

ACBL

ELECTION REGULATIONS

FOR

DISTRICT WIDE OFFICES

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1. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY - PROPOSED

In order to declare candidacy, campaign for or serve as District Director, First Alternate Director, Second Alternate Director, or Board of Governors Representative, a member of the ACBL must be in good standing, and at least eighteen years of age.

1.1 An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member’s dues or fees, if dues or fees are required, are current and such member is not:

Expelled,

Serving a term of suspension,

Serving indefinite probation,

Serving a probation, the initial term of which was twenty-four (24) or more months,

Serving a term of probation following a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of ninety (90) days.

1.2 The declaration must be received by the Director of Elections no later than 5:00 PM CT on May 31.

1.2.1 The deadline is fixed, even when May 31 falls on a non-business day.

1.2.2 Postmarked prior to June 1, but received after May 31 will not be considered as received on time.

1.2.3 Delivery may be by mail, fax, hand-delivery, or e-mail.

1.2.4 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.

1.3 The Director of Elections will send candidates written confirmation that the declaration has been received by the ACBL.

1.3.1 The onus of proof of receipt lies with the candidate.

1.4 The declaration must contain the name, player number, and office for which the candidate is applying.

1.5 If there is no opposition, qualified candidates will be deemed elected on June 1.

1.5.1 With opposition, an election will be required. Candidates who wish to include a biographical summary with election materials must submit a summary to the Director of Elections within ten (10) business days following June 1.

1.5.1.1 The summary may not exceed 150 words.

1.5.1.1.1 The summary is the creation of the candidate. ACBL disavows responsibility for content or accuracy of the information contained therein.

1.5.2 Candidates may request, free of charge, one list or one set of labels of the Unit board members within their District, so they may campaign on their own behalf.

1.5.2.1 Such request will not be fulfilled until thirty (30) business days following June 1, allowing the Units time to confirm the Unit Board members on record are accurate for the upcoming election.

I. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY – CURRENT

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 Governor 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 (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.

2. ELECTORS - PROPOSED

District Directors, First Alternate Directors, Second Alternate Directors, and Board of Governors Representatives shall be elected by the Unit boards of each District under the authority of the ACBL Director of Elections.

2.1 Within ten (10) business days following June 1, the Director of Elections will execute the following:

2.1.1 Advise the Unit Presidents and Secretaries, within the districts in which an election is required, of the Unit Board members of record at that time.

2.1.2 Solicit voting method preference.

2.1.3 Supply a copy of the ACBL Regulations for District Wide Offices.

2.2 By the thirtieth (30) business day following June 1, the Unit will corroborate or update the roster and provide the voting method preference.

2.2.1 If the roster is not corroborated or updated, the Unit Board members on record will be final for the upcoming election.

2.2.2 If no voting method preference is provided, the Unit will default to a mail ballot election.

II. VOTING MEMBERS OF A UNIT BOARD - CURRENT

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.

3. UNIT MEMBERSHIP - PROPOSED

The membership of a Unit is the number of its dues-paying members and those who are active Life Members as recorded by the ACBL on June 1.

IV. UNIT MEMBERSHIP - CURRENT

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.

4. UNIT VOTING POWER - PROPOSED

4.1 Each Unit Board of Director in the District shall have "Unit Board Member Voting Power", based on the formula following:

4.1.1 The Unit membership divided by one hundred (100) and computed to the fourth decimal place.

4.1.2 The division of the Unit membership shall then be divided by the number of board members in the Unit voting in person or by mail.

4.1.3 The Unit Voting Power shall be computed to the fourth decimal place.

4.1.3.1 In the event such procedure does not break a tie, it will be broken by the Director of Elections by a drawing.

4.1.4 A majority of Unit Board of Directors in the Unit must vote in order for the Unit's Voting Power to be included in the election results.

4.1.4.1 Properly executed requests for absentee ballots will be considered voting in person or by mail.

4.2 Each candidate shall be sent the Unit Voting Power accorded for each Unit within thirty (30) business days following June 1.

4.3 Each Unit shall be sent the Unit Voting Power accorded for their Unit within thirty (30) business days following June 1.

4.3.1 Objections to the Unit Voting Power must be filed with the Director of Elections within forty-five (45) business days following June 1.

4.3.1.1 Such objection will be forwarded to the Election Protest Committee and the procedure set forth in Regulation 15, "Protests" will be followed.

4.3.2 If no such objection is filed, the Unit Voting Power shall be considered binding, and no protest may subsequently be filed as to such matter.

III. NOTIFICATION OF UNIT VOTE ALLOCATION - CURRENT

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.

XV. BREAKING A TIE IN ELECTION – CURRENT

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.

5. VOTING PERIOD – PROPOSED

5.1 Election materials will be mailed to the Unit President prior to August 15.

5.2 The voting period commences once the Unit is in receipt of the election materials.

5.3 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by the close of business on the third business day of October.

V. VOTING PERIOD – CURRENT

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.

6. VOTING METHODS - PROPOSED

6.1 A Unit may opt to vote by one of the methods following:

6.1.1 A Unit meeting for the purpose of voting (the preferred method).

6.1.1.1 The decision to hold a Unit meeting by the Unit President or Secretary is binding for all.

6.1.1.1.1 A Unit Board member unable to attend the election meeting may request an absentee ballot.

6.1.1.2 It is permissible to conduct other Unit business during the course of the meeting.

6.1.2 Mail Ballot.

6.2 If the Director of Elections is not notified of the Unit preference, the Director of Elections will default to a mail ballot election.

6.3 A majority of the Unit Board members must vote in order for the unit's ballots to be included in the results.

“VOTING METHODS” IS A NEW PROPOSED REGULATION

7. UNIT MEETING - PROPOSED

When a Unit meeting is the Unit's preferred method of voting, a day certain must be established for the purpose of voting.

7.1 The Unit President or Secretary will give the Unit Board of Directors and the Director of Elections appropriate notice of the special or regular meeting for the announced specific purpose of voting. The date, time and location should be included in the notification.

7.1.1 The Unit President or Secretary shall include a statement with the notification of the Unit meeting that a board member 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).

7.2 If a candidate desires, the Unit must grant a request by the candidate(s) to appear at the Unit meeting. If a candidate is unable to attend, it is permissible for the candidate to send a representative to appear on their behalf.

7.2.1 If the Director of Elections has been notified of a unit meeting, notification will be made to the candidates in a timely manner prior to the election meeting, of when and where the Unit will conduct its election.

7.3 Voters should have a segregated area where the ballot may be cast in private.

7.3.1 Voters shall:

Place the ballot in the envelope provided;

Seal the envelope;

Sign and record their player number in the designated area on the back of the envelope.

7.3.1.1 Failure to sign the envelope shall render the ballot null and void.

7.3.2 Proxies are not permitted.

7.3.3 Write-in votes are invalid.

7.4 Upon completion of voting, the board member conducting the meeting shall collect the sealed ballot envelopes, sign and date the Unit Board of Director roster provided, place all in the pre-paid, self-addressed overnight mail service envelope provided, and mail to the Director of Elections.

7.4.1 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by the close of business on the third business day of October.

7.4.2 On or about September 15, the Director of Elections will notify candidates and the Unit Presidents and Secretaries of the status of unit's ballots.

THE FOREGOING PROPOSED "UNIT MEETING" REGULATION IS A COMBINATION OF THE CURRENT REGULATIONS FOLLOWING:

VI. ESTABLISHMENT OF DAY CERTAIN FOR ELECTIONS - CURRENT

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 at least thirty days prior to the day certain. 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.

VIII. NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION MEETING - CURRENT

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).

XI. ELECTION MEETING OF UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS - CURRENT

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. To ensure delivery, you may send "Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested". It is suggested that Units holding elections 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 - CURRENT

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 by the non-receipt of said Units' ballots.

8. ABSENTEE BALLOTS - PROPOSED

If a Unit Board member is unable to attend a Unit's scheduled election meeting, the board member may request an absentee ballot (after an election has been called and nominations have closed).

8.1 The board member should notify the Unit President or Secretary that they will not be present at the election meeting.

8.2 A request for an absentee ballot should be directed in writing to the Director of Elections.

8.2.1 The Director of Elections will mail an election package directly to each Unit Board member.

8.2.1.1 The Unit Board member will mail the ballot directly to the Director of Elections.

8.2.2 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by the close of business on the third business day of October.

IX. ABSENTEE BALLOTS – CURRENT

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 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.

9. MAIL BALLOTS - PROPOSED

Upon application in writing to the Director of Elections by the thirtieth (30) business day following June 1, the Unit President or Secretary may request that the unit vote by mail ballot.

9.1 The mail ballots will be mailed by the Director of Elections to the individual voting members of the Unit Board.

9.2 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by the close of the third business day of October.

VII. MAIL BALLOTS - CURRENT

Upon application in writing to the Director of Elections by the Unit President or Secretary prior to July 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.

IT IS RECOMMENDED "BALLOTS/ELECTION PACKAGE" BE OMITTED – "Instructions for Individual Unit Board of Directors in District Wide Elections" and "Instructions for Conducting an Election Meeting" contain variable materials.

X. BALLOTS/ELECTION PACKAGE - CURRENT

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 Election 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.

10. RETURN OF BALLOTS – PROPOSED

10.1 It is the sole responsibility of the Unit to see that all ballots reach the Director of Elections by the close of business on the third business day of October. Any ballots received after this date will not be included in the count.

10.2 The Director of Elections will count ballots at ACBL Headquarters. Each candidate, or his representative, is entitled to witness the opening and counting. An ACBL employee may not represent a candidate for this purpose.

10.3 Ballots are not opened until counting commences for each capacity is initiated. Before the results of any of the following are released formally, the Director of Elections will make every effort to communicate the outcome verbally to all candidates.

10.3.1 District Director ballots will be counted on the fourth business day of October, followed by an audit of the initial count.

10.3.2 First and Second Alternate ballots will be counted by the fifth business day of October, followed by an audit of the initial count.

10.3.3 Board of Governors ballots will be counted by the sixth business day of October, followed by an audit of the initial count.

XIII. RETURN OF BALLOTS - CURRENT

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.

11. INADMISSIBLE UNIT VOTE - PROPOSED

Under all circumstances in any ACBL District Wide election in which all of a Unit's ballots are deemed inadmissible, the Director of Elections may establish a new election within the Unit by mail ballot within thirty (30) days following all possible appeals.

11.1 Such new election will only take place if it might affect the outcome.

11.2 Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the new election.

XIV. INADMISSIBLE UNIT VOTE - CURRENT

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.

12. ELECTIONS FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR, FIRST OR SECOND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR - PROPOSED

12.1 In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of the Unit Voting Power, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest Unit Voting Power in the District.

12.1.1 Upon disposition of any protest that will require a new election, the Director of Elections will commence a mail ballot election.

12.1.2 Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the run-off election.

12.1.2.1 The ballots must be returned to the Director of Elections within thirty (30) business days following the mailing of same.

12.1.3 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.

12.2 If there are no declared candidates in an election year for the position of District Director, First Alternate Director or Second Alternate Director, the position will be declared vacant at the conclusion of the incumbent's term by the Director of Elections.

12.2.1 Such vacancies are to be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

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

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.

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

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.

13. ELECTION FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVES - PROPOSED

13.1 The three (3) candidates in each District receiving the greatest Unit Voting Power will be deemed elected.

13.2 If there are not three declared candidates for Board of Governors Representatives, the position(s) for which there is no candidate(s) shall be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

XVII. ELECTION FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVES - CURRENT

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.

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

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."

14. NULLIFICATION OF ELECTION FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR - PROPOSED

14.1 The death or ineligibility to run as a candidate for District Director, opposed or unopposed, during the period of time from June 1 to the close of business on the third business day of October, will cause a new election to take place.

14.1.1 The new election will commence under the direction of the Director of Elections.

14.1.1.1 The Director of Elections will set new dates for the District election in order to allow the appropriate amount of time for candidates to file and campaign.

14.1.1.2 The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.

14.1.2 If the new election 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.

14.1.3 If the incumbent does not remain in office until a successor is chosen, an appointment will be made to the position following the succession procedures in the ACBL Bylaws.

14.2 The resignation of a candidate for District Director in a two-candidate race will cause the remaining candidate to be declared elected.

14.3 The resignation of a candidate for District Director in a three+ candidate race will cause only the preparation and dissemination of new balloting materials.

14.3.1 The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.

XX. NULLIFICATION OF ELECTION FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR - CURRENT

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.

15. PROTESTS – PROPOSED

A protest to an election is under the authority of the ACBL Board of Directors and will be heard by the Election Protest Committee.

15.1 The Election Protest Committee 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.

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

15.2 A protest to an election should be filed with the Director of Elections in writing and must specify in detail the nature of the protest.

15.3 The protest must be postmarked no later than ten days after the election results are announced by the Director of Elections.

15.3.1 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.

15.4 The Election Protest Committee will review the protest forthwith and will forward a copy of the protest to each candidate in said election.

15.4.1 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.

15.4.2 If, in its judgment, it is desirable and practical, the Committee may arrange for mail ballots to be sent to the Board members of the Units involved in the protest. The time of return of ballots is to be fixed by the Election Protest Committee.

15.5 The Election Protest Committee will decide the protest and mail a copy of the decision, along with an explanation of such decision, to all interested parties.

15.6 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.

15.7 The investigation of the protest will be assigned to the Appeal and Charges Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors.

15.7.1 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.

THE PROPOSED "PROTEST" REGULATION IS A COMPILATION OF THE THREE REGULATIONS FOLLOWING:

XXI. PROTESTS - CURRENT

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 - CURRENT

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.

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 - CURRENT

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