

Draft Minutes of the
ACBL Board of Governors
Atlanta, GA

July 29, 2018

Richard Popper, Chairman of the Board of Governors, called the meeting to order on Sunday July 29, 2018 10 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Popper welcomed the new members of the Board of Governors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The approval of the Philadelphia, PA meeting minutes held March 11, 2018 are approved.

CARRIED

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual membership meeting of the American Contract Bridge League convened at 10:05 a.m. Jay Whipple, ACBL President, presided.

CEO'S REPORT

Joe Jones presented the Management's. (See Board Attachments)

LITIGATION REPORT

Linda Dunn presented the Litigation report. (See Board Attachments)

Whipple announced that there was not a quorum. Being no further business, the annual membership meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

* * * * *

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed ACBL Bylaws changes are approved as amended. (See Board Attachments)

Effective July 31, 2018

CARRIED

NOMINATIONS

Nominations were opened for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors for the 2019/2020 term.

Richard Popper, District 4 was nominated for the office of Chairman of the Board of Governors.

There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. Richard Popper was declared elected to the office of ACBL Chairman of the Board of Governors for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020

Barbara Heller, District 7, was nominated for the office of Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors.

There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. Barbara Heller was declared elected to the office of ACBL Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Popper presented his report on the meeting of the Board of Directors. (See Board Minutes)

RECONSIDERATION

Moved by Richard DeMartino, District 25 that the ACBL Board of Directors reconsider Item 182-77: Baze Senior KO and defer for one year to the Summer 2019 Las Vegas.

CARRIED

Moved by Bob Bertoni, District 25 that the ACBL Board of Directors reconsider Item 182-45: ACBL Temporary Membership.

CARRIED

Moved by Mike Cassel, District 14 that the ACBL Board of Directors reconsider Item 182-33: GNT Special Conditions of Contest

CARRIED

MOTIONS

182-01BG: Smoking-Free Policy

Moved by Jay Apfelbaum, District 4, that the ACBL Codification, Chapter VIII (North American Bridge Championships), Part E (Operations), Section 1 (General Information), Subsection 1.13 (Smoking Policy at NABCs), is amended by adding a new Sub-Subsection 1.13.2, as follows:

ACBL Smoke-Free Bridge Experience Policy

ACBL finds that smoking is a health hazard and may interfere with its members' right to enjoy a smoke-free bridge experience. ACBL encourages its members to complain when the lingering tobacco odor from a member interferes with their smoke-free bridge experience. Signage will be

posted to publicize this policy. This policy will apply to all NABC tournaments and be enforced as follows:

- I. Upon receiving a complaint (verbal or written), at least two ACBL Tournament Directors will investigate to decide whether the player smells of tobacco and whether the lingering tobacco odor is more likely than not to interfere with many members' right to enjoy a smoke-free bridge experience.
- II. A warning under this policy will apply to that particular NABC tournament, including all bridge games held at that tournament, from the first bid to the last card played. All warnings are cumulative through that particular NABC Tournament.
- III. If all of the ACBL Tournament Directors who investigate a complaint agree that the player smells of tobacco and that the lingering tobacco odor is more likely than not to interfere with many members' right to enjoy a smoke-free bridge experience, the player will be issued a warning.
 - A. A first warning will have no discipline of any kind, other than a record being made of that warning.
 - B. The next warning (second) will result in a scoring penalty of 25% of a matchpoint board, 3 Victory Points, or 6 IMPs (when VP's are not involved), depending on the form of scoring.
 - C. The next warning (third) will result in a scoring penalty of 50% of a matchpoint board, 6 Victory Points, or 12 IMPs (when VP's are not involved), depending on the form of scoring.
 - D. The next warning (fourth) will result in a scoring penalty of 100% of a matchpoint board, 12 Victory Points, or 24 IMPs (when VP's are not involved), depending on the form of scoring.
 - E. Each successive warning will result in a scoring penalty that is double the scoring penalty of the previous warning.
- IV. A player may receive no more than one warning for any given session.
- V. Multiple complaints about the same player will not increase the likelihood that the player will be found to have violated this policy.
- VI. Nothing in this policy may result in a player being removed from a game. This policy does not prohibit discipline for disruptive behavior that may arise from the application of this policy.
- VII. No warning or scoring penalty administered in a previous NABC tournament may be considered or applied in the then current NABC tournament.
- VIII. VIII. There is no appeal from a warning or scoring penalty issued under this policy.

- IX. Nothing in this policy may be interpreted to change ACBL existing policy to allow smoking/hospitality breaks so that a player who wants to smoke will have a reasonable opportunity to do so

MOTION FAILED

182-03BG District and Unit Owned Bridge Facilities

Moved by Steve Moese, District 4 that the ACBL simplify business rules and the ACBL codification so that Unit or District-owned bridge facilities can be managed by their District or Unit Boards to enable clubs and teachers to have an affordable central location for teaching and running club games.

- The Clubs at said facility lose no business rights, and
- The Units and Districts provide space contracts of their choosing to enable market dynamics to provide best services to area members.
- Said facility must be available to any sanction holder or qualified bridge teacher in that area.
- Sanction holders might compete for time slots by bidding for sublet space.

MOTION FAILED

182-04BG District and Unit Support for Clubs and Teachers

Moved by Steve Moese, District 11 that the ACBL, Districts and Units encourage recruiting new players at all ACBL sanctioned tournaments by attracting prospects to the tournament, providing them space, and offering Learn Bridge in a Day? ® or a similar outreach event run by nearby teachers and club managers.

The ACBL encourage Districts and Units to promote peer to peer best practice sharing sessions for teachers and club managers to strengthen recruiting practices.

CARRIED

182-05BG Free Entry Fees for Fall NABC for Last Year's Top Recruiters.

Moved by Steve Moese, District 11 that the ACBL reward the top 20 new member recruiters with free entry fees at the Fall NABC. Any teacher or sanction owner in good standing can win this reward a maximum of 3 times. Principals only – not transferrable. Spend it or lose it.

Deferred to Fall 2018 in Honolulu, HI

Deferral carried

182-06BG Member Growth Business Metrics

Moved by Steve Moese, District 11 that the ACBL create the proper business metrics for defining where new members are being created, where recruitment exceeds demographic expectation, and

where potential growth is greatest to flagged target audiences. (One example target audience is 50-85+ yr olds; another is 18-30+ yr olds).

The ACBL publish to the ACBL website how many and where (District, Unit, Club, Class/Teacher, State, zip code) new members are being created. (See the current table count page as one example).

No fee will be charged for this service.

CARRIED

182-07GB Barring cheaters who have been expelled from the ACBL from ever participating in an ACBL activity.

Moved by Roger Smith, District 21 that the policy of the American Contract Bridge League will be that anyone who is convicted of cheating and expelled may never be allowed to be a member again. Additionally, that person may not participate in any of our activities. Specifically, that means that the person may not play in or attend North American Bridge Championships, Regional tournaments, Sectional tournaments, or ACBL sanctioned club games.

CARRIED

182-08BG: Article IV Membership Meetings - Quorum

Moved by Peter Marcus, District 25 that Article IV Membership Meetings - Quorum of the ACBL Bylaws be reduced from 250 members do one.

MOTION FAILED

ACTION ITEMS

- Board of Governors should establish a committee of interested members to assist the ACBL in data analysis until such a time that a robust data analysis capability can be implemented within the ACBL staff.
- ACBL Management will post the annual IRS Form 990 filing document, shortly after it is submitted to the IRS, on the ACBL's website. These documents will remain available on the ACBL's website forever, for comparison to newer submissions and historical information.

APPROVAL OF NEW LIFE MASTERS

Moved by Sandy DeMartino, and seconded by all, that all members who have achieved Life Master Status will be designated as Life Masters.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

THANKS FOR HOSPITALITY

Moved by Sandra DeMartino and seconded by all that the sincere thanks of the Board of Governors are extended to District 7 and its units, District Director Bob Heller, and Tournament Co-Chairs Joe Sherwood and Judy Fendrick and all the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank the Atlanta Marriott Marquis for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board of Governors adjourned *sine die* at 12:02 p.m.