

CHAPTER III - ADMINISTRATION

H. ACBL LAWS COMMISSION

Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge, 1997 Revision (963-05)

- B. The Board of Directors confirms the decision of ACBL Laws Commission in accepting the 1997 Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge. This revision, along with the regulations in Part A above, is effective for Zone 2 on May 26, 1997. However, Law 93 and the regulation pertaining to Law 93 B become effective on March 1, 1997.

The Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge (002-130)

The ACBL Board of Directors requests that:

- A. The ACBL Laws Commission encourage promulgating a revision of the Laws prior to the customary ten year cycle.
- A. The ACBL Laws Commission review the specific laws dealing with “card laid-card played” philosophy in both bidding and play for the revision above.
- A. Management review its procedures, interpretations and implementations of the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge to increase as much as legal and appropriate under the current laws the “card laid-card played” philosophy.

ACBL Laws Commission Representative to WBF Laws Committee (011-43)

The ACBL will send a representative from the ACBL Laws Commission to attend all meetings of the WBF Laws Committee held in conjunction with World Championships. The representative will be selected by the ACBL Laws Commission. The ACBL will provide a supersaver air ticket, hotel room, and per diem.

Competition & Conventions / Laws Commission Compensation (022-21)

Effective immediately, members of the C & C Committee and members of the Laws Commission who are not otherwise compensated will receive a token of appreciation from the Board of Directors at the conclusion of their meetings at each NABC. Only those in attendance for all required meetings will be compensated.

(Otherwise compensated means Board of Directors, employees, and heads of committees who might already be compensated).

- A. For members of the Laws Commission, a two session entry to an NABC+ event or lower.

Good for one year from date of receipt.

- B. For members of the C & C Committee, two (2) session entries to an NABC+ event or lower. Good for one year from date of receipt.

ACBL Committee Meeting Absences (073-28)

Any member of the ACBL Laws Commission, Hall of Fame Committee or Competitions and Conventions Committee that has an unexcused absence as determined by the Committee Chairman for three consecutive meetings will be considered as resigned and the President will appoint someone to finish out the remaining term.

Laws of Duplicate Bridge (081-34)

- A. The Laws of Duplicate Bridge as reviewed and promulgated by the ACBL Laws Commission and published and copyrighted by ACBL are accepted with the following elections:
1. 12 C 1 (e) The provisions of law 12 C 1 apply for ACBL sanctioned events, while the provision of law 12 C 1 (c) will not apply for ACBL sanctioned events.
 2. Law 18 F: The ACBL Board of Directors authorizes sponsoring organizations in ACBL sanctioned events to use bidding boxes. Any alternative method which is necessary to enable a person with a disability to compete is authorized subject to the approval of the Director in Charge.
 3. Law 40 B1 and B 2 (a): An opening bid of one notrump and an opening bid of one in a suit which, by partnership agreement, could show fewer than eight high-card points is designated a special partnership agreement. These two special partnership agreements are disallowed in all ACBL sanctioned events.
 4. Law 40 B 2 (a): Both members of a partnership must employ the same system that appears on the convention card.
 - a. During a session of play, a system may not be varied, except with permission of the tournament director. (A director might allow a pair to change a convention but would not allow a pair to change its basic system.)
 - b. At the outset of a round or session, a pair may review the opponents' convention card and alter its defenses against the opponents' special understandings and preemptive bids. This must be announced to the opponents. The opponents may not vary their system after being informed of these defensive alterations.
 5. Law 40 B 2 (b) Defenses to methods permitted by the ACBL Mid-Chart and/or SuperChart may be referred to by any player whenever it would be appropriate to refer to an opponent's convention card.
 6. Law 40 B 2 (c): In addition, a player is permitted to consult an opponent's convention card at his RHO's turn to call.

7. Law 40 B 3: A partnership, by prior agreement, may not vary its understanding during the auction or play following a question asked, a response to a question or any irregularity.
 8. Law 93 C (1): A further appeal to the National Authority (ACBL) may be allowed only as follows:
 - a. On a point of law to and at the discretion of the ACBL Laws Commission.
 - b. On an allegation of bias of a committee member or members to and at the discretion of the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee. The appellant is required to present evidence that the bias was not known at the time of the hearing.
 - c. The appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days of the decision of the Bridge Appeals Committee that heard the issue.
 9. Law 93 C 3 (a): Except as noted in 8. above, the final responsibility of dealing with any appeal of a director's decision is that of the tournament's bridge appeals committee.
- B. The Laws of Duplicate Bridge as accepted and approved in A above go into effect for ACBL sanctioned events on September 8, 2008.