Unit 431
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2026

Present: Ernie Tradewell, Ruth Davies, Gina Curran, Maureen Trappe, Janice Closson, Catherine Mustafa, Jill Stainforth, Peter Leitz, JP Weber, Bill Wastle

Call to Order: 1:47 pm

1) **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Janice and seconded by Ruth with the following additions: Membership-financial incentives for Duplicate-Light (DL); Inventory-Bridgemates, printer purchase. All approved.

2) **Approval of previous minutes:**
   a) AGM – Deferred.
   b) March 13 – Deferred
   c) April 24 – Moved by Janice and seconded by Ruth. All approved
3) **Reports:**
   a) **President**:
   Ernie has had no meetings lately with ACBL. There was discussion about the ACBL's efforts to keep software/Windows connection to Bridgemates up to date.
   b) **Treasurer**:
   Current balances: Chequing Account, $20,000; etransfer Account, $500; Petty cash, $1,000. We have received approximately $500 for Bridgemate rentals. Ace of Hearts and the face-to-face mentor games showed a modest profit of $300 and $200 respectively. There is $400 remaining of the Education grant for new player initiatives. We agreed to cover complimentary DL games already assigned and to use the remainder to fund 5 additional DL cards. In view of the success of the incentive program of four free games in the first eight, it was agreed to continue subsidizing the incentive until the year-end. Bill will ask Ele to approach the ACBL Education department for a continuation of the grant.
   c) **Membership**:
   Jill presented detailed statistics about the number of people moving from DL, including its earlier phases at Capital City and Island Bridge into the main games. Partial stats include that in the first six months of 2026, 698 players attended DL games, including many repeats. Over the same time, 95 former DL players have played at Monterey and 30 DL players attended one or both face-to-face mentor games. Jill has also completed updating the player directory information and has asked for a quote to print 300 copies.

   d) **Tournament Coordinator**:
   Ruth reported 12 tables and 11 tables for the two sessions of the Ace of Hearts and is considering running only one Ace tournament per year in place of the two we currently run.

   e) **Inventory**:
   Peter emailed an update about Bridgemates on June 4. There are three main options: continue as is and wait for trouble; try a pilot program of buying a few new units to try them

out; set aside funds to be able to address concerns down the road. Ernie wants to hear more from ACBL about their plans to keep the Bridgemates supported before deciding. ACBL is heavily invested in keeping Bridgemates supported. Catherine suggested not taking a step prior to undertaking a feasibility study. Ruth proposed the issue be taken forward by a sub-committee made up of Peter, Bill, Ernie and Catherine. Ernie requested funds to purchase a new printer to replace the current non-functioning one. We agreed that it be both hard-wired and wireless capable.

f) **Webmaster**:
JP will update the In Memoriam and Milestones sections whenever he receives data. The membership/player list has been cleaned up and is now at 519. Hostinger is working well supporting the directors' positional emails and he has put a document in Dropbox about transferring emails to Gmail, Outlook and other accounts. The email to do this is bridge@bridgevictoria.ca and the password is Binf07!v

g) **Tournament Hand Coordinator:**
Ernie is now preparing boards and hand records for all Unit 429 tournaments at a cost of $300 ($200 for Unit 431 and $100 for Ernie). Ruth would like to have the bidding boxes refreshed. We will ask players at the September sectional to advise us if bidding cards are missing or sticky.

h) **Awards:** Janice reported that most event winners prefer free-play certificates as prizes to logoed merchandise. There are still a few T-shirts and bags with the former logo. The board voted 6/4 in favour of retiring these items rather than trying to use them up. Janice and Ruth will reorder T-shirts and bags with the current logo.

i) Communications: Catherine had previously posted her report to the drop box.

j) Education: Bill is in regular contact with the Unit's teachers. All are as busy as they wish to be. Mel was disappointed that the board chose to not fund ACBL teaching programs. Bill would like to address the issue of inappropriate behavior at games, including fishing for bidding cards, silent communication within pairs, snapping cards, body language and verbal cues. He suggests there be a small committee to speak gently with players. The board liked the idea of there being a 'topic of the month' announced and written on boards at clubs.

4) New Business:

a) Logo adoption: The board approved a motion moved by Janice, seconded by Jill that Maureen design a set of templates incorporating the new logo for letterhead, agendas, minutes, certificates, merchandise, website banner, etc.

5) Next meeting:
4247 Eastridge, July 17 at 1:30.

Adjournment: 3:30 pm

Notes taken by Jill Stainforth, Membership
Approved by Ernie Tradewell, President