated that this isn't any news to report.

- Website and Newsletter

David Loeb reported the website is operating smoothly. Upcoming newsletters will focus on the Summer Sectional, the Roni Regional, lessons, and supervised play.

New Business

- Pittsburgh Regional Update

D5 appointed a committee to determine the feasibility of Unit 142 taking over the regional for 2026. We expect their report at the Pittsburgh Regional.

- Club Support Funds

Jim Gump reported he emailed a letter to club managers detailing the revisions to the Club Support Funds program. Jim noted that much of the feedback was negative. The main complaint was concern that holding a limited game and an open game wasn't feasible.

- New Directors Focus:

David Loeb reported that 8 people are enrolled in the Director classes.

- Sectional Chairs for 2026:

The Loeb's volunteered to chair the Spring Sectional, and Jim Gump volunteered to chair the Summer Sectional. Ron and Bill will be available for consultation and back up.

- Incentives for Bridge Teachers and Clubs:

The board approved a Free Play Program for students with incentives for teachers and clubs. Specifically, teachers are authorized to give 5 free play tickets to students. The Unit will reimburse clubs for the entry fee of students using a Free Play. The free play coupons expire in 90 days. The student must be an ACBL member, and must share the email and authorize the Unit to send them bridge related messages. If all 5 Free Plays are used within 90 days, the teacher will receive a \$50 incentive payment, and club(s) receive a \$10 per free play incentive payment. This program replaces the previous free play program. It doesn't change the mentoring program.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10th at the Edgeworth Bridge Club.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the Board Meeting was made and approved.