

**ACBL Board of Directors
Toronto, ON
July 19 - 22, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Heller on Wednesday 19, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Leo Weniger #1, Paul Janicki #2, Carlos Muñoz #3, Joann Glasson #4, Sharon Fairchild #5, Margot Hennings #6, Bob Heller #7, Georgia Heth #8, Jay Whipple #9, Russ Jones #10, AJ Stephani #11, Dennis Carman #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Paul Cuneo #16, Bonnie Bagley #17, Claire Jones #18, Marv Norden #19, Merlin Vilhauer #20, Roger Smith #21, Ken Monzingo #22, Kevin Lane #23, Al Levy #24 and Mark Aquino #25.

Also Present: Richard Popper, Chairman Board of Governors, Bahar Gidwani, CEO, Robert Hartman, Joe Jones, Mitchell Hodus, Linda Dunn, Dan Storch, Carol Robertson, Gary Blevins, Brian Weikle, Nancy Boyd, Sol Weinstein, Sabrina Goley, Howard Weinstein and Kelley Trejo, Secretary.

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Approval of Kansas City, MO Minutes

The Spring 2017 Kansas City. MO minutes are approved.

Carried

Approval of Non Agenda Item

Daylong Robot Tournaments (163-34) is assigned to Bridge Committee.

Approval of Reconsideration Item(s)

There were no reconsideration items.

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The Board went into Executive Session from 8:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 10:00 a.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

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Approval of Site Selection

The ACBL Board of Directors approves the Fall 2022 NABC to be held at the Phoenix Convention Center and the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix, AZ on November 24 – December 4, 2022.

Carried unanimously

The ACBL Board of Directors approves the Summer 2023 NABC to be held at the Sheraton Grand Chicago, IL on July 13 – July 23, 2023.

Carried unanimously

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The Board went into Executive Session from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session the Board of Directors resumed in open session at 2:00 p.m.

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The meeting was called to order by Bob Heller on Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19

Also Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19 additional, Barbara Heller, David Lodge, David Rodney, Meyer Kotkin, Jan Martel, Nadar Hanna, Yves Audrey, Marty Fleisher, Stan Subeck, Stephanie Threlkeld and Sol Weinstein.

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The Board went into Executive Session from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session the Board of Directors resumed in open session at 3:45 p.m.

APPEALS & CHARGES COMMITTEE
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Heth (C)

Carman, Fairchild, Harlan, Hennings, Stephani, Vilhauer

Staff: Dunn

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 172-01: Report on Hearings

In the Matter of David Luzatto, M508181, the decision of the original hearing committee was upheld.

In the Matter of John Zilic, M030982, the decision of the original disciplinary body was upheld.

In the Matter of Jeff Cathrall, N786088, the decision of the original disciplinary body was upheld.

Carried unanimously

Item 172-02: Anti-Cheating Commission

The Anti-Cheating Commission is hereby approved as a non-Board committee. The following is added to Codification Chapter IV. D. Section 5 – Other ACBL Bodies:

5.11 Anti-Cheating Commission

The Anti-Cheating Commission shall address the issue of collusive cheating and/or other serious ethical violations as follows:

- 5.11.1 The purpose of the Anti-Cheating Commission shall be to deter, detect and, at the discretion of ACBL Management, assist in the prosecution of collusive cheating or other serious ethical violations.
- 5.11.2 The ACBL National Recorder may submit evidence or player memos to the Anti-Cheating Commission for evaluation or recommendation. The National Recorder will regularly provide any relevant player memos regarding ethical violations or other serious ethical violations or other evidence to the Anti-Cheating Commission. The Anti-Cheating Commission may utilize additional experts as needed. The committee shall provide a copy of any evidence that it develops (or receives from experts) to the ACBL National Recorder.
- 5.11.3 The Anti-Cheating Commission is charged with evaluating player memos and any other relevant evidence of unethical conduct in conjunction with the Office of National Recorder. As needed, the committee may investigate, utilizing any tools it has available, with or without the National Recorder, any situation where collusive cheating or other serious ethical violation is suspected. Among other things, the committee is tasked with developing investigatory protocols and statistical models to examine past practices that may uncover illegal methods of partnership communication.
- 5.11.4 The Anti-Cheating Commission may investigate any situation where collusive cheating or other serious ethical violation is or may be reasonably suspected. The investigative team assembled by the Anti-Cheating Commission may engage experts in any field to assist the investigation. The committee must notify the ACBL National Recorder in writing prior to commencing any formal investigation. Any expenditure must be approved by the ACBL National Recorder.
- 5.11.5 All Anti-Cheating Commission opinions will be provided to the ACBL National Recorder in writing. Based upon its recommendation, the National Recorder (or a designee) may take a complaint to ACBL management alleging collusive cheating or other serious ethical violations against any one or more ACBL members (or non-member participating in an ACBL sanctioned event). Decisions regarding

filing formal complaints against specific players shall be at the sole discretion of the ACBL as provided in the CDR.

- 5.11.6 The Anti-Cheating Commission shall consist of at least five (5) members but no more than nine (9) members. All members will be appointed by the ACBL Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) in consultation with the then Anti-Cheating Commission chairman. They should be bridge players of the highest caliber with a long history of success in NABC+ events who are above ethical reproach. At least two of the members must be located outside North America. The National Recorder shall be an *ex officio* non-voting member of the committee and shall not be counted in assessing the five (5)-member requirement.
- 5.11.7 Each member shall serve in staggered three-year terms, except that during the first year of appointments the ACBL CEO may assign members to a term of fewer than three (3) to allow for such staggered terms.
- 5.11.8 The activities of the Anti-Cheating Commission are highly confidential. Accordingly, each member must sign a non-disclosure agreement with the ACBL prior to beginning service on the committee.
- 5.11.9 The Anti-Cheating Commission shall elect a chairman from among its members by a simple majority vote. The chairman may not serve more than three (3) consecutive one-year terms as chairman.
- 5.11.10 Anti-Cheating Commission members will be appointed and confirmed at the Spring NABC. Their term of office will begin one day following the end of the Spring NABC and will expire on the day following the appropriate subsequent Spring NABC.
- 5.11.11 Members of the Anti-Cheating Commission may be removed without cause by the ACBL CEO. In addition, the ACBL CEO and the Anti-Cheating Commission chairperson may call a meeting of the Anti-Cheating Commission and, by majority vote, remove a member of the committee.
- 5.11.12 If a member of the committee is unable to serve his or her entire term for any reason, the ACBL CEO may choose to fill the vacancy. The newly appointed member will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
- 5.11.13 The members of the Anti-Cheating Commission will be compensated in the value of a two-session entry into a NABC+ event for each day the committee meets at a NABC.

Effective August 1, 2017

Carried unanimously

Item 172-03: CDR Section 5.1.12 Workplace Harassment

The Workplace Harassment policy shall be amended to include the following language at the end of the first paragraph:

This policy shall also be applied to allegations of sexual harassment against unit and district tournament volunteers as set forth in section 5.1.12 of the Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 172-04: Code of Disciplinary Regulations

The current Code of Disciplinary Regulations shall be replaced by the attached document.
<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/CDR82017.pdf>

Effective August 1, 2017
Carried Abstain 4

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The meeting was called to order by Bob Heller on Friday, July 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19

Also Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19

TOURNAMENT TASK FORCE	
Hennings (C) Aquino, Carman, Cuneo, Lane, Whipple, Misslin, Rodney Consultant: Grove	Staff: Weikle

As reported by Committee Chair

An oral report was given.

FINANCE COMMITTEE	
Monzingo (C), Glasson (VC) Bagley, Cuneo, Jones C., Muñoz, Norden, Whipple	Staff: Jones, J.

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 172-12: Structural Changes

When significant structural changes are proposed to the Board of Directors, the Finance Committee will analyze and present alternatives for discussion along with their recommendation.

Effective immediately
Motion failed Aye 1, 2, 13, 16, 24

Item 172-24: Codification Chapter II, Section A

Chapter II – Business Management Section A. Finance is amended as follows:

Section 8 – Bank Line of Credit

Management is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Bank of America to establish a line of credit in the amount of \$2,000,000. Line of Credit borrowing requires the approval of the CEO, CFO, and Board Treasurer.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	
Anderson (C), Hennings (VC)	
Cuneo, Fairchild, Glasson, Harlan, Lane, Muñoz	Staff: Trejo
As reported by Committee Chair	

Item 172-16: Malta Unit 415 and Eastern Montana Unit 416 Dissolved

The Malta Unit 415 and the Eastern Montana Unit 416 in District 18 is dissolved.
The geographic area in Malta Unit 415 is reassigned to Billings Unit 404.

The geographic area in Eastern Montana Unit 416 is reassigned to Billings Unit 404.

The 16 Members in Malta Unit 415 and 12 Members in Eastern Montana Unit 416 is reassigned to the new Units in which they reside.

Effective August 1, 2017
Carried unanimously

Item 172-17: Roswell Unit 382 Dissolved

The Roswell Unit 382 District 17 in New Mexico is dissolved, and its geographic area is reassigned to two adjacent ACBL Units. Quay, Curry and De Baca Counties will merge with Albuquerque Unit 374. Roosevelt and Chaves Counties will merge with Carlsbad Unit 376. The 21 ACBL members of Unit 382 is reassigned to the new Units in which they reside.

Effective August 1, 2017
Carried unanimously

Item 172-18: Relocation and Rescheduling of BOD Meetings

Chapter IV – Board Procedures, C. Meetings be amended as follows:

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

Starting in 2020, the Board of Directors will meet prior to the Summer NABCs at the site of the NABC. The Board will also meet in January at a location near to the site of ACBL HQ.

Effective January 1, 2020
Motion failed Aye 10, 11, 25

NABC REVIEW	
Bagley (C) Aquino, Glasson, Hennings, Subeck, Sullivan(nv)	Staff: Sullivan
As reported by Committee Chair	

Item 172-20: Codification Chapter VIII, D. Section II

Chapter VIII – North American Bridge Championship, D. Events / Schedules, be amended as follows:

Section II – Other Events at an NABC

- 2.1 Regional events at NABCs will be treated as though they are being held at a regional tournament.
- 2.2 The regional-rated schedule and conditions at NABCs will be set by management after discussion with and input from the local organization. For example, reasonable suggestions of scoring method in Swiss Team events, selection of VP scale and length of KO matches.
- 2.3 On the first session of the first day of each NABC, there will be a one-session regional-rated red point event and a two-session regional-rated team event for the benefit of the

International Fund. Proceeds shall be determined by subtracting actual expenses from revenues. A surcharge of \$1.00 will be made. The 2nd session of the team event will have a \$1 surcharge which will benefit the ACBL Educational Foundation.

- 2.4 A regional-rated knockout team game, held in conjunction with the regular Thursday night Educational Foundation game, shall be added to the schedule for each NABC. Proceeds from the first session only shall benefit the ACBL Educational Foundation.
- 2.5 Management is authorized to set the times for all national-rated events with an upper masterpoint limit on the final Sunday to be concurrent with the scheduled regional event.
- 2.6 The choice as to number of boards played in regional-rated primetime knockout events at NABCs is up to the host organization. Management will make certain that that host organization's selection is requested and implemented.
- 2.7 Management will schedule one 2 session team event at the daylight (10 am and 3 pm) time slot beginning on the first Friday of the NABC and each succeeding day through the final Saturday. At least 50% of these events will be Open Bracketed Swiss teams using bracket sizes of 7 teams/bracket if the expected attendance is 56 teams or less and 9 teams/bracket for greater expected attendance.

Effective August 1, 2017

Motion failed Aye 1, 16

Item 172-22: Chapter VIII North American Bridge Championships, Finance

Chapter VIII - North American Bridge Championships, C. Finances is amended as follows:

Section 1 - Host Organization

- 1.1 Approximately one year in advance, management shall provide a dollar amount that will be allocated to the host organization for reimbursement of tournament expenses.

Management will ensure adequate funds are provided to meet minimum hospitality requirements for sites with estimates of fewer than 10,000 tables.

If the tournament is projected to be larger than 10,000 tables, the allocated amount will be based on the estimated number of tables @ \$11.50 per table.

Should the actual table count exceed the estimated table count, an additional \$11.50 per table will be added to the allocation for expenses of the host organization.

- 1.1.1 Registration gift, restaurant information for the souvenir program, player hospitality and volunteer recognition will be the responsibility of the host organization.
- 1.1.2 ACBL will provide 10 standard rooms and a one-bedroom suite for the host organization.

Section 2 - NABC Free Plays for Onsite Games

- 2.1 Following is the NABC free play list. Anyone entitled to free plays will receive free plays for the entirety of each NABC except for the Educational Foundation game held the first Thursday of each NABC and the \$1.50 per session per player surcharge for the International Fund.
- 2.1.1 ACBL president and spouse or significant other
 - 2.1.2 ACBL CEO and spouse or significant other
 - 2.1.3 Salaried and full-time ACBL employees*
 - 2.1.4 Spouses or significant others of full-time ACBL employees when the employee is assigned to the NABC or functions conducted in conjunction with the NABC*
 - 2.1.5 Servicemen or women (enlisted ranks only) showing ID cards and wearing proper uniform attire throughout the event. This applies to US, Canada and Mexico.
 - 2.1.6 ACBL Board of Directors members
 - 2.1.7 Chairman of the Board of Governors
 - 2.1.8 ACBL retirees (for full-time employees only, at least five years of employment and age 65 or older or 20 years of employment and age 55 or older)*
 - 2.1.9 Roy and Mary Green
 - 2.1.10 Jay Baum and Spouse
 - 2.1.11 Robert Hartman and Significant Other
 - 2.1.12 Honorary Member(s) (for one year)
 - 2.1.13 Chair of the Goodwill Committee
 - 2.1.14 Staff assigned to the NABC. This includes any person assigned to the NABC by ACBL management and compensated by ACBL for fulfilling that assignment. However, people compensated for caddying, recording the bidding and play of hands, or similar types of assistance are not considered assigned staff.*

* Subject to management policy

Section 3 - Entry Fees

3.1 Youth and Junior Entries

- 3.1.1 Any junior under the age of 26 years who is a full-time student (must

provide proof of eligibility) will be entitled to coupons that can be used for any event. These coupons will have a value of \$10.00 per session.

- 3.1.2 Any junior under the age of 21 years will be entitled to coupons that can be used for any event. These coupons will have a value of \$10.00 per session.
- 3.1.3 Any junior 19 years and under will be granted free plays for each session of regional-rated events.
- 3.1.4 Juniors under the age of 26 years, named to teams to represent Zone 2 NBOs in world competitions, for NABCs occurring between the time they are named to the team and the world championship occurring, will receive free plays at NABCs when playing with members of their team or members of another team representing a Zone 2 NBO.

3.2 International Fund

- 3.2.1 All NABC+ event entry fees will include a \$1.50 surcharge per player per session for the International Fund.
- 3.3 At all NABCs, entry fees for non-members and unpaid Life Masters will be \$4.00 per player per session higher than for ACBL members and Life Masters who have paid their service fee. Charity events and events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints are exempted from this requirement.

Section 4 - Remuneration of Support Staff and Volunteers

- 4.1 The Seeding Chair receives free room and free play privileges for the duration of the tournament.
- 4.2 The Goodwill Chair receives airfare, two nights hotel and free play privileges for the duration of the tournament.
- 4.3 The Volunteer Member of the Year for the Spring NABC receives airfare, two nights hotel, three days per diem and free play privileges for the duration of the tournament.
- 4.4 Goodwill Member of Year for the Spring NABC receives airfare, two nights hotel, three days per diem and free play privileges on Goodwill Day.
- 4.5 Intermediate/Newcomer (up to 20) speakers are paid a set fee (\$75) for speaking to the I/N players.

Section 5 - NABC Financial Plan

- 5.1 The NABC Financial Plan is approved.

(See Appendix 8-C *NABC Financial Plan*)

APPENDIX 8-C

NABC FINANCIAL PLAN

Allocations to the local organization in support of an NABC will be divided into the following three categories:

1. Services and materials directly funded and provided by ACBL.
2. Funds provided to the local organization.
3. A number of sleeping rooms provided for the local host organization.

Services and Materials provided by ACBL

1. Printing, as approved by ACBL – to include the souvenir program, restaurant guide, fliers and other promotional materials.
2. Intermediate/Newcomer Program (I/N) –ACBL will arrange for and compensate all I/N program speakers. ACBL will provide promotional material to clubs and to players with fewer than 100 master points within the area of dominant influence of the tournament.
3. Supplies - ACBL will provide registration cards, partnerships cards, etc.
4. Vugraph - ACBL will produce and fund the vugraph program(s) for the major team event finals.
5. ACBL will provide section top awards.
6. ACBL will host a dinner prior to the tournament for key local volunteers or give the local committee \$5,000 in lieu of the dinner.

Funds provided to the Local Organization

NABC funds are provided for the implementation of the activities and services at the NABC.

Approximately one year in advance, management shall provide an allocated dollar amount that will be provided to the host organization for reimbursement of expenses. If the tournament is projected to be larger than 10,000 tables, the amount will be based on the estimated number of tables @ \$11.50 per table. Should the actual table count exceed the estimated table count, an additional \$11.50 per table will be provided to the host organization.

Management will ensure adequate funds are provided to meet minimum hospitality requirements for sites with estimates of fewer than 10,000 tables.

The following requirements must be met to receive funds from ACBL in support of an NABC:

1. Intermediate/ Newcomer Program: The local organization must follow program guidelines as listed in the tournament chair's manual.
2. Player Hospitality: Provide a minimum of eight player hospitality functions. Team event finals featured on vugraph may be included as a hospitality function if food, beverage or other amenity is provided with the program. Plans should be discussed with the ACBL meeting planner before they are finalized.

3. Registration/Information: Provide players with a registration gift. Registration gift costs should not exceed \$5 each (including tax and shipping) to be taken out of funds provided by ACBL. Minimum value for registration gifts should be \$3-\$4. Any expense for registration gifts over \$5 (including tax and shipping) each will be the responsibility of the local organization. Gifts must be approved by the meeting planner to avoid duplication.
4. Volunteer Hospitality: Some form of hospitality should be provided for volunteer workers. This may be in the form of a hospitality suite with snacks between sessions, meal tickets, scrip, free parking or other methods of recognition and appreciation.

Sleeping Rooms for volunteers

1. Rooms will be provided to key committee chairs during the time their presence on site is necessary for the smooth running of the NABC. This may include the following committee chairs:

Partnership
 Registration
 Player Hospitality
 Information
 Intermediate/Newcomer
 Section Tops/Awards

2. Up to three more rooms will be provided as needed for other committee chairs, to include:

Volunteers
 Caddies
 Special Events (Tours)
 Transportation
 Tournament Co-Chairman

3. The tournament chair will be provided with a one-bedroom suite. In short, ACBL will provide 10 guest rooms for volunteers, plus a one-bedroom suite for the tournament chair.
4. ACBL will provide a one-bedroom suite for the host district director.

Effective immediately
 Carried Abstain 25

BRIDGE COMMITTEE	
Jones, R (C)	
Aquino, Bagley, Carman, Janicki, Jones, C., Lane, Levy, Norden, Smith, Stephani, Subeck, Weniger (Popper, Weinstein, H.) Staff: Weinstein, S.	
As reported by Committee Chair	

Item 172-06: Stop Card

The “Stop Card” is no longer used to indicate a skip in the bidding and the following changes are made to the Conditions of Contest:

- The ACBL Conditions of Contest Appendix G (Special Conditions to the use of Bidding Boxes and Screens)

I. BIDDING BOXES (no screens)

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3. Using bidding boxes, no Skip Bid Warning is given. Following the Skip Bid, LHO is obligated to wait approximately 10 seconds (while giving the appearance of studying his hand and not in excess time to determine a choice of bids) before making a call.

- The ACBL Bidding Box Regulation web page
(http://www.acbl.org/tournaments_page/charts-rules-and-regulations/bidding-box-regulations/)

THE STOP CARD

The Stop Card should not be used. No verbal or visual Skip-Bid Warning is required. Following the Skip Bid, LHO is obligated to wait approximately 10 seconds (while giving the appearance of studying his hand and not in excess time to determine a choice of bids) before making a call.

NOTE: If a player accidentally uses the stop card, there is no penalty. It is each player’s responsibility to maintain appropriate tempo at all times.

- The Tech Files – Same text & changes as the web page

Effective January 1, 2018

Carried Nay 1, 2, 13, 25

Item 172-07: Zone 2 National Bridge Organizations

Chapter VII International Bridge Section 1 A. Zone 2 NBO’s of the codification is amended as follows:

CHAPTER VII – INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE

A. ZONE 2 National Bridge Organizations (NBOs)

Section 1 - Zone 2 International Regulations

1.1 The authority for selecting and subsidizing bridge players who represent the United States, Canada and Mexico in international bridge competition rests solely with the

NBOs: United States Bridge Federation (USBF), Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) and Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF), respectively.

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Section 2 – NBO Events (NO CHANGE)

Section 3 – WBF

3.1 WBF Dues

The United States Bridge Federation (USBF), Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) and Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF), and not the ACBL are responsible for the payment of any membership dues to the WBF. In order to ease the transition of the payment of WBF dues to the NBOs, the ACBL will make additional contributions to the NBOs to support international bridge:

	<u>USBF</u>	<u>CBF</u>	<u>MBF</u>
2018	100,000	16,000	250
2019	80,000	14,000	200
2020	60,000	12,000	150
2021 and thereafter	40,000	10,000	100

3.2 The current section 3.2 is deleted in its entirety.

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 1, 2, 5, 8, 11, 13, 16, 20, 23, 24, 25

Abstain 15, 18

Item 172-08: Entry Fees

Item 171-09 Entry Fees is reconsidered.

For team events held at an NABC in which all team entrants receive full overall masterpoint awards, entry shall be charged on a per person basis. For team events in which the overall award is calculated as a percentage of a player’s participation, entry fees shall be charged on a per team basis at a rate equivalent to four players on that team. (Orlando, FL Carried. Absent: 3) (Kansas City, MO, Reconsideration failed Aye: 1, 2, 23)

Motion failed Aye: 1, 18, 23, 25

Item 172-09: Club Game Lesson Hands for Teaching

Regular Club games with a masterpoint limit of 20 or less (0-5, 0-10, 0-20) are allowed to use prepared lesson hands for teaching purposes. A prepared hand is set up to allow students to practice a specific skill. The game must consist of at least six but no more than 12 boards and be held in conjunction with lessons. A minimum of at least eight players is required. If there are only two

tables, the game must be run as a team event, individual event or Swiss pair game. Masterpoint awards are based on the club masterpoint games award chart.

The normal table fees, if any, for club games are applicable.

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously

Item 172-10: The Laws of Duplicate Bridge

The Laws of Duplicate Bridge as reviewed and promulgated by the ACBL Laws Commission and published and copyrighted by ACBL are accepted with the following elections:

Elections by The ACBL Board of Directors under the 2017 Laws of Duplicate Bridge

1. Law 1B: The back of each card must be symmetric (Law 1C) and the ACBL encourages the use of packs where the face of each card is also symmetric.
2. Law 18F: The ACBL Board of Directors authorizes tournament organizers in ACBL sanctioned events to use bidding boxes. Any alternative method which is necessary to enable a person with a disability to compete is authorized subject to the approval of the Director.
3. Law 40B1 and Law 40B2(a): An opening bid of 1NT and an opening bid of one in a suit, which by partnership agreement could show fewer than 8 high-card points, is designated a special partnership agreement. These two special partnership agreements are disallowed in all ACBL sanctioned events.
4. Law 40B2(a): Both members of a partnership must employ the same system that appears on the convention card.
 - a. During a session of play, a system may not be varied, except with permission of the tournament Director. (A Director might allow a pair to change a convention but would not allow a pair to change its basic system.)
 - b. At the outset of a round or session, a pair may review its opponents' convention card and alter its defenses against the opponents' special understandings and preemptive bids. This must be announced to its opponents. The opponents may not vary their system after being informed of these defensive alterations.
 - c. A partnership, by prior agreement, may not vary its understanding during the auction or play following a question asked, a response to a question or any irregularity.
5. Law 40B2(b): Whenever written defenses are required or permitted, they may be referred to by any player whenever it would be appropriate to refer to an opponent's convention card.
6. Law 40B2(c): In addition, a player is permitted to consult an opponent's convention card at his RHO's turn to call.
7. Law 93C1: A further appeal to the Regulating Authority (ACBL) may be allowed only as follows:
 - a. On a point of law to and at the discretion of the ACBL Laws Commission.
 - b. On an allegation of bias of a committee member or members to and at the discretion of the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee. The appellant is required to present evidence that the bias was not known at the time of the hearing.
 - c. The appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days of the decision of the Bridge Appeals Committee that heard the issue.
8. Law 93C3(a): Except as noted in 7 above, the responsibility of dealing finally with any appeal of a Director's decision is that of the tournament's specified tournament body.

Effective September 26, 2017
Carried unanimously

Item 172-13: ACBL World Computer-Bridge Championship

ACBL World Computer Championship, is amended as follows:

The ACBL annual World Computer Championships (WCBC) may be held as part of the WBF's world championships, or an NABC. \$4,000.00 is allocated for the WCBC activity. The coordinator selected to represent the ABCL will be allowed his/her expenses reimbursed up to a maximum of \$2,000.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 172-15: Daylong Robot Tournaments

Item 163-34: Daylong Robot Tournaments is amended as follows:

A. Two sanctioned daylong online robot games may be held daily per approved online club: 1 IMP, 1 match point. Up to 18 hours are allowed for play. Each daylong game will play either 12 or 18 boards

B. Masterpoint awards for one-session daylong robot games will be as follows:

- 1) Section awards capped at current 15 table level.
- 2) Overall awards for 100+ participants shall be:
 - a) 2.50 for 1st place with 18 boards in play or 1.50 for 1st place with 12 boards (40% reduction) with depth and subsequent award per formula.
 - b) Duplicate awards shall be awarded for each additional 100 participants.
 - c) Sanction fees to be \$2.00 per table for 18 boards and \$1.00 per table for 12 boards.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

STRATEGIC COMMITTEE	
Whipple (C), Anderson (VC)	
Cuneo, Glasson, Lane, Muñoz, Stephani, Vilhauer	Staff: Hodus/Storch
As reported by Committee Chair	

An oral report was given.

The Board went into Executive Session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

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The meeting was called to order by Bob Heller on Saturday, July 21, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19

Also Present: Same as Wednesday, July 19, adding Steve Moese, Barbara Heller, Parisa Hanzetash, Danny Sprung and Tom Carmichael.

CLUBS TASK FORCE

Lane (C)

Cuneo, Stephani, Weniger, Chokriwala, Marks

Staff: Robertson

As reported by Committee Chair

An oral report was given.

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The Board went into Executive Session from 1:58 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 3:10 p.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

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ACBL CEO Report

The report of CEO Bahar Gidwani is received. (Attachment A)

Litigation Report

The report on the status of litigation is received. (Attachment B)

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A brief report was given by the President of the Educational Foundation.

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Item 172-23: Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings received/are ratified. (Attachment C)

- April 7, 2017
- May 2, 2017

Carried Nay 21 Absent 22

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Closing Remarks

It was moved by Levy and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 2 and its units, District Director Paul Janicki and Tournament Chair Ima Demme and all the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank the Intercontinental Toronto Centre for its fine cooperation.

The Board adjourned sine die at 4:48 p.m.