

**ACBL Board of Directors  
Reno, NV  
March 7 – 10, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by President Ken Monzingo on Monday, March 7, 2016, at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Leo Weniger #1, Paul Janicki #2, Glenda Calkins #3, Craig Robinson #4, Sharon Fairchild #5, Margot Hennings #6, Bob Heller #7, Georgia Heth #8, Jay Whipple #9, Russ Jones #10, Beth Reid #11, Dennis Carman #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan Morse #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 Anderson, Chairman Board of Governors, Peter Rank, League Counsel, Robert Hartman, CEO, Joe Jones, Mitchell Hodus, Alex Turner, Sam Whitten, Carol Robertson, Natasha Brown, Chris Van Leeuwen, Tom Marsh, Nancy Boyd, Solly Weinstein, Stephanie Threlkeld, Howard Weinstein and Kelley McGuire, Secretary.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Approval of Denver, CO Minutes**

The Fall 2015 Denver, CO minutes are approved

Carried unanimously

**Correction of New Orleans, LA Minutes**

The distribution of Grass Roots Funds is corrected as follows

At the conclusion of the collection cycle, 80% of the funds, net of total entry fee awarded by the ACBL Flights A, B & C, is returned to the respective Districts that raised the monies. The remaining 20% is retained by the League and distributed according to the following process:

- 1) Calculate the amount of Grass Roots Funds raised per member in the District;
- 2) Sort the Districts based upon number of members from highest to lowest. Give the nine largest the value of '0' in the Rank Column, the next eight the value of "1" in the Rank Column, and the remaining eight the value of "2" in the Rank Column;
- 3) Calculate the Mean and Standard Deviation (SD) for the value of the amount raised per member for the 25 Districts. If the respective District raised less than 1

SD below the mean, place a value of "0" in the Fund Rank Column. If the District raised between 1 SD and 0.5 SD below the mean, place a value of "1" in the Fund Rank Column. If the District raised between .5 SD below the mean and the mean, place a value of "2" in the Fund Rank Column. If the District raised between the mean and 0.5 SD above the mean, place a "3" in the Fund Rank Column. If the District raised more than 0.5 SD above the mean, place a "4" in the Fund Rank Column;

- 4) Calculate the amount of Rebate based upon the formula:  
Rebate = Total Pool \* ((Size Rank + (Fund Rank \* 4)) / (Sum of all Size Ranks + (Sum of all Fund Ranks\*4))

**ACBL CEO Report**

The report of CEO Robert Hartman is received. (Attachment A)

**League Counsel Report**

The report of League Counsel Peter Rank on the status of litigation is received. (Attachment B)

**Item 161-230: Executive Committee Minutes**

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held February 9, 2016 is received.

Carried unanimously

**MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 9, 2016**

*The Executive Committee met February 9, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. CDT, by conference call, to approve the following:*

*Present at the meeting were members of the Executive Committee, Ken Monzingo, President, Suzi Subeck, Chairman of the Board, Claire Jones, Beth Reid and Jay Whipple.*

*Absent: Georgia Heth (non-voting)*

*Also present were Robert Hartman, ACBL CEO and Kelley McGuire, Secretary*

\* \* \* \* \*

**RE: Appointment of NABC Seeding and Appeals Chairmen**

The Executive Committee ratifies the presidential appointments of David Berkowitz as NABC Seeding Chairman for 2016 and Adam Wildavsky as NABC Appeals Chairman for 2016. Carried unanimously

**RE: Entry Fees**

The Executive Committee discussed the motion on Entry Fees for Team Events held at an NABC and it was referred back to the Full Board to be heard at the Reno NABC Spring board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

**Item 161-231: Election of ACBL Treasurer**

Georgia Heth and Claire Jones declared their candidacies for Treasurer. By secret ballot Claire Jones was elected as ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017.

Effective date: May 1, 2016  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-232: Hall of Fame**

Eric Kokish, Nader Hanna and Alan Sontag are appointed for three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2019 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-233: Competitions & Conventions Committee Appointment**

Kit Woosley, Danny Sprung, Will Ehlers, and Jeff Goldsmith are appointed for one-year terms from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2017 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

Jeff Meckstroth is appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2019 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-234: Ethical Oversight Committee Appointment**

Robb Gordon, Eddie Wold, Jon Brissman, Bruce Ferguson and Hendrik Sharples are appointed for three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2019 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-235: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointment**

William Schreiber, Chris Moll, Chris Benson, and Jan Martel are appointed for a three-year terms from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2019 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-236: NABC Laws Commission Appointment**

Peter Boyd, Al Levy and Howard Weinstein are appointed for five-year terms from the end of the Spring 2016 NABC through the end of the Spring 2021 NABC.

Effective Spring 2016 NABC  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-237: Aileen Osofsky Goodwill Committee Co-Chairs Appointments**

Sandy Arlinghaus (Midwest), Carol Hamilton (South), Joo-Hee Janicki (Eastern Canada), Janise Saul (Southwest), Vacant (East), Janice Anderson (Western Canada) and Marilyn Vilhauer (Northwest) are appointed as Co-Chairs to the Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee.

Effective immediately

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**Executive Session**

The Board went into Executive Session from 9:13 a.m. to 10 a.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by Ken Monzingo on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

Present: Same as Monday, March 7  
Also Present: Same as Monday, March 7  
Absent: Phyllis Harlan, #15

\* \* \* \* \*

**Working Session #1:**

Discussions: WBF, Finance

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by Ken Monzingo on Wednesday, March 10, 2016 at 9 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, March 7  
Also Present: Same as Monday, March 7

\* \* \* \* \*

**Working Session #2:**

Discussions: Strategic, Technology

**Vision Statement**

*Moved and adopted that the Vision Statement of ACBL reads:*

*Bridge is regarded as the World's most rewarding and enjoyable card game.*

*Carried      Nay: 24      Abstain: 2, 17, 23*

**APPEALS & CHARGES COMMITTEE**

Heth (C)

Bagley, Carman, Fairchild, Hennings, Morse, Subeck

Staff: Whitten

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-01: Report on Hearings**

Oral report on hearing pertaining to Bruce Blakely, ACBL #Q555893

In the appeal by Unit 543 regarding John Lyddon, ACBL #R087591, the Committee has vacated the rulings of both the Unit 540 Disciplinary Committee and the District 22 Appellate committee and remanded the case to the Unit for a new hearing due to procedural problems during the original hearing.

In the automatic review regarding Shakti Routh, ACBL #N186455, the Committee affirmed the Unit Disciplinary Committee decision to modify the initial one-year suspension to a one-year probation as per its agreement with the accused.

In the automatic review regarding Timothy Gardner, ACBL #Q565856, the Committee upheld the Unit Disciplinary Committee's findings and decision to expel Mr. Gardner.

In the appeal by District 7 regarding Chris Nicholson, ACBL #P714688, the Committee upheld the findings of the District 7 Appellate Committee and instructed ACBL Management to impose the mandatory two-year probationary period as per CDR 4.2.1.

In the automatic review and appeal by Art Brodsky, ACBL #O890636, the Committee has vacated the decision of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee and remanded this case to the ACBL Disciplinary Committee for a new hearing due to procedural problems during the original hearing.

**LEGAL SERVICES REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Heth (C)

Fairchild, C. Jones, Subeck, J. Jones, P. Rank

Staff: Jones

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-290: Attorneys in ACBL Disciplinary Cases**

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

CDR 5.1.11 Representation on behalf of ACBL Disciplinary Bodies of Original and Appellate Jurisdiction may be provided at cost to the disciplinary body, as follows with the only requirement being that the representative at the hearing shall not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors:

CDR 5.2.3

(c) For hearings at the Unit or District level or any Tournament Disciplinary Committee, 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.

(d) For hearings at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and Appeals and Charges Committees, be represented at the hearing by another person who shall not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

(e) Produce evidence and make statements on his/her own behalf.

CDR 7.7 Each party to an appeal or review under this CDR 7 shall be entitled to:

7.7.1 Receive written notice of date, time and place of the appeals hearing.

7.7.2 For hearings at the Unit or District level or any Tournament Disciplinary Committee, 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.

7.7.3 For hearings at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and Appeals and Charges Committees, be represented at the hearing by another person who shall not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

## Appendix A: Guidelines for Disciplinary Committees

### INTRODUCTION

#### I. ACTIONS, ADVOCATE AND PRESENTER

##### C. ADVOCATE

While the complainant is usually responsible for prosecuting or supporting his or her complaint, an advocate may be selected by the complainant, the Unit, the District or ACBL Management to prosecute the complaint. An advocate is the representative of the Complainant. As such, the advocate is not neutral or unbiased. The advocate is free to aggressively prosecute a complaint.

- (1) For hearings at the Unit or District level or any Tournament Disciplinary Committee, the advocate selected to appear at the hearing shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.
- (2) For hearings at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and Appeals and Charges Committees, the advocate selected to appear at the hearing may be an attorney, but may not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

##### D. PRESENTER

A presenter is an individual who makes or assists with an impartial presentation of evidence to a disciplinary committee upon the appointment by the committee chair. A presenter may be the recorder, tournament director or other party. The presenter may act as an aide to the disciplinary committee to ensure a fair and complete presentation of the evidence for the committee to consider. It is suggested that consideration be given to selection of a presenter when a case is complex and neither party is represented by counsel.

- (1) For hearings at the Unit or District level or any Tournament Disciplinary Committee, the presenter selected to appear at the hearing shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

- (2) For hearings at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and Appeals and Charges Committees, the presenter selected to appear at the hearing may be an attorney, but may not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

#### IV. PREHEARING PROCEDURES

##### A. NOTIFICATION

The parties involved, including the complainant and charged member, must receive timely written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing, be furnished with written charges, and be advised of their right to be represented by counsel.

- (1) For hearings at the Unit or District level or any Tournament Disciplinary Committee, the counsel selected to appear at the hearing shall not be an attorney or a member of the ACBL Board of Directors. The person charged may be represented by an attorney outside of the hearing room.
- (2) For hearings at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and Appeals and Charges committees, the counsel selected to appear at the hearing may be an attorney, but may not be a member of the ACBL Board of Directors.

Suggested forms are available at the ACBL web page at [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org). The chairperson of the committee hearing the matter must verify that appropriate notices have been sent. Notice sent by email shall include a request to confirm receipt of the notice by return email. If no confirmation is received within seven days of the notice, a written notice shall be sent via the U.S. Postal Service.

#### V. HEARING PROCEDURES

##### A. PRESENCE AT HEARING

The complainants and the people charged and/or their counsels, subject to the restrictions of IV. A., above are entitled to be present while all evidence is given. Other individuals may remain at the hearing only at the discretion of the chairperson.

Effective Date: April 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

#### **Item 161-291: CDR – Evidence**

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is modified as follows:

Definitions:

Comfortable Satisfaction: A burden of proof that is met when after a careful weighing of the evidence and facts proved by direct and/or circumstantial evidence, the trier of fact has a comfortable satisfaction that it has reached a correct and just conclusion. It is higher than a preponderance of the evidence, but not as high as beyond a



reasonable doubt. Direct, circumstantial, hearsay, witness statements, mathematical analysis, and any other relevant evidence can be used to establish Comfortable Satisfaction.

## Appendix A: GUIDELINES FOR DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

### V. HEARING PROCEDURES

#### G. DELIBERATIONS

After hearing all testimony the committee considers the case in a closed session; these deliberations are privileged. The standard for determining guilt is that the complainant's case be supported by a preponderance of the evidence. Any allegation that the Charged Party has committed an ethical violation must be proved Comfortable Satisfaction (see VII). A simple majority decision prevails.

#### VII. EVIDENCE

To find a person guilty requires a simple majority of the committee. It shall be the burden of the complainant to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the charged party has committed the CDR violation(s) upon which that party is charged. It is not necessary that the evidence be proved beyond a reasonable doubt. If a committee member finds that the evidence of guilt is more convincing than the evidence opposed to it then that committee member should find the charged person guilty. However, any allegation that the Charged Party has committed an ethical violation must be proved by Comfortable Satisfaction.

#### VIII. PRINCIPLES OF EVIDENCE AT HEARINGS

##### B. BURDEN OF PROOF

The complainant has the responsibility to prove the issue by presenting a preponderance of the evidence. *See definition of "preponderance of the evidence" in the CDR definitions section.* However, any allegation that the Charged Party has committed an ethical violation must be proved by Comfortable Satisfaction. *See definition of "Comfortable Satisfaction" in the CDR definitions section.*

Effective Date: April 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

### **Item 161-292: CDR – Management Suspensions motion**

Section 4.3 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is modified as follows:

#### 4.3 Suspension by ACBL Management.

4.3.1 ACBL Management may impose an administrative suspension on a person who:

(a) Has not paid dishonored checks to ACBL, its Districts, Units or Conferences.

(b) Has failed to pay a valid hotel bill to a hotel supporting an ACBL tournament without notifying ACBL and the hotel that he or she disputes such obligation in good faith.

(c) Has failed to pay a debt to ACBL, its Districts, Units or Conferences without notifying ACBL that he or she disputes such obligation in good faith.

(d) Has failed to submit club masterpoint reports in a timely manner (the person may be either the sanctioned owner and/or club manager).

(e) Has violated an ACBL Confidentiality Agreement or other contract with ACBL.

(f) Has caused damage to any facility associated with an ACBL tournament during the conduct of such tournament without adequate reason or justification and failed to make reasonable compensation therefor.

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously

### **Item 161-293: League Counsel**

1. The position of League Counsel is abolished effective August 1, 2016 and Chapter II Business Management B. Section 6 Employee and Consultants Section 6 League Counsel Job Description of the Codification is deleted in its entirety.
2. The CEO shall hire as a full time employee an "In house counsel" whose employment shall be effective on August 1, 2016 or as soon as possible thereafter. Duties of the "In house counsel" shall be those of the former position of League Counsel and such other duties as the CEO may from time to time designate, An advisory committee shall be appointed by the CEO, which shall include at least one Board of Directors member selected by the President.
3. Management shall submit a motion for the Summer meeting making amendments to the Codification which shall substitute the words "in house counsel" for the words "League Counsel".

Carried Nay: 13, 23

Abstain: 16

### **JUNIORS/YOUTH NABC COMMITTEE**

Hennings (C)

Aquino, Calkins, Heth, Janicki, C. Jones, R. Jones, Lane,  
Smith, Vilhauer

Staff: Turner

Committee Report by Chairman

### **Item 161-135: High School Team Championship**

Stu Goodgold, District 21 and seconded, that each district and each unit be allowed to hold one high school team championship event each year. (Carried unanimously)

Motion failed Aye: 18, 19, 21, 24 Abstain: 7

## Item 161-136: Conditions of Contest

ACBL Collegiate Conditions of Contest is change as follows:

### FINALS STAGE

- A. Teams attending the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals must comprise of four to six original members of the team. Teams of only four members may have one replacement, which must be an eligible student from the same participating college. A replaced player forfeits all rights earned in the competition. The ACBL invitation is extended specifically to players, not teams. Therefore, a player being replaced must be unwilling or unable to participate in the finals, and the substitution must be approved by the ACBL. No team shall have the right to replace a player who is willing and able to participate in the finals.
- B. No teams will be given the ability to augment additional players.
- C. Each member of the qualifying teams must be an ACBL member with a membership date not later than June 1, 2016.
- D. Eligibility for masterpoints will be as prescribed by the general Conditions of Contest for KO events.
- E. Qualifying players will be invited to Washington, DC to compete in the finals of the 2016 Collegiate Bridge Bowl. Each participant receives:
  - a. Economy round-trip airfare up to \$500 to Washington, DC
  - b. Lodging for three nights, double occupancy
  - c. Expense supplement for meals
- F. The captain of the #1 seed will select its first round opponent, creating a knockout style bracket. The team chosen by the #1 seed will become the #4 seed for purposes of seeding for the remainder of the tournament. Of the remaining teams, it will become the next highest seed determined by the higher VP totals from all qualifying matches of the College Bridge Bowl. On both days, teams will play, a 48 board match, in two sessions, scored by IMPs. The winning teams will move on to the finals bracket, while the other two teams move on to the consolation bracket. Day 2, the finals bracket will play for 1 and 2, and the consolation bracket will play for 3 and 4.
- G. On both days, the #1 seed and #3 seed will have their choice of seating the first and fourth quarters, or second and third quarters.
- H. In the event of a tie, additional 8 board matches will be assigned to determine the winning team.
- I. The winning team of the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals will win a \$20,000 scholarship to be split evenly among all competitors of the winning team. The scholarship is non-transferable and is not redeemable for any cash value. The scholarship must be paid directly to the school, or toward a loan which can be proven as used for the education of the participant. The scholarship can be redeemed up to 5 years from the date it was won.
- J. The ACBL General Convention Chart will govern play.
- K. The Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals will award 30 gold masterpoints for first place, 20 for second and 10 for third.

Effective Immediately

Carried unanimously

**CONDITIONS OF CONTEST COMMITTEE**

Morse (C)

Calkins, Harlan, Smith

Staff: S. Weinstein

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-41: KO Conditions of Contest**

The ACBL KO Conditions of Contest for the Spingold, Vanderbilt, Senior KO, and Wagar Women's KO is modified as follows:

**PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

Every team member must play at least half the boards of each match, exclusive of playoffs, in order to continue on that team for the remainder of the event. In the case of a 4-way, each match will be treated as a separate match and a contestant must play half of the matches. The team captain may submit an application for exemption from the requirements of this paragraph to the DIC but must do so (other than for emergencies) prior to entering the team.

Effective April 1, 2016

Carried        Abstain: 2

**PATRON MEMBERS REVIEW TASK FORCE**

Anderson (C)

Aquino, Calkins, Fairchild, Hennings, Heth, C. Jones, Norden,

Reid, Robinson, Smith, Weniger, B. Starzec

Staff: Sullivan

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**NABC OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Bagley (C)

Aquino, Fairchild, Heller, Hennings, R. Jones,

N. Boyd, W. Sullivan, S. Weinstein

Staff: Boyd

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-155: Soloway KO**

A seven-day KO event named in honor of Paul Soloway be created and included in the schedule for the Fall NABC beginning on the first Friday of the tournament. The only additional change to the Fall NABC schedule is that the Senior KO be moved to begin on the first Sunday of the Fall NABC, after the qualifying period for this new event is over.

Effective January 1, 2017

Deferred to the Summer 2016 meeting

Deferral carried Nay: 2, 7, 10, 13, 22, 23

Absent: 3

### **Item 161-156: Vanderbilt/Spingold Seeding**

Appendix B of the ACBL Conditions of Contest: Seeding Points (SPs) For Vanderbilt and Spingold Knockout Teams is amended to permit the Vanderbilt and Spingold to be seeded subjectively by the Director in Charge (DIC) with input from the Seeding Committee as deemed appropriate and necessary by the DIC. Once seeding groups are established, those seeding groups will be shuffled by the DIC as currently described. This system will remain in effect until such time as a permanent plan to deal with potentially vacated seeding points is established. Any conditions of contest for the Vanderbilt or Spingold will be superseded by this motion.

Effective immediately

Carried Absent: 3

### **Item 161-157: NABC+ Appeals**

ACBL Tournament Directors shall hear and rule upon all appeals filed at North American Bridge Championships. All Conduct and Ethics or Disciplinary matters shall continue to be referred to and heard by the NABC Tournament Committee or to its assignees.

Effective July 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 2, 4, 6, 13, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 Abstain: 20

Absent: 3

### **Item 161-159: Board of Governors Attendance**

That each Board of Governors meeting be live-streamed and available for viewing via the ACBL Web site for 60 days. Non-attending board members are expected to watch the meeting at their earliest convenience.

The only District Directors obligated to attend the BOG meeting shall be the President, Chairman of the Board, Treasurer and host District Director.

*No other board member shall receive expenses – unless explicitly approved by the President and Treasurer – beyond the morning after the full board adjourns.*

Effective July 2016

Motion failed Aye: 7, 9, 10, 12 Abstain: 4, 24

Absent: 3

**Item 161-160: Volunteer Dinner**

Chapter IV – Board Expenses, Section B. Expenses is amended as follows:

1.2.2 Hosting certain social functions at NABCs involving the members of the Board of Directors and special groups in his suite and holding special committee meetings in his suite. At NABCs, the president will host a welcome buffet/reception for Board members and special guests in his suite.

2.4.5 Two options are available for a celebration to honor NABC Volunteers. One option or the other must be selected by the NABC Volunteer Host Committee at least three months in advance of its NABC.

OPTION #1: There will be a formal dinner held on the Wednesday night immediately preceding the start of each NABC. The President will attend each Volunteers' dinner, as will the District Director for the district in which the NABC is held, the chairs of the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors and the ACBL Treasurer. One guest per invitee may be invited. Management, at its discretion, may invite additional board member (s) and their guest (s).

OR

OPTION #2: The Volunteer Host Committee may choose to receive a \$5,000 contribution from the ACBL to be used to recognize its volunteers.

Effective April 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 21 Abstain: 2 Absent: 3

**BRIDGE COMMITTEE**

R. Jones (C), C. Jones (VC)  
Aquino, Carman, Heller, Levy, Morse, Norden,  
Reid, Robinson, Weniger

Staff: S. Weinstein

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-20: Vulnerability Inserts**

Linda Trent, District 22 and seconded, that ACBL place vulnerability inserts in their boards. (Carried)

Motion failed Aye: 17, 18, 23 Absent: 3

**Item 161-21: Slow Play**

Linda Trent, District 22 and seconded, after the Director has been called twice for a slow pair and the clock is at 12 minutes or less, a third call about the same pair shall result in an automatic procedural penalty. (Carried)

Motion failed Absent: 3

<b>TOURNAMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE</b>	
Heller (C)	
Bagley, Carman, Hennings, Norden, Robinson, Weniger	Staff: Boyd
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 161-210: Limited and Invitational Games in STaCs**

Stephen Moese, District 11 that item 153-70 Limited and Invitational Games in STaCs be reconsidered by the ACBL Board of Directors:

**Item 153-70: Limited and Invitational Games in STaCs**

*Clubs which have a sanctioned masterpoint limited game, may not declare such game as open when there is a STaC.*

*Clubs which have a sanctioned invitational game may not declare such game as open when there is a STaC.*

*These clubs, limited and invitational, can play in the STaC, but they will be grouped with like (all invitational together, similar masterpoint limits) clubs.*

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 2, 8, 11, 17, 22.

BoG: Carried

Motion failed Aye: 8, 11, 17, 23, 25 Abstain: 22 Absent: 3

<b>MASTERPONT/RANKING</b>	
R. Jones (C)	
Aquino, C. Jones, Lane, Robinson, Stan Subeck, S. Weinstein	Staff: S. Weinstein
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given.

Item 153-51 passed by the Board in Denver is corrected to reflect the following:

The current reduction factor used for Bracketed Round Robin is exactly the same as the reduction factor shown below:

# of Teams In Bracket	Bracket Size Adjustment Factor
More than 40	2.000
17 to 40	1.000 + 0.04 x (Teams - 16)

16	1.000
15	0.960
14	0.920
13	0.880
12	0.840
11	0.800
10	0.760
9	0.720
8	0.600
7	0.525
6	0.450
5	0.375

The reduction factor that was meant to be used is the same as above EXCEPT when you reach 8 teams or less. Eight teams should be 0.68, Seven should be 0.64, Six should be 0.60, and Five should be 0.56.

This change to be implemented as soon as feasible by ACBLScore.

Carried Absent: 3

<b>ONLINE BRIDGE COMMITTEE</b>	
Levy (C) Aquino, Janicki, R. Jones	Staff: Hodus

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

<b>GNT/SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE</b>	
Aquino (C) Anderson, Calkins, Harlan, Norden, Reid, Robinson, Smith, Weniger, Whipple	Staff: Robertson

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-100: Grass Roots Funds**

Grass Roots Funds shall be dispersed no more than 90 days after Grass Roots month.

Effective immediately  
Carried Absent: 3, 24



\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was called to order by Ken Monzingo on Thursday, March 11, 2016 at 9 a.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, March 7

Also Present: Same as Wednesday, March 7, with the addition of Steve Gaynor, 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate, District 14, March 7

**GOVERNANCE/BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Reid (C)

Anderson, Harlan, Heller, Levy, Norden, Vilhauer, Weniger

Staff: McGuire

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-110: ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code**

Section 5.3 the ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code are amended to read as follows:

5.3 There will be an oversight committee of the Board whose duties will include addressing issues of conduct by the Board members. The Board Oversight Committee will consist of three members; the Chairman of the Board as the committee chairman with the two most immediate past presidents currently on the Board not holding any other Board officer position. A member of the Board Oversight Committee may serve for no longer than three consecutive years and must be off the Committee for two full years before serving again.

5.3.1 Any vacancy shall be filled by the next sequential past president meeting the requirement of 5.3

Effective January 1, 2017

Carried unanimously

Section 5.5.8 is added to Section 5 of the Codification, the ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code as follows:

5.5.8 Actively engaging in a campaign for a Unit, District or ACBL elected position in Districts other than his own.

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 21, 23

**Item 161-111: Chapter IV - Board Procedures A. Administration, Section 3- Elections**

**Section 3 - Elections**

The Board of Directors nominating and election procedures for officers and other elected positions follow.

### 3.1 Nominations

An eligible ACBL member desiring to be a candidate for ACBL President, ACBL Treasurer, WBF Representative or any other position elected by the ACBL Board of Directors, may declare his own nomination by notifying the Director of Elections. In addition, a Board member may declare or nominate an eligible candidate from the floor at the time of the election. A person may only serve as ACBL President if he is also serving as a member of the Board of Directors.

Effective immediately  
Carried unanimously

### **Item 161-112: Election Rules - List**

Chapter III Administration, D. Elections of the ACBL Codification is amended as follows:

#### Section One: Declaration of Candidacy

1.6.2 Candidates may request, free of charge, one list or one set of labels of the unit board members within their district, so they may campaign on their own behalf. The list may contain street addresses or email addresses or both.

#### Section Seven: Unit Meeting

7.5.2 On or about September 1, the Director of Elections will notify Unit Board Members of the status of their ballots.

Effective immediately  
Carried unanimously

### **Item 161-113: ACBL President Emeritus**

Chapter IV – Board Procedures A. Administration Section 2 Item 2.5 ACBL President Emeritus is deleted from the codification.

#### **2.5 ACBL President Emeritus**

##### Duties and Privileges

2.5.1 Is invited to attend all Board of Directors meetings, committee meetings and Board functions.

2.5.2 May be assigned as a substitute on the Executive Committee at the direction of the President.

2.5.3 Has no vote except, when otherwise allowable, in the following election(s):  
a. ACBL Honorary Members

- b. ACBL Good Will Committee Chairman
- c. ACBL Charity Foundation Trustees
- d. ACBL Educational Foundation Directors

2.5.4 Membership dues/Life Master service fees are waived.

Effective Immediately  
Carried unanimously

**Item 161-114: Permanent Committees**

Chapter IV: ACBL Board of Directors Section 2 Permanent Committees, of the Codification, is updated as follows:

Section 2 – Permanent Committees

2.1 A permanent committee is a body established by the Board of Directors to address a functional area for which there is a need for continuing evaluation. It will report the results of its deliberations to the Board of Directors at each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

2.2 The president appoints the chairman and members at the beginning of his term. Membership is comprised of board members.

2.2.1 The Presidents of the WBF Zone Two National Bridge Organizations shall be members of the "International Committee" or any successor committee whose functional area is participation in international bridge organizations and events; they may, individually or collectively, propose motions to the Board of Directors concerning international bridge or other issues that impact their NBOs. Their participation shall be limited to Committee activities. Expenses attributable their participation on the Committee shall not be paid nor reimbursed by the ACBL.

Effective immediately  
Carried Nay: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 22                      Abstain: 4, 16

**Item 161-115: Election Rules - Ballots**

The ACBL Codification Chapter III: Administration, Section D: Election is revised as follows:

Section 9 – Return of Ballots

- 9.3 Ballots are not opened until counting commences for each contested position. Before the results are formally released, the Director of Elections will make every effort to verbally communicate the outcome to all candidates.
  - 9.3.1 District Director ballots will be counted on the first business day following September 15, followed by an audit of the initial count.
  - 9.3.2 First and Second Alternate ballots will be counted on the first business day following September 15, followed by an audit of the initial count.
  - 9.3.3 Board of Governors ballots will be counted on the first business day following September 15, followed by an audit of the initial count.
- 9.4 The votes by Units in District-wide election will be kept confidential.
  - 9.4.1 The Director of Elections will release the total number of individual votes received by each candidate within the District as well as the total percentage of the weighted votes received.

Effective January 1, 2016  
Carried unanimously

<b>INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE</b>	
Janicki, (C)	
Lane, Levy, Vilhauer (N. Hanna, H. Weinstein (N/V))	Staff: McGuire
Committee Report by Chairman	

**Item 161-126: WBF Laws Committee Representative**

Chapter IV Board Procedures, D. Committees is amended as follows:

WBF Laws Committee Representative

1.4 Laws Commission

1.4.7 The ACBL will send a representative from the ACBL Laws Commission to attend all meetings of the WBF Laws Committee held in conjunction with World Championships. In the years when the Drafting Committee is in session, but in any event no longer than four years.

1.4.7.1 The representative will be selected by the ACBL Laws Commission.

1.4.7.2 The ACBL will provide air fare actual ticket price using advance non-refundable ticketing reflecting the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates, per diem and hotel room.

Effective January 1, 2017

Carried Nay: 8, 23

Abstain: 19, 24

**CLUBS /MEMBERSHIP**

Weniger (C)

Anderson, Harlan, Norden, Robertson

Staff: Robertson

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-50: Newcomer Games**

Chapter VI: Clubs, Section B: Types of Games; Section 3 – Newcomer Games, 3.2 is amended as follows:

**Section 3 – Newcomer Games**

3.2 A newcomer game is conducted to acquaint new players with duplicate bridge and to encourage participation by inexperienced players. At the discretion of club management, players may ask for advice, refer to notes and have help on any hand.

Effective immediately

Carried Abstain: 9, 13, 20

**HONORARY MEMBER COMMITTEE**

Weniger (C)

Anderson, Harlan, Norden

Staff: McGuire

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**BRIDGE INTEGRITY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE**

Subeck (C)

Carman, Harlan, Heller, Janicki, Morse, H. Weinstein, Whitten

Staff: Whitten

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 161-250: Creation of the Anti-Cheating Commission

Chapter I.F., Section 6 is added to the ACBL Codification:

Section 6 – Anti-Cheating Commission (ACC)

6.1 The ACBL Anti-Cheating Commission (ACC) will be composed of at least five expert players appointed by the ACBL CEO. The CEO may replace a member with or without cause. The CEO may add members.

6.2 Each player selected for the ACC will have a long history of success in NABC+ events, while maintaining a superior standard of ethics.

6.3 The purpose of the ACC will be to provide written opinions to the ACBL National Recorder's Office that evaluate Player Memos and other materials with a goal of identifying collusive cheating, including by developing investigatory protocols, mathematical models, and forensic criteria for reliably differentiating collusive cheating from random or innocent occurrences.

6.4 As needed, the ACC as needed may investigate any situation where collusive cheating is or may reasonably be suspected. The investigative team assembled by the ACC may engage experts in any field to assist the investigation. The ACC must notify the ACBL National Recorder in writing prior to commencing any formal investigation. Any expenditures must be approved by the ACBL National Recorder.

6.5 The ACBL National Recorder may submit evidence or Player Memos to the ACC for evaluation or recommendation. The National Recorder will regularly provide any relevant ethical player memos or other evidence to the ACC. The ACC may utilize additional experts as needed.

6.6 All ACC opinions will be provided to the ACBL National Recorder in writing. Decisions regarding filing formal complaints against specific players shall be at the sole discretion of the ACBL.

6.7 All ACC Members and additional experts utilized by the ACC must sign a mandatory ACBL Confidentiality Agreement. Confidentiality applies to any evidence reviewed by the ACC, written opinions, and the existence of an investigation.

6.8 The ACC shall provide a copy of any evidence received to the ACBL National Recorder.

Effective April 1, 2016  
Carried unanimously

<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	
Robinson (C) Reid (VC) Bagley, Carman, Heller, Levy, Morse, Whipple	Staff : Brown

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-90: 2016 Budget**

The 2016 operating budget showing an excess of revenues over expenses in the amount of \$101,486.00 is ratified.

Carried    Nay: 9, 13                      Abstain: 1            Absent: 14

The capital budget in the amount of \$497,000.00 is ratified.

Carried unanimously

### **Item 161-91: Entry Fees**

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 players participation, entry fees shall be charged on a per team basis at a rate equivalent to four players on that team.

Effective immediately

Carried        Absent: 3

### **Item 161-92: Spouse Excursions**

Appendix 8-C, page 3 of the Codification is amended to remove the following paragraph:

ACBL provides funds for pre-tournament entertainment activities. This money is to provide up to two functions for the spouses and guests of the ACBL Board of Directors on Monday and/or Tuesday prior to the start of the tournament. This is separate from NABC funds.

Motion failed    Aye: 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 20

### **Item 161-93: ACBL President/BOD Expenses**

Chapter IV Board Procedures, B. Expenses sections 1-2 of the ACBL Codification is amended as follows:

#### **Section 1 - ACBL President Expenses**

The image of the ACBL is paramount in all of the activities of the president. In keeping with such premise, the following statement of policy sets forth the duties, responsibilities and restrictions by which the president will be guided.

1.1 The president will be granted an annual president's expense allowance of \$45,000. The president and the treasurer may, prior to the Spring NABC, agree to increase this allowance by not more than \$5,000 based upon relevant circumstances

1.2 In addition to the usual presidential administrative functions which the president of most organizations performs, there are additional special responsibilities required of the office of ACBL President. These include, but are not limited to:

1.2.1 Attending regional and sectional tournaments of his choosing to bring the ACBL to its members. In addition, at those tournaments the president is expected to host local volunteers in his suite or at a meal function.

1.2.2 Hosting certain social functions at NABCs involving the members of the Board of Directors and special groups in his suite and holding special committee meetings in his suite. The president will host a welcoming buffet/reception for Board members and special guests in his suite.

1.3 The president may be accompanied by a person assisting the president in performing his duties. The expenses of such person(s) will be charged to the president's budget. The ACBL complies with IRS regulations which require companion travel reimbursements to be reported to the IRS as a taxable benefit.

1.4 The president is expected, within reason, to travel the most economical way to any tournaments, meetings or for other ACBL business. Airfare, using advance non-refundable ticketing, will reflect the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates whenever possible. The president will be reimbursed for travel to only one bridge event outside Zone 2 per year. The ACBL will reimburse no more than one non-WBF representative for travel to the same tournament, if located outside Zone 2. The CEO will be the first choice to attend such, and the President may only attend if the CEO cannot/will not attend.

1.5 Travel and other expenses related to a specific activity (especially special committee meetings) will be charged to Board expenses not to the president's expenses.

1.6 In addition to serving as ACBL President, the president also continues to serve as his district's representative on the Board of Directors and, therefore, will receive the trimester expense reimbursement identical to that provided all other Board members.

1.7 Per diem will be paid at the appropriate IRS acceptable rate to the president and traveling companion per 2.4 below. Sponsored meals by either the visiting President or the host Unit/District/organization will be deducted at normal Board procedures.

1.8 Travel to and from the NABC will be paid for up to two individuals acting as hosts at the president's suite during each NABC. One-half of this expense will be charged to Board expenses and one-half to president's expenses

1.9 Any additional expense shall be charged to the president's budget.

## **Section 2 - Board of Directors Expenses**

This policy pertains to board members, Chair of the Board of Governors, and General Counsel, for ACBL meetings or functions. The ACBL will reimburse the following expenses:

2.1 Travel Via Air



2.1.1 Actual ticket price using advance non-refundable ticketing reflecting the lowest direct service fare available for travel at reasonable times for the travel dates. Travelers may upgrade to business/first class so long as no additional expense is incurred by ACBL.

2.1.2 On an individual basis, when authorized by the President and CEO, spouse/companion airfare to a meeting will be paid when needed.

## 2.2 Travel via Automobile and Rail

2.2.1 Subject to advance approval of the treasurer, board members will be reimbursed at the applicable United States IRS rate for automobile travel provided it is a reasonable amount not to exceed the price of round trip equivalent airline ticket at the rates listed above.

2.2.2 Tolls and ferries en route and parking at the meeting site for the number of days calculated for per diem reimbursement will also be reimbursed by ACBL.

2.2.3 No meals or rooms en route will be reimbursed.

2.2.4 ACBL will reimburse the cost of train fare not to exceed the cost of equivalent airfare.

## 2.3 Hotel

2.3.1 Board members will be reimbursed at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate incurred beginning with the night before their first officially scheduled meeting and continuing through the night the board meetings conclude; however, if the board member attends the Board of Governors meeting, the reimbursement will extend through the first Saturday night of the NABC.

2.3.2 In order to qualify for reimbursement, the attendees must have paid the ACBL host hotel for the appropriate number of room nights.

2.3.3 Board members who share a room with another board member will only receive reimbursement at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate for one room, not two.

2.3.4 Board members may not charge a fee for use (or sharing) of their room for which they are receiving ACBL reimbursement.

## 2.4 Per Diem Meals

2.4.1 Reimbursement for meals will be paid on the basis of the applicable IRS meals-only per diem rate for travel within the 48 continental United States (including the District of Columbia) ("CONUS"). For travel outside CONUS meals-only per diem will be paid at the applicable IRS per diem meals-only rate for the highest cost CONUS city.

2.4.2 Per diem will be paid beginning with the day before the first officially scheduled meeting through either the day of departure or the Sunday of the Board of Governors meeting, whichever is earlier.

2.4.3 Board member per diem may be reduced by up to 25% by the ACBL Treasurer based on the concierge privileges.

2.4.4 Board member per diem will be reduced for meals provided by ACBL.

2.4.5 For board members and their spouse/companion who attend volunteers' dinner at an NABC one-half of the per diem for that day will be deducted from each board member who attends the dinner. The balance will be paid for by the ACBL. Seating assignments will be encouraged.

Effective immediately  
Carried Nay: 23

### **Item 161-95: Cooperative Advertising Program**

Appendix 1-E2 of the Codification is amended as follows:

#### **Cooperative Advertising Program**

The Cooperative Advertising Program (CAP) reimburses ACBL teachers, clubs, units and districts for advertising expenses for programs and lessons designed for newcomers and/or to recruit ACBL members. CAP will refund 50% of eligible advertising costs with a maximum reimbursement of \$500. Qualifying advertisements are date-specific ad campaigns for beginner bridge lessons, newcomer programs, social bridge recruitment events and ACBL member recruitment. ACBL reserves the right to refuse reimbursement for any reason for CAP submissions. Submissions by a person who has any ownership, management or conflict of interest in the media outlet in which they are advertising (e.g. personal websites, online and print publications) will not be approved for CAP reimbursement.

For more information on CAP Guidelines and Requirements visit:  
<http://www.acbl.org/marketing/cooperative-advertising-program/>.

Effective date: April 1, 2016  
Carried Abstain: 15

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#### **Executive Session**

The Board went into Executive Session from 1:10 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 1:39 p.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

\* \* \* \* \*

<b>AUDIT</b>	
Levy (C) Robinson, C. Jones	Staff: J. Jones

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

<b>EDUCATION/MARKETING</b>	
Smith (C) Calkins, Janicki, A. Turner	Staff: Threlkeld

Committee Report by Chairman

**Item 161-70: School Bridge Program**

Chapter 1, G, Section 1 of the Codification, School Bridge Program is changed as follows:

Section 1 - School Bridge Program

1.1 The ACBL will provide materials needed to run School Bridge lessons under the following guidelines.

- 1.1.1 Students must be under 26 years of age.
- 1.1.2 Students who have graduated from high school must be enrolled full-time at a two year or four-year college.
- 1.1.3 There must be at least four students. It is recommended that all classes have at least 12+ students.
- 1.1.4 Students may not be charged for teacher's time.

Effective Immediately  
Carried Absent: 14

<b>BOARD PUBLICATION</b>	
Subeck, (C) Anderson, Bagley, Calkins, Harlan, Hennings, Heth, Lane, Smith, A. Turner (N/V)	Staff: Turner

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**WEBSITE/BULLETIN**

Carman, (C)

Heller, Heth, Lane, Morse

Staff: Hodus

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

**BOARD COMPOSITION**

Heller, (C), R. Jones (VC)

C. Jones, Mamula, Sprung, Hartman, J. Jones, Korbek, Lewis

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Closing Remarks**

It was moved by Morse and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 21 and its units, District Director Roger Smith, Tournament Co – Chairs Bob Garret and Katherine Ewing, and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank the Silver Legacy Resort Casino for its fine cooperation.

The Board adjourned *sine die* at 3:08 p.m.