

REGIONAL/SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULING REPORT

Committee members - Bill Arlinghaus, Jerry Fleming, Joan Gerard,
Alan LeBendig, George Retek, Nadine Wood, Jeff Taylor
Staff member - Rick Beye

The committee met twice by conference call and again in Atlanta after receiving changes from the Board at its meeting. The following topics were discussed and conclusions reached:

1. Each District Director was asked to discuss the meaning of the word “conflict” to their district and get back to us so that we could better define the meaning of what a “conflict” is. Naturally, we did not hear back from everyone but there was universal agreement that, as Bill Arlinghaus put it, "conflict is in the eyes of the beholder." The current regulations will be revised in order to encompass some of the pitfalls that have surfaced since the last regulation was enacted. Regardless, we hope that the districts involved in a conflict will want to achieve a solution through compromise – something that is in the best interests of the players involved.
2. There was unanimous approval by the committee for the re-establishment of an Arbitration Board:
 - a. The Board will consist of one member from each district – the District Director or his designee.
 - b. Representatives from the districts involved may not sit on the Panel (Arbitration Board) that involves their own conflict.
 - c. The Panel will consist of five people, two from each zone without the conflict and one from the zone with the conflict. No one from the districts involved may sit on the Panel.
 - d. If there is a conflict between two districts or more in different zones, three people from the third zone and one from each of the two zones with a conflict will be on the Panel. Again, no one from the districts involved may be on the Panel.
 - e. For the Selection Process, the zonal representatives will pick the members of the panel from their zones as long as their zone is not involved. The President or Chairman of the Board will appoint the person from the "Conflict" Zone. Since the list of district directors is updated each year, the list will be automatically current.
3. There was unanimous agreement that the district director(s) from the districts involved in a possible conflict should be notified by Management of the possible conflict as soon as Management is aware of it.
4. There was unanimous agreement that the district directors should have access to the Tournament Coordinator's site. This task has been accomplished. The site is located at the bottom of our web board and differs from the "universal" site in that a bi-weekly update of revisions and additions is available on this site.

5. There was unanimous agreement that Regionals in the Schedule for a specific date and location that move their location more than 50 miles within one year from this date, will be subject to the "New Tournament Rules" (in other words this move will be treated as a new tournament). It was also unanimously agreed that this new regulation should be used as a guideline.
6. The Regulation, "A district may move a regional tournament from the calendar year in which it hosts an NABC to any of the three years prior or any of the three years succeeding providing the regional meets all the requirements under "Scheduling of Regional Tournaments" will be amended to add the following: This regulation extends to include Acts of God or Hotels canceling contracts.
7. There was unanimous agreement to reinstate the Traditional Date List for Regionals. The list will be sent to Districts to be checked. Easter will be noted as an exception. A definition of what is a Traditional Date will be included at the top of the list that is sent. Rick Beye is working on the possibility of these dates being listed on the Tentative Tournament Schedule.
8. We noted that in the 2005 Handbook of Rules & Regulations, Chapter 6, there were some interpretations of our Regulations that were different than what had been passed by our Board. These will be corrected for the 2006 Handbook.
9. There was unanimous agreement that the years in advance currently needed for the protection involving Regionals and Sectionals were ok and no re-write was necessary.
10. There was unanimous agreement that two or three people from this committee will locate all the regulations that pertain to this topic including the largest regulation - Item 941-63 and either recommend discarding the item or incorporate the item into a new motion. It is the committee's intent to give this Work-In-Progress Report now and a final motion for the Board at our fall meeting in Denver.