

LBA Tournament Report, January, 2023

The Rosenblum Tournament was held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 5-7.

It was chaired by Suzanne Cliffe, Partnership Chair was Deborah Skorlich.

We asked for advance sign up in order to determine the amount of food needed. Very few people signed up in advance, so we tried to gage the number from the November, 2022 tournament.

Attendance figures follow:

Thursday, 9:30 a.m. 0-20 game 3 tables

10:a.m. 499'er game 5 tables

Open game 12 tables

2:00 p.m. 499'er game 4 tables

Open game 12 tables

Friday 10:00 a.m 499'er 4 tables

Open 10 tables

2:00 p.m. 499'er 5 tables

Open 12 tables

Saturday Swiss Teams A.M. 9 teams 9 tables

P.M. 9 teams 9 tables

Total Tables for 3 days 85 tables

This is a total of 340 entries.

On Thursday morning, there was a disconnect between the ACBL and our unit. Club Manager, Sherrie Goodman, had reported to the ACBL that our entry fees had been raised to \$14.00 per session. The ACBL had not informed the tournament director, so he charged the players only \$12 each. With 20 tables total, the loss to the club for that

session is \$160. (There could be a difference in the entries sold, as players with 5 or fewer masterpoints could play for free in the 0-20 group.) When the discrepancy was noticed, Kevin Perkins, our tournament director, called the ACBL and the rest of the sessions were \$14.00.

All three days we provided snacks and lunches and soft drinks. In the morning before the first game, we put out some rolls and fruit, and anything else that is donated. We also depend on our members to bring desserts, snacks, and side dishes. They were not so generous for this tournament. I attribute this to my failing as chairman for failing to make sure requests were announced in all the games leading up to the tournament and also lack of obvious sign up sheets.

Due to personnel shortages, places that delivered previously did not deliver. We had to arrange for pick up.

Lunch on Thursday was Firehouse Subs. They were easy to work with, convenient for pick up, and had the order ready when I arrived. I ordered 7 platters, 2 turkey, 2 ham, and 3 roast beef. Each platter was \$60 and had 16 individually wrapped sandwiches, easy for the players to pick up. We had one platter of the roast beef left and a combination of other sandwiches that made up most of a second platter. This being our most expensive lunch, we could cut the order down to 6 platters next time, 2 each of each meat, unless we anticipate a larger turn out. We also had individual bags of chips as well as potato salad and mixed green salads. The players seemed to really like the sandwiches. Desserts were donated.

Friday lunch was jambalaya ordered from Hobnobber's Café in Metairie. They used to deliver it but were not able to, so Theresa picked it up for us. It was prepared and hot and ready at 11:30. We ordered 2 pans which they estimated would serve about 30 people or more depending on what else is being served. We also served the leftover sandwiches which we had wrapped and refrigerated so they didn't dry out. All of the sandwiches were finished and only one pan of the jambalaya. We also served the green salads and French bread. People were very pleased with the jambalaya. I would recommend that we use this again.

Saturday lunch we had ordered chicken tenders from Zuppardo's. We cut the order on Saturday morning to only 50 as they are large. The chicken tenders have to be ordered in advance in person and have to be picked up that morning. We also had potato salad, green salad, and the left over jambalaya. The potato salad comes in a tub from Sam's. You can't get this chicken on Friday's as Zuppardo's doesn't do them on Friday. They could be used on Thursday or Saturday.

It is necessary to have someone to help in the kitchen that can put the green salad together as well as pick up the foods unless there are other volunteers to do that. This person will also help set up the serving tables, pick up during and after the games as well as making sure we have plenty of supplies, napkins, plates, utensils, cups, soft drinks.

The tournament went smoothly other than the beginning when an incorrect amount was charged. Also, the Partnership Chairperson didn't come to the tournament. I think that in the future it should be clear to the Partnership Chair that if they aren't going to be at the tournament, they need to have someone there at least 30 minutes before each game in case there are people looking for partners. This was my responsibility as chairperson and I didn't do that. I hope the chairperson in the future will think about it better than I did.