

**ACBL Board of Directors
Renaissance Nashville Hotel
July 16 – 19, 2007
Nashville, TN**

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on July 16, at 9:00 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, Patricia Glover, Julie Greenberg, Jeff Johnston, Jim Miller, Dana Norton, Carol Robertson, Barbara Varner, and Kelley McGuire.

Approval of St. Louis, MO Minutes

The St. Louis, MO minutes are approved.

Carried.

Item 072-175: Election of ACBL President

Richard DeMartino, Dan Morse and Shirley Seals had previously declared their candidacy. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. By secret ballot, Dan Morse was elected to the office of ACBL President for a one-year term, beginning January 1, 2008.

Carried.

Item 072-176: Education Status Report

The Education status report is received.

Carried.

ACBL CEO Report

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

League Counsel Report

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

* * * * *

Executive Session

At approximately 9:30 am the Board went into Executive Session.

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on Wednesday, July 18, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, July 16.

Also Present: Same as Monday, July 16.

APPEALS & CHARGES

Heth (C), Steinberg (VC)

Anderson, Fleming, Morse, Reeve, Smith

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-01: Report of Hearings

In the matter of a request from Richard Traxler, ACBL# K329727, for a hearing to have his disciplinary record expunged: the request is denied.

In the request from Billy and Cindy Handy, ACBL #s respectively L424898 and M370481, to have their permanent prohibition of playing together as partners set aside for ACBL sanctioned club games in Texas: the request to play together in ACBL sanctioned club games in Texas is denied. Billy and Cindy Handy remain permanently barred from playing together as partners in ACBL sanctioned events.

Carried.

Item 072-02: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

DEFINITIONS

Member in Good Standing	An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member's dues, if dues <i>are</i> required, are current and such member is not currently: expelled, serving a term of suspension, serving indefinite probation, serving a probation the initial term of which was twenty-four or more months or serving a term of probation following a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of ninety days. A member who is not in good standing as defined herein shall not be entitled to serve in any elected or appointed position in ACBL.
Month	For the purposes of the CDR, a month is equal to thirty (30) days.

4.1.2

- c. During the entirety of a probationary period which is greater than ninety (90) days, a member shall not be eligible to direct a sanctioned masterpoint game unless specifically authorized by ACBL Management or the ACBL Board of Directors.

5.2.3 A person charged with a violation of CDR 3 shall be entitled to:

- (a) Receive written notice of the date, time, and place of hearing. Should a person admit to a charge, a hearing shall be held in order to determine and impose appropriate discipline.
- (b) Be furnished with a written statement of the charge(s), the complaint upon which the charges are based or a summary of the facts of said complaint, and the name of the complainant(s).
- (c) Be represented by another person.
- (d) Produce evidence and make statements on his/her own behalf.

- (e) Be present during the entire hearing, except during procedural determinations and deliberation on verdicts and sentencing.
- (f) Question persons testifying through the Chair at the Chair's discretion.

5.3.6 A person charged with a violation under CDR 3 shall be entitled to (See CDR 6.1 and 6.2 following):

- (a) Receive written or oral notice of date, time and place of hearing. Should a person admit to a charge, a hearing shall be held in order to determine and impose discipline.
- (b) Be provided a written statement of the charge(s), the complaint upon which the charges are based or a summary of the facts of said complaint, and the name of the complainant(s).
- (c) Be represented by another person.
- (d) Produce evidence and make statements on his or her behalf.
- (e) Be present during the entire hearing, except during procedural determinations and deliberation on verdicts and sentencing.
- (f) Question persons testifying through the Chair, and at the Chair's discretion.

2.1.7 Except for CDR 2.1.1 (d) and 2.1.6, units, districts and ACBL have no jurisdiction over *behavior at club sponsored games*. If the unit, district or ACBL is the sanction holder, club manager or club board of directors, the unit, district or ACBL has the same jurisdiction and authority *over behavior* as any other sanction holder, club manager or club board of directors.

Effective date: August 2007

Carried. Nay: 3 Absent: 7

MARKETING

Seals (C), Cook (VC)

Pinsky, Robinson, Steinberg, Taylor

Staff: Baum

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-105: Unit Membership Rebate Program (071-107)

The unit membership rebate program is reinstated.

Deferred to San Francisco Fall NABC.

Carried unanimously.

Item 072-106: ACBL Club Fund Games

Except for the three designated special months: Junior Fund (February), Charity Fund (April) and International Fund (September), no club may run more than 25% of its sanctioned games, held in any one month, as Charity, Junior, or International Fund games.

During the three designated special months, Junior Fund (February), Charity Fund (April) and International Fund (September), clubs may hold as many fund games as they have sanctioned sessions.

Effective January 1, 2008

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 24, 25.

Item 072-107: Youth North American Bridge Championship

On an experimental basis management in conjunction with one or two areas will plan and implement a championship for youth under the age of 19. The first championship will be held in Atlanta during the summer of 2008 or 2009 with a second championship to follow the next year. An evaluation of the program will be held at the fall meeting after each event.

Carried unanimously.

FEDERATIONS

Arlinghaus (C)

Anderson, Himel, Morse, Seals

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-160: US International Fund

Item 042-65 is amended to include the following:

- A. All US International Fund monies collected by the ACBL for the specific purpose of subsidizing US athletes in international bridge competition will be sent directly to the financial officer of the USBF on a trimester basis.
- B. All US International Fund monies collected by the ACBL in Special club games or unit games, sectionals or regionals will be sent directly to the financial officer of the USBF on a trimester basis.
- C. ACBL may charge appropriate administrative costs to the USBF.

Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management

Estimated cost: revenue neutral

Carried. Abstain: 1.

INTERNATIONAL

Morse (C)

Levy, Retek

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-140: Zone 2 Requirements for WBF Nominations

Item 042-65 Zone II Regulations, Part Three, A, 5 is amended as follows:

- 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 will automatically assume this responsibility, with the most senior representative serving as chairman.
 - b. A Zone 2 NBO may nominate a player for invitation to play in a WBF Championship only if he or she:
 - I. is a citizen or a resident (per the appropriate Federation's regulations) of the United States, Canada, or Mexico as appropriate,

- II. is a member in good standing of the United States Bridge Federation (USBF), Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) or Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF) as appropriate,
- III. meets WBF criteria and/or conditions for nominations,
- IV. will not, at the time of the event or trials for the event be under suspension or expulsion from ACBL or any other NCBO or NBO,
- V. will not, at the time of the event or trials for 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.
- VII. has not been expelled for cheating or who has not resigned to avoid possible disciplinary action on charges of cheating, for at least 10 years following readmission.

Carried. Nay: 21.

Item 072-141: WBF Relationship

ACBL will sever its relationship with the WBF.

Estimated cost/savings: Potential savings of many dollars.

Motion failed. Aye: 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 21. Abstain: 4, 5, 11, 22, 23.

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

Item 072-91: NABC Schedule

The following events are deleted from the NABC schedule.

Spring 49er Pairs
 Fall Non Life Master Pairs

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

Item 072-90: Electronic Devices

Management will, as soon as possible, develop a plan for banning all non-medical electronic devices from the rooms, hallways contiguous to and bathrooms on the floors in which any events are being played at NABCs. Definition of medical devices will be closely defined. The implementation plan will be presented prior to the Fall NABC in San Francisco.

Carried. Nay: 11.

Item 072-92: Quebec City Regional

An additional regional in District 1 for Quebec City to commemorate its 400th year anniversary is approved for April 10 – 13, 2008. This regional is granted on a one-time basis only.

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 21, 25.

BRIDGE

Reiman (C) Gerard (VC)

Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Kirkham, Levy, Pinsky, Robinson, Wood

Staff: Beye

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-55: ACBL Special Club Games

Item 071-63 ACBL Special Club Games is reconsidered by the ACBL Board of Directors.

Motion Failed. Aye: 4, 24.

Item 072-56: ACBL Special Games

Item 042-139 is amended as follows:

Changes to current policy are:

1. April is designated as Charity month.
2. September is designated as International Fund month.
3. Any and all ACBL sanctioned sessions may be held as a Junior Fund game, Charity game, Educational Foundation game or International Fund game, except February is reserved for Junior Fund games, April is reserved for Charity games and September is reserved for International Fund games.
4. The masterpoint rating for Charity games, Educational Foundation games, International Fund games and Club Appreciation Pair games (October) is increased to 100% Sectional Black points.

5. The masterpoint rating for the ACBL-wide Senior Pairs is increased to 80% Sectional rating and the sanction fee is increased to \$4.00 per table (from \$2.25).
6. The NABC Fund Raiser is now the NABC Promotional Game. The district sets the promotional fee if any.

Effective immediately

Carried. Nay: 24.

Item 072-57: Handicapping Matchpoint Pair Games

A committee will be created to establish a system to handicap matchpoint games. This handicap formula will allow players of all skill levels to compete directly with established experts and thereby reduce the demand for events where players are segregated by skill level or masterpoints. The committee will include ACBL Board of Directors, Board of Governors and management appointees, who will have access to ACBL resources as needed.

Specific objections, to the extent reasonable, will include, without being limited thereby:

1. Using a weighted total of the masterpoint holdings of both players, including those carried in the past years and the rate at which they were earned, as at least some of the factors to create the formula.
2. Creating a weight factor so competitors may earn masterpoints from either the open (non-handicapped) masterpoint chart or the handicapped masterpoint chart.

Motion failed. Absent: 24

Item 072-58: KO Playoffs and KO Consolation Events

1. In a four-session knockout, playoffs for 5-8 will no longer be permitted.

In the case of a three-session KO event with exactly 7 or 8 teams within the bracket, a playoff for a clear 3rd overall ranking is permitted.

Effective January 1, 2008.

Carried. Nay: 20 Absent: 24

2. Consolation Compact KOs are eliminated.

Motion failed. Aye: 3, 4, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 25. Absent: 24

Item 072-59: Changes to Masterpoint Formulas (Second Reading Required)

The following changes are made to the Masterpoint Formulas:

NABC Events

1. Overall Masterpoints will be awarded to all pairs that qualify for the finals of the 6 session NABC pair events (LM Pairs, Blue Ribbon Pairs).
2. Match awards for the Vanderbilt/Spingold are increased to 6 masterpoints.
3. Presently one of the limiters on overall awards is that a maximum of 35% of the field can receive overall awards. The depth of field for four-session pair events at NABCs is changed to 25%.

Pair/Team (non-KO) Events

The decay formula used to determine overall awards below fourth place for two session pair/team events is changed to the formula presently in use for events of 3 or more sessions, which is:

$$\text{Award} = \frac{\text{First Place Award} \times \# \text{ of Sessions}}{(\text{Overall Position} + 2 \times \# \text{ of Sessions} - 3)}$$

Clubs

Eliminate the following games: Super Club Championship, District-Wide Charity Game, 49'er Pairs.

Replace all the Unit games, including Unit-Wide Championship and Unit Extended Team Games with one class of Unit Championships. Increase the number of games from 16 to 24 with a fee of \$1.25/table.

Replace all Unit or District Charity Games with one class of Fund or Foundation games. There will be a maximum of 4/year per Unit and 4/year per District. The fee structure will be the same as special Fund or Foundation games at clubs.

Increase the Swiss match awards to .015/board at club rated events and .02/board at club championship rated events.

Increase the maximum allowable overall award at an open club rating point, or an internet club, game to 2.50 at 0.10 per table. The maximum for invitational and lower games will be increased by the same percentage. Section awards will still be limited to 1.50 for an open rating point game. Overall awards are allowed for all games of 16 or more tables.

Add a cap to all special fund / foundation games of 6.0 masterpoints.

Miscellaneous

Match awards for Swiss Teams will be increased by 20% in Flight A (and X) Stratiflighted events (0.36 to 0.44 for Regionals; 0.26 to 0.32 for Sectionals).

Knockouts

Following are the revised formulas proposed for Knockout Team Events:

KNOCKOUT TEAMS FORMULA

A. First Overall = Basic Award x K x L x P

$$K = R/14 \quad (1.00 \text{ for Regionals})$$

L is based on the number of Boards in a match (0.50 for 12; 1.00 for 24 – 47; 1.50 for 48 – 64).

Basic Award = Computed Award (calculated from the table below) x Reduction Factor

- For brackets with 12 - 16 teams, Reduction Factor = 1.00
- For brackets with 9 - 11 teams, Reduction Factor = 0.85**
- For 3 session KOs, Reduction Factor = 0.70.

** The resulting (reduced) award must be at least 105% of the award for the next lower bracket.

Bracket Team Average Masterpoints (AVG MP)	Computed Award	Comments
< 500	6.00	
500 - 1000	$6 + 5 (\text{AVG MP} - 500) / 500$	
1000 - 5000	$11 + 11 (\text{AVG MP} - 1000) / 4000$	Fixed Award = 11 at 1000
5000 - 10000	$22 + 7 (\text{AVG MP} - 5000) / 5000$	Fixed Award = 22 at 5000
10000 - 25000	$29 + 19 (\text{AVG MP} - 10000) / 15000$	Fixed Award = 29 at 10000
25000 - 35000	$48 + 17 (\text{AVG MP} - 25000) / 10000$	Fixed Award = 48 at 25000
35000 +	65.00	

Avg MP Per Team = Team Masterpoints / # of Players on Team
 AVG MP (Bracket) = Avg MP Per Team (maximum = 40,000) / Number of Teams in Bracket

B. Overall Awards below First Place

<u>Overall</u>	<u>5 + Rounds</u>	<u>4 Rounds</u>	<u>3 Rounds</u>
----------------	-------------------	-----------------	-----------------

<u>Position</u>			
2	75%	70%	53%
3	55%	45%	
4	45%	35%	
5	30%		
6	25%		
7	20%		
8	15%		
9 -16	10%		

Note: To qualify for overall awards, a team must advance through at least two rounds.

C. Match Awards

Match Award = 7.50% x First Overall (Minimum = 0.75 x K Factor, Maximum = 3.00)

D. Compact KOs

The above formulas also apply to Compact KOs, except for the following:

The L Factor is 0.50.

The Minimum First Overall Award is 4.00 masterpoints.

The Maximum Match Award is 1.50 masterpoints; the Minimum Match Award is 0.375 x K Factor.

For Compact KO Consolations, the Reduction Factor = 0.40 (recognizing that the event is not a Championship Event and that there are generally 50% fewer teams).

The Minimum First Overall award is 1.60 masterpoints (4.00 x 0.40).

The Maximum Match Award is 1.50 masterpoints; the Minimum Match Award is 0.375 x K Factor.

Effective January 1, 2008 (Except that the effective date for the elimination and consolidation of club events will be January 1, 2009).

Carried. Nay: 4 Absent: 22

Item 072-60: Disciplinary Sanctions for ACBL Clubs

A. Management is authorized to establish procedures and guidelines to suspend or rescind a club game sanction for cause such as but not limited to: egregious conduct detrimental to ACBL by the club manager or club director, an unsuitable venue, discriminatory practices as noted in the ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations, violating ACBL regulations.

- B. Management is authorized to establish procedures and guidelines to suspend or rescind a club director's accreditation for cause such as but not limited to: egregious conduct detrimental to ACBL, violating ACBL regulations, discriminatory practices as noted in the ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations, misapplication of the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge.
- C. Management will submit its procedures and guidelines noted in A. and B. above to the bridge committee at its meeting in San Francisco in 2007 for approval prior to implementation.

Carried unanimously.

BOARD OPERATIONS	
Harlan (C), Morse (VC)	
Gerard, Levy, Pinsky, Steinberg, Taylor, Wood	Staff: Miller
Committee Report by Chairman	

A verbal report was given.

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST	
Arlinghaus (C)	
Reiman, Wood	Staff: Beye
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 072-75: Grand National Teams

Item 071-59, Grand National Teams, is amended as follows:

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 eight 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 3rd and 4th will draw into seed positions 3 & 4

Swiss finishers 5th – 8th will draw into seed positions 5 – 8

Seed #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 September 1, 2007.

Carried. Nay: 7 Abstain: 15

Item 072-76: Fill-in Pair

A fill-in pair must play at least 87.5% of the boards to qualify for overall awards.

Effective January 1, 2008.

Carried. Nay: 8

Item 072-77: Regulations for Bracketed Round Robin Team Events

- A. From July 2007 – June 2009, Sponsoring Organizations wishing to run Bracketed Round Robin Team Events are not limited to the guidelines in item 971-115. Tournament Organizers may try different ways of bracketing the field. The Director in Charge of the Tournament will have the final say as to what experiments may be tried.
- B. Masterpoint awards will remain as written in the current regulations.
- C. After evaluation, detailed Conditions of Contest will be written and approved by the Board of Directors.

Effective immediately

Carried. Nay: 5, 11.

Item 072-79: General Conditions of Contest

The following insertions are made to the General Conditions of Contest:

“Department . . .

3. English is the international language of bridge. The ACBL recognizes that its membership is multilingual. Every effort will be made to accommodate our membership. However, once hands are removed from the boards, all calls, questions and plays will be in English. Exceptions may be made if both captains, in a team event, or all four players at the table, in a pair event, agree to use some common language understood by all four players. Should problems arise please call for a Tournament Director.”

Deferred to Fall 2007 San Francisco meeting.

Carried. Nay: 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25.

“Play

2. A player may play and earn masterpoints in as many sessions of bridge as possible while not entered in a concurrent or over-lapping event. Exception: Players on teams with more than four members or teams with byes may play in concurrent one-session events only. For this purpose Side Game Series (Continuous Pairs) are considered one-session events without access to gold points for that session, nor may that session's score be used to determine an overall rank. In such cases, masterpoints may not be earned in both events, the higher award will be retained, the lower award deleted.”

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

Events and Restrictions for ACBL Sanctioned Tournaments, Chapter XIII, Section F.

Management is instructed to insert “2750 and 3000” among the masterpoint limits allowable for Flight B in Flighted, Stratified and Strata-flight events.

Effective January 1, 2008.

Carried. Nay: 5, 15, 19.

Item 072-80: STaC Conditions of Contest

The following change is made to the STaC CoC:

“Sponsoring Unit . . .

2. While only Units may apply for a sanction to hold a STaC there is no objection to a Unit nominating a District or Districts to conduct the tournament. In District-wide STaCs all clubs within the District(s) must be offered the opportunity to participate. Participation is at the club level when sponsored by a District. If a Unit outside of the sponsoring District chooses to participate, all clubs within that Unit must be invited to participate.”

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 13, 19, 24, 25.

Item 072-81: Appendix B

Appendix B is amended as shown:

“IV. Seeding Points for players from outside of WBF Zone II:

...Once a player has been assigned a number of seeding points, those seeding points will decay at the rate of 5% year. Additional seeding points may be earned, but no more seeding points will be assigned for that player.”

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

Item 072-82: Women’s Swiss Conditions of Contest

The following change are made to the Conditions of Contest

6. The scores . . .If this factor produces a spread of more than one and one-half matches of Victory Points (30) then the appropriate factor is used to cause a spread of 30 points between the high & low qualifiers. Furthermore, the spread will be proportionally adjusted if the number of matches in the final round is different from the number of matches in the qualifying round.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

Item 072-83: LM and Blue Ribbon Pairs Conditions of Contest

The following insertions are made to the LMCoC and BRCoC

For the two qualifying sessions the field will be divided into comparison/qualifying groups of two sections except that one three section group is permitted when necessary. For the semi-final sessions there will be across the field scoring with up to seven sections. With more than seven sections the DIC may, at his or her discretion, score across the field if logistically appropriate or arrange for two or three section comparison/qualifying groups. The matchpoints on each board will be calculated across each group for the two qualifying sessions. Between 40% and 50% in each group will qualify from the qualifying sessions to the semi-finals and from the semi-final to the final, with the intent of having 2 – 4 sections in the final, unless a larger final is needed to accommodate the original entry. Ties for the last qualifying position will be broken as per ACBL regulation.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 7, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23.

Item 072-84: NAP and GNT Conditions of Contest

A. NAP Conditions of Contest are amended as follows:

UNIT LEVEL PARTICIPATION

- 1. Both players must be members of the parent District. (See Appendix I in these Conditions.)
- 2. Both players must have qualified in a club.
- 3.....
- 4. Each player must be an ACBL member-who is not currently on suspension OR who has not otherwise been placed in an ineligible status by an ACBL disciplinary body.
- 5.....
- 6. A player whose membership dues are paid prior to the unit competition is deemed to be a paid member at the time of entry. **ONLY PAID MEMBERS, INCLUDING LIFE MASTERS WITH LIFE MEMBER STATUS, WHOSE DUES OR FEES ARE CURRENT PRIOR TO THE UNIT STAGE MAY PARTICIPATE BEYOND THE CLUB LEVEL.**

B. The third paragraph of the GNT Conditions is amended as follows:

Each participant in the GNT, beyond the club qualifying level, must be a dues paying or service fee paid up ACBL member.

SUBSTITUTES

- 1. At any stage of the competition, the District Director (or his designee), the District NAP coordinator, the tournament director or the tournament committee may approve a substitute in an emergency. A substitute must meet the eligibility requirements listed on page 1, under FLIGHT ELIGIBILITY, and may not appreciably strengthen the partnership and is subject to the following limitations:
 - A) At the club or unit stage, if a substitute plays more than 50 percent of the boards, he becomes the contestant of record if otherwise qualified.
 - B) At any stage beyond the unit stage, a substitute is not permitted for more than 50 percent of the boards played in a qualifying session or sessions; for more than 50 percent of the boards played in a final session or sessions; or for more than one session in any case.
- 2. A replacement is not permitted beyond the District stage of the competition.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Fairchild on Thursday, July 19 at 9:00 am.

Present: Same as Wednesday.
Also Present: Same as Wednesday.

* * * * *

Jan Martel, President of the USBF spoke with the ACBL Board of Directors.

* * * * *

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

Item 072-26: ACBL Board of Directors Expenses

CHAPTER IV - BOARD PROCEDURES

B. EXPENSES

Section 1. ACBL President Expenses

The image of the ACBL is paramount in all of the activities of the president. In keeping with such premise, the following statement of policy sets forth the duties, responsibilities and restrictions by which the president will be guided.

- 1.1 The president will be granted a President's expense allowance which for the year 2007 will be \$51,800 and each year thereafter said fund will be adjusted by the Consumer Price Index fluctuation.

- 1.2 The following guidelines are provided for the president to use in budgeting his expenses during the year.
 - 1.2.1 Attending tournaments (sectionals, regionals, WBF) 50%
 - 1.2.2 Functions at NABCs (receptions, etc.) 22%
 - 1.2.3 Administrative items (faxes, postage, telephone) 12%
 - 1.2.4 President's dinner 12%
 - 1.2.5 Miscellaneous 4%

- 1.3 In addition to the usual administrative functions which the president of most organizations performs, there are additional special responsibilities attached to the office of ACBL President.
 - 1.3.1 Attending regional and sectional tournaments of his choosing to bring the ACBL to its members. In addition, at those tournaments the president is expected to host local volunteers in his suite or at a meal function.

- 1.3.2 Hosting certain social functions at NABCs involving the members of the Board of Directors and special groups in his suite, holding special committee meetings in his suite and one president's dinner at the NABC of his choice. At the other two NABCs, the president will host a welcoming buffet/reception for Board members and special guests in his suite.
- 1.4 The president may be accompanied by his spouse or other guest(s) throughout the year who will help the president in the performance of his duties. The expenses of such person(s) will be charged to the president's budget.
- 1.5 The president is expected to travel coach class when traveling by air to any tournaments, meetings or for other ACBL business and is encouraged to use a 30-day advance purchase ticket reflecting the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates whenever possible. The president will be reimbursed for travel to only one bridge event outside Zone 2 per year.
- 1.6 Travel and other expenses related to a specific activity (especially special committee meetings) will be charged to Board expenses, not to the president's expenses.
- 1.7 In addition to serving as ACBL President, the president also continues to serve as his district's representative on the Board of Directors and therefore will receive the trimester expense reimbursement identical to that provided all other Board members.
- 1.8 For accounting purposes, the president's travel expenses, per diem and expenses for the President's suite for the number of days the president is at the ACBL through the first Sunday will be charged to Board expenses. Per diem and suite expenses for the remaining days the president is at the ACBL will be charged to president's expenses.

Section 2. Board of Directors Expenses

This policy pertains to Board members, Chairman of the Board of Governors, the General Counsel, and any other non-staff member required to attend ACBL meetings or functions. The ACBL will reimburse the following expenses:

2.1 Travel Via Air

- 2.1.1 Actual ticket price for a 30-day advance purchase ticket, reflecting the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates.

- 2.1.2 Attendees traveling with no-charge tickets such as those acquired with airline award programs must notify the ACBL employee designated to coordinate travel at least 35 days in advance of travel. That employee will determine airfare as described above and the fare so provided will be the amount reimbursed.
- 2.1.3 Spouse/companion airfare will be paid by ACBL for one ACBL annually.
- 2.1.4 On an individual basis, when authorized by the President, spouse/companion airfare to a meeting will be paid when needed.

2.2 Travel Via Automobile

- 2.2.1 Subject to advance approval of the Treasurer, attendees will be reimbursed at the applicable United States IRS rate for automobile travel provided it is a reasonable amount.
- 2.2.2 Tolls en route and parking at the meeting site for the number of days calculated for per diem reimbursement will also be reimbursed by ACBL.
- 2.2.3 No meals or rooms en route will be reimbursed.

2.3 Hotel

- 2.3.1 Attendees will be reimbursed at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate incurred beginning with the night before their first officially scheduled meeting and continuing through the night the Board meetings conclude; however, if the Board member attends the Board of Governors meeting, the reimbursement will extend through the first Saturday night of the ACBL.
- 2.3.2 In order to qualify for reimbursement, the attendees must have paid the ACBL host hotel for the appropriate number of room nights. If a room is complimentary as an earned benefit to the individual, it is considered to be paid.
- 2.3.3 Attendees who share a room with another attendee will only receive reimbursement at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate for one room, not two.
- 2.3.4 Attendees may not charge a fee for use (or sharing) of their room for which they are receiving ACBL reimbursement.

2.4 Per Diem

- 2.4.1 Per Diem for ACBL Board of Directors will follow the same guidelines as those for ACBL employees including tournament directors.
 - 2.4.2 The per diem rate at Board meetings is allocated 25% for breakfast, 25% for lunch, and 50% for dinner. Full per diem will be paid for the days of travel to and from the meetings.
 - 2.4.3 Board member per diem will not be affected by the presence or absence of concierge privileges.
 - 2.4.4 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 before a meeting.
 - 2.4.5 On the day of the annual President's dinner, one-half of the per diem will be deducted from each Board member.
 - 2.4.6 Board members and their spouse/companion are welcome to attend the Volunteer dinner at each NABC. Attendance is not required. One-half of the per diem for that day will be deducted from each Board member who attends the dinner. The balance will be paid for by the ACBL. Seating assignments will be encouraged.
- 2.5 Baggage Handling - Board members will be reimbursed for reasonable actual costs of baggage handling and ground transportation to and from airports at home or in the NABC location. Parking of the board member's personal automobile at the airport will be reimbursed for the same number of days as the per diem reimbursement.
- 2.6 Entry Fees - Board members will receive complimentary entry fees to all events at NABCs.
- 2.7 Request for Reimbursement - Reimbursement requests by ACBL Board Members and the Chairman of the Board of Governors will be submitted to ACBL within 30 days of the completion of the tournament at which the expense occurred. Failure to do this will incur a penalty of 1/2 of the trimester stipend payable prior to the next Board of Directors meeting. Reimbursement requests must include a copy of air ticket(s) showing name, dates of travel and price and paid hotel bill if reimbursement is requested for hotel stay.

Section 3. WBF Representatives

Reimbursement of Expenses for WBF elected Representatives will be from the ACBL General Fund. Following are the regulations governing this reimbursement.

- 3.1 Airfare - Actual ticket price for a 30-day advance purchase ticket, reflecting the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates. In addition, reasonable actual expenses for transportation to and from airports at home and at the tournament location. There is no expense reimbursement for spouse/companion.
- 3.2 Per diem - Regular ACBL per diem starting one day prior to the first meeting attended to one day after the last meeting attended. Reimbursement for per diem will not exceed nine (9) days. The ACBL Board will consider paying a higher per diem to WBF representatives if higher costs are involved due to location of the WBF meetings.
- 3.3 Hotel - Actual double occupancy room cost at the headquarters hotel beginning no sooner than one day prior to the Representative's first official meeting and concluding no later than the night of the day when the last official meeting/function was held. Payment for hotel expenses will not exceed seven (7) nights. Exception of this rule may be allowed to secure less expensive air ticket in order to achieve overall savings.

Section 4. Board of Director's Recompense

- 4.1 The President of the ACBL, each District Director and the Chairman of the Board of Governors will receive an amount of \$750 three times per year to reflect travel to District and Unit events, telephone expenses, mailings and miscellaneous office expenses connected with the office of District Director and Chairman of the Board of Governors.
- 4.2 Extraordinary expenses incurred as a committee member will be considered for additional reimbursement.

Section 5. Other Expense Reimbursement

- 5.1 Each first-term member of the Board of Directors will be invited to the meeting prior to joining the Board. In order to encourage new members to attend and become familiar with the workings of the board and provide a smooth transition, they will be compensated for transportation, hotel and per diem expenses in the same manner as serving board members, however, hotel reimbursement will be paid only through the night the Board meetings conclude. Per diem will be paid for the days of travel to and from the meetings and during the days of the meetings.

5.2 Expenses for non-Board members and Board Members traveling on ACBL business other than Board and WBF meetings will be reimbursed. No per diem will be paid but all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed. There will be no reimbursement for expenses of guests.

Effective August 1, 2008.
Estimated cost: \$1,200.00
Carried. Nay: 1, 2, 11.

Item 072-27: Board Procedures – Expenses

The following motions relating to Board Procedures - Expenses are rescinded:

Items 711-21b, 733-101, 753-22, 821-23, 823-33, 851-17, 912-41, 913-56, 921-45, 923-62, 931-25, 933-28, 943-24, 943-52, 961-14, 961-201, 963-108B & D, 981-46, 981-118, 983-120, 993-96, 001-24, 001-28, 001-50, 003-44, 012-19, 013-41, 022-16, 043-48, 052-31, 063-28 and 071-25 are rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried.

Item 072-28: ACBL Board of Directors Procedures for Meetings

CHAPTER IV - BOARD PROCEDURES

C. MEETINGS

The Board of Directors will meet prior to each NABC at the site of the NABC. The goal of the members of the Board of Directors is to have shorter meetings with more work being done in advance electronically and otherwise. The length of each meeting will be determined by the ACBL President in consultation with Management.

Section 1. Attendance

Providing space and other practical considerations permit, meetings of the ACBL Board of Directors will be open to any ACBL member, with permission of the ACBL President. ACBL Members are excluded from Executive Sessions and meetings concerning Appeals and Charges and sensitive issues. ACBL Members attending such meetings will not participate in the proceedings unless requested to do so.

Section 2. Conduct of Meetings

2.1 Journal

- 2.1.1 Any motion to be submitted for future Agendas, either by Board members, Management, the Board of Governors, or from a membership meeting will be submitted through the Journal. The cut-off date for submission of items for the Journal will be 30 days prior to each Board Meeting. Before submitting a motion to the journal, a Board member should ask himself if this is a policy issue. Members should provide complete background information with journal items, including a statement about why this is policy. The motion should be sent to the ACBL CEO and his designee.
- 2.1.2 As an initial step, motions for the journal from Board members will be subject to screening by the appropriate committee chair (or vice-chair if the chair is unable to respond within five business days) and the President. One of the following actions will be taken:
 - 2.1.2.1 The motion will be approved as is for the journal.
 - 2.1.2.2 The motion will be sent back to the maker for reorganization or rephrasing.
 - 2.1.2.3 The maker of the motion will be informed that the motion does not belong in the journal. The motion can still be included in the journal (but not placed on the agenda) with comments from the committee chair explaining why the motion is inappropriate.
- 2.1.3 When a motion is submitted to the journal, it should not be copied to all Board members prior to approval by the committee chairman and the President.

2.2 Agenda

- 2.2.1 Accepted motions
 - 2.2.1.1 The agenda for each Board meeting consists of approved Motions from Board members and motions submitted by Management, the Board of Governors and by the membership at an Annual or Special Membership Meeting. The agenda will incorporate all pertinent discussion, comments and references. The agenda motions will be assigned by the President to the appropriate committee or to the full Board.
 - 2.2.1.2 Agenda motions will be transmitted electronically to each Board member as soon as approved. The full Agenda/Journal will be mailed to all members of the Board within a week after the deadline for submission of motions.

2.2.1.3 The President, Management, Finance Committee and the Appeals and Charges Committee will be permitted to place financial or disciplinary items and similar matters on the Agenda at any time.

2.2.1.4 Any motion submitted to the Agenda with an anticipated cost or savings of more than \$10,000 will automatically be sent to the Finance Committee for input.

2.2.2 Non-agenda items

2.2.2.1 A motion received too late for inclusion in the Agenda/Journal may be presented at the initial meeting of the Board as a non-agenda motion. A majority affirmative vote of the Board members present is required to consider a non-agenda motion.

2.2.2.2 No motion involving the expenditure of League funds in excess of \$10,000.00 will be introduced as a non-Agenda motion without either the approval of the Executive Committee or three days notice to the Board. Such motion will require 2/3 vote of the Board members present for consideration.

2.3 Reconsideration

2.3.1 A motion considered and acted upon by the Board may only be reconsidered at the same meeting upon a motion by a member of the Board who voted on the prevailing side and subsequent approval of the motion to reconsider by a 2/3 vote.

2.3.2 A motion considered and acted upon by the Board may be reconsidered at the next subsequent meeting upon a motion for reconsideration by a member of the Board and subsequent approval of the motion to reconsider by a 2/3 vote.

2.3.3 A motion considered and acted upon by the Board will be reconsidered at the next subsequent meeting if a request for reconsideration is submitted by the Board of Governors.

2.4. Annual Actions

2.4.1 The President will be elected at each Summer Meeting.

2.4.2 The General Conditions of Contest for all bridge events will be approved annually at the Summer meeting. This section shall not prevent actions

by the Board of Directors, at other meetings, to resolve situations that must be addressed prior to the next summer.

2.4.3 The operating budget for the following calendar year will be approved at the Fall Meetings.

2.5 Consent Calendar - The Board of Directors will utilize a consent calendar. Motions that are approved or refused unanimously by a committee with no substantive changes may be placed on the consent calendar. One vote is sufficient to remove a motion from the consent calendar.

Section 3. Committees

3.1 All motions, except those designated for the Full Board, will be referred by the President to the appropriate committee chairman for consideration. Committee chairmen have a responsibility to read motions assigned to their committee, respond to the motion maker and process the motions in a timely fashion. Board members who wish to express opinions on specific motions should endeavor to attend the committee meeting. If a Board member is unable to attend, he should let his position be known to the committee chairman before the committee meeting

3.2 The chairman of a Board of Directors Committee or his designee is responsible for presenting his committee's motions to the Board as a whole for consideration or vote.

3.3 When bringing a committee motion before the full Board, committee chairmen should have available the following information: current policy, alternatives considered, objectives to be accomplished, discussion and financial impact.

3.4 The Board shall act upon each committee's report, which shall include a recommendation on each motion assigned to it for consideration. After committee chair presents a motion, Board members should ONLY ask informational questions before the debate on the pros and cons. Debate should not be repetitive or argumentative.

3.5 No motion which has been substantively changed from its presentation in the journal may be voted on by the Board until Board members have been presented with a written copy of the revised and/or amended motion.

3.6 Motions from Board members may be withdrawn by the maker(s) at any time prior to presentation to the full Board.

3.7 Other duties of chairmen may be assigned by the ACBL president or his designee.

Section 4. Voting

4.1 Recording of Votes - Following are the procedures to be used when recording votes of the individual members of the Board of Directors on motions that come before them:

4.1.1 Votes will be recorded in the minutes on motions submitted by the Board of Governors and action motions. Motions not requiring action, such as reports received, need only have the notation carried or not carried.

4.1.2 A roll call vote will be taken on a motion when requested by the Committee Chairman or a Board member.

4.1.3 When a roll call vote is not taken, those voting on the non-prevailing side will be asked to identify themselves when the individual Board member votes are to be recorded.

4.2 Cloture Rule - A form of cloture may be employed by the Board in handling agenda items. After initial pro and con arguments on an issue, a straw vote (show of hands) should be taken and when the result is at least 2/3 of those present and voting, either for or against, further debate should cease and a final vote taken.

4.3 Second Reading

4.3.1 When a proposed regulation requires a second reading, it will be put on the full Board agenda and not be presented for committee action for the second reading unless there is member feedback, including Board of Governors. If any substantive change is made to the proposed regulation, it will require a subsequent reading by the Board of Directors.

4.3.2 Any action by the Board quantitatively changing masterpoint awards shall become effective only after Board approval at the next meeting following its initial approval.

Section 5. Minutes

5.1 All actions of the Board of Directors will be reported in the Minutes. Where action involves adoption of reports or collateral documents, the Board authorizes the substitution of a summary or abstract thereof in such Minutes. The full report or documents will be made available to any interested member of the League.

5.2 Publication in the *Bridge Bulletin* of the complete minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors is not required. A condensation of major enacted motions,

prepared by the ACBL President (or designee) will be published. Recorded votes will be included except in instances where the vote is without dissent.

5.3 Ongoing revisions and updates of the codified Board of Directors regulations will be a Management function, subject to review and ratification by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Evaluation of Meeting

At the conclusion of every Board meeting, the Board should rate its own performance in terms of what went well (and why) and what didn't go well (and why) by using the Board evaluation form or some other method as determined by the Board.

Carried. Nay: 4, 11, 12, 13, 22, 25.

Item 072-29: Rescinded Board Procedures – Meetings

The following motions relating to Board Procedures - Meetings are hereby rescinded:

Items 711-21, 731-81A, 732-15, 732-71, 733-12, 762, 763-42, 823-11, 851-34, 861-131, 893-11, 893-12, 902-13, 913-23, 923-11, 923-14, 933-73, 942-55, 943-52, 951-23, 962-42, 963-31, 963-34, 963-35, 963-41, 981-40, 982-132, 992-23, 001-51, 032-51, 032-52 and 061-16.

Effective immediately

Carried.

FINANCE & BUDGET	
Fleming (C) Robinson (VC)	
Cook, Mamula, Retek	Staff: Glover

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 072-15: 2008 Preliminary Budget Assumptions

The report of the Finance Committee on the preliminary budget assumptions for 2008 is received.

Carried. Nay 4.

Item 072-16: ACBL 401k / Pension Plan Trustees

A. 401k Trustees will consist of two persons elected at Spring board meetings for four-year terms, which start immediately after election. The ACBL CEO, or his designee, will serve as a 401k Trustee.

- B. Pension Fund Trustees will consist of two persons elected at Spring board meetings for four-year terms, which start immediately after election. The ACBL CEO, or his designee, will serve as a Pension Fund Trustee.
- C. 401k Trustees will be elected to staggered terms in odd-numbered years. Pension Fund Trustees will be elected to staggered terms in even-numbered years.

Carried. Absent: 24.

Item 072-17: North American Contract Bridge Hall of Fame

The ACBL authorizes a loan, upon the creation of the North American Contract Bridge Hall of Fame of up to \$50,000 to be disbursed at the request of the foundation. Any expense incurred by ACBL prior to this disbursement for the benefit of the NACBHoF foundation shall be considered part of this loan.

This loan will be repayable at an annual interest rate of 4%, compounded annually, due no later than December 31, 2010.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 1, 15.

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

A verbal report was made.

REAL ESTATE	
Reeve (C) Cook, Kirkham, Morse, Reiman, Smith, Wood Committee Report by Chairman	Staff: Baum

A verbal report was given.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 10 and its units, District Director Bill Cook, Tournament Chair David Birnbaum

and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Renaissance Nashville Hotel for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 1:55 pm.