

**Minutes
ACBL Board of Directors
Philadelphia Marriott
Philadelphia, PA
March 4 – 6, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Tuesday March 4 at 8:30 am.

Present: George Retek #1, Jonathan Steinberg #2, Joan Levy Gerard #3, Craig Robinson #4 Sharon Fairchild #5, Nadine K. Wood #6, Bruce Reeve #7, Georgia Heth #8, Shirley Seals #9, Charles D. Wilkinson #10, Jim Reiman #11, William C. Arlinghaus #12, Harriette Buckman #13, Sue Himel #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan E. Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Barbara Nist #19, G. S. Jade Barrett #20, Roger Smith #21, James H. Kirkham #22, Alan LeBendig #23, Alvin Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Also

Present: Don Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, CEO; Jack Zdancewicz, CFO; Gary Blaiss, Executive Administrative Officer; Rick Beye, Chief Tournament Officer; and staff Nancy Foy, Linda Granell, Bruce Keidan, Jim Miller, and Kelley McGuire.

Approval of Phoenix 023 Minutes

The Phoenix Minutes are approved.

Carried.

031-180: Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting are ratified.

Carried. (Minutes of meeting follow)

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 25, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the ACBL held a meeting by electronic mail on Saturday January 25, 2003. Present were President Al Levy, Chairman George Retek, Roger Smith, Jonathan Steinberg, and Nadine Wood.

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The committee convened at the request of the President. The committee was asked to act on behalf of the Board and approve the following presidential appointments.

Director of the NABC Appeals Committee, Joan Gerard
Chairman of the NABC Committee, Barry Rigal
Co-chairs of the NABC Seeding Committee, Nadine Wood and Bruce Reeve

The need for an Executive meeting was brought forth when it was determined that these appointed positions require Board approval at the spring Board meeting, and the appointees must make travel and hotel arrangements as well as committee planning before they are officially approved. In past years, the approval of these appointments was overlooked.

The Board was notified of this meeting and given the details.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved all the positions.

Carried.

Approval of Appointments

The following appointments were approved at the meeting.

Hall of Fame Committee: Richard Freeman and Judy Kay for a three-year term. Cecil Cook was appointed to a one-year term as chairman of the committee.

Bylaws Committee: Nadine Wood, Sue Himel, Harriette Buckman, Georgia Heth, Linda Mamula, Gary Blaiss, and Jim Miller.

Competition & Conventions Committee: New appointments are Steve Beatty (Chairman), Jeff Meckstroth, Bart Bramley, Bob Hamman, Chip Martel, and Peggy Sutherland.

031-181: Election of ACBL Treasurer

Jerry Fleming declared his candidacy. There being no additional declarations of candidacy, nominations were closed. Fleming was elected to the office of ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term beginning May 1, 2003.

Carried without dissent.

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Non-Agenda Items

Amendment to Election Procedures (Recall of District Director) is assigned to Governance Committee Item 031-51.

Report from the Review of: Board Regulations Committee is assigned to Governance Committee Item 031-52.

Competition and Conventions Committee is assigned to Bridge Committee Item 031-75.

International Senior Team fund is assigned to International & Zonal Committee Item 031-67. Motion was withdrawn.

CEO Report

The report of CEO Jay Baum is received. (*Exhibit 1*)

ACBL CFO Report

The report of ACBL CFO Jack Zdancewicz is received. (*Exhibit 2*)

League Counsel Report

Peter Rank, League Counsel, reported on the status of litigation. (*Exhibit 3*)

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The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Wednesday March 4 at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, March 3

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, March 3

INTERNATIONAL & ZONAL				
Morse, Chair	LeBendig, Vice Chair			
Anderson, R.	Anderson, V.	Gerard	Kirkham	Wood

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-65: World Junior Individual Bridge Championship

- A. The ACBL Board of Directors approves a World Junior Individual Championship to be held every other year (even-numbered years starting in 2004) in North America at the site of the Summer NABC.
- B. The World Junior Individual will begin with a short opening ceremony on the Wednesday evening preceding the final weekend at the site of the Summer NABC. There will be four sessions: Wednesday evening, Thursday afternoon and evening, and Friday afternoon. The closing ceremony and awards dinner will be held on the second Friday evening.

Carried. Nay: 10

- C. This will be a World Bridge Federation Event. The ACBL Junior Fund will underwrite the following expenses not to exceed \$4,900:

Directors	\$1,000
Supplies	\$120
Opening Ceremony	\$840
Closing Ceremony	\$1,440
The Daily Bulletin	\$500
Prizes	\$1,000

Carried. Nay: 2, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 22.

Item 031-66: ACBL Masterpoint Awards for the European Bridge League Championships

- A. The following formula will be used to award ACBL Masterpoints for each event held at the European Open Championships to be held in Menton in June, 2003.
- B. These points will be awarded for this Championship only.

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Pair Events

<u>EBL Event</u>	<u>EBL Award</u>	<u>Sectional 100 Tables - 6 Sessions</u>	<u>Award</u>
Open Pairs	40	49	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 50 masterpoints.
Women's Pairs	40	39	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.
Mixed Pairs	20	39	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.
Senior Pairs	32	39	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.

Team Events

Open	60	42	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 50 masterpoints
Women's	60	33	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.
Mixed	40	33	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.
Senior	30	33	Sectional awards - with a maximum of 40 masterpoints.

Notes:

For events having 6 or more sessions, the formulas for 6 sessions will be used.

If any events have fewer than 6 sessions, the appropriate number of Sessions will be used.

No Section Awards - No Awards For Consolation Events.

For number of positions awarded and masterpoints for second and lower positions, the ACBL decay formulas will be used.

The team awards assume the events are KOs. If instead, they are Swiss, the awards = the Pair awards.

These awards are approved only for 2003 (Menton). The assumption is that the EBL will provide a file in a format acceptable to ACBL management so that little or no manual work will be required.

Carried. Nay. 7, 17

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FINANCE & BUDGET					
DeMartino, Chairman		Wilkinson, Vice Chair			
Fleming	Heth	Nist	Reiman	Robinson	Seals

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-15: Fees for ACBL Affiliates

Management is authorized to collect fees for ACBL services to affiliated organizations.

Effective date: 1/1/04

Carried. Nay: 6, 18 Abstain: 2

MARKETING					
Reeve, Chairman		Fairchild, Vice Chairman			
Anderson, R	Anderson, V	Buckman	Barrett	Gardner	
Himel	Nist	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-125: Marketing Report

Management's marketing report is received.

Carried without dissent.

MARKETING – EDUCATION	
Nist, Chairman	

Committee Report by Chairman

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Item 023-150: Education Status Report

Management's education status report is received.

Carried without dissent.

MARKETING – JUNIORS
Steinberg, Chairman

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-160: Junior Fund Money (023-165)

The ACBL will conduct Zone 2 trials to select its junior teams for international competition. The trials are open to all Zone 2 members; teams must be comprised of members of the same NBO.

Funding for ACBL Junior teams participating in international competition will be provided by ACBL regardless of the country of origin.

All Junior Fund money collected from ACBL sanctioned junior fund games shall go to the ACBL. Those funds will be used to support junior programs and activities intended for all ACBL juniors. Any unused Junior Fund money will be carried forward.

Note: Input is requested from the International and Zonal Affairs Committee, the CBF and the USBF.

Deferred to Summer 2003 meeting. Carried.

Nay: 2, 7, 20.

BRIDGE				
Gerard, Chairman		Wood, Vice Chairman		
DeMartino	Fleming	Heth	Kirkham	LeBendig
Morse	Reiman	Robinson	Seals	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-75: Competition & Conventions Committee

The Competition & Conventions Committee is structured as follows: The ACBL President selects the chairman of the committee from its members for a one-year term. The committee consists of eight to twelve members appointed by the President in consultation with the C & C committee chairman. The committee is comprised of:

1. The chairman of the bridge committee.
2. One member of the Board of Directors chosen in consultation with the chairman of the Bridge committee.
3. The Chief Tournament Director (CTD).
4. One Tournament Director (TD) designated by the CTD.
5. Four experts given three-year staggered terms.
6. Up to four additional experts given one-year terms.

Carried without dissent.

BRIDGE – SPECIAL EVENTS

LeBendig, Chairman

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-95: Special Events Report

Management's report concerning special event games is received.

Carried without dissent.

BRIDGE – TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

Reiman, Chairman

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-110: Tournament Director Education Status Report

Management's tournament director education status report is received. A report on the 2002 Tournament Director training, evaluation and cost will be submitted to the Tournament Committee no later than April 1, 2003. A complete training and evaluation

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program will be submitted to the Tournament Committee as a Management agenda item in Long Beach at the 2003 Summer NABC.

Carried without dissent.

Item 031-111: Masterpoints for WBF Events

A. Effective immediately, WBF masterpoints won at WBF Championship Events will be converted to ACBL masterpoints.

Pair Events

<u>WBF Event</u>	<u>WBF Award</u>	<u>Closest NABC Equivalent</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Present Award *</u>	<u>New Award</u>
Open Pairs	800	Blue Ribbon/LM Pairs	190	190	190
Women's Pairs	600	Women's Pairs	100	143	100
Senior Pairs	600	Silver Ribbon Pairs	100	None	100
Mixed Pairs	200	Mixed Pairs	100	48	100

Team Events

Olympiad Open Teams	1000	Spingold/Vanderbilt	250	238	250
Bermuda Bowl	800	Spingold/Vanderbilt	250	190	200
Rosenblum Cup	600	Spingold/Vanderbilt	250	143	150
Olympiad Women's Teams	700	Women's KO	140	166	140
Venice Cup (Women's)	800	Women's KO	140	190	140
McConnell Cup (Women's)	400	Women's KO	140	95	100
Senior Teams	450	Senior KO	140	None	100
Senior Bermuda Bowl	600	Senior KO	140	None	100

Notes: No Section Awards. No awards for Consolation Events. No awards for any event not included on this list.

The ACBL decay formulas will be used to determine the number of positions and masterpoints which will be awarded for second and subsequent positions.

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The awards proposed for the Open Teams, Bermuda Bowl and Rosenblum preserve the WBF equivalents for these events (1000 – 800 – 600).

*Present ACBL Award = 23.75% (190 / 800) X WBF Award

- B. WBF masterpoints will be converted only for overall placing.
- C. These WBF converted points will count towards the Barry Crane 500 Race of the year in which they were earned.
- D. The events that currently will be counted for the conversion are:
The Bermuda Bowl; the Venice Cup; the Senior Bermuda Bowl; the Rosenblum Cup; the McConnell Cup; the Senior Teams; the Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Pairs held at the World Championships; the Olympiad Open and Women's Team World Championships.

Carried without dissent.

Item 031-112: North American Bridge Championships – Appendix 6.

The newly amended Appendix 6 to the North American Championships Guidelines is approved as a living document with periodic changes being made as new information becomes available.

Deferred to Summer 2003 Meeting. Carried.

Item 031-113: Platinum Masterpoints

Item 983-68 Platinum Masterpoints is amended as follows:

- A. A new pigment – platinum – of masterpoints is established to recognize those points currently considered for the player of the year award (NABC+ events). These events include Nationally-rated events held at NABCs which have no upper masterpoint limit nor an upper age limit (i.e. junior or youth events). ~~(These events DO include the three senior and various women championships but DO NOT include junior, flight B or other restricted events.)~~
- B.
- C.

Carried without dissent.

Item 031-114: Appeals CaseBook Guidelines

Approval is given for the creation of a manual for appeals guidelines. This work will be coordinated by two appeals committee members, two tournament directors and a coordinator for the material.

To be completed by December 31, 2003

Carried. Nay: 2, 7, 8, 11, 22.

Item 031-115: ACBL Masterpoint Regulations (paragraph D)

Item 023-195 is amended as follows:

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D. For all Club/Internet games with 30 or more tables (60 pairs), awards for positions lower than first will be determined using the scale for overall awards for 4-session events.

To provide a smooth transition from 15 – 60 pairs, the following will apply for 16 to 59 pairs:

1. Calculate the placing award using the scale for overall awards for 4-session events.
2. Calculate the placing award using the existing club scale for first place without a cap. For an open game first place = pairs x 0.1.
3. Compare the placing awards from #1 and #2 above and use the lower award.

Effective date: Immediately (when clubs install ACBLscore version 7.10 or newer).

Carried without dissent.

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APPEALS & CHARGES					
Anderson, V. Chairman, Kirkham	Morse	Steinberg, Vice Chairman Reiman	Reeve	Wilkinson	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-02: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations

A. Delete **2.16 Betting on the results of any ACBL sanctioned event and renumber the subsequent sections**

Not Carried. Aye: 2, 6, 8, 10, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24.

B. The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is approved as amended.

Carried without dissent.

GOVERNANCE					
Himel, Chairman	Smith, Vice Chair				
Anderson, R.	Barrett	Fairchild	Fleming	Gardner	Heth
LeBendig	Nist	Robinson	Seals	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-45: Reconsideration Policy (022-45)

For purposes of reconsideration, the Board of Directors will follow the suggestions contained in Roberts Rules of Order. In the future, reconsideration of any issue will occur if a majority of the Board members voting approve the reconsideration. The motion to reconsider must be made by a member of the prevailing side.

Motion failed: Aye: 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18, 21, 23.

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Item 031-46: Hall of Fame Charter (023-41)

Sections 7, 8, and 9 of the Hall of Fame Charter is approved.

Deferred to Summer 2003 meeting. Carried without dissent.

Item 031-48: Hard Copy Materials for Volunteers

Volunteer officials who need copies of various ACBL materials will be notified by ACBL that they may request one copy of the necessary documents, free of charge, once each year. The communication should include a description of all appropriate documents for the particular official, a statement of which documents have changed in the last twelve months, and a postage-free reply card that requests the appropriate documents from ACBL.

Note: These are the officials and documents that are referred to above.

DOCUMENT

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Handbook of Rules and Regulations

All unit secretaries, all district presidents

Code of Disciplinary Regulations

All unit and district disciplinary chairs and district appellate chairs (or to the unit and/or district president when no official is named) All unit and district recorders

Handbook for Appeals Committees

All unit and district appeals chairs, (or to the unit and/or district president when no official is named)

Recorder Regulations and procedures & a copy of a Player Memo Form

All unit and district recorders

Effective date: As soon as can be implemented by Management

Carried without dissent.

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Item 031-49: Presidential Appointees

- A. The presidential appointment of the **Director of NABC Appeals Committee**, who must be a Board member, does not require Board approval.
- B. The Executive Committee shall approve the presidential appointment of the **Chairman of the NABC Appeals Committee** before the spring NABC.
- C. The presidential appointments of four board of directors members to the **ACBL Bylaws Committee** (Item 023-36) are restricted to Board members and do not require Board approval.
- D. The Executive Committee shall approve the presidential appointment of the **NABC seeding chairman** before the spring NABC.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried without dissent.

Item 031-50: NABC+ Events Eligibility

In order to participate in an NABC+ event, a person must be an ACBL member whose service fee or dues is current.

Effective date: 7/1/2003

Carried. Nay: 4, 6, 12, 18, 24.

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The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Thursday March 5 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, March 3

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, March 3

Item 031-51: Amendment to Election Procedures (Recall of District Director)

The ACBL Election Procedures are amended by adding the following section XXIV.

XXIV. Recall of District Directors

- a. A recall shall be commenced by the filing of an announcement of recall attempt (the “Announcement”) with the Director of Elections. The Announcement shall be signed by at least ten ACBL members of Units within the District in which the recall is brought and shall include the name and address of the person designated as the contact person for the recall attempt (the “Contact”). Within ten days of receipt of the Announcement, the ACBL Director of Elections shall send a petition form to the Contact to be reproduced and used for the collection of signatures for the recall attempt. The petition shall include the following information: 1) the Commencement Date of the recall attempt which shall be the date of receipt of the Announcement by the Director of Elections (the “Commencement Date”); 2) the name of the Director to whom the recall attempt is directed; 3) the number assigned by the ACBL to this recall attempt; and 4) a place for the signature of the member who collected the signatures contained on that page of the petition, said signature representing certification that the signatures contained on that page are valid to the best of the collector’s knowledge and belief. The Director of Elections shall provide written notice of receipt of said Announcement to the Director who is named for recall and to the President of the applicable District.

The Director of Elections shall also provide to the Contact the number of members of each Unit of the relevant District as of the Commencement Date. Each signature on the petition shall include a printed or typed name, date, and the ACBL number of that member. All names and signatures must be signed and dated within 130 days of the Commencement Date. The petitions must be received by the Director of Elections within 140 days of the Commencement Date. Names and signatures dated prior to the Commencement Date or more than 130 days after the Commencement Date shall not be counted.

- b. Intentional submission of fraudulent signatures shall subject the person submitting such signatures to disciplinary action by the ACBL. Invalid signatures shall not be counted, but do not invalidate otherwise valid signatures on that page.
- c. The Director of Elections shall provide written notice of receipt of recall petitions to the Director who is named for recall, the President of the applicable District and the Contact. Within 30 days of receipt of the recall petitions, the Director of Elections shall:
 - (1) verify the names filed as to District and Unit;
 - (2) determine whether the recall petitions filed meet the ACBL Bylaw standards for Director recall (contain signatures of [*sic* at least] 60% of the members of the District, constituting [*sic* at least] 60% of the members [*sic* of] each of [*sic* at least] 70% of the Units in the District as of the Commencement Date).
 - (3) provide a certification of results to the Director, the President of the District, and the Contact.

No verification of the validity of signatures shall be made initially by the Director of Elections.

- d. Unless a protest is filed as set forth below, the petition results shall be deemed final 30 days after the date of the certification of results, and, if the ACBL bylaw requirements for recall have been met, the position of Director shall be deemed vacant.
- e. The Director under recall or any ten persons who signed the recall petition may protest the certified petition results by filing a protest with the Director of Elections within 30 days of the certification of results. Such protest must be in writing and shall include the reasons for the protest. Upon receipt of the protest, the Director of Elections shall refer the protest to the Election Protest Committee for action. Within 30 days of receipt of the protest from the Director of Elections, the Election Protest Committee shall:
 - (1) reject the protest as without merit, or
 - (2) set a telephonic or in person hearing on the matter consistent with the Procedures of the Election Protest Committee. The action of the Election Protest Committee may be appealed to the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee in writing by either party making the appeal within ten (10) days after the announcement of the Election Protest Committee decision. The Appeals and Charges Committee shall render its decision within 120 days of such appeal. Pending the disposition of an appeal, the incumbent Director shall remain in office.

These Procedures for Recall of District Directors shall take effect on March 15, 2003. For recall efforts already in progress as of the effective date, the procedures set forth in section a, above, shall not apply and petitions for such recall must be received by the Director of Elections by July 23, 2003.

Carried. Abstain: 20.

Item 031-52: Board Procedures Review Committee Report

The report from this committee is received.

Deferred to Summer 2003 meeting. Carried without dissent.

AUDIT		
Wilkinson, Chairman	Buckman	DeMartino

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 031-182: Ratification of Audit Committee

The 2003 Audit Firm is approved.

Deferred to Summer 2003 meeting. Carried without dissent.

* * * * *

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:15 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:45 a.m. in full session.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 4, its units, District Director Craig Robinson, Tournament Chair John Marks, as well as to all the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We are grateful to the Philadelphia Marriott for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 10:50 am.