

The following items listed in the current Codification Chapter XI A, B, C, D, E, and F.

RO = Rescind Obsolete

Bold Numbers refer to where items can be found in the new codification.

Chapter 11, A.1 CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS

A. GNT / CNTC

Use of Midnight Swiss Games to Help Finance GNT (842-42) See XI B 2.2

Effective immediately, each Regional shall be allocated one, sanction free, midnight Swiss game held to subsidize District GNT competition.

Waiver of Participation in NAOP or GNT for Members Representing a Country in WBF Competitions (862-45) See XI B 3.2 & XI C 4.1

ACBL members representing their NCBO or Zone II in WBF competitions shall be granted a waiver of the qualification requirements for Grand National Teams or North American Open Pairs where a conflict of dates exists. This waiver will not apply to a District Final in either event. Effective immediately.

Review of GNT Format (893-41) (992-110) (013-131) See XI B 1.2

A. The Grand National Team (GNT) event, in its current format, shall be discontinued at the end of the 1989-1990 competition.

B. Each District will offer a fair bridge competition for the newly organized event outlined below.

C. The GNT competition is revised to have four Flights as follows:

Flight C: non-LM up to 500 MP

Flight B: 0-2000 MP

Flight A: 0-5000 MP

Championship Flight: 0-unlimited

At the option of the Canadian Bridge Federation, Districts 1 and 2 are exempt from all but the zero MPs to Non-Life Master event.

If a club or Unit holds a stratified qualifying event, then that event will be scored, and masterpoints awarded, for only three strats A(unlimited MP), B (0-2000 MP), C (NLM up to 500 MP). A team that qualifies in strat A is considered to have qualified for the championship Flight (unlimited MP) and/or Flight A (0-5000 MP) depending on its players' masterpoint holding. C.

E. Participants at the District level of the competition must be members of the District.

F. Districts may hold events in one or more stages. **See XIB 3.3**

G. Sanction fees shall be \$1.00 per table per session at all stages of the event. At District option, a surcharge may be added. **See XI B 2.1**

H. If a flight is held at a Sectional, silver points shall be awarded at that stage. **See XI B 3.5**

I. District champions of each flight will be eligible to participate in a National finals to be held immediately prior to the start of the summer NABC. There will be no subsidy from the ACBL nor any required subsidy from the Districts. A District need not be represented at the National finals. **See XI B 3.6**

Sectional-rated Events in Conjunction with GNT District Finals (902-93) See XI B 3.4 & XI C 4.6 & XI E 1.6

Districts may hold Sectional-rated events in conjunction with the District finals of Grand National Team and North American Pair Events and Zone Finals of the CNTC.

Sectional-rated Events in Clubs to Benefit Grand National Teams (903-104) See XI B 2.3

A District Organization may permit each club within its District to hold one (1) Sectional-rated event as a fund raiser for the Grand National Teams or the Canadian National Team Championship. The District may set the amount to be remitted to the District but such amount may not exceed \$6.00 per table. Effective January 1, 1991.

Sanction Fees for the COPC, CNTC and CWTC (922-103) See XI E 1.7

The Canadian Bridge Federation shall be charged a set fee of \$2.00 (US) per table at the first level of play of the COPC, CNTC and CWTC, with no sanction fee for all subsequent rounds of these events.

Special Event Games (941-70) See XI D 1.4

Management's annual report concerning special event games is accepted. Management will publish the statistics and a financial review of all special event games in the Journal for each Spring Meeting of the Board. The report is to include the administrative man-hours and advertising costs required to support these events.

1999 Budget (Second Reading of item 983-115A 1, 2, &3) RO

3. Fees for ACBL sponsored games will be increased as follows beginning April 1, 1999.

Grand National Teams \$1 to \$1.25

Instant Match Point \$10 to \$11

Senior-wide Game \$2 to \$2.25

Annual Masterpoint Achievement Races (including GNT) (991-233) See XI B 3.7 & XI B 3.8

B. The GNT Flight A masterpoints won at the NABC Final in the semifinals and finals will be included in the Player of the Year race.

C. The GNT Flight A masterpoints won at the NABC Final in the semifinals and finals will be included for the Fishbein Trophy awarded to the Player winning the most masterpoints at the Summer NABC in NABC+ events.

Flight B of the CNTC (992-111) RO

The CBF is granted permission to add a Flight B to the Canadian National Team Championship (CNTC).

Regional Allocation Regulations (002-127) See XI B 31. & XI C 4.7

B. The regulations that apply to sanctioning Sectionals shall apply to the sanctioning of a District's GNT and NAOP Final.

Canadian Senior Team Championship and Canadian IMP Pairs (032-71) See XI E 1.8

The ACBL will sanction two new Canadian events to be held during Canadian Bridge week:

A. Canadian Senior Team Championship (CSTC)

B. Canadian IMP Pairs Championship (CIPC)

GNT Flights B and C Seeding (032-106) See XI B 1.4

The conditions of contest for the ACBL Finals of Flights B and C (non-LM) are amended as follows:

- A. The finals will be a seeded knockout.
- B. Seeding will be by average masterpoints. Ties will be broken by lot.

GNT and NAP Conditions of Contest (052-66) See XI B 1.1 & XI C 1.1

Any player participating in either GNT or NAP events must be a dues-paying or service-fee paid-up ACBL member prior to playing in any level of this event except club qualifying.

NAP/GNT Residency Guidelines (082-36) See XI A

The following guidelines for NAP/GNT Residency exceptions are adopted.

NAP/GNT Residency Requirements – Background

The North American Pairs and Grand National Teams were created initially with the expectation that players would play in and represent the districts in which they lived. They were to be "grass roots" events. As time passed, implementation of this original intent became increasingly difficult and, as a result, numerous abuses occurred where players were often not playing in the district in which they lived. This was especially true in the top flight of the GNT where expert partnerships are often established over increasingly large geographical distances. Several years ago, a BOD Committee was established to address this issue. After lengthy and extended deliberations over two years, in an effort to restore the integrity of the original intent of these two great events, the BOD approved the following measures:

For the GNTs: A member's principal physical residence as of September 1 of the year prior to the National Final shall establish the district in which said member is eligible to participate beyond the club qualifying stage. For the NAPs: A member's principal residence as of June 1 of the year prior to the National Final shall establish the district in which the member is eligible to participate beyond the club level.

The expectation is that exceptions to this rule will be rare, especially in the top flight of each event. A player seeking an exception must obtain permission in writing from the ACBL District Director representing the district in which the member has a principal residence and from the ACBL District Director representing the district in which the member wishes to play. Both District Directors must approve the request for the exception to be granted. Further, any exceptions in the top flight must also be approved by a BOD Credentials Committee. The expectation is that District Directors will approve and forward requests to the Credentials Committee only in very special cases (see below). There is no appeal from the Credentials Committee decision.

The Credentials Committee (CC) is also responsible for clarifying which district a player is allowed to play in when said player's eligibility is in question. When a challenge to one's eligibility from a unit final stage or later stage has been made, the CC may request documentary evidence from the member whose eligibility is in question. If a member is unable to verify to the CC's satisfaction that he or she is playing in the district of the member's principal residence, the

CC shall automatically disqualify the member and his or her partner and teammates (if the event is the GNT). When a member is disqualified by the CC, the matter will be referred to the ACBL President who may choose to make charges to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee in accordance with section 2.2.3 (d) of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

The BOD and the Credentials Committee both recognize that implementation of these measures may inconvenience some members who were granted exceptions in previous years. Nevertheless, the general consensus is that implementation and strict interpretation of these measures is necessary to restore the integrity of these events. The alternative, which was carefully considered by the BOD, was to eliminate these two great events from our schedule.

Guidelines for Exceptions

As noted above, the expectation is that exceptions will be rare. Following are three situations where an exception may be considered:

“Snowbird”. A member with seasonal residences who spends more than half of the GNT (September 1 – February 28) or NAP (June 1 – August 31) qualifying period in a district other than the district of his principal physical residence may play in the district of seasonal residence. If he chooses to do so, he must play in that district’s district finals to be eligible to play in the national finals. Such a player will not be eligible to be added to a team from the district of his principal residence.

A player with multiple domiciles should apply to the Credentials Committee for a one-time choice of district in which he wishes to play. This player may be asked to document his time in each of his residences. The player must spend at least three months each year in a district in order to have it considered as a domicile possibility. Once a player chooses a district in which to play, he must play only in that district until he no longer has a domicile in that district.

A participant who is a full-time student, a member of the armed forces or whose employment requires temporary relocation may play in the District in which he temporarily resides.

In rare cases, a player who is a member of a unit in a district in which he does not reside may seek permission to play in the district in which he has a unit membership. Such an exception will be considered only if all of the conditions below are met:

Lives sufficiently close to the district borders

Has been a member of the unit in which he wishes to play for at least 5 years continuously prior to the start of the competition in the year for which the exception is being requested.

Must not have played in the GNT or NAP in another district for that period of time. (The 2006/2007 GNT or NAP is not considered for this requirement.)

Must have been actively involved as a volunteer in the Unit or District in which he wishes to play for at least two years. Possibilities include, but are not limited to: Unit or District Board

Member, Chair of NABC or major NABC Committee, District or Unit Recorder, Tournament Chair, or Club Manager.

Note: Simply playing bridge in the other District/Unit or having a regular partner who resides in the other District is not considered sufficient reason for an exception to the “play where you live” rule

Any player seeking an exception for this reason must document the reasons why an exception should be considered and send it to both District Directors involved, as described above. The District Director of the District in which the player is a member must confirm the fact that the player has been an active volunteer in the District (or Unit) where the player does not live before forwarding such requests to the Credentials Committee (top flight only).

Should an exception be granted for this reason, the player is eligible to play only in that district and may not change unit affiliation unless the player’s principal physical residence changes.

Canadian Bridge Federation Simultaneous Pairs (102-110) See XI E 1.5

The ACBL Board of Directors shall sanction a one-session Canadian Bridge Federation Simultaneous Pairs. The event will run annually beginning in 2011 and award sectionally rated masterpoints. In addition to overall Canada-Wide awards there will be overall awards in each of the six CBF Zones.

GNT Conditions of Contest (102-54) RO

The following rules apply for all District Finals of the GNTs. # of Teams entered / flight in District finals	% of Max Award /flight available for games of unlimited size	# of Overall Places
1	as awarded	None
2	50%	1
3 – 4	67%	1
5+	100% if 3+ sessions played in District final; 67% if 2 sessions.	As specified for the type of event, if any phase is a KO, the depth of awards is as specified for a KO event of the same size as the original number of district final entries.

CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS**B. NAOP \ NLMNAP****GNP Split District Finals (793-103) RO**

The concept of GNP District Finals being held at two sites with identical conditions of contest is approved. Each District will establish its own conditions for entry, but Management shall work out the details of Master Point awards for the split final.

GNP Events in Conflict with Sectionals and Regionals (811-157)

- A. Club or Unit Grand National Pair events may not be held within 25 miles of a Sectional tournament. (Should a club be unable to hold this event because of a conflict with a tournament on all three weekends, upon application to Management this regulation may be waived.) Effective immediately. **SEE XI C 4.2**
- B. At District option, clubs may not hold Grand National Pair Qualifying events in conflict with a Regional in that District. **SEE XI C 4.3**
- C. Upon application by a District, the regulation requiring back-to-back multiple site Unit Finals may be waived by Management. Effective immediately.

Grand National Events - Name Change (861-42) RO

The Grand National Pairs and the Grand National Rookie Pairs shall be renamed the North American Open Pairs and the North American Rookie Pairs, respectively.

Publication of GNT and NAOP Dates (862-43) RO

Qualifying dates for the North American Open and Non-Life Master Pairs, and the North American Rookie Pairs shall be published at least two years in advance as part of the tournament schedule sent to Units and Districts.

Waiver of Participation in NAOP or GNT for Members Representing a Country in WBF Competitions (862-45) See XIC 4.1

ACBL members representing their NCBO or Zone II in WBF competitions shall be granted a waiver of the qualification requirements for Grand National Teams or North American Open Pairs where a conflict of dates exists. This waiver will not apply to a District Final in either event. Effective immediately.

Flighting of the North American Open Pairs (902-91A) See XI C 1.2

Commencing with the 1991-92 Events, the NAOP and the NANLMP shall be divided as follows: The North American Open Pairs shall be divided into three events:

- 1. North American Open Pairs - Flight A (NAOP-A), 0 - unlimited MPs; North American Open Pairs - Flight B (NAOP-B), 0-1500 MPs; and North American Non-Life Master Pairs (NANLMP), 0-Non-Life Masters.
- 3. The North American Open Pairs - Flight B will be held in the same time period as the North American Open Pairs - Flight A. These games, NAOP-B and NAOP-A, may be stratified up to, but not including, the District Final.

Sectional-rated Events in Conjunction with GNT District Finals (902-93) See XI C 4.6

Districts may hold Sectional-rated events in conjunction with the District finals of Grand National Team and North American Pair Events and Zone Finals of the CNTC.

District Surcharge for North American Pairs Event at the Club Level (903-102) See XI C 3.1

A District may charge an additional fee, not to exceed \$1.00 per table, at the club level of the North American Pairs Event.

Scheduling of National Finals of Flights B and C of the GNT and NAOP (963-146) See XI C 4.11

- B. Flight A of the North American Pairs will continue to be held on the Wednesday and Thursday prior to the Spring NABC. Flights B and C will be held on the second Saturday and Sunday of the Spring NABC. Effective with the 1997/1998 event.
- C. Starting time for Flights B and C of the NAP on the final Sunday in 1998 will be the same as the regional events.

North American Open Pairs Club Level Non-LM Qualifying Games (973-173) See XI C 2.16

Effective with the 1998/99 North American Pairs, when there is a separate Non-LM qualifying game, it may be stratified as follows:

0 - 20, 20 - 100, and 100 - 500 (Non-LM).

Only those players placing in the top strat, 100-500 (Non-LM), will be eligible to qualify and go on to the unit round.

NAOP Flight B Masterpoint Range (993-113) RO

The masterpoint limit for the NAOP Flight B is changed to 0-2000, starting with the 2000/2001 event.

Regional Allocation Regulations (002-127) See XI C 4.7

- B. The regulations that apply to sanctioning Sectionals shall apply to the sanctioning of a District=s GNT and NAOP Final.

GNT and NAP Conditions of Contest (052-66) See XI B 1.1 & XI C 1.1

Any player participating in either GNT or NAP events must be a dues-paying or service-fee paid-up ACBL member prior to playing in any level of this event except club qualifying.

NAP Monetary Award (071-65) (101-111) See XI C 3.2

A. Item(s) 991-111, 031-21 and 052-70 are rescinded

B. A fixed amount prize will be awarded in all flights as follows:

1. In districts with three qualifiers, the 1st place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 2nd place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 3rd place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.

In districts with four qualifiers, the 1st and 2nd place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 3rd place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 4th place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.

Invited defenders will receive \$700 per person.

No individual may collect two concurrent prizes.

In the event of a tie, the qualifiers will receive the total of the awards for the tied places, divided by the number of players involved with the tie.

C. The monetary award will be available on site. Qualifiers must play in the national level event until eliminated to receive the award.

D. There will be no entry fee for the national level of the event.

E. Management may use its best judgment in making exceptions to any of the above.

NAOP Extra Pairs Formula (073-58) See XI C 4.9

The number of members used in the formula is equivalent to the number of members in that District eligible to participate in that level of the event. The extra pairs will be based on the percentage of participation, at the club level, within each Flight.

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A participant who is a full-time student, a member of the armed forces or whose employment requires temporary relocation may play in the District in which he temporarily resides.

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Lives sufficiently close to the district borders

Has been a member of the unit in which he wishes to play for at least 5 years continuously prior to the start of the competition in the year for which the exception is being requested.

Must not have played in the GNT or NAP in another district for that period of time. (The 2006/2007 GNT or NAP is not considered for this requirement.)

Must have been actively involved as a volunteer in the Unit or District in which he wishes to play for at least two years. Possibilities include, but are not limited to: Unit or District Board Member, Chair of NABC or major NABC Committee, District or Unit Recorder, Tournament Chair, or Club Manager.

Note: Simply playing bridge in the other District/Unit or having a regular partner who resides in the other District is not considered sufficient reason for an exception to the “play where you live” rule.

Any player seeking an exception for this reason must document the reasons why an exception should be considered and send it to both District Directors involved, as described above. The District Director of the District in which the player is a member must confirm the fact that the player has been an active volunteer in the District (or Unit) where the player does not live before forwarding such requests to the Credentials Committee (top flight only).

Should an exception be granted for this reason, the player is eligible to play only in that district and may not change unit affiliation unless the player’s principal physical residence changes.

Item 102-52: NAP Flight B & C Finals (102-52) See XI C 4.10

The North American Pairs Conditions of Contest, National Level Participation is amended as follows:

Flight B & C final will be a four-session event, with between 52 and 78 pairs competing in a two-session play through qualifying approximately 50% of the original entry to a two-session play-through final with carryover as per ACBL formula.

CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS
C. CONTINENTWIDE GAMES

Minimum Numbers of Tables for Continentwide Games (762-105) See XI D 1.3

Continentwide games held at sites where the minimum number of tables requirement is not met shall award master points on the same basis as those held at sites where these requirements are met but shall be excluded from District and National ranking and prizes. Effective 01/01/77.

ACBL-Wide Senior Citizens Event Conditions of Contest (832-31) (853-74) (983-115) See XI D

Section 2

The ACBL-Wide Senior Citizens Game Conditions of Contest shall include the following:

1. The event must be conducted on a specific weekday afternoon designated by the ACBL.
2. Each club applying for a sanction must either (a) already be sanctioned to conduct a game at that time; or (b) submit its Unit's written approval to conduct the game.
3. Sanction fee is \$1.00 for each table in play and must be remitted with the report of the game.
4. Participants must be 60 years of age or older.

5. For each site, overall and section Masterpoint awards, based on Sectional rating, will be issued by the ACBL.
6. Hand records and analyses shall be provided for the annual Continent-wide Senior Citizens event. the sanction fee shall be increased to \$2.25 per table.

Instant Matchpoint Game Gold Points (871-92) (881-108) (983-171) **See XI D 5.5**

A continent-wide instant matchpoint game will be held to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ACBL. The ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game is approved as an annual event. The regulations forbidding invitational clubs from awarding gold points are revised to allow all ACBL sanctioned invitational clubs to award 0.80 gold point to section top winners in the annual Instant Matchpoint Game. This should only apply to sanctioned games with no masterpoint limitations. All other conditions, including a minimum of 5 tables, should remain.

Increase in Number of Annual International Fund Games (882-24) **RO**

The number of annual International Fund Games shall be increased from two to three. Effective January, 1, 1989.

"Midnight Swisses" to Increase International Fund (891-67) **See XI D 3.3**

One "Midnight" event shall be conducted at each NABC for the benefit of the International Fund. Organizations sponsoring Regional and Sectional tournaments shall be encouraged to hold a similar event at each of their tournaments. Such events shall carry Sectional rating.

Special Event Games (951-1) **1A:** Management shall publish the statistics and a financial review of all special event games in the Journal for each Spring meeting of the Board. The report is to include the administrative man-hour and advertising costs required to support these events. **See XI D 1.4**

1B: The financial statistics of the WBF World Wide Pairs (formerly Epon Pairs) will be made available to the Board for review at the Summer meeting. **See XI D 4.7**

International Fund Game (951-40) (0113-113) **See XI D 3.1**

40B. Moved, that International Fund Game #1 will be held on the Saturday afternoon of Super Bowl weekend. If this game is run by a club (or clubs) in a unit, the unit may not schedule any bridge event at the same time, except a sectional or regional. 40B: Moved, that International Fund Game #1 will be held on the Saturday afternoon of Super Bowl weekend. If this game is run by a club (or clubs) in a unit, the unit may not schedule any bridge event at the same time, except a sectional or regional.

Continent-Wide International Fund Game (953-90) **See XI D 3.2**

B. The color of masterpoints awarded for continent-wide International Fund games is 1/2 red and 1/2 black.

Worldwide Bridge Contest (953-99) **See XI D 4.6**

B. ACBL masterpoints will be awarded to overall winners in each district each day each direction. First place will receive ten points, second place five points and will be half red and half black.

Continent-wide Charity and International Fund Week (991-191) RO

- A. A full week will be designated for both of the Continent Wide Charity Games and each of the International Fund Games.
- B. One session during the week will be designated as a hand-record-with-analysis session. The date will be determined by ACBL management. This session will determine overall winners for publicity purposes.
- C. Each club is allowed to hold one such game per sanctioned session during each of these weeks.

Continent-wide Charity & International Fund Sanction Fees (992-190) RO

The sanction fees for Continent-wide Charity and International Fund weeks are set as follows: \$7.00/table for hand record session and \$5.00/table for non-hand record sessions.

District and Continent-Wide Games (021-131) (022-149) See XI D 5.1

Overall masterpoints will be awarded in Continent-wide Charity Games and in Continent-wide International Fund Games that use hand records and for which National and District winners are determined and published in the ACBL Bulletin.

- A. 1. Overall masterpoints will be awarded in Continent-wide Charity Games and in Continent-Wide International Fund games that use hand records and for which National and District winners are determined and published in the ACBL Bulletin. **See XI D 5.1**
 2. Overall masterpoints will be awarded in District-Wide Charity Games that use hand records and for which District winners are determined. See XI d 5.2
- B. In addition to District overall awards, Continent-wide overall winners will be determined and overall masterpoints awarded. **See XI D 5.3**
- C. Overall point awards will be red points with amounts and depth of awards as recommended by the Masterpoint Committee and approved by the ACBL Board of Directors. **See XI D 4**

ACBL-wide games (111-120) See XI D 1.1

ACBL-wide special games may not be conducted during any month that is designated as a special fund month. Currently, the months of February (Junior), April (Charity), and September (International) are designated as special fund game months.

Management will select appropriate dates for the ACBL-wide events.

Item 033-113 is rescinded. [Item 033-113 provides that the International Fund Game #1 may only be held on Super Bowl Saturday.]

CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS**D. ON-LINE BRIDGE**Computer Bridge (923-92) (973-55) RO

Management is authorized to grant the right to award masterpoints for duplicate bridge games held via computers. Management is instructed to establish criteria for granting these games, to include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Ease of use
2. Clarity of presentation
3. Bridge software included in subscription

4. Playing time per hand comparable to tournament bridge
5. Availability of a functioning club or higher-rated director online
6. Ability for Sysop (system operator) or TD to organize games
7. Ability to monitor bidding and play (online or records) of any player or partnership
8. Ability to provide advertising for other bridge media
9. Ability to enroll ACBL members online
10. Ability to stimulate live duplicate environment (conventions, explanations, alerts, etc.)
11. Ability to download bridge related messages and software
12. Ability to provide concise achievement records
13. The sponsoring organization has the sole responsibility of enforcing disciplinary regulations
14. Demonstration period of at least 30 days of actual online activity including duplicate games and general functionality.

Management shall authorize the awarding of masterpoints for duplicate games to any group or individual who meets the criteria.

On-Line Masterpoints Policy (983-executive committee action) (983-68) (113-27)

Following discussion of a proposed on-line masterpoint policy, it was moved and seconded that Management be directed to implement an on-line masterpoints policy that adheres to the principles below.

1. All previously established sanctioning fees and criteria remain in force unchanged.
2. All previous masterpoint criteria for on-line play in sanctioned games are amended to comply with the following rules and guidelines:
 - A. The total number of masterpoints available to be awarded in a sanctioned on-line club game shall be the same as in a comparably sized face-to-face club game. No more than 1.5 points may be awarded for first place.
 - B. Subject to (A), Management is authorized to narrow the point degradations in on-line vs face-to-face play, provided that no points may be awarded to a player finishing below the top 40%.
 - C. For Rank advancement requirements restrictions on the use of online points will be removed from the requirements.
 - D. No on-line points will be credited toward any of the established annual point races, although Management may choose to establish an on-line ACBL member masterpoints race. All masterpoints earned in online play will have no pigmentation.
 - E. In all other respects awarding masterpoints on-line shall be the same as for face-to-face play at clubs (not units or districts).
 - F. There shall be no binding long-term agreements signed with any on-line services relating to any of the above without going back to the Board for its approval. There shall be no exclusivity; any agreement(s) arrived at will be offered to all qualifying on-line services.

On-Line Bridge Games (983-41)**RO**

- A. Any on-line service that holds ACBL sanctioned tournaments which offer masterpoints must provide some type of mechanism for their players to file complaints if they sense there may have been ethical violations. These services must in some way investigate these complaints as to their validity.

On-line Sanctioning Agreements (991-64) RO

Management is authorized to include in a sanctioning agreement with any On-line service that, subject to such service adhering to the sanctioning requirements and with the understanding that sanctioning fees, masterpoint levels and director session fees, and sanctioning requirements may undergo reasonable changes from time to time, ACBL may assure such service that the availability of club-level unpigmented masterpoint sanctioning will remain in force for up to five years.

ACBL On-Line Bridge Activity (001-142) RO

- A. The report of the ad hoc On-Line Bridge Committee is approved
1. ACBL should not refrain strategically from its own on-line bridge play offering because of concern regarding reaction from clubs or from on-line services we currently sanction or might sanction in the future. In the case of clubs ACBL is in a better position and more motivated to cross-promote face-to-face clubs than is any other on-line bridge game. In the case of other OLB services, it should be noted that in many industries entities operate at more than one level of the distribution chain (eg wholesaler and retailer) thus competing with their customers. It is assumed that, if ACBL MP sanctions are of value to OLB services, they will seek sanctions regardless of ACBL's OLB activities.
 2. ACBL should only consider entering the OLB field in some kind of "partnership" with an entity with programming resources and an established "system" - it should under no circumstances seek to develop a system itself.
 3. A "partnership" should meet the following minimum requirements:
 - a. ACBL must have the ability to offer both structured (set start time, set number of boards, MPs, etc) and unstructured games
 - b. ACBL must be identified as the "brand" for the game. While there is a preference for sole branding, a co-branding arrangement is acceptable.
 - c. ACBL must have total control over pricing (and packaging options with ACBL membership)
 - d. ACBL must have the contractual freedom to continue sanctioning other online service.
 - e. ACBL must remain free to offer any other bridge-related services on-line. (excluding another OLB game service)
 - f. ACBL must have the ability to require future changes and upgrades to the system, even if they are at ACBL's expense
 - g. ACBL desires to have guaranteed access to the system for at least 10 years and must have such access for at least 7 years. ACBL, however, must be able to exit in substantially less time (see section i. below). If the partner does not wish to renew, ACBL must receive at least 12 months notice.
 - h. The partner must have a "quality" product and be a trustworthy forward-looking partner
 - i. The downside financial risk must be reasonable.

2. Management is authorized to enter into and conclude an arrangement to offer an ACBL On-Line Bridge service provided that:
- 1) The policy requirements of the report are met.
 - 2) League Counsel first reviews the agreement for legal considerations.
 - 3) Any cost expensed on an annual basis must not violate the established ACBL financial guidelines.

ACBL's Annual World Computer Bridge Championship (001-96) RO

The ACBL's annual World Computer Bridge Championships may be held as part of the Mind Sports Olympiad, August 2000, or the WBF's world championships, or an NABC. The current allocation of \$3,000 for this event is allowed for the WCBC activity. The coordinator selected to represent the ACBL will be allowed his/her expenses reimbursed up to a maximum of \$2,000.

Online Pair Event Masterpoints (011-134) RO

Management may sanction online special championships along the following guidelines:

- B. The points are to be unpigmented.
- C. The magnitude of points will be determined by Management but may be no more than the lesser of Regional Rating or 50 masterpoints for 1st place overall for overall awards. The rating for qualifying levels (for session/section awards) may be lower than that of the rating for overall masterpoints.

Internet Bridge Education Program (012-217) RO

Management is authorized to establish a bridge education program on the Internet. Any agreement with companies providing educational software for this purpose shall be non-exclusive and contain the right for ACBL to terminate the agreement at any time. Such programs shall be established as not-for-profit activities.

.Computer Bridge Competition and Demonstration (023-39) RO

The ACBL's annual computer-bridge competition and demonstration, established by Board Directive 963-69, will be conducted at a site and time designated by Management. The format and Conditions of Contest will be determined by Management.

Discounted Sanction Fees (041-140) RO

Management is authorized to develop and implement a policy of a discounted sanction fee for online games and online clubs.

Online Club Championships (083-32) RO

Online bridge clubs may run Club Championships under similar conditions as face-to-face clubs. All masterpoint awards will be non-pigmented. In an online club championship, each pair must play at least 18 boards. One open club championship may be awarded per quarter for sessions 1 – 12 (Monday – Thursday) with a maximum first place overall award of 3.90.

Shortened Club Championships (091-32) See VI E 2.1

Clubs be allowed to hold either regular club championships (18+ boards) or shortened club championships (12-17) boards played. The total number of club championships, including

regular and shortened, will remain the same as currently allowed. The overall awards for shortened club championships are 60% of regular club championships. The online shortened club championship (12-17 boards) overall award is capped at 4.50 masterpoints.

Internet Bridge (092-75) See VI E 1.5

(A) ACBL-wide races for masterpoints won in internet bridge games will be established.

(C) The ACBL consider an Internet webpage devoted to Internet activities, including, but not limited to, sanctioned online bridge, bridge, instructional websites, informative websites, online teaching and international websites.

Sanctioned Online Games (111-111)

The following regulations for sanctioned online play are adopted:

A player may not enter more than two ACBL-sanctioned online games of any kind in any 60-minute period. **See VI E 1.1**

All other regulations regarding online bridge remain in effect as is, including the following:

All masterpoints won online continue to count toward a player's total. **See VI E 1.3**

Online masterpoints continue to not count toward masterpoint races such as the McKenney and Mini McKenney. **See VI E 1.4**

Online races, as currently established, continue.

Online masterpoints continue to be unpigmented, with no online masterpoints needed for any Rank advancement. **See VI E 1.2**

Online masterpoints continue to count 100% toward strat, flight and rank advancement. **See VI E 1.3**

Robot games continue to run as an Individual event. **See VI E 1.6** Effective July 1, 2011

CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS

E. WINNERS EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

NAP Monetary Award (071-65) See XI C 3.2

B. A fixed amount prize will be awarded in all flights as follows:

1. In districts with three qualifiers, the 1st place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 2nd place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 3rd place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.

In districts with four qualifiers, the 1st and 2nd place qualifiers will receive \$700 per person and the 3rd place qualifiers will receive \$300 per person. The 4th place qualifiers will be invited to participate in the national level finals, but will not receive any prize.

Invited defenders will receive \$700 per person.
No individual may collect two concurrent prizes.

- C. The monetary award will be available on site. Qualifiers must play in the national level event until eliminated to receive the award.
- D. There will be no entry fee for the national level of the event.
- E. Management may use its best judgment in making exceptions to any of the above.

CHAPTER XI - SPECIAL EVENTS

F. MISCELLANEOUS SPECIAL EVENTS

Canadian International Fund (941-56) RO

Due to the extreme shortage of funds in the Canadian International Fund, effective January 1, 1995, all clubs located in Canada must hold at least one International Fund Game on an annual basis. For those clubs so choosing, this game may replace the required charity game. Masterpoint awards for this game will be according to the current schedule for International Fund games.

Canada-wide Rookie/Master Game (952-96) See XI E 1.2

The Canadian Bridge Federation may host a second Canada-wide Rookie/Master game each year. Additionally, should they desire to run more such games, consent from the Board of Directors is not required.

International Fund Game/Canada (953-47) See XI E 1.1

It is mandatory for bridge clubs in Canada to hold an ACBL-sanctioned International Fund Game or ACBL-sanctioned charity game annually. The clubs are encouraged to hold both of these events.

ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game (953-53) See XI D 5.5.5

- A. The ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game will award supersaver airline tickets and free entries to an NABC of their choice in the year following the event to the secondary contest winners (replacing the gift certificates currently awarded).
- B. The ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game masterpoint awards for games qualifying for the secondary contest that are not restricted by masterpoints will be sectionally rated and award red points to each winner with the remainder of the points to be 1/2 red and 1/2 black.

Masterpoint Awards for COPC (953-98) See XI E 1.3

The masterpoint award for the COPC National Final is the same as the District Finals Flight A North American Pairs. Effective March 1, 1996.

Worldwide Bridge Contest (Second Reading of 953-99B) (961-183) See XI D 4.7

ACBL masterpoints, half red and half black, will be awarded to overall winners in each district each day each direction. First place will receive ten points and second place five points.

Sectional Sanctions for Special Events (981-174) RO

Management, with the approval of the appropriate unit and district, is authorized to award a sectional sanction to an organization sponsoring a special event such as, but not limited to, a Senior or Junior Olympic event that is otherwise restricted in participation.

The director(s) for this event must be approved by Management and the per-table sanction fee will be that of an open sectional. Management may approve waiving the per table sanction fee. These tournaments will not be listed in the ACBL tournament calendar.

Management will approve sectional or local rated, black or silver points, for the event(s) based on the criteria for the event.

CBF Special Events (982-173) See XI E 1.4

The CBF is granted a sanction to hold sectionally-rated black point games during Canadian Bridge week. One or more of these games may be designated as a qualifying event for the COPC by amendment of the COPC conditions of contest.

1999 Budget (991-252) (033-107)

3. Fees for ACBL sponsored games will be increased as follows beginning April 1, 1999.

Grand National Teams \$1 to \$1.25

Instant Match Point \$10 to \$11

Senior-wide Game \$2 to \$2.25

North American Pairs \$4

State, Province, Country & Territory Team Championships (993-114) See XI D Section 6

A. The concept of a new Bridge Team Event is approved called AThe State / Province / Country / Territory Team Championships. @

B. This event will have sectional rating.

C. Sanction fees will be the same as of a sectional.

ACBL Masterpoint Regulations 043-81) See XI D 1.5

Item 023-195 ACBL Masterpoint Regulations is amended as follows:

For Continent-Wide Charity Games, ACBL-Wide International Fund Games, the annual ACBL-Wide Senior pairs, the annual ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint game and District-Wide Charity games, overall and district awards will be determined as follows (official hand records must be used): **See XI D Section 2**