

**Minutes  
ACBL Board of Directors  
Reno, Hilton  
Reno, NV  
March 15 – 18, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Reeve on Monday, March 15, 2004 at 9:15 a.m.

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 Arlinghaus (First Alternate) #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, Jim Kirkham #22, Alan LeBendig #23, Alvin Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Absent: Thomas Gardner #12

Also

Present: Don Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, CEO; Jack Zdancewicz, CFO; and staff Nancy Foy, Julie Greenberg, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

**Approval of New Orleans Minutes**

The New Orleans, LA minutes are approved.

Carried.

**Item 041-175: 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**

**December 23, 2003**

The Executive Committee met by conference call at 8:00 pm CST, to consider management's request to accept Seattle, WA as the 2011 Fall NABC site.

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 Barbara Nist, District 19, Director and Nancy Foy, Director of Meeting Services.

Management submitted a proposed contract for this site. In order to receive added cash, credit and in-kind incentives from the Seattle Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Washington State Convention & Trade Center and the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, a hotel contract and letter of intent with the convention center must be completed by December 31, 2003.

After discussion it was moved and seconded that Seattle be accepted as the 2011 Fall NABC.

Carried. Nay: Retek

#### **Item 041-176: Ratification of Audit Firm**

Jackson, Howell and Associates are approved as the 2004 Audit Firm.

Carried.

#### **Item 041-177: Election of ACBL Treasurer**

Jerry Fleming is elected as ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term May 1, 2004 through April 30, 2005.

#### **Appointments**

President Bruce Reeve appointed Allan Falk to the ACBL Laws Commission to fill the vacancy created by Jon Brissman's resignation.

Carried.

#### **Non Agenda Items**

1. Charity Game Fees – Marketing
2. ACBL Mailing List – Governance
3. Atlanta Summer NABC 05 – Tournaments

Carried.

### **Reconsideration Items**

1. Item 033-116 Sectional Allocations – Tournaments
2. Item 033-69 Payment of WBF Dues – International
3. Item 033-70 Zone I and Zone II Youth Challenge Cup Competition – Juniors

Carried.

### **Item 041-178: 2009 Spring NABC**

The board accepts Management's recommendation to host the 2009 Spring NABC in Houston, TX at the Hilton Americas, March 12-22, 2009

Carried. Abstain: 20

### **Item 041-179: 2011 Summer NABC**

The board accepts Management's recommendation to host the 2011 Summer NABC in Toronto, ON at the Fairmont Royal York and Sheraton Centre hotels, July 21 – 31, 2011.

Carried. Nay: 9, 20, 21. Abstain: 10, 12, 25.

### **ACBL CEO Report**

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

### **League Counsel Report**

Peter Rank, League Counsel, reported on the status of litigation. (Exhibit 2)

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Reeve on Tuesday March 16, at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Same as Monday, March 15

Absent: Same as Monday

Also Present: Same as Monday with additions of Rick Beye, Gary Blaiss, and Linda Granell

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Reeve on Wednesday March 17, at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, March 15  
Absent: Same as Monday  
Also Present: Same as Monday with additions of Rick Beye, Gary Blaiss, and Linda Granell

**BYLAWS**

Wood (C) Heth (VC)  
G. Blaiss, Buckman, Himel, L. Mamula, Miller, Rank  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-20: Bylaws**

The report of the Bylaws Committee is received.

**ACBL CFO Report**

The report of CFO Jack Zdancewicz is received. (Exhibit 3)

Carried.

**MARKETING**

Buckman (C) Himel (VC)  
Anderson, Fairchild, Fleming, Gardner, Harlan, Retek, Seals, Smith, Steinberg  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-135: Marketing Status Report**

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

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-136: Education Status Report**

Management’s education status report is received.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-137: Life Master Categories**

- A. Item 863-51A, current Masterpoint Program is rescinded.
- B. Item 853-51D, ACBL Masterpoint Plan is amended as follows:

A new category, Emerald Life Master, is added between Diamond Life Master and Grand Life Master. This category will require 7500 masterpoints.

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Requirement</u>
Bronze Life Master	500 Masterpoints
Silver Life Master	1,000 Masterpoints
Gold Life Master	2,500 Masterpoints
Diamond Life Master	5,000 Masterpoints
Emerald Life Master	7,500 Masterpoints
Grand Life Master	10,000 Masterpoints – Win a North American Bridge Championship with no upper masterpoint restriction or its equivalent or any of the following WBF events: Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Rosenblum Cup; McConnell Cup, Open Pairs, Women’s Pairs, Olympiad, Women’s Team Olympiad, Senior Pairs, World Swiss Teams, World Mixed Teams and Senior Teams. Effective immediately and retroactively.

- C. Requirements for Category of Grand Life Master also include the World Mixed Pair Event.

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

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried. Nay: 3, 9, 22, 25.

**Item 041-138: Club Limited-Masterpoint Games**

Clubs may not run limited MP games with an upper limit greater than 500 masterpoints. There will be no change to the existing rules regarding stratification for club games which are allowed and encouraged.

Effective date: January 1, 2005.

Not Carried. Aye: 2, 4, 10, 12, 22.

**Item 041-139: Special Games at Clubs**

The Special Games at Clubs Committee report is received.

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-140: Discounted Sanction Fees**

Management is authorized to develop and implement a policy of a discounted sanction fee for online games and online clubs.

Carried. Nay: 1      Abstain: 4

**Item 041-141: Charity Game Fees**

A.      The ACBL Board is requested to increase the club charity game fees from \$4 to \$5 a table.

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried. Nay 9, 18.

B.      The ACBL Board is requested to increase District/Unit Charity table fees an additional \$1.00 per table.

District/Unit Charity table fees will go from \$6.00 to \$7.00 U.S., and equivalent amount in Canadian.

Effective date: As soon as possible but not later than January 1, 2005

Carried. Nay: 10, 11, 24.

**BRIDGE – SPECIAL EVENTS**

Robinson (C)  
Barrett, DeMartino, Heth, Gerard, Kirkham, LeBendig, Morse, Nist, Reiman, Wilkinson,  
Wood

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-100: Special Events Report**

Management's report concerning special event games is accepted.

Carried without dissent.

**APPEALS & CHARGES**

Kirkham (C)                      Steinberg (VC)  
Anderson, Buckman, Heth, Morse, Smith

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-01: Disciplinary Case (s)**

In the matter of Bill and Cindy Handy, ACBL numbers L424897 and M370481, being disciplined while on indefinite probation: The committee accepted the District 22 Disciplinary Committee's recommendation to take no further disciplinary action with regard to indefinite suspension. The Handys remain on indefinite probation. The committee reinstated the indefinite prohibition of the Handys playing together as partners in any event sanctioned by the ACBL.

In the matter of the progress report as part of Management's previous decision (as amended by Appeals and Charges) submitted by Howard Piltch, ACBL number N966671: The Committee accepted the progress report as sufficient to comply with the above decision.

In the matter of the appeal by Howard Piltch of the decision of the District 25 Appellate Committee: The Committee accepted the appeal, which will be heard by the Committee at its Summer 2004 meeting. The Committee denied a request to restrict the scope of the Committee's review. However, on March 17, 2004, Mr. Piltch withdrew his appeal and the stay of the District 25 Appellate Committee decision is terminated.

In the matter of Mr. Piltch's request for reconsideration of Management's decision as amended by Appeals and Charges at its Fall 2003 meeting: The request is denied.

In the matter of the appeal of the District 25 Appellate Committee by Elaine Kadis, ACBL number O119239: The Committee found that there was a pattern of conduct

warranting discipline; therefore the appeal is denied, and the decision of the District 25 Appellate Committee is upheld.

### **Item 041-02: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations**

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

- 4.1.2 *Probation.* A determination that a person has committed an offense warranting discipline such that the person must lose some of the privileges of membership and such that any further disciplinary violation, whether similar or different, may result in suspension or expulsion as follows.
- a. If the member is disciplined for another offense during a discrete probationary period, then if the new discipline is:
    - (1) Expulsion, no further discipline.
    - (2) Probation in excess of 90 days or suspension, the previous probation becomes suspension for the remainder or half of the probation period, whichever is the greater. The new discipline shall be consecutive, not concurrent. (See CDR 4.1.8.)
    - (3) Other, the committee issuing the new discipline shall determine how much, if any, of the previous probationary period shall become a period of suspension.
  - b. If the member is disciplined for another offense during an indeterminate, permanent or lifetime probationary period, then if the new discipline is:
    - (1) Expulsion, no further discipline.
    - (2) Probation in excess of 90 days or suspension, the committee issuing the new discipline shall determine how much of the previous probation shall become a period of suspension. The suspension must be a minimum of one year. The new discipline shall be consecutive, not concurrent. (See CDR 4.1.8.)
    - (3) Other, the committee issuing the new discipline shall determine how much, if any, of the previous probationary period shall become a period of suspension. The new discipline shall be consecutive, not concurrent. (See CDR 4.1.8.)
6. Suspension Pending Hearing
- 6.1 When charge(s) have been made, a person so charged may play in an ACBL sanctioned event pending a hearing unless otherwise directed by the chairperson of the committee which will be hearing the charge(s), or by the Director-in-



Charge of a Sectional or higher-rated tournament when a charge is to be heard by a Tournament Disciplinary Committee (TDC). Such suspension-pending-hearings are rarely issued and only in extreme cases.

6.2 When suspension pending hearing is directed by:

6.2.1 A Unit level disciplinary body, the hearing must commence within twenty (20) days, unless the person charged causes a delay.

6.2.2 A District level disciplinary body, the hearing must commence within sixty (60) days, unless the person charged causes a delay.

6.2.3 The Director-in-Charge of a Sectional or higher-rated tournament, the hearing must commence within 24 hours or immediately after the final session of the tournament whichever is earlier unless the person charged causes a delay. If the matter is not heard at the tournament, the suspension is lifted and the matter is referred to the appropriate Unit or District to be heard.

6.2.4 The ACBL Board of Directors, ACBL Board Committee or Ethical Oversight Committee, the hearing must commence at the next ensuing ACBL Board of Directors' meeting consistent with adequate notice, unless the person charged causes delay.

7.1 Appeals to the District:

7.1.1 A disciplined person, a complainant or ACBL Management may file a written appeal with the District Appellate Committee and/or the District President or their designee from:

- (a) A decision of TDC at a tournament held in that District.
- (b) A decision of a Unit's Disciplinary Committee. Such Unit must be located within the geographical area of the District.
- (c) A decision of that District's Disciplinary Committee.

7.2 Appeals to Appeals and Charges Committee:

7.2.1 A disciplined person, a complainant or ACBL Management may file an appeal with the Chairman of the Appeals and Charges Committee from:

- (a) A decision of the Ethical Oversight Committee.
- (b) A decision of the District Appellate Committee.

- (c) A decision of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee per CDR 7.3.

7.2.2 The original hearing committee may file an appeal of the decision of the District Appellate Committee.

Carried. Nay: 3

**FINANCE & BUDGET**

Wilkinson (C), Nist (VC)  
DeMartino, Fleming, Reiman, Retek, Robinson, Seals  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-31: Membership Dues Expense Allocation Guidelines**

1. A portion of membership dues will be allocated to the club and tournament profit centers.
2. Initially, the allocation will be based on total revenue using 2003 as the base year, but will be adjusted as experience dictates. The following categories of expenses are fully covered by membership dues:
  - 1) Bulletin expense
  - 2) Masterpoint recording
  - 3) Customer Service (include Marketing)The remainder, after the above expenses are deducted, will be allocated to the club and tournament profit centers. This allocation will be based on the revenue produced on those categories (for 2003, approximately 30%).
3. Fifty percent (50%) of tournament directors' salaries will be omitted from the calculation of overhead expenses.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 1, 10.

**BRIDGE**

Reiman (C)                      Robinson (VC)  
Barrett, DeMartino, Heth, Gerard, Kirkham, LeBendig, Morse, Nist, Wilkinson, Wood  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-80: Sanctions for Special Games held Online**

Item 983-Executive Committee action Online Masterpoints Policy is amended with the addition of paragraph 2. C.

- C. Sections A and B above notwithstanding, an online sanction may conduct the following special games provided that the additional fees, if any, are submitted. The masterpoint award for these permitted special games will be the same as for a face-to-face game except the points will be unpigmented.
- (1) Club Championships (one club championship session per quarter per sanctioned session – may be a one session event only)
  - (2) Junior Fund Games as per regulation for live play.

Not Carried. Aye: 3, 10, 21.

### **Item 041-81: Appeals Administrator / Appeals Casebook**

Item 032-114: Appeals Administrator / Appeals Casebook is amended as follows:

- A. The following Board Resolutions are rescinded:
- (921-1) Required Procedures and Certification of Appeals Committee Members
  - (943-04) Appeals Administrator
  - (962-05) Appeals Administrator
  - (971-06) Duties of the Appeals Administrator
  - (991-63) The Appeals Casebook
- Any other resolution prior to July 2003 involved with the Casebook or Appeals Administrator.
- B. The Casebook is a project of the ACBL Board of Directors. The Editor of the Casebook is selected and hired by Management to work with the Board of Directors on this project.
- C. Management shall ensure that the following functions are performed:
1. An appeals casebook is compiled and ready for publication within 120 days of each NABC.
  2. Each casebook should include a description of each appeal.
  3. Each casebook should include commentary on selected appeals that have instructive value or interest as determined by the Editor of the casebook and Management.
  4. Management should publish descriptions of likely controversial decisions in the Daily Bulletin of the NABC at which the decision took place when submitted by the Editor and the Chairman of National Appeals.
  5. The commentators for the Appeals Casebook will be ~~selected and the number of commentators determined by the Editor, Director of National Appeals, Chairman of National Appeals and Management~~ the NABC Director in Charge. ~~Any one of the above may require that a specific commentator not be used~~ The Editor and Management may include appeals cases from events conducted by the USBF, CBF and MBF, which qualify contestants to International competition.

6. ~~If possible, t~~ The casebooks will be published on the ACBL web page. A space shall be provided for any interested party to add comments to the web site regarding any case; however, only those positions listed above are included as official comments.
7. ~~Members of the ACBL National Appeals Committee and ACBL Board of Directors will be furnished with a hard copy of the casebook.~~
8. The casebook shall be reviewed and approved by League Counsel, the Director of National Appeals and Management before it can be published.

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-82: Tournament Status Report**

Management's tournament status report is received.

Carried without dissent.

**BRIDGE – TOURNAMENT**

Wood (C)                      Robinson (VC)  
 Barrett, DeMartino, Heth, Gerard, Kirkham, LeBendig, Morse, Nist, Reiman, Robinson,  
 Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-120: Swiss Team Stratification**

At sponsor option, the stratification level of a team in a Stratified Swiss Event may be determined by the average masterpoint holding of all team members.

Effective date: As soon as Management can implement.

Carried. Nay: 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 24, 25. Abstain: 15, 20.

**Item 041-122: NABC+ and NABC Events Study**

The Bridge Committee's report on NABC+ and NABC Events is received.

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-123: Simultaneous Senior Age Event**

Item 021-146 is rescinded:

Senior events may be held with minimum age restrictions of 55, 65, or 75. Such events may be stratified by masterpoints. The masterpoint awards will be 80% for 55+ and 70% for both 65+ and 75+. Any two age-limited events may be held simultaneously.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-124: CBF Ex-Quota Regional**

The ex-quota Regional awarded to Districts 1, 2, 18 or 19 at the discretion of the CBF is allowed to be run as a split-site Regional.

Not Carried. Aye: 1, 2, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21. Abstain: 19, 22.

**Item 041-125: Senior Age Events Qualification**

The minimum age for Senior Events, currently at age 55, is increased in one-year increments starting on January 1, 2005 until the age of 60 on January 1, 2009, and remains at age 60 thereafter.

Not Carried. Aye: 1, 2, 8, 10, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 24.

**Item 041-127: 2005 Summer NABC Dates**

If desired by Management and contingent upon agreement from affected districts, the dates of the Summer 2005 NABC to held in Atlanta, GA may be changed to Saturday July 23 through Tuesday August 2.

Carried. Nay: 1, 17 Abstain: 14

**Item 041-128: 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 off 6 ½ days, with district/conference concurrence and subject to the scheduling requirements of regionals for purposes of settling conflicts.

Not Carried. Aye: 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 17, 18, 21, 22.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Reeve on Thursday March 18, at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, March 17  
Absent: Same as Wednesday, March 17  
Also Present: Same as Wednesday, March 17 with addition of Sadie King, Charlotte Blaiss.

**GOVERNANCE**

Fairchild (C)                      LeBendig (VC)  
Barrett, Gardner, Gerard, Harlan, Himel, Wood  
Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-45: Board Operations Committee**

The report of the Board Operations subcommittee is referred back to that Committee for completion.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-46: ACBL Election Regulations**

Item 961-62 Regulations for conduct of ACBL Elections is amended as follows:

**ACBL ELECTION REGULATIONS FOR  
DISTRICT WIDE OFFICES**

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

**I. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY**

Each member of the ACBL in good standing, and at least eighteen years of age, desiring to be a candidate for District Director, First Alternate Director, Second Alternate Director, or Board of Governors Representative must file a written Declaration of Candidacy with the Director of Elections prior to June 1 of the year of election. The declaration must be received by the Director of Elections no later than 5:00 PM CT on May 31. Should May 31 be a Saturday or Sunday, then it

will be the first business day following May 31 (postmarked prior to June 1, but received after May 31 will not be considered as received on time). Delivery may be by mail, fax, hand-delivery, or e-mail.

In the physical absence of the Director of Elections, the CEO of the ACBL (or his/her nominee) will act as Director of Elections on the last day designated to receive declarations.

The Director of Elections will send candidates written confirmation that the declaration has been received by the ACBL. In the absence of such confirmation the onus of proof of timely filing rests with the candidate.

The declaration must contain the name, player number, address, and Unit number of the candidate and may contain biographical material not to exceed 100 words.

## **II. VOTING MEMBERS OF A UNIT BOARD**

In March of each year, the Director of Elections will advise the Unit President and Secretary of the number of voting members on the Unit's Board (including voting officers) of record at that time. If the number is not correct, the Unit must notify the Director of Elections by the stated deadline, or the number as recorded by the Director of Elections will be valid and final. The recorded number shall be used in determining the number of ballots to be mailed to each Unit and to determine if a quorum is present at an election meeting.

With the March notification, the Director of Elections will supply each Unit President and Secretary with *Instructions for Conducting an Election Meeting*, which includes a copy of the *ACBL Regulations for District Wide Offices*.

## **III. NOTIFICATION OF UNIT VOTE ALLOCATION**

Each Unit and each candidate who has filed a Declaration of Candidacy will be advised by the Director of Elections, on or before June 24 of the year of election, the number of votes accorded to each Unit in the District. The number is based on the membership of the Unit (see IV). Objections to the votes accorded to each Unit must be filed with the Director of Elections on or before July 15 of the year of the election. Such objection will be forwarded to the Election Protest Committee (three members of the ACBL Board of Directors appointed by the ACBL President) and the procedure set forth in Section XXII will be followed. If no such protest is filed by July 15 in the year of election, the number of votes accorded to each Unit will be considered binding, and no protest may subsequently be filed as to such matter.

**IV. UNIT MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of a Unit is the number of its dues-paying members and those who are Life Members as recorded by the ACBL on a date to be determined by the Director of Elections, but not less than sixty (60) days, nor more than ninety (90) days prior to the commencement of the election period.

**V. VOTING PERIOD**

The voting period is August 15 through September 30. Upon timely application to the Director of Elections, reasonable exceptions may be approved by the Election Protest Committee.

**VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF DAY CERTAIN FOR ELECTIONS**

Each Unit must establish a day certain for the election of a District Director, Alternates to the Board of Directors or Representatives to the Board of Governors. Each Unit shall notify the Director of Elections of this day certain at least thirty days prior to it. A Unit may exercise its rights to vote by mail in accordance with the election regulations set forth in the *Instructions for Conducting an Election Meeting* that has been mailed to the Unit President and Secretary by the Director of Elections.

**VII. MAIL BALLOTS**

Upon application in writing to the Director of Elections by the Unit President or Secretary prior to August 1, a Unit may vote by mail ballot. The application must contain the names and addresses of the voting members of the Unit Board of Directors. The mail ballots and instructions will be mailed by the Director of Elections to the individual voting members of the Unit Board. The mail ballots must be returned within the time limits of the election period.

The mailing of ballots to each individual Board member satisfies quorum requirements without regard to the number returned.

**VIII. NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION MEETING**

The Unit President or Secretary will give the Unit Board of Directors and the Director of Elections reasonable notice (at least thirty days) of the special or regular meeting for the announced specific purpose of voting for District Director, Alternates to the ACBL Board of Directors, or the Representatives to the Board of Governors. A statement must be included with the notification of the election meeting that a voting member of the Unit Board may request an absentee ballot from the Director of Elections anytime prior to the Unit's scheduled meeting (after an election has been called and nominations have closed).

In all contested elections for District Director, First Alternate Director, Second Alternate Director and Representatives to the Board of Governors,



provided the Unit Board is holding an election meeting and the candidate asks to appear at said meeting, each Unit Board must afford every candidate an opportunity to address its membership. The Director of Elections will notify the candidates (at least fourteen [14] days prior to the election meeting) when and where the Unit will conduct its election(s).

**IX. ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Upon notification in writing anytime prior to a Unit's scheduled election meeting (after an election has been called and nominations have closed), a voting member of a Unit Board of Directors may request an absentee ballot from the Director of Elections. The Director of Elections will mail a ballot, ballot envelope, all biographical material, voting instructions and an envelope (indicating the Unit number prominently in the bottom left hand corner) for direct mailing to the Director of Elections by the member. The voting member should notify the Unit President or Secretary that they will not be present at the election meeting. The Unit President or Secretary must return all ballots not cast to the Director of Elections with the Unit's sealed ballots.

**X. BALLOTS/ELECTION PACKAGE**

A ballot is prepared for each position with the candidates listed alphabetically. A mailing of the *Instructions for Conducting an Election Meeting* will be sent to each Unit President on or about August 1. This will include *ACBL Regulations for District Wide Offices*, ballots, ballot envelopes, envelopes for signatures, copies of the biographical material supplied by the candidates, and a self-addressed return envelope.

The Director of Elections will notify the District Presidents that the election materials have been mailed to the Units.

**XI. ELECTION MEETING OF UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The meeting must meet the Unit requirements for a quorum, but in no case shall it be less than a majority of the Board of Directors of the Unit. Properly executed written requests for absentee ballots will be counted toward the determination of a quorum for the election meeting.

Members of the Board present will vote for the candidates listed on the ballot.

**PROXIES ARE NOT PERMITTED**

**WRITE-IN VOTES ARE INVALID AND SHALL RENDER THAT  
BALLOT NULL & VOID**

Voters should have a segregated area where the ballot may be cast in private. If a candidate desires, the Unit must permit a candidate or the candidate's representative to be present at the election meeting.

Voting members of the Unit Board shall place their ballot in the small envelope provided, seal it, and place the small envelope in the larger envelope, seal the latter, sign on the outside, and include their ACBL player number.

**FAILURE TO SIGN THE LARGE "SIGNATURE" ENVELOPE SHALL RENDER THAT BALLOT NULL & VOID**

Upon completion of the balloting, the secretary of the meeting will collect the sealed ballot envelopes, place them in the supplied return envelope, seal the envelope, and mail to the Director of Elections without opening any of the ballots. All ballots, whether cast or not, are to be returned to the Director of Elections. The return envelope containing the ballots must be postmarked no earlier than August 15 and no later than midnight, September 30, or as otherwise provided (see Section V). To ensure delivery, you may send "Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested". It is suggested that Units holding elections between September 20-30, send their ballots by courier service to ensure their receipt by the deadline. It is the sole responsibility of the Unit to see that all ballots reach the Director of Elections.

**XII. RECEIPT OF BALLOTS**

The Director of Elections, at least ten (10) days and not more than fifteen (15) days before the end of the voting period, will notify all candidates and the President and Secretary of the Units and the District President or the District Director affected of the non-receipt of such Units' ballots.

**XIII. RETURN OF BALLOTS**

The ballot envelopes will be opened and the ballots counted at ACBL Headquarters by the Director of Elections beginning at 9:00 AM on the first Friday in October, which is at least five working days past September 30. Votes for each candidate will be calculated by dividing the number of votes allocated to the unit by the number of voting unit board members who cast a ballot. That result will be multiplied by the number of votes each candidate receives from that unit.

Each candidate, or his representative, is entitled to witness the opening and counting. An ACBL employee may not represent a candidate for this purpose.

It is the sole responsibility of the Unit to see that all ballots reach the Director of Elections prior to the first Friday in October (which is at least

five (5) working days past September 30). **ANY BALLOTS RECEIVED AFTER THE FIRST THURSDAY IN OCTOBER (WHICH IS AT LEAST FOUR (4) WORKING DAYS AFTER SEPTEMBER 30) WILL NOT BE COUNTED.**

If the Director of Elections determines that the ballots from all the Units in the District have been returned, he may, with the consent of all the candidates, count the votes prior to the first Friday of October.

**XIV. INADMISSIBLE UNIT VOTE**

Under all circumstances in any District election for national office in which all of a Unit's ballots, although received in a timely manner, are deemed inadmissible, a new election will be held within the Unit by mail ballot within thirty (30) days following all possible appeals.

Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the new election, however, such new election will only take place if it might affect the outcome.

**XV. BREAKING A TIE IN ELECTION BALLOT**

The number of votes cast shall be computed to the fourth decimal point. In the event such procedure does not break the tie, it will be broken by lot by the Director of Elections.

**XVI. RUN-OFF ELECTIONS – DISTRICT DIRECTOR, FIRST OR SECOND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR**

In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes (allocated). Upon disposition of any protest that should require a new election, the Director of Elections will forthwith commence such run-off election by mail ballot. Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the run-off election. During the period of a run-off or new election, the incumbent Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.

**XVII. ELECTION FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVES**

The three (3) candidates in each District receiving the greatest number of votes will be deemed elected. If a tie occurs, regulations in Section XVI will be in effect.

**XVIII. ELECTION PROCEDURES WHEN THERE ARE NO DECLARED CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR, FIRST ALTERNATE DIRECTOR OR SECOND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR**

If there are no declared candidates in an election year for the position of District Director, First Alternate Director or Second Alternate Director,

that position will be declared vacant at the conclusion of the incumbent's term by the Director of Elections. Such vacancies are to be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

**XIX. ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE WHEN THERE ARE FEWER THAN THREE DECLARED CANDIDATES**

In an election year, if there are fewer than three declared candidates in a District, positions of Representatives to the Board of Governors for which there are no candidates shall be declared vacant and will be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

The Bylaws state: "A vacancy in the position of Representative shall be filled by the District Organization in accordance with its regulations within sixty (60) days. Should the vacancy not be filled within the required timeframe, the Chairman of the Board of Governors, in consultation with the Membership Committee, shall appoint a member of the District to fill the position for the unexpired remainder of the term; the appointment is subject to confirmation by the Board of Governors at its next regular meeting."

**XX. NULLIFICATION OF ELECTION FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR**

The death or resignation of a candidate for District Director, opposed or unopposed, during the period of time from May 1 to September 30, will either nullify the election in progress or cause an election to take place.

The Director of Elections will set a date or new dates for the District election in order to allow the appropriate amount of time for candidates to file and campaign. A candidate who resigned from the nullified election may not declare his/her candidacy for the new election.

If the new election period is still in progress when the term of office expires, the incumbent District Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.

In the case of the death or resignation of the incumbent Director, the First Alternate Director will serve as District Director until the new Director is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors. The First Alternate Director will then resume his/her position for the remainder of the unexpired term, unless elected as District Director.

**XXI. PROTESTS**

A protest to an election should be filed with the Director of Elections in writing, must specify, in detail, the nature of the protest and be postmarked no later than ten days after the election results are announced

by the Director of Elections. If the tenth day is a postal holiday, the tenth day will be deemed to be the next day that is not a postal holiday.

## **XXII. PROTEST PROCEDURES**

A protest to an election is under the authority of the ACBL Board of Directors. The protest will be heard by the Election Protest Committee, which is composed of the three District Directors, all in the first year of their current term, who are most senior in length of service on the ACBL Board of Directors.

The Election Protest Committee will proceed as follows:

A. It will forward a copy of the protest to each candidate in said election.

B. It will review the protest forthwith.

C. As part of such review, the Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do any and all things necessary to decide such protest in an equitable manner. If, in its judgment, it is desirable and practical, the Committee may arrange for mail ballots to be sent to the Board of Directors of the Units involved in the protest. The time of return of ballots is to be fixed by the Election Protest Committee.

D. It will decide the protest and mail a copy of the decision, along with an explanation of such decision, to all interested parties.

An appeal of the Election Protest Committee's decision to the ACBL Board of Directors must be filed within ten days after the announcement of the Committee's decision, otherwise, such decision is final. The investigation of the protest will be assigned to the Appeal and Charges Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors. In the conduct of such investigation, the Appeals and Charges Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do any and all things necessary to determine all the facts to assist the ACBL Board of Directors in deciding the appeal in an equitable manner.

## **XXIII. ELECTION PROTEST COMMITTEE**

No member of the Election Protest Committee may serve on the Appeals and Charges Committee for the purpose of the election appeal.

## **XXIV. RECALL OF DISTRICT DIRECTORS**

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 (10) 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 (10) 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:

- A. 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”);
- B. The name of the Director to whom the recall attempt is directed;
- C. The number assigned by the ACBL to this recall attempt;
- D. 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.

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.

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:

- A. Verify the names filed as to District and Unit;

B. 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).

C. 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.

Unless a protest is filed as set forth below, the petition results shall be deemed final thirty (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.

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 thirty (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 thirty (30) days of receipt of the protest from the Director of Elections, the Election Protest Committee shall:

A. Reject the protest as without merit, or

B. 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.

Effective date: With the next distribution of Election Material to the Units

Carried without dissent.

#### **Item 041-47: Annual Audit**

The Audit Committee 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, for a reasonable fee, the Treasurer shall furnish said member with a copy of said audited financial statement. A summary of the audited financial statement together with the Treasurer's report shall be published in *The Bulletin*, and a full report shall be 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

Carried without dissent.

#### **Item 041-48: Transfer of Zip codes in Unit 354**

The following zip codes in the Phoenix Unit 354 are transferred to the Mesa Unit 351:

85044, 85045 and 85048

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent.

#### **Item 041-50: Co-Hosting NABC's**

The following items are amended:

1. NABC Operations (883-61)
  - A. Once an area has been selected for an NABC, the District Organization becomes the primary host organization. The District, at its option, may delegate the responsibility to a local Unit, but the District Organization retains overall accountability. This shall apply to NABCs assigned at and after the 1988 Fall Meetings.
  - B. Contiguous districts may co-host an NABC with ACBL Management approval subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.
2. Chapter 8 of the ACBL Codification, Appendix 3 NABC Financial Plan

#### **Sleeping Rooms for Volunteers**



4. ACBL will provide a one-bedroom suite for the district director. If the NABC is co-hosted by more than one district, ACBL will provide a one-bedroom suite for the district director from each of the sponsoring districts.

Effective date: April 1, 2004

Carried. Nay: 1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, 22.

**Item 041-51: ACBL Mailing List**

The ACBL mailing list regulation be amended as follows:

ACBL Mailing List (913-103) (942-44) (973-68) (003-195) (022-42)

A. LISTS PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE:

.....

8. Unit or District Tournament Chairman - Names and addresses of potential tournament attendees\*

9. NABC Host Committee - Names and addresses of potential tournament attendees!

\*Must be published at least twice a year

!All incidental costs (postage, materials) will be the responsibility of the user.

Carried without dissent.

**JUNIORS**

Seals (C) Harlan (VC)  
Barrett, Buckman, Fairchild, Fleming, Gardner, Heth, Himel, Robinson, Smith,  
Steinberg, Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 041-150: The North American Junior Corps**

Appendix 3 attached to Item 892-83 & 901-72C is amended as follows:

Appendix 3 - The North American Junior Corps

Concept: To establish a Junior Club within the ACBL, known as the North American Junior corps (NAJC), for which membership must be earned.

The NAJC consists of young players who love the game of bridge, are ACBL members and have shown the desire to promote junior bridge in their school or in their community. These players should set a good example for other young players to follow.

Profile:

- a. Must be under 26 years of age.
- b. Must have been an ACBL member for more than a year.
- c. Must have at least 5 masterpoints.
- d. Must be approved by the ACBL staff member in charge of the Junior Program at the time of admission.
- e. Must be willing to be available for promotional efforts to advertise and promote the ACBL Junior Program.
- f. Program is under the umbrella of the Goodwill Committee.
- g. Appointments made to the Junior Corps will be announced at the Junior Reception and pins will be presented by the Chairman of the Goodwill Committee

Selection Process:

Candidate's name must be submitted to the ACBL staff member in charge of the Junior Program for approval

Goals of the Program:

- a. To provide opportunities for young players to learn more about bridge.
- b. To develop players who will continue to play and encourage other new young players to participate.
- c. To serve as a “showcase” for other young players
- d. To provide incentive for ACBL Youth Members to improve their games and develop their skills.
- e. To help build a base for the ACBL Junior Division.
- f. To encourage our young players to become active in their Units and Districts.

Benefits of Membership in the Corps:

- a. Junior Corps members will receive a pin.
- b. Junior Corps members will be listed in the Grapevine and on the Junior web site.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried without dissent.

### **Item 041-151: NABC Junior/Student Coupons**

Item 021-230 Junior Coupons at NABCs is amended as follows:

- A. Junior/Student Coupons for entry into events at NABCs are for any junior who is a member of the ACBL in good standing and who is either 21 years of age or younger

or a full-time student between 22 and 25 years of age. Full time students must offer proof of their eligibility prior to purchasing their entry.

Carried. Nay: 7, 8, 9, 22.

- B. Junior/Student coupons shall be approximately 50% of the NABC regional entry fee.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-152: WBF Junior Age Change Recommendation**

Moved that our board express to our representatives that the WBF age for play in junior competition be changed to allow only those to participate, who have not attained the age of 22 on January first of the year in which the competition is held.

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent.

**Item 041-154: World Scholastic Team Championships**

The first World Scholastic Team Championships will take place in New York July 13 – 14, 2004 during the Summer NABC.

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

The respective National Junior Fund will be responsible for the cost of accommodation of Zone II Teams. The ACBL Marketing department will cover the expenses up to \$1000.00, for tournament directors, hand records, minor hospitality, and promotion.

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

Carried without dissent.

**AUDIT**

DeMartino (C)  
Nist, Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

Management will provide a written recommendation to the Audit Committee at the summer 2004 meeting on changes to the Audit Committees responsibilities incurred by

the passage of the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation (assuming there are provisions of that legislation that apply to the ACBL).

Carried without dissent.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Appointment to Competition and Conventions**

President Reeve announced the following appointments to the Competition and Conventions Committee:

Steve Beatty (C), Barbara Seagram (three-year term), Peter Boyd, Bob Hamman, Peggy Sutherland, Sol Weinstein and Chip Martel to serve for one-year.

**Hall of Fame Committee Appointments**

President Reeve announced the following appointments to the Hall of Fame Committee.

Roy Green (C)  
Mike Passell, Jo Morse and Ron Smith (Hixson, TN)

**GNT Team for District 23**

District 23 requested that an additional team be added to the Flight C GNT from the Los Angeles area.

Not carried. Aye: 9, 12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23.

<b><u>INTERNATIONAL &amp; ZONAL</u></b>	
Morse (C)	Retek (VC)
Anderson, DeMartino, Gerard, Kirkham, LeBendig, Nist, Reiman, Wood	
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 041-65: USBF, CBF and Mexico BF Bridge Week at clubs**

- A. The Board approves the concept of a USBF, CBF and Mexican Bridge Week at the Clubs.
- B. The Sanction Fee for this Bridge Week will be the same as for a STAC and all other regulations that apply to STACs will be applied as well.

- C. Points to be determined by Board of Directors in conjunction with the USBF, the CBF and the MBF.

Not Carried. Aye: 16, 24.

### **Item 041-66: Zone 2 Regulations**

Item 033-65: Zone 2 Regulations is amended as follows:

- A. The following items are rescinded: 751-54D, 903-55, 952-81, 991-99, 992-99, 022-116, 023-90, 032-70.
- B. Zone 2 International Regulations
1. The ACBL Board of Directors will act as the Zonal Conference for Zone 2 which consists of the following for International WBF Play:
    - a. United States Bridge Federation (USBF)
    - b. Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF)
    - c. Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF)\*Changes made in 2 and 3 below.\*
  2. Bermuda Bridge Federation Competes through Zone 5 by virtue of the following, ACBL approves BBF's request to compete internationally as a member of WBF's Zone 5 while maintaining ACBL affiliation as Unit198 in District 2 is approved. *[Replaces 012-115]*
  3. The Virgin Islands Bridge Federation competes through Zone 5 per its request to become an NCBO of the WBF as a member of Zone V while maintaining ACBL affiliation is approved. *[Replaces 863-44]*
  4. 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.
  5. 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:

**Section C. 1. c. In bold has been completely revised**

- 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,
6. The authority for selecting and subsidizing athletes who represent an ACBL country in international bridge competition rests with that country's Federation. *[replaces 012-116 A]*

C. Other Regulations for ACBL NBOs

\*Changes made in 1a and b below\*

1. Subsidy (All Fees to be in US dollars) All international fund monies collected by ACBL for the specific purpose of subsidizing ACBL athletes in international bridge competition will be forwarded to the Federation of the country in which the funds were collected. International Fund monies collected at NABCs are to be apportioned to the appropriate Federation in accordance with that Federation's percentage of ACBL membership. *[replaces 012-116 D 1]*
  - a. Money raised by and from events held by ACBL for the benefit of the International Fund be divided among all teams representing the Federation at the Federation's sole discretion. *[Replaces 032-70]*
  - b. Junior Subsidy (All Fees to be in US dollars)
    - (1) Junior Fund Money Collected at ACBL-sanctioned Junior Fund Games
      - (a) All funds collected must be submitted to ACBL.
      - (b) All funds collected will be disbursed or used by ACBL Management at its sole discretion.
      - (c) ACBL is responsible for determining how much, if any, of the Junior Fund monies may be used by the Federation.

- (2) In order for a Federation in Zone Two to receive funds from ACBL for subsidy to Juniors, any junior receiving such subsidy must meet the following minimum criteria: *[previously Junior Subsidies (012-231)]*
- (a) Any junior receiving subsidy must be a high school graduate, have received a high school equivalency certificate or be a student attending school and making orderly progress toward graduation.
  - (b) All such juniors will be held to the Code of Conduct as developed by ACBL Management and League Counsel.
- (3) Junior fund monies collected by the ACBL (in a Federation's country) determined by the ACBL to be for the purpose of subsidy or training of an ACBL Federation's junior athletes representing that Federation's country in international bridge competition will be dispersed or used by the ACBL for those purposes at ACBL Management's discretion. ACBL will make every effort to comply with the wishes of the Federation in which the funds were collected. *[Replaces 012-116 D 2, 952-45, 953-45, 972-91]*
2. Management is authorized, at its sole discretion, to note dues to or donations for an ACBL Federation on the ACBL membership and renewal forms. *[Replaces (933-32), (012-17A)]*
3. No ACBL member in good standing may be denied eligibility to participate at the club level in an ACBL-sanctioned national championship event in the country of the member's domicile. *[Replaces (862-12)]*
4. Discipline.  
A summary of disciplinary action(s) previously made public is available upon request to NCBO governing bodies. *[implements 972-08 for NBOs]*

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.

Carried without dissent.

### **Item 041-67: ACBL National Bridge Federation Events**

The following resolutions are rescinded: CNTC Fees (821-26), Sanction Fees for Canadian Team Championships (863-63), Canadian International Fund Games (912-23), Sanction Fees for Canadian Team Championships (863-63), Sanction Fees for the COPC, CNTC and CWTC (922-103), National Team Championships for Bermuda and Mexico (852-34), NCBO Open Pairs Championship (832-26) (862-11),

CBF Requests (862-12), CBF Requests (862-12), Canadian International Fund Games (912-23), Sanction Fees for the COPC, CNTC and CWTC (922-103), Flight B of the CNTC (992-111).

- A. 1. Each National Contract Bridge Federation within the ACBL may hold an annual ACBL-sanctioned, national championship in each of the following categories:
- a. Open team
  - b. Women's team
  - c. Senior team
  - d. Open pairs
  - e. Women's pairs
  - f. Junior team
2. The national finals shall be regionally-rated (Regionally-rated red and gold points unless otherwise indicated in the ACBL Masterpoint Plan). Qualification events, if any, shall be sectionally-rated (black points).
3. Sanction fees shall be as follows: (a) the then current Regional sanction fee for the national finals and (b) \$1 US/table/session for any stage of the championship conducted prior to the national final.
4. If the national finals of any of the championships listed in B. 1. above is not held concurrent with an ACBL Regional or Sectional tournament, each NBO may conduct ACBL-sanctioned sectionally-rated black-point events concurrent with the national finals. The sanction fee for such an event or events is \$1 US/table/session.
5. The Federation is responsible for applying for the sanction through and reporting the results to the ACBL Tournament Department.
6. The championship may be Flighted by ACBL masterpoints.
- B. Each National Contract Bridge Federation in WBF Zone 2 may conduct an ACBL-sanctioned event (Trials) to qualify a team or teams to represent the Federation's country at a World Bridge Federation or Olympic Championship in an appropriate category such as Open, Senior, Junior, Women or Men, etc.
1. The sanction fee for any such event is \$2 US per entered team except that such fee is waived for Junior Trials.
  2. The masterpoint award is as determined by the ACBL Board of Directors.
  3. Should a National Championship as provided in section A above be used to determine the Federation's representative, section A fees will not apply. The fees and masterpoint award in accordance with section B (this section).
  4. The Federation is responsible for applying for the sanction through and reporting the results to the ACBL Tournament Department.



- C. ACBL shall be solely responsible for establishing sanction fees for International Fund Games sanctioned by ACBL. [replaces 912-23]
- D. Upon request, ACBL will sanction one regional per year to the ACBL District of the USBF's and/or the CBF's choice. [replaces 032-76, 033-68]
- E. All ACBL clubs must hold at least one International Fund Game on an annual basis. For those clubs so choosing, this game may replace the required charity game. [replaces 941-56, 953-47]

Deferred to Summer 2004 meeting.  
Carried without dissent.

### **Item 041-69: Zonal Representatives to 2004 WBF Meeting**

The ACBL extends to its WBF Representatives its authorization and support for each Representative to attend the 2004 WBF meetings at each Representative's sole discretion as long as appropriate waivers holding ACBL harmless are signed.

Carried. Nay: 7, 14, 17, 19, 20. Abstain: 1, 3, 4, 16, 24.

#### **Discussion Groups**

1. Tournaments and their success (Exhibit 4)
2. Patron Membership (Exhibit 5)
3. I-N Games at Clubs (Exhibit 6)

\* \* \* \* \*

The board went into executive session.

#### **Closing Remarks**

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 20 and its units, District Director G. S. Jade Barrett and Co-Tournament Chairman Cynthia Sinn of Portland, OR and Sheila Wimer of Reno, NV and all the other chair persons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Reno Hilton for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 4:00 p.m.