

THE VILLAGES DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Lake Miona Rec Center

September 16, 2025

President, Jon Williams called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Attendance: Board Members: Vice President, Nancy Turner; Secretary, Merle Erlich, Vicki Collins, Dutch Dresser, Jim O'Brien, Russ Pearly (by telephone), Judy Smith, and Jon Williams. Treasurer, Tom Tessier; Club Manager, Donna Brown; Head Directors Pat Holmes and John Quinn; and Education Director, Harry Messenheimer were also present. Bruce Thiher was absent..

The July Minutes, previously distributed to the Board and posted on the website, were approved.

Ratification of decisions taken since the last board meeting, July 15, 2025:

Approval for Computer Replacement:

- As per recent board discussions of the need for equipment replacement, our oldest computers in use at Lake Miona and Sea Breeze rec centers have been retired to backup status and new computers purchased to replace them. (7/22/25)

Approval of Proposal for Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD) Seminar, September 27, 2025, Lake Miona.

- Cathy Fashingbauer, certified LBIAD Instructor, and Education Coordinator, Harry Messenheimer, have proposed a two-session seminar (9:00am-3:00pm) aimed at beginning bridge players. The charge would be \$15 per attendee, which will cover about half the cost (lunch \$12, book, \$5.50, free play for each student morning refreshment, and instructor fee). The club will cover the rest as a recruiting cost. The date is timed to be just before beginning bridge classes start, and those will be promoted during the event. (8/11/25)

Club Manager's Report: Donna Brown

- Club related email should be sent to her at manager@vdbc.us.
- Should we consider planning VDBC activities at the new Eastport Recreation Center?
- We are working with the ACBL to allow us to hold two 'Special' games at the same time at different locations without penalty. Until this is resolved Pat Holmes and John Quinn will work with Paul to 'merge' these games.
- Should a game be cancelled or combined when a Rec Center is closed? This will be decided according to the particular circumstance. Smaller games may work, while larger games are problematic.
- It was noted that the online South East Carolina is now running online games as RB North American Bridge on the Real Bridge platform. Our club members will be eligible for this opportunity. VDBC will receive a share of their entry fees as we did under SE Carolina.
- VDBC will continue to support the ACBL policies of not allowing suspended players to play in club games.

Treasurer's Report: Since the Board did not meet in July Tom Tessier provided both the July and August 2025 Reports which he previously emailed to Board members.

July Operating Statement

Activity Comparison Jan-Jun 2025

Activity comparison July 2025 vs July 2024

Activity comparison 7 months 2025 vs 7 months 2024

Balance Sheet comparison 7/31/2025 vs 7/31/2024

Recap and highlights for **July 2025:**

1. We hosted 91 games with 818 tables. There were 54 free plays and 10 guests.
2. Our income was \$16,026.05
3. Expenses were \$15,892.36
4. Resulting in a "profit" of \$132.69
5. Year to date loss is \$3,206.17
6. We issued 20 checks totaling \$15,936.14 to our directors and contractors.

At **July** month-end, we had the following balances:

Checking account: \$13,186.34

CDs: \$60,000.00

Equity: \$62,680.51

August 2025 Operating Statement

August 2025 Activity Comparison Jan-Aug 2025 vs 2024

Activity comparison Aug 2025 vs Aug 2024

Activity comparison 7 months 2025 vs 7 months 2024

Balance Sheet comparison 8/31/2025 vs 8/31/2024

Recap and highlights for **August 2025:**

1. We hosted 84 games with 792.5 tables. There were 29 free plays and 2 guests.
2. Our income was \$12,953.33
3. Expenses were \$15,412.49
4. Resulting in a loss of \$2,459.16
5. Year to date loss is \$5,766.03
6. We issued 21 checks totaling \$15,820.54 to our directors and contractors.

At month-end, we had the following balances:

Checking account: \$8,678.89

CDs: \$60,000.00 (\$20,000 maturing on January 26, 2026)

Equity: \$60,120.65

The club has a new mailing address, it is a P.O. box located at Safe Ship at the Colony shopping area, near Publix. The address is: (Donna Brown, Jim O'Brien, and Tom Tesier will have access to this mail box)

The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club

333 Colony Blvd. Box #120

The Villages. FL 32162

The July and August 2025 Treasurer's Reports were approved with thanks from the Board.

Education Committee Report: Harry Messenheimer

Learn Bridge in A Day Update: Lake Miona Rec Center, Saturday, 9/27/2025 (Cathy Fashingbauer)

- An ad Appeared in the Daily Sun to promote this seminar. To date we have 25 participants signed up.
- Pre-dealt boards will be provided per table
- One non-teaching volunteer per table will assist in mechanics, not teaching
- Morning and lunch food will be served
- If successful, the program may be repeated throughout the year and it is expected that these participants will feed into our beginning classes as well as the Enrichment Academy program.
- The Regular Open Game will move to Ezell this day

Harry noted that the Standard American 16-week program just completed (Janet Mathews) with about 25 steady participants. The next steps could include Janet's Bridge Basics and Beyond and/or video topics with Gloria Bennett.

Fall Schedule (Committee members: Nancy Turner, Dutch Dresser, John Quinn, Judy Smith & Russ Pearly)

- A motion carried to reinstate our Tuesday Evening game at Lake Miona starting 10/14 as a 300 and a 1500 game.
- 750 Swiss Saturday games will return to the 4th Saturday morning of the month at Miona in October
- The Mentor Mentee Games have resumed on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of September. There is some confusion and discussion over the format. Jon will talk to Bob Fashingbauer and report back.

100th Anniversary of ACBL/Alzheimer's November 1, 2025 Event: Nancy Turner

- A representative from the Alzheimer's Association will be on hand to thank and congratulate us on being the highest fundraiser in our District.
- There will be Open and a Limited Sessions at 9:00am and 1:00 pm.
- Jim O'Brien will work with Lake Miona to see if we can have extra space to accommodate all players. (we would have to provide the tables from our storage space)
- There will be refreshments, a pizza lunch and celebratory 100th birthday cupcakes, 50/50 raffles, and free play raffles.

November Gold Rush Regional & Open Sectional: Donna Brown

Plans are well under way for this 4-day Tournament that will run Friday, November 21-24, 2025 at the Savannah Center.

Appointment of Nominating Committee for December Election

Dutch Dresser, Russ Pearly and Judy Smith will seek candidates for our four open board positions

New Business

- Noted that we are up by over 300 tables of bridge over last year.
- We are still the largest club in the whole ACBL (1900 tables ahead of 2nd largest!)
- Bridge Cruise travel agent will be asked to remove our logo from the flyers as our members are participants but our club has no legal or financial responsibility for the cruise.

The next regular meeting of the board of directors will be October 21, 2025 at 4:30 pm at Lake Miona Recreation Center. The September, 2025 Board meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Merle Erlich, Secretary.