

Unit 231 Summary of Board Decisions
(Grouped by topic and by decision date)

SUMMARY OF BOARD DECISIONS

The summary of board decisions will be updated after the final meeting of each year.
(Updated December, 2025)

Sectional Tournament

- **April 2014:** Board voted to keep sectional tournament in June of each year.
- **March 2015:** Board voted to redesign future flyers to be more reflective of the Unit 231 area.

Board approved getting fifty, two-dollar bills for cash prizes.
Only section top winners will receive the cash prizes.

Board approved awarding trophies to the top point winner and ties in A, B, and C stratifications.
- **March 2016:** Board decided not to make Swiss Team game a charity game; but, to do so in 2017.
- **March 2017:** Board voted to seek a larger playing area for the tournament.
- **April 2018:** Board voted to have a separate setup in another room for the 0-99 game and to secure an assistant director to monitor the game.
- **May 2018:** Board voted to give Teresa Hall an increase of \$100 over last year's allotment for food/snacks.

Board voted to hold the raffle at Friday's game.
- **July 2018:** Board will spend less money on snacks for the 2019 tournament.

Board will not rent a separate room for the 0-99 game at future sectionals.
- **May 2019:** Board approved a Pianola mass e-mailing two weeks prior to sectional tournament.

Board approved two-dollar bills as cash awards.

- **Jan. 2020:** Board voted to add two charity games and to revise stratification guidelines to attract more B and C players.

Board voted to cancel the 2020 Unit 231 Sectional Tournament and to request a waiver (for 2020) of the ACBL requirement for units to hold an annual sectional tournament.
- **Oct. 2021:** Board voted to have a downgraded Sectional Tournament in 2022 which would offer silver points.
- **July 2022:** Board voted to hold a downgraded Sectional Tournament in 2022. Richard Huber volunteered to investigate the logistics.
- **Oct. 2023:** Board voted to investigate holding Sectional Tournaments in Blacksburg in late Spring of 2024 and Roanoke in Fall of 2024.
- **Jan. 2024:** Board discussed the feasibility of having a Sectional Tournament in 2024. Carol Robey and Douglas Althouse were appointed as Tournament co-Chairs.
- **Aug. 2024:** Board set the Sectional Tournament for October 25-27, 2024, at the Roanoke Holiday Inn-Airport.
- **Aug. 2024:** Board approved the purchase of five card tables.
- **Sept. 2024:** Board approved the purchase of five additional sets of boards.
- **Nov. 2024:** Board moved to thank the following for helping to make the October 25-27, 2024, Sectional Tournament a success:

Players who participated

Tournament Committee: Carol Robey (co-Chair), Douglas Althouse (co-Chair), Lewis Singer, John Markey, Preston Collins, Karen Shimchock, and Carol Pressman

Tournament Director Cathy Hildebrand

Bridge Club of Roanoke Valley for permitting the use of its Bridgemates, tables, bidding boxes, and general supplies

Karen Jackson (Lexington Club) for the loan of twelve Bridgemates

Blacksburg Recreation Center for the loan of bidding boxes

Karen Shimchock, Lewis Singer, Barbara Johnson for overseeing the food preparations

Mary Moore and Carol Robey for decorations

John Markey for designing the tournament flyer

Carole Spencer for dealing the boards

Connie Lyons for loaning a set of boards

Douglas Althouse, Preston Collins, Kurt Guelzow, Thomas Sanzone and Carole Spencer for assisting the Director

The individuals who brought food and/or contributed money toward the food

- **Jan. 2025** Board decided not to hold a Sectional Tournament in 2025.

- .

Unit Holiday Party

- **Nov. 2015:** Board approved having the holiday party funded by the unit with some food/money donations provided by the membership.
- **Oct. 2017:** Board approved mass mailing of unit holiday party flyer to the unit membership directory.
- **Jan. 2020:** Board approved the renting of a larger room at the Rec Center for future holiday parties.
- **Oct. 2021:** Board voted to investigate having the Unit Holiday Party at the Shenandoah Club in Roanoke.
- **July 2022:** Board voted to have a unit holiday party each year, including 2022.
- **Nov. 2022:** Board voted electronically NOT to hold a unit-wide holiday party in 2022. For 2022, unit clubs may request reimbursement for holiday party expenses of up to \$10.00 per person.
- **Dec. 2023:** Holiday parties were held in Blacksburg on December 1, 2023; and, in Roanoke on December 5, 2023.

Election of Unit Officers and Board Members

- **April 2014:** Board approved Margaret Johnson to become a member of the board.
- **Nov. 2015:** Board approved the following new board members: Tom Newland, Teresa Hall, Susan Bricken and Chuck Bricken.
- **Nov. 2016:** Board approved the election of 2016 Board/Officers to be held at the December unit holiday party.
- **April 2020:** Board moved to appoint Carole Spencer to the Unit 231 Board of Directors for a term that expires on December 31, 2022.

Board moved to appoint Carole Spencer as secretary of the Unit 231 Board of Directors.

- **June 2021:** Board moved to approve the composition of the membership as follows:

New River Valley, 11 members
Roanoke Valley, 5 members
Mercer County, 1 member

Board moved to approve the following new members:

Preston Collins (Roanoke Valley)
Tom Gilpin (Mercer County)
Bev Impara (Roanoke Valley)
Connie Lyons (New River Valley)
Carol Robey (Roanoke Valley)

Board moved to appoint the following individuals as Board Officials:

Tournament Coordinators, Doug Althouse and John Markey
IT Chair, Connie Lyons
Business Manager, Necia Evans
Publicity Chair, Carol Robey

- **Oct. 2021:** Board voted to have every current officer, official, and member serve through December 31, 2022. Charles Bricken and Carole Spencer have been charged with updating the Unit Bylaws to address the issue of staggered board terms as well as other portions of the document.
- **July 2022:** Board accepted the resignations of Susan Bricken and Thomas Newland.
- **July 2022:** Board voted to keep the positions created by the resignations of Bricken and Newland and the death of Beverly Impara open.
- **Dec. 2022:** Board accepted the resignations of Sally Kizer, Charles Bricken, Carole Spencer, Thomas Gilpin, Teresa Hall and Connie Lyons.
- **Dec. 2022:** Board approved the following as new members to the Board: Michael Craig, Carol Pressman, Karen Shimchock, Richard Veilleux and Charles Wills.
- **Jan. 2023:** Board appointed Preston Collins to serve as President for 2023-24.
- **Nov. 2023:** Board approved the following Directors for 2024:

Douglas Althouse (3 year term)
John Markey (3 year term)
Richard Huber (3 year term)
Preston Collins (2 year term)
Carol Pressman (2 year term)
Carole Spencer (2 year term)
Irene Jacobs (1 year term)
Carol Robey (1 year term)
Karen Shimchock (1 year term)

- **Jan. 2024:** Board unanimously approved the following officers for the 2024-25 year:

President	Preston Collins
Vice President	Carol Pressman
Secretary	Carole Spencer
Treasurer	Irene Jacobs
Tournament co-Chairs	Douglas Althouse and Carol Robey

- **Nov. 2024:** President appointed Carol Pressman to head the Nominating Committee for the 2025-26 Board/Officers.

- **Jan. 2025:** President thanked Carol Robey, Karen Shimchock and Irene Jacobs for their service to the Board. Irene served as the Treasurer for over ten years.

Board approved Lewis Singer, Richard Rio, Barbara Johnson, and Mary Moore as new Board members for 2025.

Board approved Preston Collins (President), Carol Pressman (Vice President), Lewis Singer (Treasurer) and Carole Spencer (Secretary) as Unit Officers for 2025.

- **Dec. 2025:** Board approved the Unit Board of Directors for 2026 as follows:

Three Year Term

Preston Collins
Geoff Gardner (new member)
Carole Spencer

Two Year Term

Barbara Johnson
Mary Moore
Lewis Singer

One Year Term

Douglas Althouse
John Markey
Richard Rio

Board approved the Unit Officers for 2026 as follows:

Mary Moore (President, one year initially)
Preston Collins (Vice President)
Carole Spencer (Secretary)
Barbara Johnson (Assistant Secretary)
Lewis Singer (Treasurer)
Open (Assistant Treasurer)

Treasurer Actions

- **Jan. 2024:** Board gave permission to Irene Jacobs, Treasurer, to destroy records more than ten years old.
- **Nov. 2024:** Board approved moving the forty-three, two-dollar bills to the Unit checking account.

Director's Course Registration Fees

- **Sept. 2024:** Board approved paying the registration fees for any member wishing to take the ACBL Director's Course to become a certified director.
- **Jan. 2025:** Board approved reimbursing Sally Kizer for taking the ACBL Director's Course.
- **July 2025:** Board approved reimbursing Susan Kraterfield for taking the ACBL Director's Course.

Inventory of Unit Assets

- **Nov. 2024:** President appointed Carole Spencer to conduct an inventory of Unit assets, to include the physical location of each asset.
 -

Unit Bylaws

- **Oct. 2023:** Board approved the Revised Unit Bylaws. A copy is available on the Administration Page of the website.

Board expressed appreciation to Charles Bricken for drafting the revised edition.

Unit Name Badges

- **Oct. 2023:** Board approved the purchasing of name badges for members who wish to have one. Carol Pressman is the contact person.
- **Jan. 2024:** Board thanked Carol Pressman for the outstanding work she has done to secure name badges for members.

Dealing Machine/Boards/Equipment and Storage Cabinet

- **Sept. 2013:** Board asked Richard Huber to investigate purchase of a dealing machine and related accessories.
- **Oct. 2013:** Board allocated \$5000 for purchase of dealing machine, two sets of

boards, carrying case, laser printer and the necessary software.

- **April 2014:** Board voted approval of the purchase of a two-door storage unit for housing the dealing machine and equipment. The amount allocated was not to exceed \$300.
- **Sept. 2017:** Board approved approximately \$200 to purchase two sets of boards for use by the Roanoke Club.
- **Nov. 2024:** Board approved the cost of \$571.50 to repair the Unit dealing machine. The machine is currently being used by Sally Kizer to deal the boards for the Blacksburg Club.

Unit 231 Website: swvabridgeclubs.org

- **April 2020:** Unit voted to post unit minutes on the website.
- **Oct. 2021:** Board moved to dedicate the Unit 231 Website to the memory of Bob Schulman.

Board voted to engage Wild Country Studios to host, maintain and update the website at a rate of \$75.00 per month.

Board moved not to post Treasurer's Report on the Administration Page.

- **July 2022:** Board approved the adding of an additional column on the Directory Page of the Unit website which would provide information about rank/level of each player.
 -
- **Feb. 2023:** Board approved reimbursing John Markey \$618.00 to cover website provider costs.

Policies and Procedures Manual

- **April 2020:** Board moved to develop a Policies and Procedures Manual.

Subscription to Zoom

- **Oct. 2021:** Board voted to purchase a one-year subscription to Zoom to be used to conduct board meetings and other related business matters.
 -

Unit Game in Roanoke

- **Jan. 2019:** Board voted to hold unit game in Roanoke on Saturday, April 13, 2019, 10:00 am, at the Brambleton Center in Roanoke, VA.
- **May 2019:** Board voted not to hold another unit game in Roanoke.

Henry County, VA/Mercer County, WV

- **Jan. 2018:** Board voted to add Mercer County, WV (Princeton Club) to the Unit website.
- **Jan. 2020:** Board voted to add Mercer County, WV (Princeton Club) to Unit 231.

Board accepted the request to assign Henry County, VA (Martinsville Club) players to another unit.
 -
- **July 2022:** Board voted to disband Mercer County, WV (Princeton Club).

Roanoke/Blacksburg Regional Tournament

- **Sept. 2017:** Board voted not to pursue a regional bridge tournament in the Roanoke/Blacksburg area.
 -

Unit Championship Game

- **June 2014:** Board voted to have one unit championship game on a designated Monday in Blacksburg and Bluefield. Roanoke Club was invited to participate at either site.
- **Aug. 2024:** Board moved that John Markey be appointed as Unit Coordinator.

North American Pairs Qualifiers

- **June 2014:** Board voted not to hold NAP qualifiers due to lack of interest.

Facebook

- **June 2014:** Board voted not to have a Facebook site due to lack of interest.

Eight is Enough Tournament

- **April 2014:** Board voted to cease Eight is Enough Tournament in 2014.

Anonymous Donation

- **May 2018:** Board voted to use the donation for educational expenses for the Blacksburg Club.
 -

Free Play Policy

- **April 2014:** Board voted to allow college students to play free.

ACBL Privacy Policy

- **March 2015:** Board unanimously agreed that our current procedures for protecting members' information is in compliance with the ACBL Privacy Policy.

Cancellation of Games

- **July 2018:** Board voted that the unit website would post any game cancellations due to inclement weather, illness of the director, shut down of the playing facility or any for any other reason.

Discretionary Spending Account

- **Nov. 2018:** Board approved a \$100 petty cash account that the president could use for small, miscellaneous expenses.

District 6 Decisions

- **May 2015:** District 6 delegated the responsibility for tournament supplies to each separate unit.
- **Mar. 2016:** District 6 voted to approve \$825 for the purchase of Easy Bridge materials for use at the Blacksburg Club.
- **Oct. 2021:** District 6 allocated \$3,500 to the Feeding of Southwest Virginia Program on behalf of Unit 231.