

## Internet Committee Report

Toronto, 2011

Levy (C), Jones (VC), Arlinghaus, Blakely, Monzingo, Vilhauer

### State of affairs on sanctioned online play

Sanctioned online play continues to rise. The average monthly table count for the first six-month period of 2011 is 66,880, up 9.9% from the previous six-month period. Robot play was introduced at Bridge Base Online (BBO) in July, 2009. Play at BBO increased by 30% over the following six-month period. Since then, the trend in online play has been an increase of approximately 7.4% per six-month period. BBO accounts for the majority of sanctioned online tables and the entire growth. For the first six months of 2011 the breakdown of the 66,880 tables per month is BBO at 54,500, OKbridge at 11,100 and Swan Bridge at 1,280.

Income from sanctioned play for the first six months of 2011 is \$170,250. The fees are \$1.25 per game and \$0.46 per table with a reduction for monthly volume (from 2% after 5,000 tables to 10% after 12,000).

### Sanction Online Tables

	January - June	July - December	Total
2005			212,950
2006			238,850 (+12.2%)
2007			335,975 (+40.7%)
2008			470,850 (+40.1%)
2009	260,050	324,625*(+24.8%)	584,675 (+24.2%)
2010	348,125 (+6.9%)	365,000 (+4.8%)	713,125 (+22.0%)
2011	401,210 (+9.9%)		

\*Beginning of robot play

### Online games on BridgeBase Online

12-board game	avg. tables	std. deviation	max. award*	avg. mps awarded*
Robot Individual	35.3	11.0	1.20	0.2
Individual	9.0	2.7	1.20	0.1
Speedball	65.8	30.1	2.00	0.3

\*would be reduced by 25% under new mp schedule

Some statistics for sanctioned online games:

10% (16,200+) of our current members have played online. In 2010, 10,750 members played online. 7,800 won less than 50 masterpoints online and 68 won over 500 masterpoints online. The top 50 online masterpoint winners averaged 872 masterpoints online, compared to the top 50 club masterpoint winners, who averaged 450 masterpoints at clubs.

1,690 members won online mps only. 56,500 won face-to-face club mps only. 320 foreign players from 58 countries from outside North America are current ACBL members who have won online masterpoints. Of those, 125 have won all their masterpoints online.

The committee suggested that consideration be given to increasing the maximum table count that counts toward masterpoint awards, currently at 25 for overall awards.

The committee suggests that consideration be given to removing (or modifying) the 1/3 online masterpoint restriction for rank advancement (only 1/3 of the masterpoints required for rank advancement can come from online play).