

CHAPTER VI - CLUBS

A. CLUB SANCTIONED GAMES

Club Participation in Unit Championship or Unit-Wide Events (801-43)

All clubs within a Unit that have an expectation of an adequate number of tables, and that are operating in conformance with ACBL regulations, and who have not proven consistently unreliable regarding submitting of report forms and monies due for such games, must be allowed to participate when a Unit Championship, Unit-wide, District-wide, or ACBL-wide event is scheduled on a session for which the club is franchised.

Transfer of Club Sanctions (851-82)

The transfer of a club sanction from one ACBL member to another shall require a thirty-day probationary period. During this time the Unit, District Director or Management may object to the transfer. Valid objections shall be the same as those allowed before a new club sanction is granted.

Foreign Clubs (892-44)

Bridge clubs, at locations outside of Bermuda, Canada, Mexico and the United States, may be sanctioned at the discretion of Management, subject to the following guidelines:

- A. Where there is no indication of a local bridge organization or local bridge club, sanctions may be freely issued.
- B. Sanctions may be issued for "isolated" locations, such as military bases, consulates, etc.
- C. Where there is a local bridge club in operation, efforts will be made to minimize competition or interference between such a club and an ACBL club. If all parties agree, joint sanctions will be encouraged. If a local club appears to have legitimate concerns that an ACBL club is unduly interfering, or would unduly interfere, with the operation of the local club, then any sanction granted to the ACBL club will be subject to restrictions that minimize such interference; e.g., play restricted to citizens of ACBL NCBOs with guest privileges no more than once a month.

ACBL-Sanctioned Duplicate Bridge Games (922-21)

Effective with 1993 club sanction renewals, Management shall incorporate in the renewal form a section requiring clubs to submit to binding arbitration. Sanction forms will not be accepted nor sanction checks cashed without a signed form which includes this mandatory arbitration agreement.

New Club Plan (933)

On June 18, 1993, the Executive Committee met via conference call and took the following actions:

The New Club Plan, as approved at the 1993 Spring Meetings, is approved on second reading with the following change:

The sentence "Membership games have been eliminated" be deleted from the section titled Charity Club Championship Awards.

NOTE: The New Club Plan will become effective 1/1/94. January, 1, 1994.

(See Appendix 1. *Revised Club Program*)

Liability Insurance for Clubs and Units (933-56)

- A. At the request of the Board of Governors, Management is instructed to provide to all clubs, Units and Districts a full explanation of current liability insurance coverage.

Two-Table Team Games at Clubs (952-46) (second reading 953-46)

Two-table sanctioned team games at club sessions will be allowed to award masterpoints. Regular session and table fees would apply.

Short matches are permissible and makeup of teams or partnerships may be changed for each match.

The masterpoint awards would be .01 masterpoint per board played and there would be match awards only. A 9-board match would award .09 masterpoints for each winning player. A 32-board match would award .32 masterpoints for each winning player.

There are *no* overall awards.

Club Handicapping; Master Point Awards (961-50) (962-66 Second reading)

The masterpoint awards for club handicap games can be as currently given *or* at the discretion of the club as follows:

1. 100% awards for scratch winners for the class of game involved.
2. 50% awards for handicap winners.
3. Players receive the higher of the awards, but *not* both.

This change will bring the master point awards for handicap games in line with stratified games. Effective August 2, 1996.

Club Masterpoint Awards (962-68)

All clubs must submit club masterpoints directly to ACBL.

For clubs using ACBLscore this is presently done monthly with either a disk or hardcopy. (In the future this may be done with modem). For clubs not using ACBLscore, a masterpoint list will be provided monthly for members winning any masterpoints in a sanctioned game. Club rating point slips will no longer be required.

For any clubs desiring to have a masterpoint reference chit to identify fractional masterpoints won by any club member at any game or a summary of games, ACBL will prepare a new chit and provide it to the clubs on request.

Single Sanction for Multiple Site Clubs (963-70)

Clubs may have a single sanction number and varying sites.

Legal Defense of Clubs in Civil Actions (991-50)

The ACBL CEO is authorized to have ACBL participate to the extent and in such form as the CEO deems reasonable in the defense of a club/club manager/club official who is sued as the sole result of having enforced conditions of his/her sanction.

Club Annual Table Count List (992-191)

Lists prepared and published which rank the size of ACBL clubs will include in the total all games held not just regular club and club championship games.

Masterpoint Game at Schools (992-301)

The minimum number of boards played for 0-5 MP games conducted in schools is six for middle-schools through college. The masterpoint award will be 0.03 per table.

There are no sanction or table fees associated with these games.

Club Games (001-171) (021-200)

Sanctioned clubs may hold shortened regular open games (not to include any special games awarding extra masterpoints) with a minimum number of boards played of 12.

Masterpoints will be awarded at 80% of the award for open games.

Sanction Fees for these games are \$.40 (12-17 boards) per table.

Administrative Guidelines for ACBL Club Games and ACBL Club Director Accreditations
(073-57) (082-32) (083-85)

In accordance with Item 072-60: Sanctions for ACBL Games at Clubs and ACBL Club Director Accreditations:

The ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations is amended as follows:

A. ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations Chapter 4, Section One, V., F. is deleted; Section One, IV. D. is added as follows:

D. Cancellation of Sanction

1. ACBL management has the right to cancel or suspend a club game sanction for cause upon thirty days notice to the club manager. Any one of the following shall constitute "cause" for cancellation or suspension:
 - operation of a club out of compliance with ACBL regulations
 - unsuitable club venue
 - discriminatory practices as set forth in this Handbook

A suspension is for a fixed period of time whereupon the sanction shall automatically renew. If a cancellation is for a fixed period of time, the club manager may apply for renewal. Cancellations may be permanent without the possibility of renewal.

2. ACBL management may immediately suspend or cancel a club game sanction if the "cause" for cancellation is such that continuation of the sanction will result in substantial and immediate violation of ACBL Regulations; or increase the likelihood of lawsuit against the ACBL; or result in violation of state or Federal law.
3. The thirty day notice of suspension or cancellation shall provide the club manager with the option of providing ACBL management with reasons in writing why the suspension or cancellation should not take place, whereupon ACBL management, in its own discretion, may leave the suspension or cancellation in place, amend the suspension or cancellation or withdraw the suspension or cancellation.
4. The club may file a written appeal of a suspension or cancellation with the Appeals and Charges Committee of ACBL Board of Directors within thirty days of the effective date of the cancellation, provided however, that the suspension or cancellation will remain in effect

until the appeal before the Appeals and Charges Committee has been decided. In order to be considered, such written appeal must include reasons why the cancellation is inconsistent with the terms of this Section D.

- B. ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations Chapter 4, Section three, III.C. is added as follows:

C. Cancellation of Accreditation

1. ACBL management has the right to cancel a club director's accreditation for cause upon thirty days notice to the club director. Any one of the following shall constitute "cause" for cancellation of accreditation: direction of a club game out of compliance with ACBL regulations; unsuitable club venue; or discriminatory practices by the club director as set forth in this Handbook. A cancellation of accreditation is for a fixed period of time whereupon the club director may apply for reinstatement of accreditation (a new examination may be required by ACBL management for reinstatement); or, a cancellation may be permanent without the possibility of reinstating accreditation.
2. ACBL management may cancel a club game director's accreditation without notice if the "cause" for cancellation is such that continuation of the club director's club activities will result in substantial and immediate violation of ACBL Regulations; or increase the likelihood of lawsuit against the ACBL; or result in violation of state or Federal law.
3. The thirty day notice of cancellation of accreditation shall provide the club director with the option of providing ACBL management with reasons in writing why the cancellation should not take place, whereupon ACBL management, in its own discretion, may leave the cancellation of accreditation in place, amend the cancellation or withdraw the cancellation
4. The club director may file a written appeal of a cancellation of accreditation with the Appeals and Charges Committee of ACBL Board of Directors within thirty days of the effective date of the cancellation, provided however, that the cancellation will remain in effect until the appeal before the Appeals and Charges Committee has been decided. In order to be considered, such written appeal must include reasons why the cancellation is inconsistent with the terms of this Section C.

Shortened Club Championships (091-32)

Clubs be allowed to hold either regular club championships (18+ boards) or shortened club championships (12-17) boards played. The total number of club championships, including regular and shortened, will remain the same as currently allowed. The overall awards for shortened club championships are 60% of regular club championships.

The online shortened club championship (12-17 boards) overall award is capped at 4.50 masterpoints.