

**ACBL Board of Directors
Las Vegas, Nevada
July 16 – 19, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President Russ Jones on Tuesday July 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Leo Weniger #1, Paul Janicki #2, Carlos Muñoz #3, Joann Glasson #4, Brian Ellis #5, Margot Hennings #6, Mike Kovacich #7, Georgia Heth #8, Jay Whipple #9, Russ Jones #10, AJ Stephani #11, Dennis Carman #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Warren Smith #15, Paul Cuneo #16, Bonnie Bagley #17, Claire Jones #18, Julie Smith #19, Merlin Vilhauer #20, Jackie Zayac #21, David Lodge #22, Kevin Lane #23, Al Levy #24 and Bob Bertoni #25

Also Present: Jeff Overby #9 Director Elect, Richard Popper, Chairman Board of Governors, Joe Jones, Executive Director, Linda Dunn, Dan Storch, Susie Cordell, Nancy Boyd, Robb Gordon, Sol Weinstein, David Metcalf, and Kelley Trejo, Secretary.

Approval of Memphis, TN Minutes

The Spring 2019 Memphis, TN minutes are approved with the following correction:

Item 191-48: WBF Executive Council Appointment; Al Levy is elected as the ACBL nominee to the NABF for the NABF's election of representatives to the WBF Executive Council beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2021.

Carried unanimously

Item 192-45: Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held May 13, 2019 are received and ratified.
(Attachment A) Nay: 24

Approval of Non-Agenda Item

Item 192-: NABC Regional and Single Session Event Entry Fees

Motion failed: Aye: 1, 2, 5, 17, 20, 23, 24, 25

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The Board of Directors convened into Committee meetings at 9:30 a.m. for the rest of the morning.

The meeting was called to order by President Russ Jones on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, July 16

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, July 16

BRIDGE COMMITTEE

Carman (C)

Bagley, Bertoni, C. Jones, Kovacich, Levy, J. Smith, W. Smith, Subeck Staff: Weinstein, Metcalf

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 192-15: 4-Session Regional Events

Codification Chapter XIII – General Tournament Information - Appendix 13 B - Masterpoint Computations, Sectional/Regional Tournament Events, C. - Regional Events – Unrestricted Events, 3 - Four Session Regional Event is amended as follows:

For those unrestricted four session Regional events, other than Knockouts, the Masterpoint awards shall be computed by formula increased by 60% and not to exceed 50 masterpoints.

Effective August 1, 2019

Carried unanimously

Item 192-16: Flight C CNT Championship and the CMT Championship

Codification Chapter XIII – General Tournament Information - Appendix 13 B - Masterpoint Computations, International Events and Team Trials, A Canadian Bridge Championship is amended as follows:

The Flight C Canadian National Team Championship and the Canadian Mixed Team Championship be changed from awarding overall MPs based on the formula to overall MP awards based on a fixed amount. The Masterpoint Committee will determine a suitable award.

MP Committee has determined that the MP awards for proposal 192-16 should be:

30 Gold for Flight C CNT

80 Gold for Canadian Mixed Teams

Both will be subject to the minimum table requirements.

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously

Item 192-17: Opportunities for ACBL Members Residing Outside of the ACBL member countries

ACBL Management will create two online bridge tournaments, in conjunction with an NABC, which:

Will be limited to players whose residence is outside of the ACBL member countries

- a. Is only open to ACBL members in good standing, i.e., current with their dues
- b. Will provide for the opportunity to win gold, red and silver points

Motion failed

Aye: 1

Item 192-18: Club Incentive

Moved that: Section D of the Masterpoint Book dealing with Club Awards under the heading **SPECIAL AWARDS IN CLUB EVENTS** be modified as follows:

Club Appreciation Team Games – Awards 25% Gold masterpoints for overall positions and match awards, up to a maximum of 1 masterpoint; remaining awards are black.

Upgraded Club Championships - Awards 25% Gold for overall positions, not session awards or match awards, up to a maximum of 1 masterpoint; remaining awards are black.

Effective January 1, 2020 or as soon as can be implemented by management
Carried unanimously

Item 192-19: Update General Conditions of Contest

The revised General Conditions of Contest attached to this motion as Exhibits A-1 to A-6 are approved.

Effective August 1, 2019
Carried unanimously

Item 192-20: GNT Special Conditions of Contest

The revised 2019-2020 Grand National Teams (GNT) Conditions of Contest to this motion as Exhibit B-1 be approved.

Effective September 1, 2019
Carried unanimously

Item 192-21: General Conditions of Contest for STaCs

The revised General Conditions of Contest for STaCs attached to this motion as Exhibit C-1 be approved.

Effective August 1, 2019
Carried Nay: 13

Item: 192-22: Permanent Unit Residency

Each ACBL member shall be assigned a Permanent Unit Affiliation (“PUA”). A member’s PUA shall be based on the member’s primary physical residence. Once a PUA has been assigned to a member, the PUA shall not change unless the member moves to a new primary physical residence.

Upon implementation of this procedure, any member who has multiple physical residences will be required to declare his PUA.

Each member shall also maintain a mailing address (“MA”), which may be the same as or different from the PUA. A member’s MA may be changed at any time and as frequently as the member chooses.

The Unit portion of a member’s dues shall be credited to the member’s PUA.

A member’s eligibility for Grand National Teams, North American Open Pairs or any similar event will be based on the member’s PUA.

Motion failed Aye: 1, 13, 14 Abstain: 2

Item 192-23: Robot Daylong Tournaments

Codification Chapter VI – Club Sanctioned Games, A. ACBL Sanctions for Club Masterpoint Games, Section 6 – Daylong Robot Tournaments be amended to increase the number of Robot Daylong Tournaments per day.

- 6.1. Up to four sanctioned daylong online robot games may be held daily per approved online club. Up to 24 hours are allowed for play. Each daylong game will play either 12 or 18 boards.

Effective immediately
Carried Nay: 1

Item 192-24: Use of Tournament Assistants at ACBL Sanctioned Tournaments

Codification Chapter XIII – General Tournament Information, G. Tournament Directors, Finance and Tournament Assistants, Section 3 – Tournament Assistants (Formerly entitled Tournament Computer Operator Technicians in Canada) be replaced in its entirety with the text contained in the document titled Use of Tournament Assistants at ACBL Sanctioned Tournaments.

Effective August 1, 2019
Carried Nay: 1, 4, 18

Item 192-25A: Super Senior Events

NABC events designated as “Super Senior” be changed from a minimum of 70 years of age to 75 years of age.

Effective January 1, 2020
Carried unanimously

Item 192-25B: Senior Age

The definition of a “Senior” for the purposes of participation in all ACBL events designated as ‘Senior’ be changed from a minimum of 60 years of age to 65 years of age. The requirements for earning a “Silver Ribbon” qualification will follow the new Senior Age changes. The following is the transition for the senior age change:

Beginning January 1, 2020 Senior Age will be 62
Beginning January 1, 2021 Senior Age will be 63
Beginning January 1, 2022 Senior Age will be 64
Beginning January 1, 2023 Senior Age will be 65

Effective January 1, 2020

Carried Nay: 1, 9, 13, 23, 24 Abstain: 18

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| FINANCE COMMITTEE |
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| Glasson (C) |
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| Ellis, Heth, Lane, Lodge, Munoz, Weniger |
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| Staff : Dodson, J. Jones |
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As reported by Committee Chair

Item 192-35: Month of Funding

Codification Chapter V- Charity, Foundations and Special Funds, B. Charity and Fund Games – Clubs be changed with subsection 2.2 to now read “The month of February is designated as Education Foundation Fund month. Monies raised from Education Foundation Charity Games shall be distributed to the Education Foundation.”

Renumber current subsections 2.2 through 2.6 to 2.3 through 2.7.

Effective August 1, 2019

Carried Nay: 13, 23, 24 Abstain: 1

Item 192-36 I/N Tournament Staffing

Chapter X – Sectionals, D. Operations, Section 1 – Staffing, 1.1.4.2 be amended as follows:

Section 1 – Staffing

1.1.4.2 If ACBL hand records are used, the normal charge applies. ~~If an ACBL employee submits results to ACBL Live or provides any other support, the tournament will be charged a fee of \$50 over and above all other fees and charges.~~

Motion failed Aye: 1, 2, 3, 7, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24

Item 192-37: Guest Membership

Codification Chapter I – Membership, A. Membership Section, 2 – Definitions and Rights of ACBL Membership be amended to add guest member definition:

2.2 Classes of Membership

2.2.8 Guest member:

- 2.2.8.1 May join ACBL at no cost;
- 2.2.8.2 Former members may renew as a guest member, granted that they never achieved the ACBL masterpoint rank of Junior Master;
- 2.2.8.3 Membership renewal is required every 12 months;
- 2.2.8.4 The guest membership benefits shall be defined by management policy. Benefits may be adjusted according to recruitment and upgrading rates;
- 2.2.8.5 The following benefits shall not be available to guest members:
 - a. A subscription to the printed version of the Bridge Bulletin
 - b. Promotion to the rank of Junior Master or higher
 - c. Credit of masterpoints other than black or unpigmented

Codification Chapter I – Membership, C. Dues and Life Master Service Fees be amended as follows to restrict guest members’ ability to accrue masterpoints earned before joining the ACBL:

- 1.1.4 New General Members may provide club rating point receipts and/or references to points won at tournaments. Upon verification, the points won, to a maximum of 20, at clubs and/or tournaments will be credited to the member’s record upon becoming a General Member for the first time.

Codification subsection 2.1 of Chapter I - Membership, A. Membership, Section 2 be updated as below to restrict elections rights for guest members:

2.1 Membership Rights

In accordance with Article III, Section 3.2 of the ACBL Bylaws, the following voting rights, term, characteristics, rights, limitations and obligations shall attach to all classes of membership as follows:

- 2.1.1 With the exception of guest members, all other classes shall have the right to vote in any election in which the General Membership is the electorate as long as he or she is a member in good standing;
- 2.1.2 Shall have an obligation to adhere to the rules and regulations of the ACBL;
- 2.1.3 Shall have such limitations as imposed by rules and regulations of the ACBL or actions of an ACBL disciplinary body;
- 2.1.4 With the exception of guest members, all other classes shall be able to run for an elected ACBL position as long as he or she is 18 years of age or older and there are no other age requirements for the position.

Codification subsection 2.3.3 in Chapter I - Membership, A. Membership, Section 2 be updated as below to restrict guest member participation in national-rated events:

- 2.3.3 In order to participate in a National-rated event at an NABC, a person must be an ACBL member whose service fee or dues is current. Guest members are not allowed to participate in such events.

Codification Chapter I, Part C, Section 4 be eliminated entirely to eliminate the Temporary Membership (existing Temporary Memberships will be valid until the end of their current term):

Section 4 – Temporary Membership (Effective March 1, 2018)

~~4.1 A Temporary Membership will be available only for players who have not been previously a regular ACBL member. However, a member who has only held a Temporary Membership may buy another Temporary Membership.~~

~~4.2 Temporary members can only be referred by a teacher, club, or tournament. The referring teacher, club or tournament will receive a recruitment bonus.~~

~~4.3 Temporary memberships are valid for one month.~~

~~4.4 During the membership period, a Temporary Member is a General Member with the same rights and obligations as full-membership members.~~

~~4.5 A Temporary Member will become inactive after the expiration of her/his Temporary Membership.~~

Codification Chapter I, Part C, Section 5 be updated to eliminate the row "Temporary Membership":

| | 1-month | 1-year | 3-year |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Temporary | \$7.99 | | |
| Junior | | \$5 | |
| Regular | | \$49 | \$117 |
| Household | | \$82 | \$216 |
| Life Member | | \$46 | \$108 |
| Patron (Individual) | | \$275 | \$750 |
| Patron Household) | | \$375 | \$1050 |

Codification subsection 4.2.2 of Chapter I - Membership, A. Membership, Section 4 – Readmission be deleted to eliminate a codified, permanent amnesty rule to allow management more flexibility for designing, testing and implementing campaigns for recruiting former members:

~~4.2.2. Any former member who reinstates for a three year period will have all unrecorded Masterpoints credited at no charge. All Masterpoints earned during the non-member period for which payment is received will be recorded to the extent possible.~~

Codification subsection 3.3 in Chapter VIII – North American Bridge Championships, C. Finances be updated as below to include guest members in the entry fee surcharge for NABCs:

3.3 At all NABCs, entry fees for non-members, guest members and unpaid Life Masters will be \$4.00 per player per session higher than for ACBL other members who have paid their dues/service fees. Charity events and events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints are exempted from this requirement.

Codification subsection 3.2 in Chapter IX – Regional Tournaments, B. Finances be updated as below to include guest members in the higher entry fee for Regionals:

- 3.2 Except for charity events, events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints, and active members of the American Bridge Association:
- a. For all Regionals, the sponsoring organization will charge a mandatory additional fee of at least \$4.00 per person per session for non-members, guest members and unpaid Life Masters. For tournaments which are hosted in Canada, this fee will be collected in Canadian dollars.

Codification subsection 1.4 in Chapter X – Sectionals, B. Finance be updated as below to include guest members in the higher entry fee for Sectionals:

- 1.4 Except for charity events, events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints, and active members of the American Bridge Association:
- a. For all Sectionals, the sponsoring organization will charge a mandatory additional fee of at least \$4 per person per session for non-members, guest members and unpaid Life Masters. For tournaments which are hosted in Canada, the fee will be collected in Canadian dollars.

Effective: As soon as ACBL can implement the changes in all membership-related systems.
Carried Nay: 13, 25 Abstain: 1

Item 192-38: WBF Management Meeting

Codification Chapter VII – International Bridge, A. Zone 2 National Bridge Organizations (NBOs), Section 4 – Miscellaneous, be modified to include the following:

- 4.6 The ACBL will sponsor a WBF Management Meeting to be held at the 2019 San Francisco NABC. The ACBL shall provide up to 50 room nights including one junior suite for up to five nights; light refreshments during the meetings; up to four lunches for ten people during the meetings; and appropriate meeting space for up to four days. The expenditure for hotel rooms, food and beverage shall not exceed \$10,000 and will come from funds raised by the ACBL for the NABF.

Effective immediately
Carried Nay: 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 14, 21, 22, 23, 25

Item 192-39: Education Fund

Codification Chapter I – Membership, G. Education be appended as follows:

Section 5: Education Fund

The ACBL shall raise bridge-education funds in the name of the Education Fund rather than the Educational Foundation, except for the “Educational Foundation” check-off box at membership renewal. All money raised from the check-off box shall go to the Educational Foundation without restrictions.

ACBL management shall spend/distribute money raised either directly or indirectly for the

Education Fund as follows:

- 40% to the ACBL Educational Foundation. Money distributed to the Educational Foundation shall be unrestricted up to \$50K or the full amount of check-off box donations, whichever is greater. Any additional funds going to the educational foundation shall be restricted to the college program.
- 20% to local bridge education charities throughout ACBL's territory. Recipients in the United States must be 501c3 bridge education organizations. These funds should be distributed for purposes that further the ACBL's education strategy and complement Educational Foundation goals/programs.
- 40% to development of bridge education technology

Management has the discretion to adjust the above percentages, but must report its reasons for so doing to the board no later than the next NABC.

Motion Failed Aye: 1, 13, 17, 23, 24 Abstain: 2

GOVERNANCE BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Hennings (C)

Anderson, Cuneo, Janicki, Stephani, Popper, Vilhauer, Zayac

Staff: Dunn

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 192-30: Stipend Payment

Codification Chapter IV – Board Procedures, B. Expenses, Section 4 – Board of Directors Stipend be revised to the following

Section 4 – Board of Directors' Stipend

- 4.1 The President of the ACBL, each District Director and the Chair of the Board of Governors will receive up to \$3000 annually in reimbursement for travel to Unit/District events, telephone expenses, and other expenses related to their office. Each individual will be required to submit receipts within 6 months of the occurrence of the expense but no later than March 1 of the subsequent year.

Motion failed Aye: 4, 9, 10, 24

ACBL Management Report

The report of Executive Director Joe Jones is received. (Attachment B)

Litigation Report

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

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Muñoz (C)
Ellis, Levy

Staff: Dodson, Dunn

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 192-60: Conflict of Interest

1. Codification Chapter IV, A. Administration, Section 2 – Officers be amended as follows with the following subsections renumbered accordingly:
 - 2.2 President of the Board of Directors
 - 2.2.1 The ACBL President is elected by the Board of Directors for a one-year term commencing on January 1 of the following year.
 - 2.2.2 At the time the ACBL President takes office he or she may not be a member of the board of directors or a trustee of any other bridge organization other than that of a Unit or District. Restricted organizations include, but are not limited to, any ACBL-affiliated charity and/or foundation and other bridge related organizations such as the NABF, WBF, USBF, CBF or FMB.
 - 2.2.3 Guidelines outlining the duties, responsibilities and authority of the ACBL President are in Codification Appendix 4-A1 *Duties, Responsibilities and Authority of the President*. See also Appendix 4-A4 *Standing Rules for Meetings and Committees*.
 - 2.2.4 The current ACBL President and companion when invited by the host organization will be allowed to play in any Senior Sectional or Regional or any restricted-by-masterpoint Sectional or Regional. If not otherwise qualified, no masterpoint awards will be issued.

Codification Chapter IV, A. Administration, Section 8 – Conflict of Interest be amended as follows:

8.1 Purpose.

The purpose of these standards is to provide safeguards to members of the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League (the “League”) from: (1) using their Board positions for purposes that are, or give the appearance of being, motivated by a desire for private financial gain for themselves or others such as those with whom they have family, business or other ties; (2) using their Board positions for purposes that are, or give the appearance of being, motivated by a desire to support a non-financial interest for themselves or others such as those with whom they have family, business or other ties; (3) violating their duty to the League by inappropriately disclosing confidential information about the League, and (4) any other acts which may constitute, or may appear to constitute, a conflict of interest.

This policy is intended to supplement but not replace the League’s Bylaws and applicable state and federal laws governing conflicts of interest.

...

8.3 Non-Financial Interest. A “Non-Financial Interest” shall be defined as an interest, not involving financial gain, which might lead an independent observer reasonably to question whether a Board member’s actions or decisions in connection with the League are influenced by considerations of such outside interest. Non-Financial Interests include, but are not limited to, personal (direct or indirect through relatives and friends), bridge related and professional interests.

A Non-Financial Interest shall not exist in connection with a member of the Board of Directors of the League serving as an officer or director of a League District or Unit.

...

8.6 A person with a financial interest or Non-Financial Interest as defined herein may not be present or participate in Board or committee deliberation or vote on the matter giving rise to such conflict. However, at the request of a majority of the Board, they may be invited to make a brief presentation to the Board or to answer questions for the Board.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Non-Financial Interest has been created by service with an ACBL-related charity or foundation or other bridge related organization such as the NABF, WBF, USBF, CBF or FMB, that person may not vote on matters giving rise to the conflict but the other restrictions in the preceding paragraph shall not apply.

Effective January 1, 2020

Carried Nay: 2, 6, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 24 Abstain: 8, 10, 25

APPEALS & CHARGES COMMITTEE

Stephani (C)

Carman, Janicki, C. Jones, Levy, J. Smith, Vilhauer

Staff: Dunn/Gordon

As reported by Committee Chair

192-01: Report on Hearings

- The Appeals and Charges Committee reviewed the matter of Ralph Herz pursuant to CDR 7.2.6. Mr. Herz was disciplined for violation of CDR 3.20 for an Ethical Violation and given 30-days’ probation by the Unit 174 Disciplinary Committee. According to the Hearing Report, Mr. Herz was also suspended from his club for 60 days. The committee reviewed the record and, although some Committee members felt that the discipline might have been lighter than they would have recommended, the Committee decided that the Unit Disciplinary Committee had handled the matter appropriately. Accordingly, the committee unanimously determines that Unit Disciplinary Committee decision is AFFIRMED.

- The committee reviewed the matter of Richard Golman pursuant to CDR 7.2.6. Mr. Golman was disciplined for violation of CDR 3.20 for an Ethical Violation and given a two-year suspension, ending on May 7, 2021, by the Unit 221 Disciplinary Committee. In addition, the Unit Disciplinary Committee removed all Mr. Golmon’s masterpoints and titles earned in the 12 months prior to February 2019. The Appeals and Charges committee reviewed the record presented to them, including the evidence presented to and the reasoning employed by the Unit Disciplinary Committee. The committee unanimously determines that Unit Disciplinary Committee decision is AFFIRMED.
- The committee considered the request for readmission of expelled member Kevin Lewis. Mr. Lewis was expelled from the ACBL by a prior Appeals and Charges Committee in November 2005, effective November 18, 2005. Mr. Lewis, who had recently played in several club games while expelled, professed to not be aware that he had been expelled, indicating that he did not recall receiving the November 2005 Notice of Decision. Furthermore, he stated that he was unaware that he was petitioning for readmission; rather he wanted permission to play at his local club and some tournaments. The committee, however, necessarily reviewed this matter as a request for readmission.

Mr. Lewis apologized for his past actions, represented that he is a different person today, and promised that he would comport himself differently if readmitted. ACBL management opposed readmission, arguing that Mr. Lewis had a chequered disciplinary history with the ACBL and had not taken responsibility for his actions. The committee reviewed and discussed the record and the arguments made for and against readmission. Following that discussion, the committee, by a vote of six FOR and one ABSTAINING, recommends that Mr. Lewis be readmitted to the ACBL (i.e., be allowed to apply for membership), with a mandatory minimum probation of 5 years imposed under CDR 10.2.2(c).

The CDR places the final decision for readmission requests with the ACBL Board of Directors, so the Appeals and Charges Committee requests ratification of its determination in this matter.

Carried Nay: 3, 4, 8, 15, 21 Abstain: 5, 20

Item 192-02A: Vacating Title Resolutions

The ACBL Board of Directors pass either Item 192-02 or Item 192-03.

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 8, 13, 14, 15, 25

Item 192-03: Vacating Title Resolution

Resolution on Players Convicted of Collusive and/or Premeditated Cheating

Whereas August 22, 2015 is the date that changed the history of ethics and fair play in bridge, Boye Brogeland having publicly declared that day that a cloud of cheating and breach of the principles of fair play hung over the game at its highest level;

Whereas national and international bridge organizations of various stripes and squares have struggled to address the aftermath of that day, proceeding against players alleged to have violated these norms with varying degrees of satisfaction;

Whereas the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) has not been immune to these developments, having first responded in November 2015 and now acknowledging that response as inadequate to the bridge crimes committed;

Whereas the ACBL vacated NABC+ titles won only by persons convicted of cheating in ACBL events, and not in events of other bridge organizations, and then only for 4 years prior to the conviction in question; and

Whereas the ACBL now adorns its most prestigious Championships with the names of players who stand disgraced in the eyes of the bridge world; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the ACBL:

1. expresses our thanks to the countless bridge players who worked to expose illicit signaling systems and other means of cheating;
2. recognizes that the players convicted of such methods have caused irreparable harm to our great game, and publicly condemns their actions as inimical to the fundamental principles of the fair play of bridge;
3. seeks to become a global leader in purging its events of collusive and/or premeditated cheating and responding justly and fairly to results obtained through such methods;
4. notwithstanding CDR 4.1.8, strips all NABC+ titles and second place finishes from any player partnership, each of whom has, from the date of August 22, 2015 onward, been (1) expelled from the ACBL for any reason; (2) resigned for the purpose of avoiding possible disciplinary actions; or (3) are currently suspended for ethical violations;
5. notwithstanding CDR 4.1.8, recognizes that any such expulsion, resignation, or suspension may be due to participation in either an ACBL-sanctioned event or that of another bridge organization;
6. strips any NABC+ titles and second place finishes held by such pairs, or by teams including such pairs, to the first date of any recorded partnership of those pairs in the ACBL;
7. directs that, for NABC+ event titles and second place finishes vacated by this Resolution, such titles and second place finishes shall remain and be recorded in official ACBL records as “Vacated.”

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 2, 6, 9, 11, 17, 23, 24

Item 192-04: Collusive Cheaters

Section 10.2.4 of the Code of Disciplinary Regulations shall be amended as follows:

Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of Section 10.2, the ACBL Board of Directors will not hear, and ACBL Management hereby is instructed not to forward to the Board, any request for

readmission of a member who was expelled for premeditated collusive cheating in any ACBL sanctioned event, or who resigned his membership for the purpose of avoiding possible disciplinary actions concerning premeditated collusive cheating in such events, or combination of such expulsion or resignation. Such a former member may never be readmitted to Membership in the ACBL nor participate in any ACBL sanctioned events.

Motion failed Aye: 1, 4, 5, 17, 21, 24

Item 192-05: Member in Good Standing

The Codification Chapter 1 – Membership, A. Membership, Section 2 – Definitions and Rights of ACBL Membership and Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) be revised as follows:

2.3.1 Definition. An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member’s dues, if dues are required, are current and such member is not currently:

1. expelled;
2. serving a term of suspension;
3. serving indefinite probation;
4. serving a Probation, the initial term of which was 24 or more months; or
5. serving a term of probation following a Suspension, the initial term of which was more than 90 days.

2.3.2 Limitations. A member who is not in good standing may not:

1. Serve in any elected or appointed position in ACBL;
2. Receive any subsidy or remuneration from ACBL;
3. Participate in and receive recognition for Masterpoint races;
4. Receive recognition for Masterpoint rank-promotion; Publish an article in any ACBL publication;
5. Vote in any election in which general membership is electorate;
6. Serve as a club manager or director;
7. Participate in events where such participation is prohibited by Conditions of Contest;
8. Vote in a Hall of Fame election.

(reprinted in Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) for convenience)

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations (CDR) be revised as follows:

member in good standing

An ACBL member shall be deemed to be in “good standing” when such member’s dues, if dues are required, are current and such member is not currently:

1. expelled;
2. serving a term of suspension;
3. serving indefinite probation;

4. serving a Probation, the initial term of which was 24 or more months; or
5. serving a term of probation following a Suspension, the initial term of which was more than 90 days.

A member who is not in good standing may not:

1. Serve in any elected or appointed position in ACBL;
2. Receive any subsidy or remuneration from ACBL;
3. Participate in Masterpoint races;
4. Receive recognition for Masterpoint rank promotion;
5. Publish an article in any ACBL publication;
6. Vote in any election in which general membership is electorate;
7. Serve as a club manager or director;
8. Participate in events where such participation is prohibited by Conditions of Contest;
9. Vote in a Hall of Fame election.

reprinted in ACBL Codification, Chapter 1, section 2.3.1-2.3.2

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 192-06: Collusive Cheating Definition

The following be added to the Code of Disciplinary Regulations Definitions (CDR):

Collusive Cheating

An agreement made between two or more people, at least one of whom is a contestant, to exchange or pass information illicitly. This section includes agreements made by persons who are not partners or contestants, including, but not limited to kibitzers or teammates.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 192-07: NABC Tournament Conduct Committee

Codification Chapter IV – Board Procedures, D. Committees, Section 5 – Other ACBL Bodies, 5.2 NABC Tournament Conduct Committee be amended as follows:

ACBL Management be responsible for creating the NABC Tournament Conduct Committee roster and submitting a list of names to be approved by the ACBL President.

Section 5 - Other ACBL Bodies

Other ACBL bodies are non-Board committees established by the Board of Directors to accomplish goals and objectives deemed appropriate. These entities operate in accordance with, and under the provisions of, the enabling legislation.

- 5.1 NABC Tournament Conduct Committee The process for forming an NABC Tournament Conduct Committee will be as follows:
- 5.1.1 ACBL Management will create a roster of committee members from:
- a. A list of names approved by the ACBL President that has been submitted by ACBL Management;
 - b. The membership of the ACBL Ethical Oversight Committee; and
 - c. The membership at large, if needed.
- 5.1.2 When the committee is to hear a Charge or Charges relating only to conduct (not including an Ethical Violation), ACBL Management will select the committee from available members in categories a. through c. immediately above.
- 5.1.3 When the committee is to hear a charge which includes an Ethical Violation, the ACBL Ethical Oversight Committee chair will select the committee from available members of the ACBL Ethical Oversight Committee and/or, if needed, from the membership at large.
- 5.1.4 The committee members serving on a case will be compensated. The guideline for the amount of the compensation is the value of a two-session entry to an NABC+ event for each day the committee meets.

Effective January 1, 2020
Carried unanimously

Item 192-09: Resignation to Avoid Discipline Publication

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations Section 10 Other Disciplinary Matters be amended as follows:

10. Other Disciplinary Matters
- 10.1.1 A member who resigns his/her membership in the ACBL when disciplinary charges are pending for unethical activity may not thereafter participate in any national, District, Unit, sanctioned game or other ACBL activity, including but not limited to:
- (i) acting as non-playing captain,
 - (ii) kibitzing any game or event,
 - (iii) being physically present at the site of a tournament, or
 - (iv) participating in the corporate or business affairs of any ACBL affiliated organization.

- 10.1.2 For purposes of publication, a member who resigns when disciplinary charges are pending for unethical activity shall be treated as though that member was convicted of the ethical violation(s) for which the member is charged, and received maximum discipline under Appendix B. However, publication as indicated in CDR 10.3.4 and CDR 10.3.5 shall be at the discretion of Management.

Effective January 1, 2020
Carried unanimously

Item 192-10: Statute of Limitations

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations Section 5 Procedures for Disciplinary Bodies of Original Jurisdiction be amended as follows:

Section 5 Procedures for Disciplinary Bodies of Original Jurisdiction

- 5.2 Specific Procedures for The Conduct of Hearings by a Unit Disciplinary Committee, District Disciplinary Committee, The Ethical Oversight Committee and The ACBL Disciplinary Committee (see also CDR 5.1.)

5.2.1

- (d) Notwithstanding the previous limitations period above, a Complaint any ethical violation for which CDR 3.20 “Cheating and other Ethical Violations” would apply, is not subject to a period of limitations.

Effective immediately upon publication
Carried Nay: 8

Item 192-11: Unit Disciplinary

The following sections of the Codification and CDR be modified to accompany the change described here:

From Codification:

Chapter III – Administration, A. Units, Section 2 – Unit Requirements, Privileges and Responsibilities subsection 2.2.5

Chapter VI – Club Sanctioned Games, F. Discipline, Section 1 – Club Discipline, subsections 1.13, 1.14, 1.16

The positions of Unit Recorder and Unit Disciplinary Chair are eliminated. All disciplinary matters previously managed by Units will be managed by Districts. For disciplinary matters in a District the District President shall be the Charging Party unless otherwise specified in the District’s bylaws.

The positions of Unit Recorder and Unit Disciplinary Chair are eliminated. All disciplinary matters previously managed by Units will be managed by Districts. For disciplinary matters in a District the District President shall be the Charging Party unless otherwise specified in the District's bylaws.

From CDR:

Definitions – Advocate, Charging Party, Unit Disciplinary Committee.

1. Unit Disciplinary Committee

2.1 Jurisdiction, generally (or lack thereof), of Units, Districts, the ACBL and Tournament Disciplinary Committees

2.1.5 Limits on the Jurisdiction of Disciplinary Bodies.

2.2 Original vs. Appellate jurisdiction of unit and District Disciplinary Bodies.

4.3.2 Additional Reason for Administrative Suspension.

4.4.2 Requirements when Suspension Pending Hearing is in effect.

5.1.11 Advocate/Presenter

5.1.18 Advisor for Committees of Original Jurisdiction.

5.2 Specific Procedures for the conduct of hearings by a Unit Disciplinary Committee, District Disciplinary Committee, the Ethical Oversight Committee, and the ACBL Disciplinary Committee.

5.3.4 Hearing Held Following Tournament.

5.3.14 Additional Discipline Recommended.

7.0 Appeals to a Unit Disciplinary Committee.

7.1.1 Right to Appeal a Disciplinary Body's Decision.

7.4.5 Rights of Parties to the Appeal or Automatic Review.

7.4.6 Representation Provided for ACBL-Related Entities.

7.4.7 Advisor for Committees of Appellate Jurisdiction.

8.4 Authority to grant stay.

10.3 Publication of Disciplinary Cases.

Appendix A

District Recorders will appoint Assistant Recorders. If a Unit requests that one of its members be an Assistant Recorder, such a request shall not be unreasonably denied.

Management will make the necessary changes in the Codification and in the CDR to facilitate this change.

Effective January 1, 2020

Carried Nay: 2, 8, 13

Item 192-13: Voluntary Relinquishment of Titles and Second-Place Finishes

Codification Chapter I – Membership, H. Awards and Trophies, Section 2 – Trophy Assignment Policy and Codification Chapter VIII – North American Bridge Championships, D. Events / Schedules be amended as follows:

**CHAPTER I - MEMBERSHIP
H. AWARDS AND TROPHIES**

Section 2 - Trophy Assignment Policy

2.9. Relinquishment of Title.

2.9.1 Any ancillary benefit coming from a 1st or 2nd place finish in a NABC or NABC+ event will be removed or returned for all members of the relinquishing pair or team. This includes but is not limited to –

2.9.1.1 Any remuneration of any kind shall be returned to the ACBL.

2.9.1.2 Any trophy shall be returned to ACBL. The names of the relinquished players shall be struck from any trophy awarded.

2.9.1.3 Any rank change occurring as a result of the relinquished title shall be rescinded, including but not limited to Grand Life Master.

2.9.1.4 Any masterpoints and any event (such as Blue Ribbon Pairs) qualification shall be removed.

CHAPTER VIII - NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS D. EVENTS / SCHEDULES

Section 1 – National-rated events

1.7 Voluntary Relinquishment of First or Second Place in NABC or NABC+ Events.

1.7.1 If members of a team which contains player(s) convicted of cheating, in the event in question or any others that occurred prior to those player(s) conviction for cheating, that team shall be permitted to voluntarily relinquish their title under the following circumstances –

1.7.2 The team Captain (playing or non-playing) and at least half of the team members not involved in the cheating conviction must concur. If the Captain is non-playing, a unanimous request from the members who played, but not including the convicted cheaters may override the Captain.

1.7.3 Any title or second place finish so relinquished shall be declared “vacated”.

1.7.4 To relinquish any title or second place finish, the team members desiring the relinquishment shall deliver to ACBL Headquarters, or to NABC Tournament Headquarters, a document signed and dated by all concurring team members.

1.7.5 At the discretion of ACBL Management, voluntary relinquishment may be published in the Daily Bulletin at an NABC and/or the monthly ACBL Bulletin.

- 1.7.6 Any ancillary benefit coming from a 1st or 2nd place finish in a NABC or NABC+ event will be removed or returned for all members of the relinquishing pair or team. This includes but is not limited to –
- 1.7.7 Any remuneration of any kind shall be returned to the ACBL.
- 1.7.8 Any trophy shall be returned to ACBL. The names of the relinquished players shall be struck from any trophy awarded.
- 1.7.9 Any rank change occurring as a result of the relinquished title shall be rescinded, including but not limited to Grand Life Master.
- 1.7.10 Any masterpoints and any event (such as Blue Ribbon Pairs) qualification shall be removed.
- 1.8 See Appendix 8-D for the schedule of national-rated events.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Russ Jones on Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors was convened by President, Russ Jones at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday July 18, 2019 in Executive Session.

Present: Leo Weniger #1, Paul Janicki #2, Carlos Muñoz #3, Joann Glasson #4, Brian Ellis #5, Margot Hennings #6, Mike Kovacich #7, Georgia Heth #8, Jay Whipple #9, Russ Jones #10, AJ Stephani #11, Dennis Carman #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Warren Smith #15, Paul Cuneo #16, Bonnie Bagley #17, Claire Jones #18, Julie Smith #19, Merlin Vilhauer #20, Jackie Zayac #21, David Lodge #22, Kevin Lane #23, Al Levy #24 and Bob Bertoni #25

The Board of Directors convened into full session meetings at 10:30 a.m. for the rest of the morning.

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, July 16 with the addition of Barbara Heller, Educational Foundation President and Robert Todd.

Foundation Trustee Robert Todd gave a presentation on future plans and goals of the Educational Foundation.

The Board of Directors convened into Executive Session at 12:45 p.m. for the rest of the day.

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Russ Jones on Friday, July 19, 2019, at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Same as Friday, July 19

Also Present: Same as Friday, July 19 with the addition of David Rodney, Dr. C. William Roe, Danielle Childers, Jessica Lee, Linyu Huang, Jason Pedigo, Verl Mitchell

Motion to Suspend Rules

Motion to suspend the rules to hear non agenda item Bylaws - Executive Committee.

Carried 13 -11-1

Approval of Non-Agenda Item

Motion for consideration of non-agenda item, Bylaws - Executive Committee

Carried 14-9

Item 192-51: Bylaws – Executive Committee First Reading

Article VII Committees, Section 7.2 Executive Committee of the ACBL Bylaws are hereby deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:

7.2 Executive Committee

7.2.1 An Executive Committee of the Board is established, which shall be a committee of the Board. The function of the Executive Committee is to act on behalf of the Board of Directors ~~as meetings provided by Board resolution to the extent allowable~~ permitted by law.

7.2.2 ~~The Executive Committee shall be composed of:~~ The number of and method of selecting members of the Executive Committee shall be determined by the full Board.

~~7.2.2.1 The President of the ACBL, who shall chair the Committee. 14-~~

~~7.2.2.2 The Chair of the Board of Directors.~~

~~7.2.2.3 Three at large members of the Board, whose appointment shall be made by a majority of the entire board.~~

Motion Failed (two-thirds vote required): Aye: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22

* * * * *

A strategic plan was presented by Dr. C. William Roe, Danielle Childers, Jessica Lee, Linyu Huang, Jason Pedigo, Verl Mitchell from the Arkansas State University Neil Griffin College of Business Horizon Consulting Group, LLC.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Al Levy and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 17 and its units, District Director Bonnie Bagley and Tournament Chair Liz Hamilton and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas for its fine cooperation.

The Board adjourned sine die at 12:00 p.m.