

**ACBL Board of Directors  
Toronto, ON  
July 18 – 21, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Robinson on Monday, July 18 at 8 a.m.

Present: George Retek #1, Paul Janicki #2, Joan Gerard #3, Craig Robinson #4, Sharon Fairchild #5, Margot Hennings #6, Bob Heller #7, Georgia Heth #8, Shirley Seals #9, Bill Cook #10, Beth Reid #11, William Arlinghaus #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan Morse #16, Bonnie Bagley #17, Claire Jones #18, Donald Mamula #19, Merlin Vilhauer #20, Bruce Blakely #21, Ken Monzingo #22, Rand Pinsky #23, Al Levy #24, and Richard DeMartino #25.

Also  
Present: Michael Kovacich, Chairman Board of Governors, Peter Rank, League Counsel.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Board went into Executive Session at 8 a.m. and reported the following:

The Board received the report of the CEO Search Committee, whereupon Robert S. Hartman was called to make a presentation and respond to questions regarding his application to serve as Chief Executive Officer of the League. Upon due discussion and consideration, the Board unanimously (1) approved a resolution to offer employment as Chief Executive Officer to Mr. Hartman; (2) approved a draft Employment Agreement with Mr. Hartman presented by the President; and (3) authorized the President to execute such Agreement.

Upon conclusion at 12:15 p.m. of the Executive session, the Board of Directors recessed and reconvened in open session on Tuesday, July 18, 2011 at 9 a.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Robinson on Tuesday, July 18, 2001 at 9 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, July 17

Also Present: Same as Monday, July 17 with the following additions: Jay Baum, CEO, Robert Hartman, Dee Wallace, Jeff Johnston, Vicki Campbell, Patricia Glover, Jim Miller, Millard Nachtwey, Dana Norton, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire, Secretary.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Louisville, KY minutes are approved.

Carried.

### **Executive Committee Minutes**

There were no Executive Committee minutes.

### **Non Agenda**

Motion for non-agenda item "Audit Charter" failed.

### **Reconsideration**

Motion to reconsider Item 112-120 ACBL-Wide Game (International Fund Game #1) failed.

### **ACBL CEO Report**

The report of CEO Jay Baum is received. (Attachment A)

### **League Counsel Report**

The report of League Counsel Peter Rank on the status of litigation is received. (Attachment B)

**Item 112-151: Education Status Report**

The education status report is received. (Attachment C)

**Item 112-152: Intermediate / Newcomers Status Report**

The Intermediate / Newcomer status report is received. (Attachment D)

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The meeting was called to order by President Craig Robinson on Wednesday, July 19, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, July 18

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, July 18

\* \* \* \* \*

**Finance**

Reid (C), Cook (VC)

Anderson, Heller, Levy, Mamula, Pinsky, Retek, Seals

Staff: Glover

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**International / Federations**

Levy (C), Heth (VC)

Harlan, Morse, Retek

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 112-110: World Bridge Series Championship**

A. The ACBL Board of Directors supports a World Bridge Series Championship in North America in 2018.

Carried.      Nay: 22      Abstain: 9, 20

B. The ACBL Board of Directors authorizes a \$100,000 payment to support the running of the 2018 World Bridge Series championship, if held in North America, provided no title sponsor(s) pays \$300,000 or more in support of the

championship. Payments to be made as needed, but no sooner than January 1, 2018.

Carried. Nay: 4, 22 Abstain: 17

**Appeals & Charges**

Mamula (C), Heth (Hearings), Fairchild (VC)

Bagley, Blakely, Gerard, Morse, Pinsky, Subeck

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 112-02: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations Section 4.3.1 (F)**

Section 4.3 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) is amended by the addition of section 4.3.1 (f):

4.3 Suspension by ACBL Management.

4.3.1 ACBL Management may impose an administrative suspension on a person who:

- (a) Has not paid dishonored checks to ACBL, its Districts, Units or Conferences;
- (b) Has failed to pay a valid hotel bill to a hotel supporting an ACBL tournament without notifying ACBL and the hotel that he or she disputes such obligation in good faith.
- (c) Has failed to pay a debt to ACBL, its Districts, Units or Conferences without notifying ACBL that he or she disputes such obligation in good faith.
- (d) Has failed to submit club masterpoint reports in a timely manner (the person may be either the sanctioned owner and/or club manager).
- (e) Has failed to return a traveling trophy upon demand.
- (f) Has caused damage to any facility associated with an ACBL tournament during the conduct of such tournament without adequate reason or justification and failed to make reasonable compensation therefor.

Effective January 1,2012

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-03: Code of Disciplinary Regulations Section 5.2.1**

Section 5.2.1 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) is amended to read as follows:

- 5.2.1 A complaint requesting a disciplinary hearing must be made in writing to the appropriate entity having jurisdiction, i.e. Unit, District, or ACBL (see CDR 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3) within the period of limitations described in CDR 5.2.1. (a), (b), (c) and (d) below.  
Note: A complaint is the only basis for an official charge to a disciplinary body. The disciplinary body receives and acts on a charge or charges, not a complaint or complaints. (See CDR 5.2.2) There are two methods to file a disciplinary complaint based upon a single incident: One, a “Direct Complaint” may be submitted directly to the charging body having jurisdiction by any ACBL member within the time period specified in section 5.2.1(a), (c), or (d); Two, a “Recorder Complaint” may be submitted directly to the charging body having jurisdiction by any ACBL Recorder within the time period specified in section 5.2.1(b).
- (a) A Direct Complaint involving a single incident of conduct must be brought within thirty (30) days of discovery of the incident. Irrespective of the foregoing period of limitations, the subject of a complaint is permitted to file a cross-complaint related to the original incident against the complainant within fifteen (15) days of written notification that there has been a charge filed against him or her.
  - (b) A Recorder may file a Recorder Complaint involving a single incident of conduct within thirty (30) days of receipt by the Recorder of a player memo, if and only if such player memo is submitted to the Recorder within (30) days of the incident.
  - (c) A complaint involving a pattern of conduct must be brought within five (5) years of the earliest instance referenced in the complaint.
  - (d) A complaint involving the conveying of information by unauthorized means, whether within a partnership or not (see Law 73.B.2), is not subject to a statute of limitations.

Effective January 1, 2012

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-04: CDR Attorneys**

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) and the accompanying procedures are modified as follows:

- 5.1.11 Representation on behalf of ACBL Disciplinary Bodies of Original and Appellate Jurisdiction may be provided at cost to the disciplinary body, as follows with the only requirement being that the representative at the hearing shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors except as provided in section V. A. of the CDR:
- a. In matters before TDCs, the DIC may appoint a representative to be an advocate of the complainant or may appoint a representative to be a neutral presenter of facts.
  - b. In matters before Unit or District Disciplinary Committees, the Unit or District President may appoint a representative to be an advocate of the complainant or may appoint a representative to be a neutral presenter of facts.
  - c. In matters before the Ethical Oversight Committee, ACBL Management may appoint a representative to be an advocate of the complainant or may appoint a representative to be a neutral presenter of facts.
  - d. In matters before District Appeals, the District President may appoint a representative to be an advocate of the complainant or may appoint a representative to be a neutral presenter of the matters on appeal.
  - e. In matters before Appeals and Charges Committee, ACBL Management may appoint a representative to be an advocate of the complainant or may appoint a representative to be a neutral presenter of facts.
- 5.2.3 A person charged with a violation of CDR 3 shall be entitled to:
- a. Receive written notice of the date, time, and place of hearing. Should a person admit to a charge, a hearing shall be held in order to determine and impose appropriate discipline.
  - b. Be furnished with a written statement of the charge(s), the complaint upon which the charges are based or a summary of the facts of said complaint, and the name of the complainant(s).
  - c. Be represented at the hearing by another person who not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors except as provided in section V. A. of the CDR. The person charged may be represented by an attorney outside the hearing room.
  - d. Produce evidence and make statements on his/her own behalf.
  - e. Be present during the entire hearing, except during procedural determinations and deliberation on verdicts and sentencing.
  - f. Question persons testifying

5.3.6 A person charged with a violation under CDR 3 shall be entitled to (See CDR 6.1 and 6.2 following):

- a. Receive written notice of date, time and place of hearing. Should a person admit to a charge, a hearing shall be held in order to determine and impose discipline.
- b. Be provided a written statement of the charge(s), the complaint upon which the charges are based or a summary of the facts of said complaint, and the name of the complainant(s).
- c. Be represented at the hearing by another person who shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors except as provided in section V. A. of the CDR. The person charged may be Represented by an attorney outside the hearing room.
- d. Produce evidence and make statements on his or her behalf.
- e. Be present during the entire hearing, except during procedural determinations and deliberation on verdicts and sentencing.
- f. Question persons testifying through the Chair, and at the Chair's discretion.

7.7 Each party to an appeal or review under this CDR 7 shall be entitled to:

7.7.1 Receive written notice of date, time and place of the appeals hearing.

7.7.2 Be represented at the hearing by another person who shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors except as provided in section V. A. of the CDR. The person charged may be represented by an attorney outside the hearing room.

7.7.3 Make statements on his or her behalf.

7.7.4. Be present during the entire hearing, except during procedural determinations and deliberation on verdicts and sentencing.

7.7.5 Question persons testifying through the Chair, at the Chair's discretion.

#### I.D Presenter

A presenter is an individual who makes or assists with an impartial presentation of evidence to a disciplinary committee upon the appointment by the committee chair. A presenter may be the recorder, tournament director or other party. The presenter may act as an aide to the disciplinary committee to ensure a fair and complete presentation of the evidence for the committee to consider. It is suggested that consideration be given to selection of a presenter when a case is complex and neither party is represented by counsel. The presenter selected to appear at the hearing shall not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

#### V.A Presence at Hearing

##### PRESENCE AT HEARING

The complainants and the people charged and/or their counsel (who may not be attorneys or members of the ACBL Board of Directors) are entitled to be present while all evidence is given, provided that attorneys may be present and represent the parties at hearings before the Appeals & Charges committee of the Board of Directors. Other individuals may remain at the hearing only at the discretion of the chairperson. At all times the

represented party shall be responsible for the fees and costs of his or her representation. No portion of that cost shall be borne by the opposing party.

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 18, 21, 23, 25.

<b>Bylaw</b>	
Harlan (C), Janicki (VC)	
Arlinghaus, Blakely, Heth, Monzingo, Vilhauer	Staff: Miller
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 112-65: ACBL President / Chairman Qualifications(Second Reading)**

The ACBL Bylaws are amended to read as follows:

**ACBL Officers.**

6.1.1 President. The Board of Directors shall elect from among its members a President of the ACBL to serve for the following calendar year or until a successor is elected. A person may only serve as president if he is also serving as a member of the Board of Directors.

6.1.2 Chairman. The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past President of the ACBL if he is the director from his district. If the immediate past President of the ACBL is not the director from his district, the most recent past President serving as a director shall be the chairman. The Chairman shall serve for a period of one (1) year beginning at the expiration of his term of office as President or until his successor shall take office.

Effective upon approval by the membership (7/24/2011)

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-66: Chapter IV. A.2.2.1**

Chapter IV.A.2.2.1 is amended as follows:

The ACBL President is elected by the Board of Directors at the Fall Meeting for a one year term commencing on January 1 of the following year.

Chapter IV.A.2.4.1 is amended as follows:

The ACBL Treasurer is elected by the Board of Directors at the Spring Meeting for a one year term commencing on May 1 of the same year.



Item 021-46 and Item 093-21 are hereby rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-67: Chapter IV Codified Minutes**

The following motions from Chapter IV of the Codified Minutes are hereby rescinded:

#### **Resolutions Adopted at the 1992 Annual Membership Meeting (Reduction of Expenses) (923-135)**

At the 1992 Annual Membership Meeting, the following resolutions were adopted by the membership:

1. RESOLVED that the size and cost of Board of Directors meetings be reduced in order to achieve a more efficient Board.
2. RESOLVED that the flat sum honorarium be removed and be replaced by actual and reasonable costs.
3. RESOLVED that the spouse / companion airfare be eliminated.
4. RESOLVED that a tournament committee consisting of three Board members, one member of the Board of Governors and one member-at-large be appointed at each NABC.

The following are responses to the foregoing resolutions:

1. At the 1992 Fall meetings, the Board of Directors agreed to reduce its regular meetings from three to two meetings (spring and fall) per year (see Item 923-138). Further, the Board of Directors reaffirmed its previous action to reduce the ACBL from twenty-five to nineteen Districts (See Item 923-138).
2. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Board of Governors ( See Item 923-52). The Honorarium will continue to cover expenses (telephone calls, faxes, mailings, etc.) connected with the office of District Director and Chairman of the Board of Governors.
3. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Board of Governors (See Item 923-52). The reimbursement of spouse / companion airfare will continue.

4. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Board of Governors (See Item 923-52). The current policy concerning tournament committees at NABCs will continue. However, per diem reimbursement will be at one-half the prevailing per diem for only those days a Board member serves on a Committee as determined by ACBL President.

*See Chapter IV. B.*

Second Readings of Board Actions When a Summer Board Meeting will not be Held  
(931-64)

When a Summer Meeting of the Board of Directors will not be held, the Executive Committee is empowered to act on second readings of Board actions and shall do so in a timely manner.

For this purpose, the Committee will be composed of the current five members of the Executive Committee, the three Alternates to the Executive Committee and the Chair of the Committee that reviewed the item.

The Board will provide an appropriate waiting period between the first and second readings to obtain feedback from the membership.

*See Chapter IV. E. 1.1.1.2*

Effective Date of Actions (972-47)

Unless expressly stated to the contrary, the effective date of any Board or Management action will neither apply to nor affect any tournament that is in progress on that date.

*Not needed. This is already current management policy.*

Board of Directors Communications (062-121) (071-120)

- A. All communications about committee matters between members of the Board of Directors and ACBL employees shall be directed through the chairperson of the committee concerned to the CEO or his designee.
- B. All other communications between members of the Board of Directors and employees in Memphis will be in writing (e-mail, fax or regular mail). Phone calls of an emergency nature will be sent to and through the CEO or his designee. Until further notice, this policy shall be reviewed and reported by the Board Operations Committee at each subsequent NABC.

*See Chapter IV. A.4.4.1.1.2 and 4.1.1.3*

Board Management Communications (073-122)

A. Communication between ACBL Board of Directors members and Management and staff will be courteous, responsive, respectful, and polite at all times. Board members should not expect instant replies and should convey that message. Staff should let the Board member know when it will be convenient for them to furnish information. In all cases the following procedures will be followed.

1. All ACBL Board members will have direct access to the CEO. Should any problems or complaints regarding work product or the conduct of any employee arise, they will be discussed only with the CEO. If necessary, they will be transmitted in writing to the CEO who will investigate, take whatever appropriate action he/she deems necessary, and inform the complainant of the action taken. Under no circumstances will a member of the Board personally chastise any employee for any reason.
2. Board Members wishing to contact Management or staff with all matters relevant to the committees of the Board of Directors may do so only through the committee chairman. The committee chairman, in appropriate cases, will arrange for direct contact with the relevant member of staff that is assigned to that committee as staff liaison ("CSL"). Committee Chairs may directly contact their CSL on all committee matters.
3. Board Members desiring to communicate with staff on all business matters other than committee matters are encouraged to use e-mail whenever practicable; however, telephone calls are permitted. Telephone calls requesting significant amounts of information or requiring significant time of the employee being called must be cleared with the CEO.

B. Any board member who fails to follow the above procedures will be subject to immediate review by the Board Oversight Committee and subject to the appropriate consequences in the Board of Directors Behavioral Code.

*See Chapter IV. A. 4.1.1, 4.1.1.1, 4.1.1.2, 4.1.1.3, and 4.1.1.4*

Regulation XI, F "Board of Directors is Sole Judge of its Membership"

The Board of Directors may at any time consider charges against one of its members. Upon an affirmative vote of three-fourth of all Directors for the purpose of such consideration, the President shall appoint a committee to investigate such charges. Such committee shall report to the Board at its next regular or special meeting, and the Board, after consideration thereof, may by a three-fourths vote censure, publicly reprimand, expel or otherwise discipline such member. In the event of expulsion, the procedures set forth in Article XI, H, of the ACBL Bylaws shall apply.

*See Chapter IV. A. 5.1 and 5.3*

Emergency Item (No Title or Item Number) (741)

When a disciplinary hearing is held before the Appeals and Charges Committee, the following rules shall apply:

1. When witnesses are being heard, all Board members are permitted to be present, but only members of the Appeals and Charges Committee shall ask questions of the witnesses or otherwise participate directly in the proceedings, and
2. All findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Appeals and Charges Committee shall be made by vote of the members of the Committee only.

*This became Chapter IV, Section E 1.5.4, 1.5.4.1 and 1.5.4.2*

Conflict of Interest - District Representatives (961-03)

- A. No District Director shall serve on a committee hearing an election protest or appeal from his/her own district involving that person, nor shall he/she be allowed to vote on such an appeal if said appeal comes before the ACBL Board of Directors.
- B. All parties to the appeal may be present during a committee or ACBL Board hearing and allowed to speak.

*See Chapter IV. D. 1.5.7.1 and 1.5.73.2*

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

<b>Marketing/Juniors</b>	
Anderson (C), Reid (VC)	
Cook, Harlan, Heller, Hennings, Janicki, Retek, Seals	Staff: Campbell, V.
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given.

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**Item 112-130: Junior Fund Monies**

Item 051-121 is rescinded: Monies raised from Junior Fund games will be available for all junior activities. The first \$50,000 or the amount collected annually, or whichever is less, will be given in July of the following year to the USBF to fund Junior Team activities.

Deferred to the Fall meeting in Seattle      Nay: 3, 5    Absent: 20

**Item 112-131: Benefits for Full-Service Clubs**

The president shall appoint a committee to study rewarding clubs that offer more services.

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Robinson on Thursday July 21, 2011 at 9 a.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, July 18 except that Robert Hartman was not present.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Board went into Executive Session at 9 a.m. and reported the following:

After due discussion, the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Employment agreement of Jay Baum originally dated January 1, 2002, October 1, 2003, March 10, 2005, March 8, 2007, November 20, 2007, March 12, 2009, March 10, 2010 and March 25, 2011 is approved and the President is authorized to execute such amendment.

Upon conclusion of the Executive session at 10:15 a.m. the Board of Directors recessed and reconvened in open session.

<b>Board Operations</b>	
Seals (C-BodOp)	
Anderson, Cook, Fairchild, Mamula, Reid	Staff: Miller
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given.

**Item 112-100: Automatic Appointments to the ACBL Goodwill Committee**

Chapter IV. A. 1.4.3 read:

Members of the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board of Governors and ACBL Goodwill Members of the Year shall automatically become members of the ACBL Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee. Item 922-33 is rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.



**Item 112-86: Bridge Ventures**

ACBL, as the sole shareholder of Bridge Ventures moves to dissolve the corporation.

This will rescind 933-71, 942-51 and 993-45.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-87: Player Conduct / Misconduct at Clubs**

Player conduct and/or misconduct occurring at any ACBL Club is hereby made subject to actions by Units, Districts, or the ACBL to enforce any violations of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations. This is applicable to any action and/or conduct in violation of the Code.

Motion failed:           Aye: 2, 3, 4, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16, 22, 25.

**Item 112-88: Peter Pender Memorial Vugraph**

When there is a Vugraph presentation at an NABC, the room of the presentation shall be called the Peter Pender Memorial Vugraph Theatre.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-89: Formation of a New Unit in District 7**

District 7 creates a new unit covering Beaufort and Jasper counties in South Carolina.

Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-90: Transfer of Unit 461 from District 20 to District 21**

Unit 461, Nevada County is transferred from District 20 to District 21.

Motion failed.           Aye: 21, 22.   Abstain: 1, 17, 18

## Item 112-91: President Expenses

Chapter IV (B) (Section 1) of the ACBL Codification is amended to read as follows:

### **Section 1 - ACBL President Expenses**

The image of the ACBL is paramount in all of the activities of the president. In keeping with such premise, the following statement of policy sets forth the duties, responsibilities and restrictions by which the president will be guided.

- 1.1 The president will be granted a president's expense allowance which for the year 2011 will be \$ 56,423 and each year thereafter said fund will be adjusted by the Consumer Price Index fluctuation.
- 1.2 In addition to the usual administrative functions which the president of most organizations performs, there are additional special responsibilities attached to the office of ACBL President. These include, but are not limited to:
  - 1.2.1 Attending regional and sectional tournaments of his choosing to bring the ACBL to its members. In addition, at those tournaments the president is expected to host local volunteers in his suite or at a meal function.
  - 1.2.2 Hosting certain social functions at NABCs involving the members of the Board of Directors and special groups in his suite, holding special committee meetings in his suite and one president's dinner (optional) at the NABC of his choice. At the other two NABCs, the president will host a welcoming buffet/reception for Board members and special guests in his suite.
- 1.3 The president may be accompanied by a person assisting the president in performing his duties. The expenses of such person(s) will be charged to the president's budget.
- 1.4 The president is expected to travel the most economical way to any tournaments, meetings or for other ACBL business. Airfare, using advance non-refundable ticketing, will reflect the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates whenever possible. The president will be reimbursed for travel to only one bridge event outside Zone 2 per year.
- 1.5 Travel and other expenses related to a specific activity (especially special committee meetings) will be charged to Board expenses not to the president's expenses.
- 1.6 In addition to serving as ACBL President, the president also continues to serve as his district's representative on the Board of Directors and, therefore, will receive



the trimester expense reimbursement identical to that provided all other Board members.

1.7 For accounting purposes, the president's travel expenses and expenses for the president's suite for the number of days the president is at the NABC through the first Sunday will be charged to Board expenses. Expenses for the remaining days the president is at the NABC will be charged to president's expenses.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-92: National Charity Committee**

A Task force shall be formed to develop strategies to raise the National Charity Committee to a similar level of recognition as the ACBL Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee.

Carried.      Nay: 1, 22.

<b>Technology Committee</b>	
Arlinghaus, S. (C) Vilhauer (VC)	
Arlinghaus, B., Jones, Levy, Monzingo	Staff: Campbell, V.
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given and a summary thereof is attached hereto. (Attachment F)

<b>Tournaments</b>	
Gerard (C)	
Arlinghaus, Bagley, Blakely, Gerard, Heller, Hennings, Janicki, Jones, Monzingo, Pinsky, Subeck, Vilhauer	Staff: Nachtwey
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 112-55: Codification Chapters IX Regionals & X Sectionals**

Chapters IX B, C & D (Regionals) and all X (Sectionals) of the Codification are revised chapters. (Attachments G & H)

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-56: Regional Tournament Scheduling and Sanctioning**

Item 102-141, Regional Tournament Scheduling and Sanctioning, is amended as follows:

1. Section B. Regional Tournament Allocations, paragraph 9, add:

A regional tournament may start on any day of the week and (with the exceptions of Regionals at Sea) must be scheduled on consecutive days until its conclusion; provided that a tournament that starts on Sunday must end no later than the following Friday. In addition, a one-session event that is run for the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the ACBL Junior Fund, the International Fund, or the Canadian equivalent of these may be held the first day of a six and one-half day Regional. The current formulas will be used to determine the minimum monetary contributions for these games.

2. Section C. Scheduling of Regional Tournaments, paragraph 2,

- A. The dates are protected except for one day at either the beginning or end of the tournament. A tournament with a two or more day encroachment on a traditional date tournament will not be sanctioned.
- B. A District that holds a Regional on the same dates and at the same sites/areas two out of three years will be placed on the traditional date list for Regionals. The dates are protected except for one day at either the beginning or end of the tournament. A tournament with a two or more day encroachment on a traditional date tournament will not be sanctioned. The list is available on the Coordinators Bulletin Board. Easter week is noted as an exception.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-57: Sectional Tournament Scheduling and Allocations**

Item 102-140, Sectional Tournament Scheduling and Allocations, is amended as follows:

The following two paragraphs are added to Section B. Scheduling of Sectional Tournaments.

- 7. A Sectional held more than 50 miles from a Regional held in another District is not considered in conflict with that Regional.
- 8. Sectionals that traditionally hold tournaments on or near specific holidays will, in the case of conflicts, be scheduled prior to the holiday when the holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday and after the holiday when the

holiday falls on a Wednesday or Thursday.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-58: Special Game at Sectionals**

Item 032-66 is amended as follows:

**Special Game at Sectionals (032-66)**

- A. All Units (i.e. Sectional Sponsors), are permitted to run up to two (2) special game sessions at each Sectional with the exception of STaCs. In the USA, these special games may be to benefit the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the ACBL International Fund or the ACBL Junior Fund. In other countries, they may benefit the NBO equivalent, if it exists, or the ACBL fund/foundation if it does not. The choice of beneficiary shall be made by the tournament sponsor.
- B. Such a special game may be run as an open game, senior game, team or pair game, newcomer game, or any other game that is run at a Sectional.
- C. The masterpoint awards will be regionally rated silver points.
- D. The Sponsor of the sectional will be charged USD \$1.00 per player. In Canada the charge will be CAN \$1.00 per player. In other countries, the sponsor will be charged USD \$1.00 per player. These funds shall be included in the tournament report and shall be dispersed to the appropriate organization chosen by the tournament sponsor.
- E. The normal sanction fee for Sectionals will also be charged to the Sponsoring Organization.
- F. All previous motions governing International Fund Games held at Sectionals are rescinded.

Effective January 1, 2012

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-59: Starting Time for 2013 Summer NABC**

Starting times for NABC events at the 2013 Summer NABC in Atlanta will be 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. except for screened events.

Carried. Nay: 5, 12, 15, 17, 19, 21

**Masterpoints**

DeMartino (C)  
Arlinghaus, Gerard, Heller, Jones, Subeck  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 112-153: Masterpoints**  
**(First Reading)**

- I. The awards for NABC Championships, Section III of the Masterpoint Award Regulations, are to be modified as follows:

Open Pairs (no other event, four sessions) changed from 130 to 125.

Red Ribbon Pairs changed from 70 to 60.

Canadian Open Pairs Championships changed from 75 to 65.

Women's KO Teams changed from 140 to 120.

US Women's Bridge Championship changed from 140 to 120.

Senior Team Trials changed from 50 to 120.

Canadian Senior Team Championships changed to 60 masterpoints, instead of being computed by the general formula.

Super Senior Pairs changed to 50 masterpoints, instead of being computed by the general formula.

Senior Mixed Pairs (new: An initial award of 60 masterpoints for Seattle, to be reviewed.

- II. The minimum number of boards for a club game not restricted by masterpoints is changed from 18 to 20 boards (the tournament minimum is 21). Also, the Reduction Factor for club (& on-line) games not restricted by masterpoints of fewer than 20 boards will be 60%. Currently the minimum for

club games receiving a full award is 18 boards and the reduction factor is 80%.

Second reading to be held at the Fall 2011 Seattle, WA NABC.

Carried. Nay: 8, 19, 24.

**Bridge**

Arlinghaus (C), Heller (VC) Bagley, Blakely, Gerard, Hennings, Janicki, Jones, Monzingo, Pinsky, Subeck, Vilhauer	Staff: Nachtwey
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Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 112-25: Ace of Clubs Race**

The name of the Ace of Clubs race will be changed to the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs race.

Effective immediately.

Approved by acclamation.

**Conditions of Contest**

Subeck(C) Arlinghaus, Bagley, Blakely, Gerard, Heller, Hennings, Janicki, Jones, Monzingo, Pinsky, Subeck, Vilhauer	Staff: Nachtwey
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Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 112-40: Women's KO**

A 2-day Swiss Qualifying or RR be added to the format for the Women's KO to be held the first two days of the event and to award event seeding points which would impact placement in the KO phase.

Referred to the Competitions and Conventions Committee and Deferred to the Fall 2011 NABC meeting in Seattle, WA.

Deferral carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-41: Seeding for NABC+ Knockout Events**

Seeding for the Vanderbilt and Spingold events will be based, for each player, on the greater of the two seeding point totals (capped at 50) calculated by the following two methods:

- Method 1: The current method (current appendix B) (based on performance in previous events and masterpoint holding, as amended by 111-36).
- Method 2: WBF Masterpoint total divided by 100 plus WBF placing point total multiplied by 1.75.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-42: Small Children or Pets in Playing Area**

Item (942-81) Small Children or Pets in Playing Area is amended as follows:

Non-participating children under the age of six and pets are not allowed to remain in the playing area of NABC tournaments during play and for 15 minutes before and after play, subject to the following exceptions and restrictions.

1. The tournament DIC shall grant an exception to a player (a “player/owner”) with disabilities who brings a working service dog (“WSD”) to the playing area if the player/owner provides credible evidence to the DIC that his or her WSD performs tasks. The only questions which the DIC may ask are: “Is that a service dog?” and “What tasks does the service dog do?” The DIC may *not* ask questions regarding the player/owner’s disability or request certification or proof of the WSD’s training.
2. The tournament DIC shall grant an exception to a player/owner who brings an emotional support animal (“ESA”) to the playing area if the player/owner submits to the DIC a formal letter of prescription from a licensed mental health professional (psychiatrist, psychologist, therapist, counselor or social worker) which indicates the necessity of use of an ESA by the player/owner. The DIC may *not* ask questions regarding the player/owner’s emotional status or request certification or proof of the ESA’s training.
3. The WSD or ESA must remain on a leash in a sitting or lying position within three feet of the player/owner or in a kennel within three feet of the player/owner during the game.

4. The WSD or ESA must wear identification indicating that the dog is a service dog or support animal.
5. The DIC may exclude a WSD or an ESA from the playing area when the behavior of such dog or animal, in the judgment of the DIC, poses a direct threat to the health or safety of persons in the playing area.
6. The player/owner must clean up (or assure that clean up is performed) after his or her WSD or ESA. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be documented by the DIC, and may result in disciplinary action under the Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

Effective November 1, 2011

Carried unanimously.

#### **Item 112-43: Subjective Seeding in the Spingold**

The Subjective Seeding method is approved on a trial basis for the 2011 Spingold Knockout Teams at the Summer NABC in Toronto. The subjective seeding method to be used is as follows:

#### **SUBJECTIVE SEEDING IN THE SPINGOLD**

For the 2011 Spingold, the event will be seeded objectively (according to the “New Seeding Rules”), and then (experimentally) re-seeded subjectively by a “Subjective Seeding Committee\*”

The process is summarized below:

After the Director-in-Charge determines a team’s average Seeding Points (SPs) in accordance with the “New Seeding Rules,” and before shuffling in groups, the Subjective Seeding Committee will review the team’s placement in the bracket. The Committee may ask the opinions of other players, especially when evaluating unfamiliar foreign entrants and Canadian players.

The Committee cannot change the seeding group of teams seeded in the top 16. Teams 17-20 may be moved down one “shuffling group.” Teams 21 and up can be moved up or down one “shuffling group,” but teams in the bottom shuffling group can only be moved up one group. The shuffling groups are 17-20, 21-24, 25-28, 29-32, then in groups of 8 through team 64, then in groups of 16. For example, a team in the 29-32 group could become seeded 33-40, or become seeded 25-28. For every team changed, another team must be moved reciprocally to replace it.

Any seeding change would be made before shuffling, and require a majority\* vote of the committee. (Three members constitute a majority.)

\*The Subjective Seeding Committee members are: David Berkowitz, Barry Rigal, Eric Kokish, Howie Weinstein, and one other player selected by them.

Carried.

#### **Item 112-44: GNT Entry Fees**

The ACBL will waive all entry fees for the NABC final GNT events.

Motion failed. Aye: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24.

#### **Item 112-45: Modification of C of C for Vanderbilt and Spingold Team Events**

The modifications suggested by Ron Klinger (as published in the Louisville Daily Bulletin) are accepted.

Effective 2012

Referred to the Competitions and Conventions Committee and Deferred to Seattle.

Deferral carried unanimously.

#### **Item 112-46: Modification of General Conditions of Contest for Knock Out Teams**

The following modifications are made to the Conditions of Contest for KO Teams

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST – KNOCK OUT TEAMS  
are changed:

##### **CORRECTION AND APPEAL PERIODS**

The score correction period for player and scorer errors expires thirty minutes after the completion of the segment, at the start of play at either table of a playoff, or at the announced starting time of the next match, whichever is earlier. Despite the foregoing, the DIC is empowered to, when practical, make a score correction before the announced starting time of the next match in the interest of fairness/equity.

Effective January 1, 2012

Carried unanimously.



**Item 112-47: Modification of General Conditions of Contest for Swiss Teams**

The following modifications are made to the Conditions of Contest for Swiss Teams

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST – SWISS TEAMS  
are changed:

**PLAYER ERRORS:**

No increase in score need be granted unless the Director's attention is called to the error prior to the announced starting time of the next match or thirty minutes after the completion of the match whichever is earlier.

Effective January 1, 2012

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-48: GNT C of C**

The Conditions of Contest for the Grand National Teams are changed as follows:

1. A team may play in flight A if a) the average masterpoint holding of its highest 4 players in terms of masterpoints is less than 5000 and b) no more than 2 players have more than 5000 masterpoints.
2. A team may play in flight B if a) the average masterpoint holding of its highest 4 players in terms of masterpoints is less than 2000 b) no individual player has more than 5000 masterpoints and c) no more than 2 players have more than 2000 masterpoints

Motion failed. Aye: 8, 9, 14, 16, 20, 21.

**Item 112-49: Alert Chart**

A. Conventions and Competitions Committee Suggestions – Alert Chart

Remove the requirement to Alert a cheapest club bid response over a NT opener or overcall, regardless of response structure. Rebids by notrump bidder which are different from standard (such as “Puppet Stayman”) would still be Alertable.

- B. Amend the definitions of natural openers to include a 1C opener on specifically 4432 with 2 clubs and 4-4 in the majors.

Effective January 1, 2012.

Carried. Nay: 9 Abstain: 8, 20

### **Item 112-50: Extended Unit Team Games**

Motion 101-46 is rescinded.

A unit is entitled to hold three sectional-rated (black points) extended team events per year. Extended is defined for this purpose as requiring at least three sessions of 24 boards each to complete. These events may be played with or without a qualifying stage but a qualifying stage may not award overall masterpoints, only match awards. Some examples of formats for extended team play are: single-elimination KO, double-elimination KO, Swiss qualifying to either type of KO, round-robin qualifying to either type of KO, extended Swiss, extended round-robin, and other types.

Should a unit wish to hold a one-day qualifying event which awards overall masterpoints and also qualifies teams into an extended event, they may use one of their Unit Championship entitlements (Unit Championship-rated) for the qualifying stage and then use an extended-team sanction entitlement for the final stage. For such a combination of stages the number of teams in the extended event is based on the number of teams actually qualified and entered into the extended stage not the number of teams in the qualifying stage.

Should a unit wish to hold an extended event with overall awards, which also qualifies teams into another extended event with its own overall awards, it may do so by using two of its extended event entitlements. Each event must meet the length requirements and the number of teams in the second event is based as outlined above.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-51: Vanderbilt and Spingold Starting Times**

Once the screens are implemented in the Vanderbilt and Spingold Knockout Teams, the starting times for the events will be 12:00 (noon) and 7:00. This would not apply when the entire NABC starting times are scheduled to commence before noon.

Effective January 1, 2012

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 112-52: GNT District Finals Internet**

Districts may elect to hold GNT finals at multiple sites with competition via the Internet. The following will be required as part of the District Conditions of Contest:

**Appendix II**  
**Conditions of Contest**  
**For District GNT Finals Hosted Online**

**General Conditions**

- 1) This event will be conducted at a variety of playing sites, and hosted online by an ACBL approved host. (See Appendix III)
- 2) Regarding any of the below, the decision of the Director in Charge (DiC) will be final. The DiC is empowered to remedy any omissions in these Conditions of Contest.
- 3) Unless specifically noted below, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, the ACBL Convention Charts, the ACBL Alert Chart, the Conditions of Contest for the 2011/2012 GNT, General Conditions of Contest for team play and ACBL Zero Tolerance Policy shall govern this event.
- 4) The DiC must be an ACBL Director, hold the rank of Tournament Director or higher, and shall have the authority to assign his own staff.
- 5) The Tournament Organizer will provide a format for the event which includes contingencies for any number of teams in each flight.
- 6) If feasible and except in #10, below: Contestants in each flight will play the same deals as others within their flight, and no two flights shall play the same deals.
- 7) Each Contestant shall have access to these conditions of contest, and the event's format (#5 above). Failure to have reviewed these conditions, or lack of proficiency with computers or the software used by the online host does not excuse any irregularity, or violation of these conditions.
- 8) Each Team must pre-register by three weeks prior to the announced date of the contest. Late entrants may be accepted for the convenience of the movement and only at the discretion of the DiC. At the time of pre-registration, Teams are required to submit funds for participation and the following information for each team member:
  - a) Name
  - b) ACBL Number
  - c) User ID for online host
  - d) Site of participation
  - e) Any special needs addressed by these Conditions of Contest.
- 9) In the event a Contestant is handicapped, where he is unable to use a computer, and in all cases where a Contestant does not have the requisite computer skills, said Contestants may bring an Operator to relay calls, plays and explanations

thereof. Communication between the Contestant and his Operator is to be conducted in writing. Any notes from a Contestant/Operator interaction may be used to settle disputes. The Operator must be named in preregistration, and is subject to the approval of the DiC.

- 10) Should a technical difficulty arise, which delays play for one or more matches, play in all unaffected matches shall continue, and 15 minutes will be allotted to resolve the issue before play is suspended. If play is suspended for one or more matches, and in the DiC's opinion, the rest of the contest is unaffected (as in the final match of a Swiss), the affected matches will continue at a later time with different hands than those played during the main competition.

### **Security**

- 1) Each Contestant must preregister to participate at a particular site, and no Contestant may participate from a physical location other than a site designated by the Tournament Organizer, and approved by the DiC. The DiC shall be informed, no later than 2 Days after the close of registration, of each designated site.
- 2) The Tournament Organizer will designate at least one Monitor for each playing site. The DiC shall be informed, no later than 2 days after the close of registration, of the proposed Monitor for each site, and their contact information. The proposed Monitor is subject to approval by the DiC.
- 3) Monitors shall ensure the enforcement of these conditions of contest, and will be primarily responsible for the enforcement of any security related issues at their designated location.
- 4) Monitors need not be Directors, and may not rule on any irregularity occurring during play, nor penalize a Contestant for any violation of these conditions. Monitors must immediately inform the DiC of any irregularity or violation of which they become aware in any manner.
- 5) Contestants are not permitted to be in possession of any electronic communication devices while they are competing. VIOLATION OF THIS CONDITION WILL RESULT IN A MANDATORY PENALTY OF 12 IMPS, AND A SECOND VIOLATION WILL RESULT IN THE TEAM'S DISQUALIFICATION.
- 6) Chatter at each physical location shall be kept to a minimum. No discussion of hands is permitted at any given location until all bridge play at that location has concluded.
- 7) Contestants must connect to the internet through a designated on site router.
- 8) Contestants may only run the following applications during the play period:

- a. Online Host Software or
  - b. An internet browser for the purpose of accessing the Online Host and/or (in the Championship and A Flights only) for the purpose of accessing the ACBL's defense database.
- 9) Monitors shall ensure that Contestants cannot view the Computer Screens of other Contestants with in their own flight.
- 10) Monitors shall ensure that Contestants, competing at the same site as members of their own team, are seated in positions which obscure their view of one another.
- 11) Contestants must not relay, through chat visible to partner, any extraneous information.

### **The Play**

- 1) Contestants are required to post a complete convention card, in ACBL format, inclusive of any supplemental notes.
- 2) The ACBL Mid-Chart applies to Flight 'A' and the Championship Flight. Pairs playing methods requiring a written defense must pre-alert their opponents, and post a written description of the method(s) along with their convention card. Contestants opposing a pair playing such methods are permitted to access the ACBL's defense database and keep said defenses open in their internet browser. <http://www.acbl.org/play/defenseDataBase.html>
- 3) The ACBL General Convention Chart applies to Flights B & C.
- 4) The Director must be summoned electronically for any irregularity which occurs during play. Once the Director has been summoned, all play and bidding shall cease until the Director authorizes its continuation.
- 5) Contestants are required to alert and explain their own calls (not their partner's). When one makes an alertable call, the bidder must give a full explanation of the agreement to his opponents (and only his opponents). Stating the common or popular name of the convention is not sufficient.
- 6) Any Contestant may request, but only at his turn to call or play, information concerning an opponent's methods. Such inquiries may be asked of either or both opponents, but must be asked in a private chat. Replies to these inquiries must be given in a private chat.
- 7) Violations of conditions, which make available to one's partner extraneous information by a remark, a question, a reply to a question, an unexpected alert, failure to alert, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism (Security 9-11 & The Play 5 & 6), shall be rectified under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge,

and are subject to procedural penalties. The Monitors and Contestants must report any such violations to the DiC.

- 8) Any deviation in tempo does convey extraneous information, and is subject to rectification under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Any Contestant experiencing technical difficulties which may be construed as conveying extraneous information should immediately inform the Monitor or Director.
- 9) Claims, concessions, agreement thereto and contention or cancellation thereof will be rectified under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge.
- 10) Unintended calls or plays will be rectified under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. If a Contestant makes an unintended call or play he should summon the Director immediately. As in live play, undoes are permitted only upon instruction of the Director.

### **Appendix III Requirements for ACBL approved Online Host**

- 1) Online hosts must be accessible to all of the events participants.
- 2) The host must have the ability to run four separate flights.
- 3) The host must have the capability to run distinct sets of deals for each match, as well as distinct sets of deals for each flight.
- 4) The host must ensure the conditions of each deal are consistent with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge (Laws 1, 2, 4-6)
- 5) The host shall ensure that each participant may chat with either or both of his opponents, and with all of the contestants at his table, but not privately with partner.
- 6) All deals, auctions, play and chat shall be recorded and available for review, in real time, by the director.
- 7) If feasible, the auction should appear for each contestant three bids at a time.
- 8) The host must have the capability of running a Swiss, Knockout and/or Round Robin movement. Specific movements are listed below.
  - a. Three table Round Robin in 2 rounds with distinct sets of deals for each match.
  - b. Four Table Round Robin: Three rounds with identical deals for both matches of each round.
  - c. Five table BAM movement. Four rounds with comparison after round four.

- d. Five table Swiss Round Robin: Four rounds with comparisons after rounds two and four
- e. Five table Round Robin: Five rounds with a sit out and identical deals for both matches of each round. Comparisons after each round.
- f. Six table Round Robin: Five Rounds with identical deals for all three matches of each round. Comparisons after each round.
- g. Seven table BAM: Six rounds with comparison after round six.
- h. Seven table Swiss Round Robin: Six rounds with comparisons after rounds two, four and six.
- i. Seven Table Swiss Round Robin: Seven Rounds with a sit out and identical deals for all three matches of each round. Comparisons after each match.
- j. Eight table Round Robin: Seven rounds with identical deals for all four matches of each round. Comparisons after each match.
- k. Nine table BAM: Eight rounds with comparison after round eight.
- l. Nine table Swiss Round Robin: Eight rounds with comparisons after rounds two, four, six, and eight.
- m. Nine table Swiss Round Robin: Nine rounds with a sit out and identical deals for all four matches of each round. Comparisons after each match.
- n. Ten table Round Robin: Nine rounds with identical deals for all five matches of each round. Comparisons after each match.
- o. Any odd number table Swiss Team movement with 11 or more teams, consisting of a three table round robin and 4 or more head to head matches. Pairing to be based upon the aggregate VP results of each team.
- p. Any even number table Swiss Team movement with 12 or more teams. Pairing to be based upon the aggregate VP results of each team.
- q. Any KO movement from 9-16 teams, to be completed in four rounds, with no sit outs.
- r. Any KO movement from 6-8 teams, to be completed in 3 rounds, with no sit outs.
- s. KO Movement with 2 or four teams.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 112-53: GNT Special C of C**

The GNT Special Conditions of Contest for 2011- 2012 (available at ACBL.org) are approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

## **Strength of Field**

Subeck (C)

Arlinghaus, Gerard, Heller, Jones, Vilhauer

Committee Report by Chairman

### **Item 112-154: Strength of Field Formula (First Reading)**

A Strength of Field (SOF) formula shall be implemented for Regional and Sectional Pair and Swiss Team games. Implementation of the SOF formula will be subject to full board approval of detailed specifications to be delivered to the Board on or before November 1, 2011 meetings.

The Strength of Field committee will continue the development of a SOF award system. This system is to be implemented as early as January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, subject to necessary changes being made to the current or new ACBLscore program.

The Strength of Field committee is directed to deliver a full set of specifications no later than November 1, 2011.

The first year after implementation, the Masterpoint committee may make adjustments to the formula if and when it becomes clear that the new formula is having an unintended effect. Such adjustments are approved by this motion and do not require additional Board action.

Carried.        Nay:    7, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22    Absent: 9

### **Closing Remarks**

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 2 and its units, District Director Paul Janicki and Tournament Chairman Sally Rewbotham all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Fairmont Royal York and the Sheraton Hotels for their fine cooperation.

\* \* \* \* \*

**There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 5:30 p.m.**