

**Minutes
ACBL Board of Directors
New Orleans Marriott
New Orleans, LA
November 18 – 20, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Tuesday, November 18, 2003 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, Harriette Buckman #13, Sue Himel #14, Phyllis Harlan #15 (Second Alternate), Dan E. Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Barbara Nist #19, G. S. Jade Barrett #20, Roger Smith #21, Alan LeBendig #23, Alvin Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Absent: Jim Kirkham #22.

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, Julie Greenberg, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

Approval of Long Beach Minutes

The Long Beach minutes are approved.

Carried.

Item 033-175: Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting are ratified.

(Minutes of the meeting follow)

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 15, 2003

The Executive Committee met by conference call at 11:00 am CDT, to address the Hall of Fame Charter.

Present at the meeting were all the members of the Executive Committee: Al Levy, chair, George Retek, Roger Smith, Jonathan Steinberg and Nadine Wood. Also present were Sue Himel, chair of the Governance Committee, Jan Martel, member of the Hall of Fame Committee and Kelley McGuire.

At the Summer 2003 NABC Board meeting the Board of Directors passed a motion asking for a revision in the Hall of Fame charter. The change addressed the Open category election that would be determined by a minimum percentage of votes rather than a guaranteed number of inductees.

By electronic communication, the Hall of Fame Committee addressed the Board of Directors' request and revised its charter. The revisions were submitted to the Board of Directors asking for expeditious approval so the Committee could start planning for 2004.

The Hall of Fame charter is amended as follows:

1. Deletion of the Women's category.
2. A voting procedure in the Open category requiring a candidate to receive over 40% of the weighted vote to be elected, with a maximum of 3 candidates being elected. The weighted average is determined by taking the weighted votes received by each candidate and dividing by the maximum possible vote for one candidate. If the first choice receives 5 weighted votes (second choice receives 4 weighted votes, etc.) and there are 500 electors this would be 2500. In this example a candidate would have to receive 1,000 (40% of 2500) weighted votes to be elected.
3. Removal of the Board of Governors as Electors.

The Executive Committee amended the revised Hall of Fame Charter to include the Board of Governors as Electors.

Moved and seconded that the Hall of Fame Charter, as amended, is approved.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-176: Certification of Elections

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006:

George Retek, District 1; Sharon Fairchild, District 5; Bruce Reeve, District 7; Harriette Buckman, District 13; Phyllis Harlan, District 15; Richard Anderson, District 18; Barbara Nist, District 19; Alan LeBendig, District 23; Richard DeMartino, District 25.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as First Alternate to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006:

Barbara Seagram, District 2; Gerald Goodman, District 3; Richard Popper, District 4; Don Kerry, District 8; Steve Gaynor, District 14; William Corliss, District 21; Wirt Gilliam, District 22.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as Second Alternate to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006:

Gim Ong, District 2; Peter Kalat, District 3; Raymond Raskin, District 4; Robert Carteaux, District 8; Marion Robertson, District 21; Judy Elbogen, District 22.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-177: ACBL Representatives to the WBF

Alan LeBendig, Al Levy, George Retek, Jonathan Steinberg and Nadine Wood are declared candidates. There being no other declarations of candidacy, nominations were closed. Al Levy and George Retek were elected by secret ballot as ACBL representatives to the World Bridge Federation for three-year terms, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-178: Pension Plan Trustee

Chuck Wilkinson is a declared candidate. There being no other declarations of candidacy, Chuck Wilkinson was elected as Pension Plan Trustee for a four-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2007.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-182: Executive Committee Member and Alternate

- A. The Eastern Zone reported the election of Joan Gerard as Eastern Zone representative to the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.
- B. The Eastern Zone reported the election of Sharon Fairchild as Eastern Zone alternate representative to the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

Item 033-180: Goodwill Committee Chair and Assistant Chair Appointments

Aileen Osofsky is appointed as Chair of the Goodwill Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

Sharon David, Korene Greffen, Judy Kay, Carol Sanders, Aidan Ballantyne and Penny Augustine are appointed as Assistant Chairmen of the Goodwill Committee for three-year terms, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-181: ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year

Kay Teal is appointed ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year for 2004.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-179: ACBL Honorary Member

Sidney Lazard is appointed 2004 ACBL Honorary Member of the Year.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-185: ACBL Laws Commission Appointments

President Al Levy appointed Ralph Cohen, Eric Rodwell and Roger Stern to the ACBL Laws Commission for five-year terms, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2008.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-189: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments

President Al Levy appointed Chuck Burger, Jeff Polisner and Peggy Sutherlin to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for three-year terms, January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2005.

Karen Allison, Lisa Berkowitz and Bill Pollack were appointed to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for two-year terms, January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004.

Kevin Collins, Jeff Overby and Karen Walker were appointed to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for one-year terms, January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-186: Director of Elections

Galen Hardy is approved as the ACBL Director of Elections effective December 1, 2003.

Carried without dissent.

Competition and Conventions Appointment

President Al Levy appointed Henry Bethe to the Competition and Conventions Committee to fill the vacancy created by Fred Gitelman's resignation.

Non Agenda Items

1. Transfer of Zip Codes Unit 149, District 13 to Unit 103, District 14 – Governance
2. 2012 Summer NABC – Full Board
3. Financial Operating Guidelines – Finance
4. Youth Challenge Cup Competition – International & Zonal

Item 033-187: 2012 Summer NABC

The board accepts Management's recommendations to host the 2012 Summer NABC in Philadelphia, PA at the Marriott, July 12 – 22, 2012.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-188: 2009 Summer NABC

The board accepts Management's recommendations to host the 2009 Summer NABC in Washington, DC at the Marriott Wardman Park, July 23 – August 2, 2009.

Carried without dissent.

ACBL CEO Report

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

ACBL CFO Report

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

League Counsel Report

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

The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Wednesday November 19, at 2:30 pm.

Present: Same as Tuesday, November 18 with the addition of Jim Kirkham #22
Absent: Jim Reiman #11
Also Present: Same as Tuesday, November 18

Finance

DeMartino, Chair

Wilkinson, Vice-chair Fleming Heth Nist Reiman Robinson Seals

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-30: 2004 Budget

The Finance Committee 2004 budget is approved. (Exhibit 4)

This includes an increase in NABC entry fees of \$1.00 per player per session across the board. Additionally there is a 4% increase in Director fees for sectional and regional tournaments.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried. Nay: 4

Item 033-31: NABC Entry Fees

Of the NABC entry fee increase, 25% of the per table increase will be directed toward the 'per table fee to locals' line item.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-32: Financial Operating Guidelines

Potential Member Marketing

The guideline for potential member marketing will be in the range of 12 – 15% of the total budgeted expenses per year. The actual budget in any year will be the amount needed to fund those projects presented by Management and/or approved by the Board of Directors.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried without dissent.

Marketing

Reeve, Chair

Fairchild, Vice-Chair	Anderson, R	Barrett	Buckman	Gardner	Harlan
	Himel	Nist	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-125: Marketing Status Report

Management’s Marketing Status Report is enthusiastically received and endorsed by the committee.

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-127: Goodwill Replacement Pins

Item 802-83, ACBL shall charge the actual cost incurred for replacing ACBL Goodwill Committee pins, is rescinded.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent.

Marketing – Education						
<i>Nist, Chair</i>						
Anderson, R.	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner	Harlan	
Himel	Reeve	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson		

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-145: Education Status Report

Management’s education status report is received.

Carried without dissent.

Marketing - Juniors						
<i>Steinberg, Chair</i>						
Anderson, R.	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner	Harlan	

Himel	Nist	Reeve	Smith	Wilkinson
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Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-155: NABC Junior Pair Event

A Junior Pair event may be run during the Summer NABC. It will consist of:

1. Two sessions.
2. Regionally-rated red/gold points as appropriate.
3. Stratification with three strats as per other regionally-rated stratified events at the Summer NABC.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried without dissent.

Marketing – Member Services						
<i>Anderson, R., Chair</i>						
	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner	Harlan	Himel
	Nist	Reeve	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-165: 800 Number

The ACBL will obtain an 800 number devoted to giving bridge information to non-members in the callers area. Bridge columnists such as Frank Stewart, Bobby Wolff and Alan Truscott could then add a sentence in their newspaper columns like “There are many bridge activities in your area. For more information call 1-800-xxx-xxxx and they will give you local contacts.” This number is the one that would be given to any public group such as AARP. There is no limit.

Not Carried. Aye: 6, 16, 22 Abstain: 9

Governance						
<i>Himel, Chair</i>						
Smith, Vice-chair	Anderson, R.	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner	
	Harlan	LeBendig	Nist	Reeve	Steinberg	

Item 033-45: Special Standing Rules

- A. The ACBL Board of Directors establishes Special Standing Rules as a supplement to the ACBL Bylaws. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Board of Directors present at a regular or special session of the Board of Directors is required to amend, suspend or rescind these Special Standing Rules. Special Standing Rules deal with such matters as conflict of interest, employment, reconsideration, finance and elections.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 21 Absent: 11

- B. The following regulations shall be Special Standing Rules:

1. Item 011-49: Former ACBL Board of Director Remuneration Agreements

No member of the ACBL Board of Directors or Chairman of the ACBL Board of Governors shall be employed as a permanent or temporary employee of the ACBL in any capacity other than that of tournament director until at least one year after leaving said position. The requirement that a past Board member be out of office at least 12 months shall not apply to independent contractor situations where sole payment is on a sales commission formula for quantifiable benefits brought to the ACBL.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 5, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16, 21, 22 Absent: 11

2. Item 972-40: Board of Directors Candidacy and Employment

The ACBL shall not engage for compensation, in any capacity whatever, any individual who is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League or is a candidate for such position.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 1, 4, 5, 21. Abstain: 7 Absent: 11

3. Item 961-03: Conflict of Interest Policy - District Representatives

No District Director shall serve on a committee hearing an election protest or appeal from his/her own district involving said District Director, nor shall he/she

be allowed to vote on such an appeal if said appeal comes before the ACBL Board of Directors.

All parties to the appeal may be present during a committee or ACBL Board hearing and allowed to speak.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Absent: 11

4. Item 922-26 B1: Annual Audit

At the end of each fiscal year the Treasurer shall cause there to be an audit of all funds, properties, accounts and liabilities of the ACBL. Said annual audit report shall be provided to the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors and be made available to the membership for its consideration at the annual membership meeting. Upon the request of any member of the ACBL, the Treasurer shall furnish said member with a copy of said audited financial statement. A reasonable fee will be charged. A summary of the audited financial statement together with the Treasurer's report shall be published in *The Bulletin* and a full report provided to District Presidents.

The Treasurer shall provide both the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors with a complete financial report of each North American Bridge Championship.

Effective date: Immediately

Not Carried.

5. Item 942-55: Regulations on Reconsideration of Board Actions

An item considered and acted upon by the Board may not be reconsidered at the next subsequent meeting unless it is submitted for reconsideration by the Board of Governors or a motion to reconsider is first approved by a 2/3 vote. An item considered and acted upon at the next subsequent meeting may not be reconsidered at the following meeting unless a motion to reconsider is first approved by a 2/3 vote.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 2, 6, 7, 9, 21, 22, 23. Absent: 11

Item 033-47: Honorarium and Compensation for Disciplinary Body Members

Item 972-120 is amended as follows:

Honorarium and Reimbursement for Ethical Oversight Committee, ACBL Disciplinary Committee and NABC+ Tournament Disciplinary Chair and Members

- A. The Chair of the Ethical Oversight, ACBL Disciplinary and NABC+ Tournament Disciplinary Committee shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with official committee business. Any extraordinary committee member expenses must be pre-approved by the ACBL CEO.
- B. The Chair of the Ethical Oversight, ACBL Disciplinary and NABC+ Tournament Disciplinary Committee and all members serving on a case shall receive an honorarium. The guideline to be used by Management for the amount of the honorarium is the value of a two-session entry to an NABC+ event for each day the committee meets.

Carried without dissent. Absent: 11

Item 033-48: ACBL Members' Civil Actions vs ACBL

Item 012-44 is amended as follow:

Civil Actions vs. ACBL by Members (012-44)

Commencing August 1, 2001, any ACBL member who files a civil action (which may or may not result in arbitration) or submits a dispute to arbitration for damages (the "action") against the ACBL shall be automatically suspended from the ACBL upon the occurrence of any of the following (this does not apply to civil actions brought by ACBL employees for anything concerning their ACBL employment):

- (a) a judgment in the action which is favorable to the ACBL;
- (b) a dismissal of the action by the court with or without prejudice;
- (c) failure by the ACBL member to prosecute the action for any consecutive six month period after filing of the action; or
- (d) a settlement of the action which does not specifically waive the provisions of this paragraph.

Such suspension shall be lifted only upon the occurrence of one of the following:

- (a) payment by the ACBL member of costs incurred in the action by the ACBL, its officers, agents, representatives and insurers; or
- (b) resolution by the ACBL Board of Directors absolving the ACBL member of payment of such costs. "Costs incurred in the action" shall mean all lawyers fees and expenses, witness fees and expenses, court costs and other costs related to the defense of the action. The ACBL Board of Directors or its designee, the Appeals

and Charges Committee, shall make all determinations and decisions relating to the case by case implementation of this paragraph.

Carried without dissent. Absent: 11

Item 033-49: Board Operations Committee Report

The Board Operations Committee report is received.

Deferred to the Spring 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent. Absent: 11

Item 033-50: Transfer of Zip Codes in the Southern Gold Coast Unit 532 to Ventura Unit 547

The following zip codes in the Southern Gold Coast Unit 532 are transferred to the Ventura unit 547.

93030, 93031, 93032, 93033, 93034, 93035, 93036, 93041 and 93043

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent. Absent: 11

Item 033-51: Transfer of Zip Codes Unit 149, District 13 to Unit 103, District 14

The following zip codes in the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Unit 149 are transferred to the Minnesota Gopher Unit 103.

54801, 54843, 54859, 54888, 54873, 54838, 54870, 54875, 54830, 54814, 54517, 54821, and 54864.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent. Absent: 11

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The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Thursday November 20, at 9:30 am.

Present: Same as Wednesday, November 19 with addition of Jim Reiman, 11
Also Present: Same as Wednesday, November 19

The following motions are reported out of executive session:

1. Establishment of a Legal Audit Committee to provide oversight regarding legal expenses.
2. Extension of the CEO contract to June 2005 and adoption of 2004 performance evaluation criteria.
3. The Summer 2004 NABC to be held in New York City will be co-hosted by districts 3 and 24.

International & Zonal						
<i>Morse, Chair</i>						
LeBendig, Vice-Chair	Anderson, R.	Barrett	Gerard	Kirkham	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-65: Zone 2 Regulations

- A. The following items are rescinded: 751-54D, 903-55, 952-81, 991-99, 992-99, 022-116, 023-90.
- B. Zone 2 Regulations
 1. The ACBL Board of Directors will act as the Zonal Conference for Zone 2.
 2. The authority to approve a player and NPC from Canada, Mexico and the US participating in World Bridge Federation or other international competition is delegated to the Canadian Bridge Federation, Mexican Bridge Federation and United States Bridge Federation respectively. The player may be approved only if the player meets all Zonal Conference requirements.
 3. Zone 2 requirements for nomination are as follows:
 - a. When an on-site accreditation committee is needed in the future, the

ACBL WBF representatives shall automatically assume this responsibility, with the most senior representative serving as chairman.

b. An ACBL NBO may nominate a player for invitation to play in a WBF Championship only if he or she:

- I. is a citizen or a resident (per the appropriate Federation's regulations) of the United States, Canada, or Mexico, as appropriate,
- II. is a member in good standing of the United States Bridge Federation (USBF), Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) or Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF) as appropriate,
- III. meets WBF criteria and/or conditions for nominations,
- IV. will not, at the time of the event, be under suspension from ACBL or any other NCBO or NBO,
- V. will not, at the time of the event be under ACBL or ABA probation where the period of such probation was more than 90 days,
- VI. has not been specifically excluded from playing in such event by an appropriate disciplinary body under ACBL or ABA jurisdiction,

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Abstain: 10, 20. Absent: 11

Item 033-66: WBF Membership Dues

Item 002-55, WBF Membership Dues, is amended as follows:

Effective January 1, 2004, ACBL will remit to the WBF annual membership dues of \$30,000 to come from the ACBL General Fund. This amount will be increased on January 1, 2005, and each year thereafter, by an inflation factor equal to the percentage rise in the U.S. Consumer Price Index for the preceding twelve (12) months.

Not Carried: Aye: 7, 9, 21. Absent: 19

Item 033-67: Rescinded Items

The following regulations are rescinded:

The ITT Committee (961-85)

The ITT Committee is a recognized and official committee of the ACBL. ***Replaced by USBF***

WBF Accreditation Committee (962-122)

- B. When an accreditation committee is needed in the future, the ACBL WBF representatives shall automatically assume this responsibility, with the most senior representative serving as chairman. ***Replaced by USBF***

Women's Team Trials Committee (963-125)

A Women's Team Trials Committee will be established to set procedures for qualification to women's international competition for ACBL and to advise Management on the conditions of contest and play for the Women's Team Trials. The committee will meet at NABC's as necessary, but not less than once per year.

The committee will consist of a minimum of seven members and a maximum of ten members. One member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed to the committee, but is not a voting member. The term of the Chair is three years. The term of each member is three years with terms to be staggered. The ACBL President shall appoint the Chair and committee members subject to ratification by the ACBL Board of Directors. The ACBL Board of Directors has final authority. Effective immediately. ***Replaced by USBF***

International Team Trials (982-41)

- A. The International Team Trials Commission (ITTC) is established as a permanent body.
The Chairman will be selected by the ACBL President in consultation with the ITT subject to ratification by the ACBL Board of Directors for a three-year term at the Fall Board meeting in the year in which the current chairman's term expires or when a vacancy occurs.
- B. Mike Becker is selected as Chairman of the International Team Trials Commission for a three-year term ending at the end of the year 2003.
- C. The ITTC will have a minimum of the following committees; 1) Executive, 2) Conditions of Contest, 3) Appeals, and 4) Credentials. The Chairman will select the members of these committees in a manner of his choosing.
- D. The Chairman of the International Events Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors will be a non-voting liaison to the ITTC.

E. The notification of the membership of the following ITTC committees is received:

<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Conditions of Contest</u>	<u>Appeals</u>	<u>Credentials</u>
<i>Mike Becker, Chairman</i>	Chip Martel	Bobby Wolff	Bobby Wolff
Howard Weinstein	Mike Becker	John Sutherlin	Paul Soloway
John Sutherlin	Peter Boyd	Hugh Ross	Howard Weinstein
	Richard Colker		
	John Solodar		
	Kit Woolsey		
	Chris Compton		

Replaced by USBF

Reimbursement of Expenses for WBF Representatives and ACBL Participants in International Events (923-62B)

B. Reimbursement of expenses for U.S. participants in International Events

ACBL policy will continue as specified in current regulations (Item 903-52). (see pg. 16, 7L) ***USBF function***

Conversion of WBF Masterpoints to ACBL Masterpoints (943-33)

Effective with the Spring 1995 NABC, WBF masterpoints won at WBF World Championship Events not played within the confines of ACBL will be converted to ACBL masterpoints using a conversion factor. The present conversion factor is 0.2 ACBL points for every 1 WBF point. This conversion factor was arrived at by equating WBF and ACBL major events with a 15% upgrade.

(Example: ACBL-Life Master or Blue Ribbon Pairs (140) = 0.175 x 1.15% = 0.2)

WBF Open Pairs (800)

Should the masterpoint awards be changed, this factor will automatically be recalculated by Management.

These points will count toward the Barry Crane 500 race of the year in which they were earned.

Note: This motion requires a second reading. ***Superseded by subsequent regulation***

Conversion of WBF Masterpoints to ACBL Masterpoints (951-45) (see 951-57)

Note: This item confirms the automatic recalculation cited in Item 951-65.

The depth of overall awards shall be the number of teams qualifying to represent the United States or North America in the associated WBF event.

NOTE: (This was amended by Item 951-57 Phoenix Minutes).

Effective April 1, 1995, in accordance with the conversion formula under Item 943-33 due to changes made in ACBL masterpoints awards per Item 943-70, the conversion factor will be 0.25.

Example:

ACBL Life Master or Blue Ribbon Paris (175 Points = 0.22 x 1.15 = 0.25
WBF Open Paris (800 Points)

Note: The conversion factor supersedes the factor shown in 951-65. ***Superseded by subsequent regulation***

Amendment of Item 931-71, Masterpoint Awards for Winners of USBC, USWTBC and NAWYBC (951-57)

Item 931-71 is amended as follows:

Effective in 1993, the award for first overall in the United States Bridge Championship or ITT shall be 50 masterpoints.

The award for first overall in the United States Women's Team Bridge Championship and the North American Women's Team Bridge Championship shall be 40 masterpoints for each event.

The depth of overall awards shall be the number of teams qualifying to represent the United States or North America in the associated WBF event. Except when the format for these events involves more than 16 teams in the original entry, the depth of overall award shall be 8 teams when there is no closed bracket and 6 in the case of a loser bracket Swiss with the 1995 format. Match awards will be issued on the same scale as the National Open Swiss for the loser's bracket Swiss and any round-robin portions.

Superseded by subsequent regulation

Conversion of WBF Masterpoints (961-78)

Only overall or match/section awards – whichever is greater – won at WBF World Championship events not played within the confines of the ACBL will be converted to

ACBL masterpoints. Effective February 29, 1996. *Superseded by subsequent regulation*

Removal of Team Captain (751-54E)

By a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors present at the site of a WBF tournament the ACBL Captain may be removed and replaced without notice. Effective immediately. *Up to Federation*

Non-Playing Captains (961-82)

The approved Non-Playing Captains (NPCs) List will be discontinued. Teams entering trials will be provided a copy of the ACBL NPC manual and a list of those serving as NPCs for trials or international competition in the previous ten years. *Up to Federation*

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-68: Regional Allocation to Benefit the United States Bridge Federation

An annual Regional is awarded each year to a District of the USBF's choice for the purpose of supporting teams representing the United States in international competition. The District so selected and the USBF must agree on the specifics (e.g. date, schedule and fund-sharing). The normal conflict rules shall apply to the scheduling of the tournament.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried. Abstain: 10. Absent: 11.

Item 033-69: Payment of WBF Dues

The ACBL will pay WBF dues for active (has won masterpoints within the past two years) Unpaid Life Masters Life Members (except those in unit 777).

Effective date: January 1, 2004.

Carried. Nay: 9, 15, 17, 19. Absent: 11.

Item 033-70: Zone I and Zone II Youth Challenge Cup Competition

The first Youth Challenge Cup Competition will take place in New York July 13 – 14, 2004 during the Summer NABC.

Three National Teams from Europe will represent Zone One, and will play against Zone Two, represented by two teams from USA and one team from Canada.

There will be three 32 board sessions of play. The Cup will be awarded to the winning Zone.

The respective National Junior Fund will be responsible for the cost of accommodation of Zone Two Teams. The ACBL marketing department will cover the expenses for tournament directors, hand records, minor hospitality and promotion. These expenses are expected to be less than \$1,000.

Youth age eligibility for this tournament is defined as born in 1983 or later.

Carried. Nay: 7. Absent: 19, 22.

Audit
<i>Wilkinson, Chair</i>
Buckman DeMartino

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-10: Competitive Bidding Policy

Item 002-300, the ACBL competitive bidding policy, is amended to include the following exceptions:

ACBL COMPETITIVE BIDDING POLICY

A competitive bidding policy is designed for use when a project warrants the time expended by both the vendor and the purchaser. Typically, these are large dollar purchases. For the purposes of this policy, we will use a minimum amount of \$25,000 when implementing the competitive bidding policy.

When the ACBL is interested in purchasing a product or service and the cost of that product warrants a competitive bid, the following will be followed.

- \$ Determine detailed specifications and criteria that will be established for the produce or service.

- \$ Ensure the market consists of an adequate number of sellers to warrant the procedure. Three to eight sellers is the acceptable number of suppliers to

query. If there are not enough sellers in the market, the operating bidding policy will be in effect.

- \$ Verify the validity of the sellers= ability to supply the known quality and specifications of the desired produce or service.
- \$ Allow sufficient time for the seller to gather the necessary information to adequately respond to the request for proposal. Adequately define the due date for receiving responses.
- \$ Require a sample of the product being purchased from each bidder for comparative purposes.
- \$ Request a written response when clarification is needed from a bidder on some element of the proposal.
- Bids will be extensively reviewed and compared to specifications and to each other as to cost and quality. A report will be written to the CEO/CFO comparing the proposals by cost and by the important elements of the specifications. Important deficiencies of the proposal must be prominently mentioned. The report will make a recommendation to the CEO/CFO,
- \$ Give reasons for the selection that was made, as well as reason why the other top bidders were not selected.
- \$ In those situations where sufficient expertise is not available within Management to properly evaluate the product or service, Management will seek out that expertise from members of the Board of Directors or from members of the ACBL. In those instances where the needed expertise cannot be found, Management will consider using an independent paid consultant.
- \$ Management at all times retains the right to refuse any and/or all bids.

All exceptions to the ACBL competitive bidding policy require prior approval by the ACBL Board or ACBL Executive Committee and subsequent notification to the Audit Committee.

These are the exclusions to the above policy.

- Purchases of utilities, such as water, sewage, etc., where competitive sources are not available.

- Purchases of proprietary maintenance contracts, i.e., where alternate “authorized” sources are not available.
- Purchases of maintenance contracts where use of alternate sources is inconsistent with the best interest of the League.
- Purchases involving major repairs, where bidding requirements are waived by the CFO due to the urgency of repair.
- Purchases involving a documented sole source of supply, either where Purchasing has exhausted the search for additional suppliers or where comparable products available from multiple sources are found not to meet the requirements of the League.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-11: Designated ACBL Financial Account Signers

Item 002-302 is amended as follows:

- A. The following positions are authorized for purposes of establishing company bank and investment accounts for the ACBL.
- ACBL Chief Executive Officer
 - ACBL Chief Financial Officer
 - ACBL Accounting Manager/Controller
- B. The following positions are authorized to wire transfer funds from ACBL.
- ACBL Chief Executive Officer (confirm only)
 - ACBL Chief Financial Officer (authorize and confirm other than his own authorization)
 - ACBL Accounting Manager/Controller (authorize only)
- C. The following positions are authorized signers on checks written by ACBL.
- ACBL Chief Executive Officer
 - ACBL Chief Financial Officer *
 - ACBL Accounting Manager/Controller *
- * - Stamp or machine impression signatures also allowed.

In addition, the following position is an authorized signer on the ACBL general disbursements account:

ACBL Human Resources Director

In addition, the following positions are authorized signers on the ACBL disbursement account that is used exclusively for the North American Bridge Championships:

NABC Finance Office Director
ACBL Meeting Services Director
ACBL Chief Tournament Director

D. Management requests the current practice regarding the number of signatures per check set forth below be continued:

1. One Signature required

ACBL Disbursements under \$1,000
ACBL Payroll Account

2. Two Signatures required:

ACBL Disbursements of \$1,000 or greater.

3. CEO Signature Required:

All ACBL disbursements of \$25,000 or greater

In case the CEO is unavailable the CFO may sign in his absence. The CEO shall review these items upon his return.

4. Secretary of the Corporation shall provide a copy to the Chairman of the Audit Committee of all corporate resolutions dealing with signatures.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried without dissent.

Bridge

Gerard, Chair

Wood, Vice-Chair DeMartino Fleming Heth Kirkham LeBendig Morse
Reiman Robinson Seals

Committee Report by Chairman

Bridge – Special Events

LeBendig, Chair

DeMartino Fleming Gerard Heth Kirkham Morse Reiman
Robinson Seals Wood

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-105: Club Appreciation Team Games

The Club Appreciation Team Games held during the month of October are approved through 2004. The status of this event will be reviewed at the Spring 2005 meeting.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-107: North American Pairs

PART A

1. The current structure of the North American Pairs (NAPs) will remain the same.

Carried. Absent: 19

2. ACBL Management will promote this event more extensively at the club, Unit, District and National levels throughout North America.

Carried. Absent: 19

PART B

The 2004-2005 North American Pairs Conditions of Contest are amended as follows:

1. At the club level only the sanction fee will be reduced from the current \$7.00 per table to \$4.00 per table. (See Appendix VI, Club Stage, 15. p.10.)

Carried. Nay: 1. Absent: 19

2. The requirement that partnerships must include one member of the host Unit is rescinded.

Unit Level Participation (page 2), #3 now reads: Any player that qualified in any club may play with any other qualified player in any unit in their District. Both players must be members of a unit in the district.

Carried. Nay: 4, 8, 25. Absent: 19.

3. Clubs may hold up to two club qualifying games. Appendix VI, Club Stage (page 9), #1: Each club may hold up to two club qualifying games in each of the three months (June, July, August) for each weekly session sanctioned and held that month. This applies to each flight.

Carried. Nay: 4, 8, 25. Absent: 19.

4. Districts are no longer required to hold a four-session District final if there are no Unit finals. Appendix VI, Unit State - Organization (page 10), #2: If no Unit Finals are held, the District may hold a multi-unit single-site Unit Final prior to the District Final.

Carried. Nay: 4, 8, 25. Absent: 19.

Bridge – Tournaments						
<i>Reiman, Chair</i>						
	DeMartino	Fleming	Gerard	Heth	Kirkham	LeBendig
	Morse	Robinson	Seals	Wood		

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-110: North American Bridge Championships – Appendix 6

MISSION STATEMENT:

ACBL will conduct North American Bridge Championships utilizing efficient and profitable methods while providing outstanding playing facilities, excellent value, unsurpassed service and geographic accessibility to the most possible members.

Key Result Areas/Goals:

1. Player Satisfaction
2. Income
3. Promotional Opportunities

A. Objectives:

1. Select and recommend attractive destinations. NABC host facilities should have appropriate playing space, advantageous pricing, affordability to players and a demonstrated willingness to provide exemplary service to convention groups in general and ACBL meetings and tournaments in particular.
2. With the support of local volunteers, skillfully operate and manage North American Bridge Championships as premier tournaments.
3. Control costs and maintain or increase revenue to attain budgeted income.

4. Provide and promote opportunities to attract new and social bridge players to duplicate bridge.

B. Preferred Dates

Spring	Starting the second Thursday of March
Summer	Starting the third Thursday of July
Fall	Starting the second or fourth Thursday in November

If these dates are not available for the spring and summer NABCs. Moving one week in either direction is allowed. Moving to the third Thursday is allowed for the fall NABC, but is not policy. Dates outside these preferred dates will be considered only if the site selection justifies consideration beyond the preferred dates.

C. Area Selection

No area should be considered more often than every three years.

D. Rotation and Frequency

Orlando, Reno and Las Vegas are exceptional cities for bridge players and should be considered at least every six years. Other very desirable destinations for bridge players should be considered at least every nine years.

The geographic rotation of having an NABC in each zone (East, Central and West) of the continent each year is highly desirable and should be attempted. Over an extended period of time, there should be an equal distribution of NABCs in Eastern, Central and Western locations.

Any deviation from the requirements should be clearly identified when site recommendations are presented.

NABC SITE SELECTION GUIDELINES in order of priority

A. **Playing Space** should be of the highest quality at NABCs. Factors taken into account should include:

1. **Playing Facility** - One facility accommodating all bridge play is preferred although using two adjacent facilities is allowed.
2. **Lighting** - Exhibition level lighting is best.

3. Aesthetics - Playing rooms should be carpeted and designed in a way that will reduce distractions.
4. Ventilation - The facility's HVAC should be in modern, superior working condition.
5. Layout - While it is preferred that all playing space be contiguous, all other factors should be considered first.

B. The ACBL will strive to offer NABCs that are **affordable** for players. This will include the following:

1. Hotel Room Rates - It is acknowledged that the hotel providing all or a majority of the playing space will presumably offer a room rate higher than other smaller hotels in the area. Every possibility to reduce the rate should be considered without compromising player services or quality of playing space. In order to provide a pricing benefit to players and additional concessions to ACBL, management may enter into multi-meeting agreements, i.e., agreements for two or more NABCs, with hotels in premier destinations.
2. Alternate Hotels - It is expected that NABC attendance will be greater if there are other lower cost hotels in the area around the playing site. If management uses its discretion in contracting with a third party housing bureau, some information regarding alternate hotels should be provided through ACBL's housing service company.
3. Restaurants - There should be a variety of restaurants in the area around the playing site. These should range from fast food and inexpensive restaurants, to full-service and fine dining. Hotel and playing facility restaurants should be open for service at appropriate times to serve bridge players.
4. Hotel Food Outlets - Cash food stations should offer a small variety of snacks, sandwiches and beverages at relatively low cost to players.
5. Parking - Parking costs should be considered when inspecting a potential NABC site. Efforts should be made to provide discounted parking for players.

Since not all NABCs are in cities that offer comparatively lower cost hotels and playing facilities, **price/value** is an important factor to consider. Major tourist destinations offer rates that are higher than second and third tier cities, but if their pricing is more favorable than those rates offered to other groups or vacationers without sacrificing quality, this will be viewed as a good value for the cost.

NABCs should attract players from all parts of our member countries. As such, any

destination considered to host an NABC should have **air accessibility**. That is to say that an NABC host city should be serviced, preferably by several airlines, flying directly into that particular destination.

NABCs should be held in areas that are known to have larger bridge-playing populations within driving distance. The **support** of the local bridge organization is also important to the success of an NABC and volunteers are needed to perform the various hospitality functions.

The **history** of successful bridge tournaments in the host city and area is helpful in determining the possibility of holding a successful NABC.

Mobility-impaired and other disabled players are a growing percentage of ACBL membership. Special attention should be paid to **access for disabled players** and part of NABC tournament promotion should include “Disability Access Alerts.” This will be particularly important in destinations where disabled players might face barriers to accessibility in transportation, lodging or playing space.

Carried. Nay 1, 10. Absent: 19

Item 033-111: Time Schedule for Events at NYC NABC – Summer 2004

A. The Spingold and Womens’ Knockout game times will be 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. When screens are in use, the times will be 10:00 am and 4:30 pm.

Carried. Nay: 20, 21. Absent: 19

B. Game times for the 0-5000 and 0-1500 Spingold will be 1:00 pm & 7:30 pm until the round of eight when game times will be the same as the Spingold... 10:00 am – 4:30 pm.

Carried. Nay: 20 Absent: 19

C. On the first Thursday, July 8th - there will be a two-session Regionally rated Stratified Pairs game for the benefit of the International Fund and the ACBL Educational Foundation. Entry fees/funds will be apportioned per current regulations. Proposed entry fee is \$35/person.

Carried. Absent: 19

Effective date: July 2004

Item 033-112: Initial Knockout Round Pairings (Appendix C)

Appendix C is amended as attached. (Exhibit 5)

Effective date: November 20, 2003.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-113: International Fund Game (951-40)

Item 951-40 is amended as follows:

40B. Moved, that International Fund Game #1 will be held on the Saturday afternoon of Super Bowl weekend. If this game is run by a club (or clubs) in a unit, the unit may not schedule any bridge event at the same time, except a sectional or regional.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033 -114: Stratified Pairs Game

The stratification level of a pair in a Stratified Pairs game will be determined by the average masterpoint holding of each pair, and the stratification level of a team in a Stratified Team game will be determined by the average masterpoint holding of the top four masterpoint holders on each team.

Deferred to Spring 2004 meeting.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-116: Sectional Allocation

Item 951-50 is amended as follows: Provided they last no longer than five days, units may run as many sectionals as they wish. A unit may choose to run up to two longer sectionals, to a maximum of 6-1/2 days, with district/conference concurrence and subject to the scheduling requirements of regionals for purposes of settling conflicts.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Not Carried. Aye: 7, 17, 18, 21, 22. Absent: 19

Item 033-117: Masterpoint Awards for CBF Senior Team and Imp Pairs

- A. The masterpoint awards for the Canadian Senior Team Championship (CSTC) shall be as follows:
1. When the event is a Team Trials, in which the winner becomes the Canadian representative to the WBF Senior Championships, it shall be Nationally-rated per current ACBL formula for overall and match awards.
 2. When there is no WBF Senior Championship, the event shall be Regionally-rated per current ACBL formula for overall and match awards.
- B. The masterpoint awards for the Canadian IMP Pairs Championship (CIPC) shall be as follows:

Regionally-rated per current ACBL formula for overall and section awards.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-118: Child Care Program at NABCs

The board supports the idea of assisting in childcare programs at NABCs at a reasonable per-session cost to bridge-playing parents. This program should include providing a guest room for the child care parent-coordinator, appropriate space for the child care program itself and funding as determined by management for supplies and administrative expenses. ACBL's exposure to liability should be reduced by using licensed and bonded caregivers and by requiring signed releases by the parent coordinator and parents/guardians of children in the program.

Effective date: As soon as can be implemented by Management.

Carried. Nay: 1, 7, 10, 15. Absent: 19

Item 033-120: Tournament Director Per Diem in Canada

The ACBL per diem in Canada will be the lesser of:

1. The amount established by the Treasury Department of the Government of Canada, or
2. The amount established by the IRS for Memphis, Tennessee multiplied by the current ACBL exchange rate.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried. Nay: 14 Absent: 19

Item 033-121: Knockout Match Finals

At the option of the sponsor, if fewer sessions are required than were originally scheduled, finals of Knockout matches may be played at a time agreed upon by all parties. The entire match must be finished prior to the conclusion of the tournament. When this option is exercised, the two teams may enter any new event.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-122: NABC+ and NABC Events Study

A complete review of the NABC+ and NABC Events will be done by the Bridge Committee. Input from surveys, Board members, USBF, Women's Committee and other groups should be sought. This review will include possible deletions, additions or moving of events within the same NABC or from one NABC to another.

Review to be completed by Spring meetings – 2004

Effective date: Spring 2005.

Carried without dissent. Absent: 19

Item 033-123: KO Teams Bracketing

The following item is rescinded.

Item 931-88 Regulations for Regional Knockout Events:

- C. Criteria governing size of brackets and break points between brackets must be determined by the sponsoring organization prior to the start of the sale of any Knockout event which may be bracketed.

Carried. Absent: 19

Item 033-124: Bridge Administration Status Report

Management's bridge administration status report is received.

Carried. Absent: 19

Appeals & Charges

Steinberg, Chair

Morse, Vice Chair Kirkham Nist Reeve Reiman Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 033-01: Disciplinary Cases

The following decisions are reported to the Board:

In the review of the discipline of Charles Johnson, ACBL # Q505640, no action was taken.

In the matter of the request for readmission of Dan Requard, ACBL # L712249, the committee took the following actions:

Mr. Requard:

1. Is readmitted to membership effective November 24, 2003.
2. Is placed on indefinite probation.
3. May play only in ACBL events conducted in District 13.
4. Shall have a number of masterpoints deducted from his record so that as of November 24, 2003 he will have a total of 5000 masterpoints.

In the matter of the request for readmission of Darren Hutchinson, ACBL # 6378870, the committee took the following actions:

Mr. Hutchinson:

1. Is readmitted to membership effective November 24, 2003.
2. Is placed on indefinite probation.
3. His violation of discipline (i.e. playing in ACBL events while under expulsion) shall be referred to the District 19 Disciplinary Committee to take appropriate action.

In the matter of the review of Management's decision issued to Howard J Piltch, ACBL #N966671, in accordance with the guidelines of CDR 5.1.12, the committee affirmed Management's decision with the following modifications:

1. Including review and appellate consideration.
2. Limiting the venue of the prohibitions.
3. Redefining the corrective instructions.
4. Imposing four (4) years of probation.

Item 033-02: Disciplinary Administrative Policies

- A. The ACBL CEO or his or her designee shall maintain and administer membership disciplinary files and records to include decisions of the hearing body wherein there was a finding of any guilt or responsibility (irrespective of whether a discipline was issued) or the committee referred the matter to a Recorder.
- B. Notices of discipline shall contain, in addition to the discipline issued by the hearing committee, an explanation of what that discipline involves and a description of the offense by number and titles per Appendix C of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.
- C. Notices of discipline shall be sent routinely to:
 - 1. The person disciplined.
 - 2. The ACBL Board of Directors.
 - 3. The disciplined person's District President, Secretary and Recorder.
 - 4. The disciplined person's Unit President, Secretary and Recorder.
 - 5. The appropriate Federation.
 - 6. The ABA.
 - 7. ACBL CEO.
 - 8. ACBL staff as determined by the ACBL CEO.
 - 9. The complainant.
- D. The disciplinary committee report on request shall be made available to (in accordance with CDR 5.2.9 the complainant and the disciplined person receive a copy of the report):
 - 1. The ACBL CEO.
 - 2. ACBL staff as determined by the ACBL CEO.
 - 3. A member or members of the ACBL Board upon a determination by the ACBL President that such request is for a proper ACBL business purpose.
- E. A person's ACBL disciplinary record or material therefrom may be made available only to:
 - 1. The person who is the subject of the record upon request.
 - 2. A disciplinary hearing committee when that person has been found guilty of a charge and the committee is considering discipline to be imposed.
 - 3. The ACBL President or CEO when the person is being considered for appointment to an ACBL position or ACBL employment.
 - 4. An Officer of the Court upon presentation of a subpoena.

5. A law enforcement officer without a subpoena when an urgency exists involving a criminal matter.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent.

Item 033-03: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

Definitions:

Sanctioned Event

For the CDR, any ACBL sanction issued by the ACBL **to a club, unit or district and any event awarding ACBL masterpoints which is conducted and sponsored by the ACBL.**

*** This is intended to restrict ACBL's jurisdiction only to sanctioned events which are conducted and sponsored by clubs, units districts or ACBL.

Sexual Harassment against a full-time or part-time ACBL employee or a District or Unit tournament employee:

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature against a full-time or part-time ACBL, **district or unit employee** or when such advances or conduct occurs during or part of an individual's *Item 033-03: Changes to ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations*

employment for the ACBL **or for an ACBL district or unit.** Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to: sexual innuendo or sexually-oriented verbal abuse; unwanted physical contact such as hugging, patting, stroking, or grabbing body parts; displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures or materials; using disparaging and demeaning terms of a sexual nature which belittle or degrade; using sexist terms involving prejudice or discrimination based on one's sex; using sexist jokes or "teasing" of a sexist nature; making obscene gestures or suggestive/insulting sounds; indecent exposure; and/or inappropriate verbal or physical advances of a sexual nature.

*** This adds sexual harassment protection for unit and district employees as well as ACBL employees.

2.1.1 A Unit has jurisdiction over:

- (a) Members of the Unit when such a member is participating in a sanctioned event or other Unit, District or ACBL sponsored activity.

*** This clarifies and restricts ACBL (unit) jurisdiction over its members to ACBL sanctioned events and sponsored activities (such as meetings).

2.2.6 The Ethical Oversight Committee has jurisdiction over any ACBL member participating in any event that awards ACBL masterpoints and over non-members participating in an ACBL sanctioned event.

*** This was a proposed change to give ACBL jurisdiction over an ethical transgression committed at a sanctioned event conducted by another organization. It was removed and will be handled by different changes that appear later.

4.1.2

- (a) shall not participate in international team trials conducted and sponsored by the ACBL; or any national bridge organization of the United States, Canada, Mexico or Bermuda.

*** This was removed from the CDR and appears in Federation rules and/or ACBL Zonal rules.

- 5.1.7 (b) Direct pre-hearing disclosure of evidence and witnesses;

*** This clarifies the committee authority with regard to pre-hearing decisions about sharing witness lists.

5.1.12 If a complaint against a person based on the person's ~~which alleges sexual harassment of a full-time or part-time ACBL employee or a Unit or District tournament employee, is brought before an ACBL Disciplinary Body, the Disciplinary Body shall immediately forward the matter to ACBL Management for action as follows:~~

*** This clarifies the wording and adds sexual harassment protection for unit and district employees.

5.2.1 A complaint requesting a disciplinary hearing must be made in writing to the appropriate

- (a) An initial complaint involving a single incident of conduct must be brought within ~~fifteen (15)~~ **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 complaint related to the original incident against

the complainant within fifteen (15) days of written notification that there has been a charge made against him or her.

*** This accomplishes several things.

1. Complaints have to be in writing.
2. The period of limitation for a single incident is decreased to 30 days.
3. It gives a person who is charged with an offense, the right to file a complaint (within a new period of limitations of 15 days) against his accuser.

6.1 When charge(s) have been made, a person so charged may play in an

ACBL sanctioned event pending hearing unless otherwise directed by the chairperson of the committee which will be hearing the charge(s). The DIC of a tournament may also suspend a person's playing privileges for that tournament pending a hearing by the TDC. Such suspension pending hearings should be rarely issued and only in extreme cases or when a hearing is delayed due to the fault of the person charged.

When suspension pending hearing is directed by:

6.2.1 The DIC of a Sectional or Regional tournament, the hearing must be held as soon as practical. If not heard by the end of the tournament, the complaint goes to the Unit (if from a Sectional) or District (if from a Regional) and the suspension directed by the DIC is lifted.

*** This change gives the DIC the authority to effectively suspend a person from ACBL until a tournament disciplinary committee hears charges or the tournament ends in the same manner whereby currently the chairman of a unit, district or ACBL disciplinary body may.

The Disciplinary Committee may hold a pre-hearing conference to narrow or frame procedural questions that relate to the matter before it. At this conference the committee also may direct the disclosure of evidence, ~~permit the taking of depositions,~~ and permit the presentation of affidavits for use at the hearing. In cases in which numerous witnesses and affidavits are involved, disciplinary committees are encouraged to require exchange of witness lists and disclosure of affidavits prior to the hearing. This disclosure or exchange does not require the party to present the witnesses or affidavits at the hearing. In addition, when more than one party is charged in the same situation, or when one party is charged in several situations, the proceedings may be consolidated.

*** This is a change in the guidelines (appendix A) clarifying the pre-hearing authority.

2.1.3 The ACBL has jurisdiction over:

- (a) Members of ACBL or others disciplined, for appellate purposes only, except where otherwise specified in the CDR.
- (b) Persons participating in a sanctioned event held under its jurisdiction.
- (c) ACBL members who have been disciplined or sanctioned by any other bridge organization.**

*** While previous changes have restricted “ACBL” jurisdiction, this expands jurisdiction of ACBL (at the National level only).

2.2.3 The ACBL Board of Directors has original jurisdiction of the following:

- (a) Disputes between Districts.
- (b) Disputes between Units from different Districts.
- (c) Cases involving alleged violations by Districts referred to in CDR 9.2.
- (d) When, in the opinion of the District Board or the ACBL Board of Directors, circumstances make it impractical or unfair for the matter to be heard by the District or Unit. If such matter is disciplinary in nature and of original jurisdiction, the matter shall be referred to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for decision.
- (e) When a disciplinary committee refers a matter heard at an NABC to the ACBL, it shall be referred to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for action.
- (f) When an ACBL member has been disciplined by another bridge organization, the ACBL Board of Directors Executive Committee may make charges under CDR 3.17 and refer the matter to the Ethical Oversight Committee or ACBL Disciplinary Committee as appropriate.**

2.2.4 In matters coming under CDR 2.2.3 (except as provided in 2.2.3(d), (e) and (f)), the matters will be considered and findings made by the Appeals and

Charges Committee, subject to approval, modification or rejection by the Board of Directors.

*** This change and the change below give authority to ACBL to bring charges against an ACBL member who has been disciplined by another bridge organization. The change in 2.2.3 gives ACBL original jurisdiction and establishes the ACBL Executive Committee to be the charging party.

3.17 below establishes a ground for ACBL discipline.

3.17 Improper conduct, a breach of ethics or improper behavior by an ACBL member for which another bridge organization has issued a discipline or sanction against said member. This section may be implemented only by the ACBL Executive Committee under CDR 2.2.3 (e).

Carried without dissent.

* * * * *

The ACBL Board of Directors adjourned its meeting and reconvened as the ACBL Educational Foundation to hold its annual membership meeting.

Educational Foundation Membership Meeting

Trustee elections: Complying with bylaws that dictate the election of one ACBL Board member at each annual election, Jade Barrett and Jonathan Steinberg declared their candidacy. By secret ballot Jonathan Steinberg was elected to serve a three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006. Geoffrey Cross, Charity Sack and Jerry Thorpe announced their candidacy for Trustee. By secret ballot Geoffrey Cross and Jerry Thorpe were elected to serve three-year term, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

* * * * *

The Educational Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors convened as the ACBL Charity Foundation to hold its annual membership meeting.

Charity Foundation Membership Meeting

The membership meeting of the Charity Foundation convened. Jayne Thomas, Charity Foundation President, cited recent actions of the Foundation which included the announcement of the 2004 Charity of the Year, Alzheimer's Association.

Trustee elections: Sharon Fairchild and Shirley Seals announced their candidacy for Trustee. Since no other candidates declared Sharon Fairchild and Shirley Seals were elected to serve three-year terms, January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2006.

* * * * *

The ACBL Charity Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors reconvened as the ACBL Board of Directors.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 10 and its units, District Director Chuck Wilkinson and Tournament Chairman Larry Federico and all the other chair persons and numerous volunteers, plus a thanks to the New Orleans Marriott for their fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 5:15 pm.