

CHAPTER I – MEMBERSHIP
C. DUES AND LIFE MASTER SERVICE FEES

Section 1 - Dues

- 1.1 All dues processing shall be handled by ACBL management with no charge to the units.
- 1.2 Billing to members for dues will be done on a staggered basis throughout the year.
- 1.3 Membership dues are payable the first day of the month which has been designated as the Renewal Month for each ACBL member and shall be considered delinquent one month thereafter.
 - 1.3.1 When members pay their renewal fees within 90 days of their expiration date, the term for which they are paid will begin from the date that their membership originally expired.
- 1.4 Those joining or rejoining ACBL after January 1, 1996, will pay dues at the established rate. When these players attain Life Master status, they will continue to pay the established rate with no service fee differential.
- 1.5 Once a month, management will notify each affected unit and district of (1) all Life Masters who have moved out of a unit to an unknown location and (2) unpaid Life Masters who have had no contact with the ACBL for the previous two years. Unless informed to the contrary, each such Life Master will be transferred into a special holding unit not associated with any of the 25 districts. A list of the Life Masters who have been so transferred will be sent each year to the appropriate units and districts.
- 1.6 Rates for dues and Life Master service fees as determined by the ACBL Board of Directors shall be published on the ACBL website.
- 1.7 ACBL members residing outside of Zone 2 shall pay an additional amount per year for the Bridge Bulletin if such member requests the publication be sent to an address outside Zone 2.

Section 2 - Canadian Dues

- 2.1 Approval of the ACBL is not required for the Canadian Bridge Federation to increase the fee that is added to the membership dues billings of Canadian members. This additional fee is remitted to the CBF in support of its operation/projects.

2.2 Canadian Exchange Rate for Dues

- 2.2.1 ACBL's policy with regard to setting the exchange rate for annual dues of Canadian members is to optimally balance the needs to:
 - 2.2.1.1 Protect the Canadian ACBL member from overpaying because the Canadian dollar strengthens.
 - 2.2.1.2 Protect the ACBL from exchange losses because the Canadian dollar weakens.
 - 2.2.1.3 Control the administrative burdens and costs of changing dues renewal exchange rates too often.
- 2.2.2 The average exchange rate prevailing during the last five business days of July shall be used to determine the exchange rate applicable to the dues rate for new Canadian members for the succeeding calendar year.
- 2.2.3 The exchange rate used to determine the dues rate for renewing Canadian members shall be the rate established for that year, except that the exchange rate will be modified during a year under the following conditions:
 - 2.2.3.1 Once a quarter on the 20th day (or on the first business day thereafter) of March, June, September and December, the average Canadian exchange rate as reported in the Wall Street Journal for that week will be checked.
 - 2.2.3.2 If this rate differs from the exchange rate then in effect for billing renewing ACBL Canadian members by three Canadian cents or more, the average exchange rate for that week shall become the rate used to bill renewing Canadian members effective with bills issued in the following month . This revised rate will remain in effect for the remainder of the calendar year unless and until altered in accordance with this provision.

Section 3 - Life Master Service Fees

- 3.1 Life Master service fees must be paid in order to be eligible for inclusion on any masterpoint race list, for inclusion on any Life Master upgrade list, to receive the Bridge Bulletin, to receive point confirmations, and to receive qualified monetary awards to attend an NABC or any other event for which ACBL provides a monetary award.

