

**ACBL Board of Directors**  
Manchester Grand Hyatt  
San Diego, CA  
November 22 – 24, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Fleming on Sunday, November 22, at 9 a.m.

Present: George Retek #1, Paul Janicki #2, Joan Gerard #3, Craig Robinson #4, Sharon Fairchild #5, Nadine Wood #6, Bruce Reeve #7, Georgia Heth #8, Shirley Seals #9, David Siebert, First Alternate #10, Beth Reid #11, William Arlinghaus #12, Harriette Buckman #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Donald Mamula #19, Jeffrey Taylor #20, Bruce Blakely #21, Ken Monzingo #22, Rand Pinsky #23, Al Levy #24, and Richard DeMartino #25.

Absent: Bill Cook #10

Also

Present: Bob Heller, Director Elect #7, Suzi Subeck, Director Elect #13, Claire Jones Director Elect #18, Michael Kovacich, Chairman Board of Governors, Peter Rank, League Counsel, Jay Baum, CEO, Dee Wallace, CFO, Gary Blaiss, Butch Campbell, Vicki Campbell, Patricia Glover, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, Patty Tucker, and Kelley McGuire.

\* \* \* \* \*

The ACBL Board of Directors joined President Fleming in expressing his concern over the illnesses of board member Bill Cook and his wife Anne. Bill was not able to attend the meeting in order both to care for Anne and to deal with his own medical issues.

President Fleming then asked for a moment of silence for Cam Cameron, retired ACBL director and manager of special events in Memphis.

**Approval of Washington Minutes**

The Washington, DC minutes are approved with the following corrections:

Item 092-30 Preempt Pre-Alert Elimination

Eliminate the requirement to pre alert short (5-card weak 2's and 6-card 3-level pre-empts) and undisciplined (less than Q-high) pre-empts.

Item 092-35 Masterpoint Races effective date is January 1, 2010.

Carried.

### **Non Agenda**

Item 093-37: Limiting Special Games at Clubs is added to the agenda and referred to the Bridge Committee and, for input, to the Finance and Special Events Committees.

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)

### **Item 083-132: 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, 2010 through December 31, 2012:

George Retek, District 1; Sharon Fairchild, District 5; Bob Heller, District 7; Suzi Subeck, District 13; Phyllis Harlan, District 15; Claire Jones, District 18; Don Mamula, District 19; Rand Pinsky, District 23; Richard DeMartino, District 25.

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, 2010 through December 31, 2012:

Flo Belford, District 2; Glenda Calkins, District 3; Richard Popper, District 4; Tom Oppenheimer, District 8; Steve Gaynor, District 14; Chris Compton, District 16; Marion Robertson, District 21; Teri Atkinson, District 22.

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, 2010 through December 31, 2012:

Morrie Kleinplatz, District 2; Gerald Goodman, District 3; Raymond Raskin, District 4; Bob Cardeaux, District 8; W. G. Gus Doty, District 14; Al Lochli, District 16; Pat Thomas, District 21.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-183: WBF Representatives**

Al Levy and George Retek are elected as ACBL representatives to the World Bridge Federation for three-year terms, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012

Effective January 1, 2010

**Item 093-184: Pension Trustee**

Stan Subeck is elected as Pension Trustee for a four-year term January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2013.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried.

**Item 093-185: Executive Committee Eastern Zone Member and Alternate**

The Eastern Zone reported the election of Al Levy as its representative on the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012.

The Eastern Zone reported the election of Sharon Fairchild as its alternate representative on the Executive Committee for a three-year term, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried.

The Western Zone reported the election of Rand Pinsky as its alternate representative on the Executive Committee for the remaining term of Donald Mamula who is filling in the remaining term of Richard Anderson.

Effective immediately.

**Item 093-186: Honorary Member of the Year**

Warren Buffet and Bill Gates are jointly appointed as the 2010 Honorary Members of the year.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-187: Goodwill Member of the Year**

\_\_\_\_\_ is appointed as the 2010 Goodwill Member of the year. (To be announced at the Spring 2010 Goodwill meeting).

Effective January 1, 2010.

**Item 093-188: Volunteer Member of the Year**

Patricia Rasmus, District 5, and Bonnie Bagley, District 17 are jointly appointed as the 2010 Volunteer Members of the year.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-188: Goodwill Committee Chair**

Aileen Osofsky is appointed as the Goodwill Committee chair for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012.

Effective January 1, 2010

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-189: Ratification of Hall of Fame Committee**

Ralph Katz is appointed to the Hall of Fame Committee to fill the remainder of Amalya Kearsse's term.

Paul Lewis is appointed to the Hall of Fame Committee to fill the remainder of Zeke Jabbour's term.

Effective immediately.

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**Executive Session**

At approximately 10:40 a.m. the Board went into Executive Session.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Fleming on Monday, November 23, at 3 p.m.

Present: Same as Sunday, November 22

Absent: Same as Sunday, November 22

Also Present: Same as Sunday, November 22

<b>Appeals &amp; Charges</b>	
Heth (C), Anderson, D. (VC)	
Buckman, Fairchild, Gerard, Mamula, Pinsky, Reeve	Staff: Blaiss
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 093-01: Report on Hearings**

In the matter of the review of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee of Unit 123 regarding ACBL #9520287 (Steve Malone), the Appeals and Charges Committee upheld the committee’s process, finding and discipline

In the matter of the review of the Ethical Oversight Committee decision in the hearing of ACBL v ACBL #9027661 (Terje Aa), ACBL #4036808 (Geir Helgemo) and ACBL #8896631 (Jorgen Molberg), the Appeals and Charges Committee upheld the committee’s process, finding and discipline.

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The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Fleming on Tuesday, November 24, at 8 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, November 23

Absent: Same as Monday, November 23

Also Present: Same as Monday, November 23

**Item 093-190: Spring 2013 NABC**

Management's recommendation that the site for the 2013 Spring NABC be changed to the Renaissance/America's Center in St. Louis, MO March 14 - 24 is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-191: 2014 Spring NABC**

Management's recommendation for the site of the 2014 Spring NABC to the **TBA** in Dallas, TX March 20 – 31 is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-192: 2014 Fall NABC**

Management's recommendation for the site of the 2014 Fall NABC to the **TBA** in Providence, RI November 27 – December 7 is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried.       Nay: 1

**Item 093-193: 2015 Summer NABC**

Management's recommendation for the site of the 2015 Summer NABC to the **TBA** in Minneapolis, MN or Chicago, IL in July is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-194: 2015 Fall NABC**

Management's recommendation for the site of the 2015 Fall NABC to the **TBA** in Denver, CO November 26 – December 8 is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-195: 2016 Fall NABC**

Management’s recommendation for the site of the 2016 Fall NABC to the TBA in Orlando, FL November 24 – December 4 is approved.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-197: 2018 Spring NABC**

Management’s recommendation for the site of the 2018 Spring NABC to the TBA in Philadelphia, PA March 18 - 28 is approved pending local support.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-196: Education Status Report**

The Education status report was received.

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WBF President Gianarrigo Rona addressed the ACBL Board of Directors.

Fred Gitelman of Bridge Base Online Ltd addressed the ACBL Board of Directors.

<b>Insurance Committee</b>
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Retek (C) Pinsky

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

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The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Fleming on Tuesday, November 24, at 8 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, November 23

Absent: Same as Monday, November 23

Also Present: Same as Monday, November 23

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<b>Appeals &amp; Charges</b>	
Heth (C), Anderson, D. (VC)	
Buckman, Fairchild, Gerard, Mamula, Pinsky, Reeve	Staff: Blaiss
Committee Report by Chairman	

**APPENDIX B**

**ACBL DISCIPLINARY SANCTION GUIDELINES**

The following range of discipline for conduct and ethics violations is provided as a guide to a disciplinary committee not a mandate. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible infractions but rather to set forth examples. A committee may find that there has been a violation of the CDR for which there is no sanction guideline cited in this Appendix. In such cases, the committee is free to impose on a guilty defendant whatever punishment it deems is appropriate from options described in CDR Section 4. However, a disciplinary committee, which imposes a sanction which is outside the range recommended by these guidelines, must explain why it chose the sanction imposed. ***Part A of these guidelines is intended to apply to the typical case involving a single incident and a defendant who has no previous disciplinary record. If this is not the case, the committee must consider ~~read~~ Part B of these guidelines before deciding on an appropriate discipline.***

**Part A**

**CONDUCT**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE</b>
C1 Poor personal hygiene or dress (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation
C2 Rudeness in conversation, gesture, or general behavior (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension.
C3 Publicly belittle partner or opponent on bid or play (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension
C4 Influence or attempt to influence an entrant to withdraw from an event to improve one's likelihood of winning more masterpoints CDR 3.7 and 3.12)	Reprimand and or up to 90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension
C5 Harass or intimidate another player (CDR 3.7 and 3.11)	Reprimand and or up to 120 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension



C6	Harass or intimidate a tournament director, tournament official or an ACBL official (CDR 3.7 and 3.11)	180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
C7	Deliberately fail to follow instructions given by a tournament director or official, including leaving a session without permission of the tournament director or game director, egregious slow play or noncompliance with conditions of contest (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension
C8	Fail to notify an appropriate official in a timely manner of a score that one knows is incorrect (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
C9	Inappropriate comments (including but not limited to obscene comments) made publicly at an ACBL sanctioned event or activity (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 120 days Probation and or up to 90 days suspension
C10	Publicly accuse another player of unethical bridge behavior (CDR 3.4 and 3.7)	180 days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
C11	Threat of abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7)	1 year Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
C12	Abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7)	3 years Probation and or up to 2 years Suspension
C13	Knowingly submit false information or deliberately distort facts to an ACBL official or committee when E7 below does not apply (CDR 3.13)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
C14	Failure of Complainant to appear at hearing without cause (CDR 3.14)	90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension
C15	Appeal a decision from a disciplinary body with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
C16	Initiate disciplinary action against another player with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
C17	Initiate and maintain legal action against the ACBL, including a District or Unit, or an ACBL official or employee acting in his or her official capacity, without first exhausting administrative remedies (CDR 3.10)	1 year Suspension up to indefinite suspension pending reimbursement to ACBL of costs to ACBL to defend if the suit was unsuccessful
C18	Non-payment of sums owed ACBL, a unit or a district (CDR 3.9)	Indefinite Suspension. The body imposing the indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted

C19 Misappropriate ACBL, Unit or District Funds (CDR 3.18)	Indefinite suspension up to expulsion. The body imposing an indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted
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<b>ETHICS</b>	
<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE</b>
E1 Deliberately ask for or give information about a board in play after both parties have played it (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 60 days Probation.
E2 Give information about a board in play to a player who has not yet played the board (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	30 days Suspension to 1 year Suspension * #
E3 Unsportsmanlike, frivolous or frequent psyching (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	60 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension
E4 Play a convention, system, or treatment knowing it is illegal (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	90 days probation and or up to 60 days Suspension *
E5 Purposefully fail to disclose partnership agreements with intent to deceive (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension. *
E6 Bid or play with the specific intent to achieve a poor result on that hand (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	90 days Probation to 90 days Suspension *
E7 Intentionally: a. change a score, b. submit a false result of a hand, round or match , c. change or submit any information that could result in awarding incorrect masterpoints or d. enter an event for which you are not eligible (CDR 3.1, 3.7 and CDR 3.13)	1 to 3 year Probation and or up to 2 years Suspension *
E8 Accidentally gain access to information and then act on it (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	1 year Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension *
E9 Hesitate with an intent to deceive; use intonations and mannerisms that may deceive opponents or help partner (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	1 year Probation and or up 1 year Suspension *
E10 Deliberately try to see from where an opponent plays his cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	90 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension *
E11 Actively and deliberately try to see an opponent's cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension *
E12 Actively seek advance information about a board in play (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	2 years Suspension to Expulsion * #

E13	Prearrange a deal or part thereof including one card (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	2 years Suspension to Expulsion * #
E14	Intentionally gain access to hand records for an event prior to the event and enter and play in the event and or give the hand records or copies to another person prior to that person entering and playing in the event (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	Expulsion *
E15	Prearranged partnership collusion by means of signaling to exchange information (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	Expulsion *
E16	Playing in or being present in the playing area of an ACBL sanctioned event while serving a term of suspension (CDR 3.2 and 3.5)	Extension of the suspension to twice the original term to Expulsion * #
E17	Knowingly partnering or playing on a team with a person who is presently serving a suspension from ACBL or who is presently expelled from ACBL (CDR 3.2, 3.7 and 3.19)	1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
E18	Cheating and similar ethical violations not specifically cited by other sections of this Appendix (CDR 3.20)	90 days Suspension up to Expulsion * #
E19	Attempt to influence a decision of a disciplinary body outside of the hearing process(es) CDR 3.21	Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension.
E20	Discussion of the content of the hearing, other than the committee decision, outside the hearing room by a disciplinary body member with any party (whether a party to the hearing or not) CDR 3.22	Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension

\* If a committee imposes a suspension, then it should also disqualify the pair or team from the event. This will mean the pair or team will lose its place in the event, any masterpoints earned in the event and any other benefits it may have earned from playing in the event. Should this disqualification take place after the correction period for the event has expired, other pairs and teams do not move up - the place formerly held by the disqualified contestant (pair or team) remains vacant.

# If a committee imposes a suspension it is encouraged to also impose an appropriate term of probation following the term of suspension.

### **Part B**

There are three major reasons why the suggested guidelines in Part A might not be appropriate. First, the single violation might be either so slight or severe as to make the suggested sanction inappropriate. Second, the defendant might be convicted for several violations (such as a pattern of behavior). Third, the defendant might have a previous record.

1. When the defendant's single violation is either extremely slight or severe, the committee should apply its sound, unemotional judgment. For example, either the experience or mental intentions of the defendant might be a consideration. Please explain on the Hearing Report Form why the violation was considered atypical.
2. When the recommended sanction guidelines would not have the usual impact upon a guilty defendant, a committee may tailor the length of the discipline in order that the discipline will have the desired impact.
3. When the defendant is convicted of several violations, such as a pattern of behavior, the committee should impose a sanction as if each violation was a separate offense. The Committee should note the separate violations and/or explain the pattern.
4. When the defendant has a prior record, the sanction imposed for the previous offense is not particularly important. The number of prior convictions is important. The reason is that the defendant was already sanctioned for the specific prior violation(s). The committee should pay close attention to how the prior conviction(s) reflects on the defendant's ability to behave according to ACBL standards and explain on the Hearing Report Form the reasons for its decision relative to the offense or offenses for which the committee has to consider another sanction.

Examples:

1. A person convicted of accidentally gaining access to information and acting on it has one conviction for bad hygiene for which he or she received 30 days probation. Here the committee would probably disregard the prior conviction in making a decision to issue a sanction.
2. A person convicted of accidentally gaining access to information and acting on it has received 30 days probation for bad hygiene, 30 days probation for rude behavior, and 30 days suspension for a threat of violent behavior. In this case, the record indicates that this person has a history of violating ACBL regulations and the committee should increase the discipline above the maximum for the offense for which the player was convicted.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried.

**Item 093-03: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations**

- 1) The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) is amended to include the following:

3.20

*The remainder of this motion has been incorporated into 093-02.*

- 2) Appendix B Part A of the CDR is amended to include the following:

E15 Cheating and similar ethical violations not specifically covered by other sections in this Appendix.	3 month Suspension to Expulsion
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- 3) Appendix B of the CDR is amended as follows:

**ACBL DISCIPLINARY SANCTION GUIDELINES**

The following range of discipline for conduct and ethics violations is provided as a guide to a disciplinary committee not a mandate. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible infractions but rather to set forth examples. There is no requirement that committees must find a specific violation of an listed offense in Part A. Committees are free to reach their own determinations of offense and are not limited to those enumerated below. The committee is free to impose on a guilty defendant whatever punishment it deems is appropriate from options described in the CDR. However, a disciplinary committee, which imposes a sanction which is outside the range recommended by these guidelines, must explain why it chose the sanction imposed. **Part A** of these guidelines is intended to apply to the typical case involving a single incident and a defendant who has no previous disciplinary record. If this is not the case, the committee must read **Part B** of these guidelines before deciding on an appropriate discipline.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-05: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations**

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) is amended as follows:

3.21 Attempt to influence a decision of a disciplinary body outside of the hearing process(es).

3.22 Discussion of the content of the hearing, other than the committee decision, outside the hearing room by a disciplinary body member with any party (whether a party to the hearing or not).

E19 Attempt to influence a decision of a disciplinary body outside of the hearing process(es). CDR 3.21	Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension.
E20 Discussion of the content of the hearing, other than the committee decision, outside the hearing room by a disciplinary body member with any party (whether a party to the hearing or not). CDR 3.22	Reprimand and or up to 2 years Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension.

7.7.2 Be represented at the hearing by another person who shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors. The person charged may be represented by an attorney outside the hearing room.

Appendix A

III C

1. ....
2. ....
3. Once the committee has made a decision which has been communicated to the parties and other notifications have been distributed, the committee members may relate the findings and discipline imposed. A committee member may not discuss the committee's deliberations. See CDR 3.22.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried.      Nay: 24

<b>Audit</b>
Retek (C) Pinsky, Reid

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 093-10: Ratification of Audit Firm**

The firm of Watkins Uiberall, Certified Public Accountants is approved as the audit firm of the ACBL for the 2010 year.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Board Operations**

Levy (C), Taylor (VC)

Arlinghaus, Blakely, Gerard, Heth, Reid, Robinson, Seals

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 093-20: Section 3 – WBF Representatives**

Section 3 - WBF Representatives is amended as follows:

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 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 for each day of reimbursed lodging plus two days. The ACBL Board will consider paying a higher per diem to the 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 opening ceremony 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 a less expensive air ticket in order to achieve overall savings.

WBF representatives, whether ACBL Board members or not, are expected to attend all regular WBF meetings held during the seven (7) days for which their hotel is reimbursed per 3.3 above, starting with the first meeting, and any special meetings called by the WBF President during that time period. In addition, WBF representatives are expected to attend WBF committee meetings of which they are members during that seven-day period. Failure to do so will result in a reduction in the amount of expense reimbursement allowed, unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as illnesses, as determined by the ACBL Treasurer.

Should a WBF representative be unable to attend WBF meetings, the President of the ACBL will serve as alternate. In the event that the President is himself a WBF representative or cannot attend, he will designate another member of the ACBL Board of Directors as alternate.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried.          Nay: 6          Abstain: 16

**Item 093-21: Election of ACBL President**

The election for the office of ACBL President will be held at the Fall meeting.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 4, 7, 8, 9, 21, 24.

<b>Bridge</b>	
Wood (C), Robinson (VC) Arlinghaus, Blakely, DeMartino, Gerard, Janicki, Levy, Mamula, Pinsky, Reeve, Retek	Staff: Campbell B.
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 093-30: Special Games at Clubs**

The masterpoint rating of the following Special Games at Clubs be changed from 100% sectional-rated black points to 90% sectional-rated black points: Club Charity Games, Club Junior Fund Games, Club International Fund Games, Club Educational Foundation Games, and Club GNT Fund Raiser Games

Deferred to the Spring 2010 meeting.

Carried. Nay: 5, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 22.

**Item 093-31: Trophy Assignments**

Part A: The following trophy assignments are made:

<b><i>SUMMER Bridge Events</i></b>	<b><i>Trophy Name</i></b>	<b><i>Original Trophy Name</i></b>
*GNT – Championship Flt	Morehead	Morehead
GNT – Open Flight A	Goldman (Bobby)	Coffin
Fast Open Pairs		
Open Swiss	Roth	Rothschild
<b><i>FALL Events</i></b>	<b><i>Trophy Name</i></b>	<b><i>Original Trophy Name</i></b>
Senior KO Teams	Baze	
Non-LM Pairs	Manfield	Miles
<b><i>Names assigned, need trophies reassignment</i></b>	<b><i>Trophy Name</i></b>	<b><i>Trophy</i></b>
Mini LM Pairs (LM 0-5000)	Bruce	Marcus
Mini LM Pairs (LM 0-1500)	Young	Kem Card



\*This trophy was given to the Grand National Teams winner. When the Flight B was added it was given to the Flight A or top-flight winner. When the 0-5000 flight was added and given the name Flight A, the trophy should have gone with the championship or top flight. This should be corrected now.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 093-32: NABC Bracketed Knockout Teams**

The “Mini-Spingolds” be converted into a “Bracketed KO” of 32 team brackets playing full day matches. The events would then run five days in total and all players in the event would have finished in time to play in the second weekend Swiss. I believe that this would be attractive both at the higher MP end of the field for people who want to play a quality KO event without “butting their heads” against the top end of the Spingold field on the first or second day and in particular at the lower end of the field where as we know many players prefer to play against their “peers”.

#### **Proposed Conditions:**

**Entry:** Entry would be open to teams of four, five or six players none of whom may have more than (7500) masterpoints. *Alternative: Entry is open; another possibility would be to limit the masterpoints of the top four players to, say, 36,000 to minimize professional entry.*

**Bracketing:** Teams will be ranked in order of average masterpoints. The top 32 teams will form Bracket 1, the next 32 Bracket 2, and so forth. Adjustments to bracket size will be made in the lowest bracket(s) such that no bracket has fewer than 24 teams. *Additional idea: Teams may indicate on their entry their desire to “play up” or their willingness to “play down”. Only teams in the bottom third of their bracket will be permitted to play down. No team may be moved up or down more than one bracket.*

**Seeding:** Teams will be seeded in each bracket in order of team masterpoints. Team masterpoints are the total masterpoints of all members of the team times four and divided by the number of players on the team.

**Match lengths:** In any bracket where the team masterpoints of the top seeded team is 6000 or more, matches will be 56 boards, In brackets where the team masterpoints of the top seeded team is less than 6000, match lengths will be 48 boards.

**Masterpoint Awards:** Masterpoint awards would be calculated similarly to the awards in any bracketed team event with the following adjustments:

- i) The bracket size factor would be the square root of the number of teams in the bracket divided by 16. Thus a 32 team bracket would have a factor of 1.414... (square root of 32/16.)
- ii) The strength factor would be based on the team masterpoints of the top eight teams in the bracket. (Rationale: the top eight teams represent the difficulty of winning two matches and thus getting overall awards.)
- iii) The Match length factor would be 1.5

**Pigmentation:** In any bracket where the top seeded team has 15,000 or more MP, the overall awards would be platinum. In brackets where the top seeded team has between 6,000 and 15,000 MP the overall awards would be gold. In brackets where the top seed has fewer than 6,000 MP the overall awards would be half gold and half red. In all cases match awards would be half gold and half red.

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 4, 9, 14, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24

**Item 093-33: Additional Strats and Flights in Bridge Events**

At sponsor option, in club games or tournaments, the allowable number of strats in a stratified event be increased from three to five, and that the allowable number of flights in a flighted event be increased from three to four (or five).

Motion failed. Aye: 5, 9, 10, 11, 17, 19, 22

**Item 093-34: Restricting Online Masterpoints Toward Rank Advancement**

The restriction “No more than 1/3 of the masterpoints that are needed to establish ACBL status level can be from online play” is removed.

Motion failed. Aye: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 14, 16, 18, 22, 23, 24

**Item 093-35: Modifications to KO Formulas for Inflation**

The factors used for computing masterpoints for KOs are changed as follows:

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

Bracket Team Average Masterpoints (AVG MP)	Computed Award	Comments
< 500	6.00	
500 - 1000	$6 + 5 (AVG MP - 500) / 500$	
1000 - 5000	$11 + 10 (AVG MP - 1000) / 4000$	Fixed Award = 11 at 1000
5000 - 10000	$21 + 7 (AVG MP - 5000) / 5000$	Fixed Award = 21 at 5000

10000 - 25000	28 + 18 (AVG MP -10000) / 15000	Fixed Award = 28 at 10000
25000 - 44000	46 + 19 (AVG MP -25000) / 15000	Fixed Award = 46 at 25000
<b>44000 +</b>	65.00	

Avg MP Per Team = 4 x Team Masterpoints / # of Players on Team (Maximum per team = **45,000**)

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

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-37: Limiting Special Games at Clubs**

The regulations on Special Games at Clubs (042-139) (072-56) be amended as follows:

3. Once a month, any ACBL sanctioned club session 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, and in those months (February, April and September), all ACBL sanctioned games may be special games.
4. ...will be 80% Sectional Black points.

Deferred to the Spring 2010 meeting.

Carried. Nay: 5, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22

**Bylaws/Compliance**

Mamula (C), Wood (VC)  
 Anderson, S., Heth, Monzingo, Mamula, L., (BOG Appointee) Staff: Blaiss/Miller  
 Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**International/Federations**

Arlinghaus (C), Retek (VC)  
Anderson, D., DeMartino, Gerard, Heth, Levy,  
Reid, Robinson, Wood

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**Internet Bridge**

Levy (C), Arlinghaus (VC)  
Anderson, S., Blakely, Janicki, Monzingo, Taylor, Wood

Staff: Campbell, B.

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**CEO Review**

Gerard (C),  
Anderson, Reeve, Fairchild, Pinsky, Heth, Mamula

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**Conditions of Contest**

Arlinghaus (C), Gerard (VC)  
Blakely, Harlan, Janicki, Reeve, Wood

Staff: Campbell, B.

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 093-55: NAP Conditions of Contest**

Effective with the 2011-2012 North American Pairs, Flight B will be raised to 0-2500 Masterpoints.

Motion failed.           Aye: 3, 4, 10, 11, 13, 16, 20, 21, 23, 25

**Item 093-56: Rule Clarification for Bracketed Swiss Teams**

The following wording be added to the Masterpoint Manual (Page 12) to clarify our rules for computing masterpoints for Bracketed Swiss Team events where there is a separate game for the A (or A/X) players:

For Flighted-Bracketed RR events, the A flight is treated as though the event is a stratiflighted Swiss team event. An X stratum is treated as described for other

stratiflighted events. The top bracket of the B flight is considered the second bracket for purposes of counting tables in brackets below, etc., regardless of whether or not an X stratum exists in the A flight.

(An A flight may not be further sub-bracketed, nor may the top bracket of a bracketed event, even when open to entry by request.)

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-57: Handicap Restriction**

Items 881-71 and 951-48 are amended as follows:

- A. . . . .
- B. . . . .

For purposes of handicapping, no team whose average masterpoint holding is greater than 5000 per member will receive any handicap. For purposes of giving handicaps, two options are possible:

- 1) (DEFAULT) A team with greater than 5000 point per member average will continue to give handicaps to teams with less than 5000 average on the basis of their actual average.
- 2) (SPONSOR OPTION) For all handicap purposes, once a team achieves an average of at least 5000 points per member, its average is 5000.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

<b>Marketing</b>	
Harlan (C), Blakely (VC)	
Anderson, S., Buckman, Cook, Fairchild, Seals, Taylor	Staff: Campbell, V.

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

<b>Finance</b>	
Robinson (C), DeMartino (VC)	
Cook, Harlan, Mamula, Reid, Retek, Seals	Staff: Glover

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 093-65: 2010 Budget**

- A. A preliminary 2010 budget indicating a projected loss of \$65,310 is approved.

Carried.       Nay: 6, 7, 17, 21,22

- B. The budget for a calendar year will be finalized no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>, approved by the Finance Committee, and then presented to the full Board for ratification at the Spring Board meeting.

Carried.       Nay: 7

**Item 093-66: ACBL Investments Policy**

Items 952-11, 863-121, 782-35 and 742-101 are amended as follows:

ACBL Management is encouraged to maximize the yield on its liquid assets by keeping its cash in bank balance to a minimum workable amount and shall be permitted to invest in the following securities whose maturities do not exceed five years from date of acquisition:

- (a)       .....
- (b)       .....
- (c)       Federally Insured Deposits:
  - (1)       .....
  - (2)       Certificates of Deposit of U.S. financial institutions up to, but not to exceed, 95% of the current Insurance Coverage Limit for each financial institution.
  - (3)       .....
  - (4)       Certificates of Deposits of Canadian financial institutions up to, but not to exceed, 95% of the current Insurance Coverage Limit for each financial institution.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-68: Short Games Table Fee**

Short game table fees are increased from \$.40 to \$.46 per table.

Effective April 1, 2010.

Carried.       Nay: 7

**Item 093-69: Membership Dues Increase**

Membership dues are increased from \$35 to \$37. Life master service charges are \$32 to \$34. Household membership dues are increased from \$64 to \$68. Junior membership dues are increased \$14 to \$15. New member membership dues are increased \$26 to \$28. Three-year renewals of all of the above are increased by \$6.00.

Effective April 1, 2010.

The “new member” membership increase is effective January 1, 2011.

Carried. Nay: 7, 21, 22

**Item 093-70: TD Sessions Fees**

TD session fees are increased by 8%.

Nat TD	\$155	\$167.40
Assoc TD	\$155	\$167.40
TD	\$145	\$156.60
ATD	\$115	\$124.20
Local	\$ 92.35	\$ 99.70

Effective March 29, 2010

Carried. Nay: 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24

<b>Governance</b>	
Seals (C), Cook (VC) Anderson, D., Anderson, S., Buckman, Fairchild, Harlan, Heth, Monzingo, Reid, Taylor	Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 093-75: Club Review**

A Management / Board committee will be formed to examine and suggest changes to the relationship of clubs and Management:

- Regarding members’ complaints about actions of the club directors and managers.
- Regarding payment of monies due the League from Clubs.
- Regarding recognizing club directors who have directed X number of games much like our recognition of players
- Regarding club managers and directors who attend classes to brush up on skills or learn new skills.

An interim report will be due at the Fall meeting of 2009 and a final report due with the Spring meeting 2010.

This committee should include non-Board members as well as Board and Management members.

Motion failed. Aye: 3, 7

**Item 093-76: Additional Restrictions for a Member Not in Good Standing**

The definition of a Member in Good Standing (962-04, 973-13 and 052-02) is amended as follows:

An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member's dues, if dues *are* 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:

- a. Serve in any elected or appointed position in ACBL.
- b. Receive any subsidy from ACBL.
- c. Participate in and receive recognition for achievement in masterpoint races.
- d. Receive recognition for achievement in masterpoint rankings on the ACBL web site or in its official publication.
- e. Have an article published on the ACBL web site or in its official publication.

Effective for Members who lose their “member in good standing” status on or after December 1, 2009.

Carried. Nay: 12



**Item 093-78: Transfer of Colfax County in NM**

Colfax County in New Mexico is transferred to Unit 381 from Unit 383. Both units are located in District 17.

Effective as soon as can be implemented.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-79: Administrative Guidelines for ACBL Club Games and ACBL Club Director Accreditations**

Item 072-60 Sanctions for ACBL Games at Clubs and ACBL Club Director Accreditations is amended as follows:

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. Either of the following shall constitute “cause” for cancellation or suspension:
      - a) operation of a club out of compliance with ACBL regulations
      - b) unsuitable club venue
- 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. Either of the following shall constitute “cause” for cancellation of accreditation:
    - a) direction of a club game out of compliance with ACBL regulation
    - b) unsuitable club venue.

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.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-80: National Appeals Committee**

The honorarium given to members of National Appeals Committees per appeal heard shall be a one-session entry (inclusive of any surcharges) excluding entries for Foundation games.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 22

<b>Real Estate</b>	
Reeve (C), Cook (VC)	
Buckman, Harlan, Mamula, Pinsky, Wood	Staff: Baum
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given.

<b>Special Events</b>	
Cook (C), Buckman (VC)	
Anderson, D., Anderson, S., Blakely, DeMartino, Gerard Monzingo, Retek, Robinson	Staff: Robertson
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 093-140: Beginner, Newcomer Games**

The minimum number of boards required for a Newcomer Game is reduced to six.

Chapter 4 of the *ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations* is amended as follows:

**III. NEWCOMER GAMES**

A newcomer game is limited to players who hold fewer than 20 masterpoints, although a club can set a lower maximum, such as 1 masterpoint, if it so desires.

A newcomer game is conducted to acquaint new players with duplicate bridge and to encourage participation by inexperienced players.

A newcomer game must consist of at least two and one-half tables. However, there are masterpoint awards for two-table newcomer games conducted as individuals or team games.  
**AT LEAST SIX BOARDS MUST BE PLAYED.**

Any club with a sanctioned game may conduct a newcomer game session. The game session may be run any time, even if another regular club game session is running

concurrently. However, the club must list the newcomer game session on the sanction application and the monthly report.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-141: NAP Flight A Event**

Add a flight A to the North American Pairs event with a masterpoint range of 0-5000. Change the name of the flight for players over 5000 masterpoints to Championship Flight.

Effective June 1, 2010.

Motion failed. Aye: 5, 9, 17, 21, 22, 23

<b>Tournament</b>	
Retek (C), DeMartino (VC)	
Anderson, D., Arlinghaus, Gerard, Janicki,	
Monzingo, Seals, Taylor, Wood	Staff: Campbell, B.
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 093-160: Rescinding Resolutions**

Player Agreement Upon Entering ACBL Contests (792-83) and Equality of Playing Conditions for All Players (713-71) are rescinded.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-161: NABC Event Schedule**

Item 042-123 NABC Event Schedule is amended as follows:

E. A six-session (two qualifying sessions, two semifinal sessions and two final sessions) Mini-Blue Ribbon (for players with a Blue Ribbon qualification with no more than 5000 masterpoints) will be added to the Fall NABC to run concurrently with the Blue Ribbon Pairs.

Effective January 1, 2010.

Carried unanimously.

**Item 093-162: Amendments to General Conditions of Contest**

The ACBL General Conditions of Contest are amended as follows:

ENTRY AND PARTICIPATION

1. ....

.....

5. Each contestant agrees that all, or portions, of the event may be filmed, recorded or otherwise documented or publicized at the discretion of the ACBL, and that this documentation may be used without charge by any news medium or the ACBL. Contestants may at times be required to play on Vugraph. Each contestant consents to participate in publicity photo sessions and/or have his photograph taken to publicize the contestant's standing in the event.

6. The playing conditions at all tournaments shall be substantially equal for all players in one event insofar as possible given space and other considerations.

7. When exiting the room or on an errand within the room, a player must avoid wandering about within the room.

8. Tournament directors shall make every reasonable effort to accommodate players with special needs (such as, but not limited to, players with physical disabilities). The Director-in-Charge (DIC) shall, in his opinion, ensure that no such accommodation provides a special advantage to such a player or significantly impedes the orderly progress of the event. Tournament directors in providing an accommodation must do so in a manner that is reasonably consistent with the intent of the conditions of contest for the event. Except for minor accommodations (e.g. stationary positions), the DIC of the tournament or event must be notified in advance in order to ensure that an accommodation can be provided.

9. Playing Cards.

ACBL playing cards use the traditional playing card design. Any deck in which the faces of the cards do not significantly differ from the ACBL deck may be approved for use by the DIC of the tournament.

Use of specially designed cards (to accommodate players with a disability), which do not approximate the design of ACBL or similar traditional playing cards, must be approved by ACBL Management. Management will determine if and how these alternate decks can be used in order to insure that other participants are not placed at an unreasonable disadvantage.

Decks which have received prior approval are: Braille cards which have traditional-type faces, jumbo decks which have altered the traditional design by enlarging all pips, numbers and letters or those which use a single large, traditional marking in the center of each card. Other decks which vary from

traditional markings and or colors must be submitted to ACBL (attention: Tournament Department) for approval at least 30 days prior to intended use.

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 093-163: Event Eligibility**

A current member's eligibility for participation in an ACBL-sanctioned event is determined by his masterpoint total (including eligibility points) as of the monthly cycle (run at midnight on the 6th of each month) prior to the start of the event or for a tournament the start of the tournament (excluding events which are set per their conditions of contest).

Effective immediately.

Carried unanimously.

### **Item 093-164: Electronic Device Policy**

The electronic device policy is revised as follows:

1. The following policy applies to all NABC+ rated events at NABCs.

Electronic devices, including but not limited to, phones, cameras, PDAs, and others capable of sending or receiving electronic communication are excluded from the playing areas during any session of play. This does not apply to health related equipment.

2. The following applies to all events at an NABC other than a NABC+ rated event.

Except for health-related equipment, or by permission of the Director-in-Charge of the tournament cell phones, audible pagers or similar equipment may not be operated or operable in any manner in the playing area during a session of play. Any such equipment must not be visible during the session. Sponsoring organizations of other ACBL-sanctioned events are encouraged to adopt a similar policy.

3. These restrictions in numbers 1 and 2 above apply to all pairs, team members, captains, coaches, play recorders except those designated by ACBL and kibitzers and are in force throughout any actual playing session or segment of play.

4. A violation of any of the restrictions in numbers 1 and 2 above will result in a disciplinary penalty of one full board (12 IMPs at that form of scoring) for the first offense. A second offense will result in disqualification from the event for the pair / team. Kibitzers violating this policy will be removed from the playing area for the remainder of the session.

Effective immediately.

Carried. Nay: 12

### **Technology**

DeMartino (C ) Levy (VC)  
Arlinghaus, Blakely, Pinsky, Robinson

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Board of Governors Meeting Conflict**

An exception to the rule (082-22) denying reimbursement to a Board Member of three additional hotel nights and per diem for the period between the end of the Board Meeting and the Board of Governors Meeting should he be entered in an event that conflicts with the BOG Meeting is hereby granted to those Board Members entered in the Fall 2009 Senior KOs PROVIDED that payments pursuant to this exception shall be made only to those Senior KO entrants who attend the BOG Meeting in its entirety.

Carried. Nay: 14, 19 Recused: 10, 18, 25

\* \* \* \* \*

The ACBL Board of Directors adjourned its meeting and reconvened as the ACBL Charity Foundation.

### **Charity Foundation Membership Meeting**

The membership meeting of the Charity Foundation convened.

The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Fairchild.

The Treasurer's report was received.

Election:

Phyllis Harlan declared her candidacy for Trustee. There being no other declarations or nominations. Mrs. Harlan was elected to serve a four-year term, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2013.

\* \* \* \* \*

The ACBL Charity Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors reconvened as the ACBL Educational Foundation.

### **Educational Foundation Membership Meeting**

The membership meeting of the Educational Foundation convened.

The meeting was called to order by Bill Arlinghaus, President.

Elections:

Rand Pinsky declared his candidacy for Trustee. There being no other declarations or nominations. Mr. Pinsky was elected to serve a three-year term, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012.

Joan Anderson, Eugene Kales, Dewitt Hudson, Rosalind Hack and Linda Mamula declared their candidacies for Trustees. By secret ballot Joan Anderson and Linda Mamula were elected to serve three-year terms, January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Educational Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors reconvened.

\* \* \* \* \*

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 22 and its units, District Director and Tournament Co-Chairman Ken Monzingo and Co-Chair Bonnie Bagley all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Manchester Grand Hyatt for its fine cooperation.

\* \* \* \* \*

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 6:36 p.m.