

**ACBL Board of Directors  
Marriott San Francisco  
November 18 – 20, 2007  
San Francisco, CA**

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on Sunday, November 18, 2007, at 8:05 am.

Present: George Retek #1, Jonathan Steinberg #2, Steve Surasky (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate) #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, Linda Wiener (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate) #20, Roger Smith #21, Jim Kirkham #22, Rand Pinsky #23, Al Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Absent: Joan Gerard #3 and Jeffrey Taylor #20.

Also

Present: Beth Reid District Director Elect #11, Bruce Blakely 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate #21, Linda Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, ACBL CEO; Rick Beye, ACBL CTD; Gary Blaiss, ACBL EAO; staff Natasha Brown, Patricia Glover, Julie Greenberg, Stan Katz, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

**Approval of Nashville, TN Minutes**

The Nashville, TN minutes are approved.

Carried.

**Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes**

**Minutes**

**Executive Committee Of The Board Of Directors  
August 20, 2007**

The Executive Committee met today at 8:30 a.m. CST, by conference call to consider bringing charges against Wirt Gilliam.

Present at the meeting were members of the Executive Committee, Sharon Fairchild, President; Harriette Buckman, Chairman; Jerry Fleming, Treasurer (Non-Voting), Richard Anderson, Al Levy (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate to Eastern Zone) and Jim Reiman.

Absent: Shirley Seals

Also present: Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, CEO; Gary Blaiss, EAO; Butch Campbell, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

Sharon Fairchild called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

After due discussion and deliberations, the following resolution was approved unanimously by the ACBL Executive Committee:

In accordance with 2.2.3 (d) of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations, the Executive Committee acting on behalf of the ACBL Board of Directors is of the opinion that charges against one ACBL member based upon a complaint from ACBL Management (see attached) be referred to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee, because circumstances make it impractical or unfair for the matter to be heard by the District or Unit.

The complaint involves the following grounds for discipline from the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations: 3.2, 3.7 and 3.13.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

**Minutes  
Executive Committee of the Board of Directors  
August 23, 2007**

The Executive Committee met today at 3:00 p.m. CST, by conference call to approve the following corporate resolution.

Present at the meeting were members of the Executive Committee, Sharon Fairchild, President; Harriette Buckman, Chairman; Jim Reiman and Shirley Seals.

Absent: Richard Anderson

Also present: Jay Baum, CEO and Kelley McGuire.

Sharon Fairchild called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

The committee was asked to act on behalf of the ACBL Board of Directors and approve the following corporate resolution.

Moved that Jerald A. Baum, CEO, be authorized to continue negotiations and to complete the sale of the Memphis Headquarters building located at 2990 Airways Blvd., Memphis, TN to Kamyar Hakimnia.

Carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

### **Minutes**

#### **Executive Committee of the Board of Directors**

**October 29, 2007**

The Executive Committee met October 29, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. CST, by conference call to approve the following corporate resolution.

Present at the meeting were members of the Executive Committee, Sharon Fairchild, President; Harriette Buckman, Chairman; Jerry Fleming, Treasurer (non-voting member) Jim Reiman, Shirley Seals and Roger Smith (Alternate).

Absent: Richard Anderson

Also present: Dan Morse, ACBL President Elect; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Richard DeMartino, Board Member (for report to committee only); Jay Baum, CEO, and Kelley McGuire.

Sharon Fairchild called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Moved that a Committee will be formed composed of Management and Tournament Director Members to discuss a paradigm of TD's future structures.

Carried. Nay: Reiman

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

### **Non Agenda Items**

1. Definition of "Active Member" for GNT & NAOP - Conditions of Contest – Carried
2. NAP Flight C – Conditions of Contest – Carried
3. Transfer of District 14 to District 13 – Governance – Carried
4. NABC Surcharge International Events – Withdrawn

### **Item 073-181: Masterpoint Formula** (Second Reading)

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. 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

The following games are eliminated: Super Club Championship, District-Wide Charity Game, 49'er Pairs.

All the Unit games, including Unit-Wide Championship and Unit Extended Team Games are replaced with one class of Unit Championships. The number of games is increased from 16 to 24 with a fee of \$1.25/table.

All Unit or District Charity Games are replaced 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 is the same as special Fund or Foundation games at clubs.

The Swiss match awards are increased to .015/board at club rated events and .02/board at club championship rated events.

The maximum allowable overall award at an open club rating point, or an internet club game is increased to 2.50 at 0.10 per table. The maximum for invitational and lower games is 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.

A cap is added to all special fund / foundation games of 6.0 masterpoints.

### Miscellaneous

Match awards for Swiss Teams are 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 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 =  $4 \times \text{Team Masterpoints} / \# \text{ of Players on Team}$  (Maximum per team = 40,000)

AVG MP (Bracket) =  $\Sigma \text{Avg MP Per Team} / \text{Number of Teams in Bracket}$

#### B. Overall Awards below First Place

<u>Overall Position</u>	<u>5 + Rounds</u>	<u>4 Rounds</u>	<u>3 Rounds</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 x L; Maximum = 3.00 x K x L).

D. Compact KOs

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

The L Factor is normally 0.50.  
 The Minimum First Overall Award is 8.00 x K x L

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 3.30 x K x L. (40% of the Compact KO award).

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

Carried. Nay: 4, 7.

**Item 073-176: Certification of Elections**

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010:

Nadine Wood, District 6; Shirley Seals, District 9; Bill Cook, District 10; A. Beth Reid, District 11; William Arlinghaus, District 12; Jerry Fleming, District 17; Jeffrey Taylor, District 20; Alvin Levy, District 24.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as First Alternate to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010:

Nick L'Ecuyer, District 1; Roni Atkins, District 5; Michael Kovacich, District 7; Angie Clark, District 13; Marti Malcolm, District 15; Ray Grace, District 18; Stephen Hosch, District 19; Roger Clough, District 23; Richard Budd, District 25.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as Second Alternate to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010:

Leo Weniger, District 1; Jan Assini, District 5; Barbara Heller, District 7; Phil Rea, District 15; Jerry Thorpe, District 19.

Carried.

**Item 073-177: WBF Representative**

Dan Morse is elected as ACBL representative to the World Bridge Federation for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010.

Carried.

**Item 073-179: Pension Plan Trustee**

Charles Wilkinson is elected as a Pension Plan Trustee for a four-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2011.

Carried.

**Item 073-178: Executive Committee Western Zone Member and Alternate**

The Western Zone reported the election of Richard Anderson as its representative on the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010.

The Western Zone reported the election of Don Mamula as its alternate representative on the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010.

**Item 073-186: Executive Committee Central Zone Member and Alternate**

The Central Zone reported the election of Sue Himel as its representative on the Executive Committee to fill the unexpired term of Jim Reiman ending December 31, 2008.

The Central Zone reported the election of Georgia Heth as its alternate representative on the Executive Committee to fill the unexpired term of Sue Himel ending December 31, 2008.

**Item 073-180: Ratification of ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments**

The appointment of Bill Pollack, ACBL #J529455 and John Sutherlin, ACBL #Q932921, as alternates to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee through December 31, 2007 to serve as needed is ratified.

Carried.

**Item 073-182: Honorary Member of the Year**

Peggy and John Sutherlin are appointed as the 2008 Honorary Member of the Year.

Carried.

**Item 073-183: Goodwill Member of the Year**

Richard Caser is appointed as the 2008 Goodwill Member of the Year.

Carried.

**Item 073-184: Volunteer Member of the Year**

Ken Monzingo is appointed as the 2007 Volunteer Member of the Year.

Carried.

**Item 073-185: Education Status Report**

The Education status report is received.

Carried. Nay: 1, 25.

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The ACBL Board of Directors adjourned at 9:20 a.m. and reconvened at 9:25 a.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

**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)

\* \* \* \* \*



The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild on Monday, November 19, at 12:30 p.m.

Present: Same as Sunday, November 18

Also Present: Same as Sunday, November 18, with the addition of Gail Andrews 1<sup>st</sup>  
Alternate #22

<b>GOVERNANCE</b>
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Himel (C), Taylor (VC)
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Cook, Harlan, Mamula, Retek, Seals
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Staff: Miller
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Committee Report by Chairman
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**Item 073-25: Executive Committee Operations**

The following policy statement on operations of the executive committee is adopted.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**DURATION OF  
EXISTENCE:**

The duration of existence of this Committee shall be indefinite as governed by the Bylaws of ACBL.

**CHAIRMAN:**

President of the ACBL. In the absence of the President, the Chairman of the Board of Directors serves as Chairman of the committee.

**COMPOSITION:**

President of the ACBL and Chairman of the Board of Directors who are ex officio members with full voting rights, Treasurer of the ACBL, who shall be an ex officio member without voting rights, and three elected members of the Board of Directors. (Article VII, Sec. 1.2, of the Bylaws of ACBL).

**ELECTION:**

One representative shall be elected from each of three zones: Eastern (Districts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 24, 25); Central (Districts 2, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16) and Western (Districts 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23). If the Treasurer is a zonal representative, he shall have voting rights in his capacity as an elected representative.

A member of the Board shall be nominated and elected to the Executive Committee by a majority vote of the District Directors of the applicable zone. In the event of a tie vote on the first ballot, the Directors of the applicable zone shall have a second ballot. If a tie remains after the second ballot, the full Board shall decide between the nominees using the procedure of Board of Directors Election Procedures (032-53), Section B. (1).

**ALTERNATES:** Each zone shall elect an alternate representative to serve on the committee when the primary committee member is unavailable. Alternates shall be nominated and elected in the same manner as the primary committee member.

**VACANCIES:** In case an elected zonal member of the Executive Committee resigns, or his term as District Director expires during his term as a member of the Executive Committee and he is not reelected to another term as District Director, or if the elected zonal member becomes a voting ex officio of the committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the alternate zonal representative.

Directors from the affected zone will elect a new alternate. If a tie for the new alternate remains after a second ballot, the full Board shall decide in accordance with in Board of Directors Election Procedures (032-53), Section B. (1).

**TERM OF OFFICE:** Elected members serve a three-year term beginning January 1.

**TERM LIMITS:** An elected representative is not eligible for election to an immediate successive term. This proviso does not preclude serving in one of the ex officio positions.

**QUORUM:** A majority of the voting members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

**ROTATION:** Election of zonal representatives shall be at the fall meeting of the Board of Directors, with the following rotation:

Western zone	Fall 2007	Term 2008 through 2010
Central zone	Fall 2008	Term 2009 through 2011
Eastern zone	Fall 2009	Term 2010 through 2012

This rotation shall repeat on a three year cycle.

**STAFF  
COMMITTEE  
LIAISON:** CEO

**HOW NAMED  
AND  
ESTABLISHED:** As stated in the Bylaws of ACBL.

**STRATEGIC  
PURPOSE:** To transact business of a time sensitive nature requiring immediate action, subject to the limitations on powers of Committees of the

Board as stated in Article 7, Section 712(a) of the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of the state of New York, between Board of Directors meetings. The Executive Committee is answerable to the Board of Directors and subject to its general direction. It will have additional powers as the Board may delegate to it from time to time.

When the committee determines that exigent circumstances exist, the committee may act for the Board on matters otherwise requiring two readings.

**MEETINGS:** Meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the voting members of the committee. Meetings (and therefore voting) may be held only in person or by conference call.

**NOTICE:** Notice to all members and alternates of the committee should be delivered by e-mail, telephone, first class mail, facsimile transmission, or in person at least 72 hours in advance, if possible. Meetings may be called on shorter notice at the discretion of the President or a majority of the committee. There will be a stated time limit for the committee member to respond to the notice. The notice shall include a statement of the purposes of the meeting, and the business transacted at such meeting shall be limited to those stated purposes. Committee members shall acknowledge receipt of notice as soon as possible.

**REPORTING:** All transactions and decisions are to be reported at the next meeting of the Board with minutes of all Executive Committee meetings provided to all Board members within fourteen (14) days after each meeting. All transactions and decisions of the committee must be ratified by the full board unless the committee has bound the ACBL by contract with a third party.

Carried. Abstain: 14.

**Item 073-26: ACBL Honorary Member of the Year**

Item 942-42 ACBL Honorary Member of the Year is amended as follows:

The ACBL Honorary Member of the Year is awarded to:

1. A person who is known widely throughout the membership of the ACBL.
2. A person who has given freely of time and ability, without thought of reward, and in the interest and welfare of the League as a whole as opposed to a segment of the League's operations.

3. A person who is not an incumbent member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

The benefits for those members selected as "Honorary Member of the Year" are as follows: (1) free entries to NABCs for one year; (2) BULLETIN article and picture on the BULLETIN cover; and (3) a letter of congratulations from the ACBL Board of Directors signed by the ACBL President.

This information is to be included with the material that is provided annually to the "Honorary Member of the Year" Selection Committee.

Effective November 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 1, 5, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 22.

**Item 073-27: President's Volunteer Member of the Year**

Item 042-49 is amended to read "Presentation of the award will be made to the recipient(s) at the Summer Goodwill meeting that follows".

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-28: ACBL Committee Meeting Absences**

Any member of the ACBL Laws Commission, Hall of Fame Committee or Competitions and Conventions Committee that has an unexcused absence as determined by the Committee Chairman for three consecutive meetings will be considered as resigned and the President will appoint someone to finish out the remaining term.

Effective November 22, 2007

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-29: ACBL Club Appreciation Month**

Items 983-72, 012-202 and 042-13 Club Appreciation games are amended as follows:

**ACBL Club Appreciation Month**

October is designated as ACBL Club Appreciation Month. Clubs may hold one 100% Sectional black-point game during this month per sanctioned session. Sanction fees will be the same as for a regular club game.

Effective Immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-30: Reference/Educational Material for Board of Directors**

Management shall purchase at least 25 copies of “A Desktop Guide for Nonprofit Directors, Officers, and Advisors” subtitled “Avoiding Trouble While Doing Good” by Jack B. Siegel and distribute one copy to each district director. District directors who join the board subsequent to January 1, 2008 shall also receive a copy.

Effective January 1, 2008

Motion failed: Aye: 1, 2, 8, 10, 14, 19, 21.

**Item 073-31: Honorary Member of the Year**

ACBL will discontinue having an Honorary Member of the Year

Effective January 1, 2008

Motion Failed: Aye: 1, 12, 17, 18, 19. Abstain: 11.

**Item 073-33: Transfer of Certain District 14 Zip Codes to District 13**

Members in the following zip codes will be transferred from District 14, Unit 103 to District 13, Unit 149.

54801, 54843, 54859, 54888, 54873, 54838, 54870, 54875, 54830, 54814, 54517, 54821, 54864

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-34: Executive Committee Rescinded Motions**

The following items are rescinded:

Executive Committee (903), Executive Committee Emergency Powers (983-39), Executive Committee (052-26), Executive Committee Terms of Office (032-54), Board of Directors Election Procedures (032-53).

Carried.

**APPEALS & CHARGES**

**Item 073-01: Report on Hearings**

In the matter of the appeal of Bill Cubley, ACBL # L338436, v the decisions of the Unit 502 Disciplinary Committee and the District 21 Appellate Committee:

The Committee finds that the failure of the unit hearing to provide prior notice of the hearing and to conduct the hearing in the presence of the parties was a substantial violation of process as noted in Section 5 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR). Therefore, the matter is remanded to the Unit 502 Disciplinary Committee for a new hearing on the complaints by Mr. Cubley regarding Mr. Handler's conduct.

It is suggested that the Unit hearing committee consist of an odd number of members with a minimum of three members.

The Unit 502 Disciplinary Committee shall use the CDR in effect at the time the complaint was made.

[The barring of a player from an ACBL sanctioned game at a club is governed by *The ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations*, Chapter 4, Section Three, IV, G and is not part of the subject of the hearing on remand (see below).]

**G. CLUB DISCIPLINE**

Club management should deal promptly and fairly with all cases of improper conduct that occur during an ACBL-sanctioned masterpoint game in the club, including cases of unethical practices. The club manager should either handle these situations personally or establish a standing committee to review all disciplinary problems. Clubs holding non-sanctioned games may deal with problems arising in these games as they see fit.

The club manager can handle many behavior problems by discussing them with the offenders, by issuing a warning, or declaring a period of probation. In extreme cases or cases of repeat offenses, the manager can bar the player from the club game for a stipulated period of time, or permanently.

No open club may bar a player or players as a class, based upon the player's race, creed, religion, political affiliation, sexual orientation, national origin, and physical handicap or on his proficiency at bridge.

Except as detailed in the previous paragraph, a club may bar a player for whatever reason it deems proper and consistent with ACBL Rules and Regulations and the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge. An obnoxious or incompatible partnership may be barred as a pair, but each may be permitted to play with other partners. To bar a player, club management must notify the player in writing and send a copy of the notification to the ACBL Club Membership Department. The

notification must include the player's name and player number and the reason for the barring.

An open club can bar players from its regularly scheduled club masterpoint games, membership games, ACBL-wide games, club championships, charity and international fund club championships, and other special events specifically allocated to clubs as outlined above.

These regulations also apply to a club with an invitational sanction except that the club has the additional authority to refuse admittance to an invitational game to someone who does not meet the criteria upon which the invitational sanction is based (e.g. a player who has 500 masterpoints is denied admittance to an invitational game that is limited to players with less than 300 masterpoints).

If the player feels that his or her barring does not comply with these regulations prohibiting barring players as a class, religious or political affiliations, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, physical disability or proficiency at bridge, he or she may appeal the barring to the unit disciplinary committee. Appeals from the unit disciplinary committee may be filed in accordance with and under the authority of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations. Until the appeal is lodged and heard, the player remains barred unless reinstated by the club unless a stay is granted by the Unit Disciplinary Chairperson.

A club may extend the barring of a player from Grand National teams, North American Pair events, STaCs, qualifying sessions of a progressive sectional, unit or district competitions, and/or unit-wide or district-wide championships held at the club. A player so barred may appeal the extension of the barring under the process described in the previous paragraph. In such cases, the written notice to the person barred must include the person's right to appeal the action to the Unit Disciplinary Committee in which the club is located within thirty days of the action taken by the club. Such written notice is required, otherwise the barring shall not be effective.

Carried.

**Item 073-02: Expelled Members**

Readmission of expelled members (942-2) (002-42) is amended to reflect the following:

Persons expelled for cheating shall not be readmitted.

Effective Immediately

Motion Failed. Aye: 7, 9, 16, 19, 21.

**Item 073-04: Readmission of Expelled Members**

Readmission of Expelled members

- A. The ACBL Board of Directors will not hear and ACBL Management is instructed not to forward to the Board any request for readmission before five years from the date of expulsion or resignation to avoid possible disciplinary actions, provided that under no circumstances will the ACBL Board of Directors hear a request for readmission in regards to a second expulsion or resignation to avoid possible disciplinary actions or combination thereof. When a request is heard and denied, the person making the request will be told when and if the Board will hear a subsequent request for readmission.

Should the Board decide to hear a request, the following guidelines shall be used in considering the possible readmission to ACBL membership of former members who have been expelled or who have resigned to avoid possible disciplinary action:

- 1. Admission of guilt.
- 2. Appropriate written apology.
- 3. Support for readmission from the player's local bridge organization(s).

Additional provisions for readmission shall be at the discretion of the ACBL Board of Directors. Requests for relief from the provisions for readmission shall be made no more frequently than every three years.

Items 942-2 and 002-42 are rescinded.

Effective Immediately

Carried. Nay: 4, 24. Abstain: 9.

**Item 073-05: Code of Disciplinary Regulations**

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

5.2.5 Required Appearance at Hearings



- (a) All complainants and/or the complainants' advocate are required to appear in person or by telephone. Failure to appear may be grounds for discipline.
- (b) When a committee chairperson determines (upon request by either the complainant or the charged person or persons) that a witness' testimony is critical to a hearing, then such a witness is required to appear or provide a signed statement. *Failure to appear at the hearing in person, by telephone or to provide a signed written or electronic statement shall be grounds for discipline*, unless reasonable cause is provided to the committee chairperson for such failure. "Reasonable cause" shall be liberally construed.

5.3.5 When a Tournament Director or committee chairperson determines (upon request by either the complainant or the charged person or persons) that a witness' testimony is critical to a hearing, then such a witness is required to appear or provide a signed statement. *Failure to appear at the hearing in person, by telephone or to provide a signed written or electronic statement shall be grounds for discipline*, unless reasonable cause is provided to the Tournament Director or the committee chairperson for such failure. "Reasonable cause" shall be liberally construed.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

<b>MARKETING</b>	
Seals (C), Cook (VC)	
Pinsky, Robinson, Steinberg, Taylor	Staff: Baum
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 073-106: International Fund Month**

The month set aside for International Fund Games is canceled and clubs may run any special games that they want that month, including International Fund games.

Effective Immediate

Motion Failed.      Aye: 7, 21, 22.

**JUNIORS**

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

Staff: Baum

**Item 073-150: Junior Coupons**

- A. At all NABCs, ACBL Junior Coupons shall have a value of \$10 per session or the per person price of entry, whichever is less. This value shall be the discount applied to junior entries for any event conducted at an NABC. Coupon users may be asked for positive proof of age.

Effective January 1, 2008.

Carried. Nay: 22, 23.

- B. Coupons may be used by paid up ACBL members in good standing who have not reached their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23.

**Item 073-151: ACBL Youth Player Entry Fee**

At all NABCs, all member players who have not yet reached their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday will be granted free plays for each session of regionally rated events. A coupon will be provided to these players to ensure proper accounting procedures. Players may be asked to provide proof of age at the time of the entry purchase. Players under the age of 16 will pay regularly posted entry fees less applicable coupons, for all nationally rated events. Non-members under the age of 16 will pay the normal non-member entry fees to all events.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 3.

**BRIDGE**

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

Staff: Beye

**Item 073-55: General Chart 1NT Opening Conventions**

Any defense to a 1NT opening is considered a general chart convention.

Motion failed: Aye: 6, 7, 15, 19, 22, 23. Abstain: 20, 25.

**Item 073-56: Wide Range No Trump Opening, for Mid Chart**

The restriction of 1NT opening bids is extended to any (unlimited) range between 10-18 HCP, with an all purpose rangefinder (2C) being allowed to determine more precise range within the whole spectrum allowed.

Deferred to the Spring 2008 NABC to receive input from the Competitions and Conventions committee.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-57: Administrative Guidelines for ACBL Club Games and ACBL Club Director Accreditations**

In accordance with Item 072-60: Sanctions for ACBL Games at Clubs and ACBL Club Director Accreditations:

The ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations is amended as follows:

- A. ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations Chapter 4, Section One, V., F. is deleted; Section One, IV. D. is added as follows:
  - D. Cancellation of Sanction
    - 1. ACBL management has the right to cancel or suspend a club game sanction for cause upon thirty days notice to the club manager. Any one of the following shall constitute “cause” for cancellation or suspension: operation of a club out of compliance with ACBL regulations; egregious conduct by the club manager or club director which is detrimental to the ACBL; unsuitable club venue; or discriminatory practices as set forth in this Handbook. A suspension is for a fixed period of time whereupon the sanction shall automatically renew. A cancellation is for a fixed period of time whereupon the club manager may apply for renewal or permanent without the possibility of renewal.
    - 2. ACBL management may immediately suspend or cancel a club game sanction if the “cause” for cancellation is such that continuation of the sanction will result in substantial and immediate violation of ACBL Regulations; or increase the likelihood of lawsuit against the ACBL; or result in violation of state or Federal law.
    - 3. The thirty day notice of suspension or cancellation shall provide the club manager with the option of providing ACBL management with reasons in writing why the suspension or cancellation should not take place, whereupon ACBL management, in its own discretion, may leave the suspension or cancellation in place, amend the suspension or cancellation or withdraw the suspension or cancellation.

4. The club may file a written appeal of a suspension or cancellation with the Appeals and Charges Committee of ACBL Board of Directors within thirty days of the effective date of the cancellation, provided however, that the suspension or cancellation will remain in effect until the appeal before the Appeals and Charges Committee has been decided. In order to be considered, such written appeal must include reasons why the cancellation is inconsistent with the terms of this Section D.
- B. ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations Chapter 4, Section three, III.C. is added as follows:

C. Cancellation of Accreditation

1. ACBL management has the right to cancel a club director's accreditation for cause upon thirty days notice to the club director. Any one of the following shall constitute "cause" for cancellation of accreditation: direction of a club game out of compliance with ACBL regulations; egregious conduct by the club director which is detrimental to the ACBL; unsuitable club venue; or discriminatory practices by the club director as set forth in this Handbook. A cancellation of accreditation is for a fixed period of time whereupon the club director may apply for reinstatement of accreditation (a new examination may be required by ACBL management for reinstatement); or, a cancellation may be permanent without the possibility of reinstating accreditation.
2. ACBL management may cancel a club game director's accreditation without notice if the "cause" for cancellation is such that continuation of the club director's club activities will result in substantial and immediate violation of ACBL Regulations; or increase the likelihood of lawsuit against the ACBL; or result in violation of state or Federal law.
3. The thirty day notice of cancellation of accreditation shall provide the club director with the option of providing ACBL management with reasons in writing why the cancellation should not take place, whereupon ACBL management, in its own discretion, may leave the cancellation of accreditation in place, amend the cancellation or withdraw the cancellation
4. The club director may file a written appeal of a cancellation of accreditation with the Appeals and Charges Committee of ACBL Board of Directors within thirty days of the effective date of the cancellation, provided however, that the cancellation will remain in effect until the appeal before the Appeals and Charges Committee has been decided. In order to be considered, such written appeal must include reasons why the cancellation is inconsistent with the terms of this Section C.

Effective Immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-58: NAOP Extra Pairs Formula**

The number of members used in the formula is equivalent to the number of members in that District eligible to participate in that level of the event.

The extra pairs will be based on the percentage of participation, at the club level, within each Flight.

Effective Immediately to begin with the next cycle for the 2009 finals.

Carried. Abstain: 15, 20.

**Item 073-59: Extended Team Imp Leagues**

The ACBL Bridge Committee will establish minimum standards/Conditions of Contest for club level Extended Team Imp Leagues. All extended team Imp Leagues that qualify shall receive identical sanctions. Appropriate masterpoint awards will be established.

Effective January 1, 2008

Motion Failed. Aye: 2 Abstain: 4, 13, 18, 20.

**Item 073-60: Life Master Committee**

The ACBL President shall appoint a committee to study the requirements for becoming a Life Master and other rank changes.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Nay: 1, 24.

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A verbal report on the implementation of banning non-medical electronic devices was given. An action implementation plan will be placed in the 2008 Spring NABC journal.

**CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

Arlinghaus (C)  
Reiman, Wood

Staff: Beye

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 073-75: General Conditions of Contest**

General Conditions of Contest (072-79)

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.”

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-76: 2008-2009 NAP CoC**

The NAP Conditions of Contest are revised as follows:

A. Paragraph 1 in the section “Unit Stage – Organization” is replaced with:

1. A District may opt to not require unit qualifying games. If a District does not require unit qualifying games, Units within that District may still hold non-qualifying unit finals at their local discretion.

B. The sentence “A unit final may not conflict with a North American Bridge Championship” is removed from Paragraph 3D. (duplication of Paragraph 7)

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried. Abstain: 15.

**FEDERATIONS**

Arlinghaus (C)

Anderson, Himel, Morse, Seals

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

The Federations status report is received. (Attachment C)

Carried.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Fairchild on Tuesday November 20 at 9:00 am.

Present: Same as Monday.

Also Present: Same as Monday.

Fred Gitelman of BridgeBase online spoke with the ACBL Board of Directors.

\* \* \* \* \*

**FINANCE & BUDGET**

Fleming (C) Robinson (VC)

Cook, Mamula, Retek

Staff: Glover

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 073-15: 2008 Budget**

A. The Operating budget for 2008 is approved.

Carried. Nay: 3, 6, 9, 14, 24, 25. Abstain: 20

B. The Capital budget for 2008 is approved.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-16: Canadian Member Exchange Rate**

Management and the ACBL Finance Committee will establish a method for signing up new Canadian ACBL members that reflects current exchange rates.

Effective as soon as possible but no later than April 1, 2008.

Carried unanimously.

**BOARD OPERATIONS**

Harlan (C), Morse (VC)

Gerard, Levy, Pinsky, Steinberg, Taylor, Wood

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chariman

**Item 073-120: Board of Directors Free Play Policy**

Item 072-26 Board of Director Expenses, Section 2: Board of Director Expenses, section 2.6 is amended as follows: Entry Fees - Board members will receive complimentary entry fees to all events at NABCs except on the first day of the NABC (usually Thursday) when proceeds from the games are designated for the International Fund and/or Educational Foundation.

Effective January 1, 2008

Carried.        Nay: 1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 17, 21, 22, 23, 25.

**Item 073-121: Board Member Reimbursement**

A. Chapter IV – Board Procedures, B Expenses, Section 4.1 is amended as follows:

The President of the ACBL, each District Director and the Chairman of the Board of Governors will receive an amount of \$1000 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.

Carried.        Nay: 2, 4, 5, 8, 14, 19, 24.    Abstain: 12, 20.

B. Chapter IV-Board Procedures, B Expenses Section 2.1.3 "Spouse/companion airfare will be paid by ACBL for one Board of Directors meeting annually," is rescinded.

Effective January 1, 2008.

Carried.        Nay: 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23.

**Item 073-122: Board Management Communications**

A. Communication between ACBL Board of Directors members and Management and staff will be courteous, responsive, respectful, and polite at all times. Board members should not expect instant replies and should convey that message. Staff should let the Board member know when it will be convenient for them to furnish information. In all cases the following procedures will be followed.



1. All ACBL Board members will have direct access to the CEO. Should any problems or complaints regarding work product or the conduct of any employee arise, they will be discussed only with the CEO. If necessary, they will be transmitted in writing to the CEO who will investigate, take whatever appropriate action he/she deems necessary, and inform the complainant of the action taken. Under no circumstances will a member of the Board personally chastise any employee for any reason.
2. Board Members wishing to contact Management or staff with all matters relevant to the committees of the Board of Directors may do so only through the committee chairman. The committee chairman, in appropriate cases, will arrange for direct contact with the relevant member of staff that is assigned to that committee as staff liaison ("CSL"). Committee Chairs may directly contact their CSL on all committee matters.
3. Board Members desiring to communicate with staff on all business matters other than committee matters are encouraged to use e-mail whenever practicable; however, telephone calls are permitted. Telephone calls requesting significant amounts of information or requiring significant time of the employee being called must be cleared with the CEO.

B. Any board member who fails to follow the above procedures will be subject to immediate review by the Board Oversight Committee and subject to the appropriate consequences in the Board of Directors Behavioral Code.

Item 062-121 is rescinded

Effective Immediately

Carried.      Nay: 5, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 24, 25.      Abstain: 20.

### **Item 073-123: Board Procedures**

The current policy of reimbursing attendees for no-charge airline tickets or complimentary rooms is discontinued.

Chapter IV-Board Procedures, B Expenses Section 2.1.2 and Section 2.3.2 is rescinded, and the remaining sections will be renumbered.

Effective date: January 1, 2008

Carried.      Nay: 4, 9, 18, 22, 23, 24.

**Item 073-124: ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code**

Motion 063-121 (ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code) will be reviewed and a report made at the Spring 2008 NABC by a sub committee of board operations.

Note: Sub committee Al Levy, Jim Miller, Rand Pinsky, and Nadine Wood.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 073-125: Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy**

1) The following policy on reimbursement of travel expenses is adopted.

Upon adoption, this policy supersedes and replaces anything to the contrary in all previous documentation and motions relating to travel expense reimbursement applicable to those individuals listed in "Scope."

Effective date: January 1, 2008

Deferred to the Spring 2008 NABC meeting.

Carried unanimously.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

\* \* \* \* \*

**REAL ESTATE**

Reeve (C)

Cook, Kirkham, Morse, Reiman, Smith, Wood

Staff: Baum

Committee Report by Chairman

A verbal report was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

The CEO Review committee reported that a new three year contract for CEO Jay Baum has been signed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The ACBL Board of Directors adjourned 3:15 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Executive Session**

At approximately 4:10 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Closing Remarks**

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 21 and its units, District Director Roger Smith, Tournament Chair Bruce Blakely and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the San Francisco Marriott Hotel for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 5:15 pm.