## ACBL Board of Directors Renaissance Grand and Suites Hotel March 6 – 8, 2007 St. Louis, MO

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on March 6, at 8:00 am.

Present:	George Retek #1, Jonathan Steinberg #2, Joan Gerard #3, Craig Robinson
	#4, Sharon Fairchild #5, Nadine Wood #6, Bruce Reeve #7, Georgia Heth
	#8, Shirley Seals #9, Bill Cook #10, Jim Reiman #11, William Arlinghaus
	#12, Harriette Buckman #13, Sue Himel #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan
	Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Donald Mamula
	#19, Jeffrey Taylor #20, Roger Smith #21, Jim Kirkham #22, Rand
	Pinsky #23, Al Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.
Also	
Present:	Linda Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League
	Counsel; Jay Baum, ACBL CEO; Rick Beye, ACBL CTD; Gary Blaiss,
	ACBL EAO; staff, Julie Greenberg, Jeff Johnston, Jim Miller, Carol

# Approval of Honolulu HI Minutes

The Honolulu HI minutes are approved.

Carried.

# **Reconsideration**

Item 063-15: 2007 Budget - Motion to reconsider failed.

Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

# Item 071-175: Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes

There were no Executive Committee minutes.

# Item 071-176: Ratification of Audit Firm

Jackson, Howell and Associates is approved as the 2007 Audit firm.

Carried. Abstain: 1

# Item 071-177: Election of ACBL Treasurer

Jerry Fleming is elected ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term, May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008.

Carried.

# Item 071-178: Hall of Fame Committee Appointments

David Berkowitz, Fred Gitelman and Eddie Wold are appointed for three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2010 NABC.

# 071-179: Competitions & Conventions Committee Appointments

Steve Beatty, Doug Doub, Bob Hamman, and Irina Levitina are appointed for a one-year term from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2008 NABC.

Peggy Sutherlin is appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2010 NABC.

# 071-180: Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments

Michael Huston, Ron Smith, John Solodar, Steve Landen, and Zeke Jabbour are appointed for three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2010 NABC.

# 071-181: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments

Kevin Collins, Jeff Overby and Karen Walker are re-appointed for three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2010 NABC.

# 071-182: ACBL Laws Commission Appointments

Allan Falk, Georgia Heth and John Solodar are appointed for five-year terms from the end of the Spring 2007 NABC through the end of the Spring 2012 NABC.

# ACBL CEO Report

The report of CEO Jay Baum is received. (Attachment A)

# **ACBL Financial Report**

The Financial report is received. (Attachment B)

# League Counsel Report

The report of League Counsel Peter Rank on the status of litigation is received. (Attachment C)

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The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on Wednesday, March 7, at 1:00 p.m.

Present:Same as Tuesday, March 6.Absent:Jonathan Steinberg #2 and Harriette Buckman #13.Also Present:Same as Tuesday, March 6.

# MARKETING

Seals (C), Cook (VC) Pinsky, Robinson, Steinberg, Taylor Committee Report by Chairman

Staff: Baum

# Item 063-105: Marketing/Publicity Status Report

The marketing/publicity status report is received.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

#### Item 063-106: Bridge Education Status Report

The bridge education status report is received.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

## Item 071-107: Unit Membership Rebate Program

The unit membership rebate program is reinstated.

Deferred to the Summer 2007 NABC.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

#### GOVERNANCE

Himel (C), Taylor (VC) Cook, Harlan, Mamula, Retek, Seals, Taylor Committee Report by Chairman

Staff: Miller

## Item 071-25: Per Diem

A. Board member per diem will not be affected by the presence or absence of concierge privileges.

Carried. Nay: 1, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 20, 24. Abstain: 17. Absent: 2, 13.

B. Board member per diem will not be reduced for lunches provided by ACBL, except when lunches are for the entire Board and have been announced prior to the meeting.

Carried. Nay: 1, 5, 8, 11, 14, 20, 24.

Abstain: 17. Absent: 2, 13.

Effective March 1, 2007.

# Item 071-26: Hard Copy Materials for Volunteers

Board resolution 031-48, Hard Copy Materials for Volunteers, is rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 14, 17, 25. Absent: 2, 13.

#### Item 071-27: Albert H. Morehead Library Foundation

The ACBL will establish a non-profit tax-exempt foundation for the purposes of:

Acquiring, preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting objects and materials related to bridge.

Identifying and recognizing those who have made significant contributions to bridge.

Serving as the North American repository for objects and materials related to bridge.

Engaging in fund-raising activities to support the above purposes.

The bylaws committee, in conjunction with League Counsel, will draft and prepare the foundation's bylaws and incorporation documents.

The following definitions are applicable:

Preservation means protection from loss or damage of historic records, objects and materials related to bridge.

Interpretation means any activity directed toward the enlightenment of the public concerning the significance of the event, object, activity, material or other subject matter related to bridge.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 12, 15, 22, 24. Abstain: 25. Absent: 2, 13.

# Item 071-28: Unit 522 Transfer

Unit 522 is transferred from District 22 into District 21.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

#### Item 071-29: Room Allowance for Director of Appeals

The member of the Board of Directors responsible for Appeals will receive one-half room night with tax for each day that he remains at the tournament after the normal Board provisions expire.

Director of Appeals Job Description

The Director of Appeals is responsible for the NABC Tournament Disciplinary Committee and for the National Appeals Committee.

The Director shall:

- 1. in conjunction with the Chairman of National Appeals, recommend and approve members for the National Appeals Committee and participants on Disciplinary Committees at NABCs.
- 2. be the liaison among the ACBL Board of Directors, Management, and Committees.
- 3. participate in planning for committees and in education of members of these committees.
- 4. be present at NABCs throughout the tournament, participate in the selection of Appeals committees for NAP and GNT events, and participate in the selection of Committees involving conduct and discipline, other than matters referred to Ethical Oversight.
- 5. prepare and present a report of actions from the NABC to the subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, and review reports of appeals before they are posted on the website.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 8, 11, 12, 14, 24. 25. Abstain: 22. Absent: 2, 13.

APPEALS & CHARGES	
Heth (C), Steinberg (VC)	
Anderson, Fleming, Morse, Reeve, Smith Staff: Blaiss	
Committee Report by Chairman	

# 071-01: Report on Hearings

In the matter of the request for full readmission from Dan Requard, ACBL # L712249:

Effective March 7, 2007.

- 1. The geographic limitations previously imposed on Mr. Requard are removed.
- 2. He may now play in all ACBL sanctioned events for which he is otherwise eligible including the NAP and GNT.
- 3. Mr. Requard remains on permanent/indefinite probation.

The report is received.

## Item 071-02: WBF Representation

Item 943-2 is amended as follows:

Effective immediately, no member will be permitted to represent any NCBOs belonging to the ACBL or Zone 2 of the WBF who has been expelled for cheating or who has resigned to avoid possible disciplinary action on charges of cheating, for at least 10 years following readmission.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

# **BOARD OPERATIONS**

Harlan (C), Morse (VC) Gerard, Levy, Pinsky, Steinberg, Taylor, Wood

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

## Item 071-120: Board Oversight Committee

The Board of Directors reaffirmed the following item 062-121:

A. All communications about committee matters between members of the Board of Directors and ACBL employees will be directed through the chairperson of the committee concerned to the CEO or his designee.

Carried. Absent: 2, 13.

B. All other communications between members of the Board of Directors and employees in Memphis will be in writing (e-mail, fax or regular mail). Phone calls of an emergency nature will be sent to and through the CEO or his designee. Until further notice, this policy will be reviewed and reported by the Board Operations Committee at each subsequent NABC.

Carried. Nay: 1, 4, 6, 9, 22. Abstain: 12. Absent: 2, 13.

# FEDERATIONS

Arlinghaus (C) Anderson, Himel, Morse, Seals

Committee Report by Chairman

A verbal report was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

Staff: Blaiss

The meeting was called to order by President Fairchild on Thursday, March 8 at 9:00 am.

Present: Same as Wednesday with the addition of Jonathan Steinberg #2 and Harriette Buckman #13. Also Present: Same as Wednesday.

#### BRIDGE

Reiman (C)Gerard (VC)Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Kirkham, Pinsky, Robinson, WoodStaff: BeyeCommittee Report by ChairmanStaff: Beye

#### Item 071-55: Bridge Status Report

The bridge status report is received.

Carried.

## Item 071-56: Special Events Report

The special events report is received.

Carried.

# Item 071-57: ACBL Educational Foundation Game

The month of May is designated as Educational Foundation month. Any and all ACBL sanctioned sessions held at clubs may be held as Educational Foundation games, except during February, April and September which are reserved for Junior Fund, Charity and International Fund games respectively.

The masterpoint rating for Educational Foundation games will be 100% Sectional Black points.

Fees payable to ACBL for the Educational Foundation will be \$4.00 per table, plus \$1.25 per game and \$.74 per table.

Motion failed. Aye: 2, 7, 12, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23. Absent: 11.

# Item 071-59: Grand National Teams

Section "NABC Final" is replaced with:

In the NABC final for all flights, teams will play a one day Swiss event to qualify into a seeded KO bracket. Each Swiss event will be 8 7-board matches. The 20 VP scale will be used. There may be playbacks at the bottom of the field.

The bracket seeding will be: Swiss winner #1 seed Swiss runner-up #2 seed Swiss finishers  $3^{rd}$  and  $4^{th}$  will draw into seed positions 3 & 4Swiss finishers  $5^{th} - 8^{th}$  will draw into seed positions 5 - 8Seed #16 will be selected by seed #1 Seed #15 will be selected by seed #2 Seed #14 will be selected by seed #3 Seed #13 will be selected by seed #4 The remaining 4 teams will draw into seed positions 9 - 12

Ensuing knock-out matches will be 64 boards in length in the Championship flight; 56 boards in length in all other flights. These events will be governed by the Knockout General Conditions of Contest.

Effective immediately.

Deferred to the Summer 2007 NABC to the Condition of Contest Committee.

Carried. Absent: 11

# Item 071-60: Replacement of Worldwide Bridge Contest

Management will devise and implement a game or games to replace the Worldwide Bridge Contest played in June and end our involvement with the WBF in this current event.

Placement in District and overall will be recognized with the winners receiving red points based upon the tables participating in that District. In no case will the District point award be more than twenty or less than five for first place and these points will be added to those won in the club.

National winners will be provided with suitable recognition and publicity. This will include trophies.

The sanction fee per table will be determined by management, being sufficient to cover costs, provide a reasonable surplus and be less than currently charged for the Worldwide Event.

Effective 2008.

Motion failed: Aye: 7, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. Absent: 11.

# Item 071-61: ACBL Masterpoints

Item 043-138 is amended as follows:

Conversion of Masterpoints won in countries not in Zone 2 or ACBL.

Except for conversion of WBF masterpoints, previous resolutions permitting conversion of masterpoints won in countries not in Zone 2 or ACBL are rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 3, 6.

# Item 071-63: ACBL Special Club Games

All special club games that award "triple," or similar masterpoint awards and charge special fees (\$4/table for example) be changed as follows:

- 1. The sanction fee will be \$2/table.
- 2. The masterpoint awards will be more in line with "double" masterpoints.
- 3. The field must be seeded.
- 4. Sections of dissimilar rank (For example, Open versus Intermediate) may not be combined for overall awards.
- 5. The funds will go into a "Special Fund" to be distributed based on need or whatever criteria is deemed appropriate. The funds will be distributed to, among others, the Charity Foundation, Educational Foundation, funding players to play in International events, funding juniors to play in Junior events, and other activities or associations that may be deemed appropriate.

Motion failed: Aye: 1, 24.

# Item 071-64: GNT and NAP Eligibility

Item 053-75 and Appendix I of the GNT and NAP Conditions of Contests is amended as follows:

Exceptions will be considered in the three following situations:

1. "Snowbirds". Any member with seasonal residences who spends more than half of the GNT (September 1 – February 28) or NAP (June 1 – August 31) qualifying period in a district other than the district of their principal physical residence may play in the district of seasonal residence. If they choose to do so, they must play in that district's district finals to be eligible to play in the national finals and are not eligible to be augmented to or otherwise added to a team from the district of their principal residence.

2. Players who live near district borders and who are members of a unit in a district in which they do not reside may seek permission to play in the district in which they have a unit membership. Players seeking this exception must have been an active member of the unit in the district in which they wish to play for at least 5 years continuously prior to the start of the competition in the year in which they wish to play, and must not have played in the GNT or NAP in another district for that period of time. (The 2006/2007 GNT or NAP is not considered for this requirement.) Once this permission is granted, the player is eligible to play only in that district and may not change unit affiliation unless the player's principal physical residence changes.

3. Players with multiple domiciles should apply to the Credentials Committee for a onetime choice of district in which they wish to play. Players may be asked to document their time in each of their residences. A player must spend at least three months each year in a district in order to have it considered as a domicile possibility. Once a player chooses a district in which to play, he must play only in that district until he no longer has a domicile in that district.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 8, 11.

# Item 071-65: NAP Monetary Award

A. Item(s) 991-111, 031-21 and 052-70 are rescinded

B. A fixed amount prize will be awarded in all flights as follows:

1. In districts with three qualifiers, the 1<sup>st</sup> place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 2<sup>nd</sup> place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 3<sup>rd</sup> place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.

- 2. In districts with four qualifiers, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 4<sup>th</sup> place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.
- 3. Invited defenders will receive \$700 per person.
- 4. No individual may collect two concurrent prizes.
- C. The monetary award will be available on site. Qualifiers must play in the national level event until eliminated to receive the award.
- D. There will be no entry fee for the national level of the event.
- E. Management may use its best judgment in making exceptions to any of the above.

Effective June 1, 2007.

Carried. Nay: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 14, 15, 18, 20, 23, 25.

#### TOURNAMENT

Wood (C) Kirkham (VC) Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Gerard, Pinsky, Robinson Committee Report by Chairman

Staff: Beye

# Item 071-80: Regional Event Scheduling

Regional Tournament Allocations (053-50) is amended as follows:

B. 5 and B.6.d

A Regional may not be more than six and a half (6.5) days in duration.

In addition to this, a one session event that is run for the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the Junior Fund, the International Fund or the Canadian equivalent of these may be scheduled the afternoon before the start of a 6.5 day Regional. The current formulas will be used to determine the minimum monetary contributions for these games.

Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.

Carried. Nay: 23. Absent: 13.

### Item 071-81: Reisinger Board-A-Match Championship

The following changes are made to the Conditions of Contest for the Reisinger Board-a-Match Championship:

- A. 7. (Semi finals) Twenty teams will qualify . . . The maximum carryover cannot exceed 3 boards.
  - 8. (Finals) Ten teams will qualify . . . The maximum carryover cannot exceed 5 boards.

Carried. Absent: 13.

- B. Effective Fall 2007.
- Carried. Nay: 3. Absent: 13.

## Item 071-82: BaM Carryover

Four session Board-a-Match Team events will have a maximum carryover of 5 boards.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Absent: 13.

# Item 071-83: Blue Ribbon Pairs

The Conditions of Contest for the Blue Ribbon Pairs are amended as shown:

3. ACBL members who do not otherwise qualify may request an exemption from the chief tournament director in writing.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 1, 4, 5, 7, 14, 15, 17, 19, 22. Absent: 13.

### Item 071-84: Blue Ribbon Pairs 0-5000

The Conditions of Contest for the 0-5000 Blue Ribbon Pairs are amended as shown:

3. ACBL members who do not otherwise qualify may request an exemption from the chief tournament director in writing.

Effective immediately.

Motion failed. Aye: 3, 6, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25. Absent: 13.

FINANCE & BUDGET Fleming (C) Robinson (VC) Cook, Mamula, Retek Committee Report by Chairman

Staff: Baum

## Item 071-15: ACBL Tournament Directors' Fees

Items 021-116, ACBL Tournament Directors' Fees at Non-ACBL Events, and Item 062-16: TD Fees are rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

# **BOARD OVERSIGHT**

Smith (C) Levy, Reeve

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

A verbal report was given.

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#### **Executive Session**

At approximately 1:15 pm the Board went into Executive Session.

The Board reconvened at 2:30 pm.

## JUNIORS

Mamula (C), Anderson (VC) Fleming, Harlan, Heth, Smith, Wood Committee Report by Chairman

A verbal report was given.

## MASTERPOINT

DeMartino (C) Arlinghaus, Gerard, Himel, Kirkham, Reeve, Reiman Committee Report by Chairman

A verbal report was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bob Hamman of the World Bridge Productions Company addressed the Board regarding the Buffett Cup and the Cavendish. He requested special considerations for advertising and sponsorship.

#### **Closing Remarks**

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 8 and its units, District Director Georgia Heth, Tournament Co-Chairs Mike Carmen and Glenn Smith and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Renaissance Grand and Suites Hotel for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned sine die at 3:45 pm.

Staff: Baum

Staff: Beye