

**ACBL Board of Directors
Denver, CO
November 22, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by President Suzi Subeck on Monday, November 22, 2015, at 8 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, Donald Mamula #19, Merlin Vilhauer #20, Roger Smith #21, Ken Monzingo #22, Rand Pinsky #23, Al Levy #24 and Richard DeMartino #25.

Also Present: Marv Norden, District 19 Director Elect, Kevin Lane, District 23 Director Elect, Mark Aquino, District 25 Director Elect, Richard Anderson, Chairman Board of Governors, Peter Rank, League Counsel, Robert Hartman, CEO, Joe Jones, Mitchell Hodus, Alex Turner, Sylvia Hardin, Sam Whitten, Carol Robertson, Natasha Brown, Chris Van Leeuwen, Tom Marsh and Kelley McGuire, Secretary.

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Approval of Chicago, IL Minutes

The Summer 2015 Chicago, IL minutes are approved

Carried unanimously

Approval of Non Agenda items

Motion for consideration of non-agenda item, CDR Change, is assigned to Governance.

Item 153-102: Election of ACBL President

Ken Monzingo and A. Beth Reid declared their candidacies. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. Ken Monzingo was elected as ACBL President for a one-year term January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Approval of Reconsideration Items

- Entry Fees NABC+ Team Events/Screens
- ACBL Lifetime Masterpoints List Online

Carried Nay: 22

Item 153-108: Election of ACBL Treasurer

By acclamation, Georgia Heth has been appointed as ACBL treasurer for the remaining term beginning January 1, 2016 through March 31, 2016.

Item 153-103: Election WBF Representative Election

Michael Abbey, Mark Bennett, Chip Boyle, John Carruthers, Michael Gritz, Nicolas Hammond, Nadar Hanna, Mike Hess, Paul Janicki, Ellen Kent, Al Levy, Don Mamula, Brad Moss, Rand Pinsky, Lindsey Weinger, and Laurence R. Rotman declared their candidacies. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed.

Paul Janicki and Al Levy were elected as ACBL representatives to the World Bridge Federation for three-year terms, January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2018.

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 153-104: Executive Committee Member & Alternate (Eastern)

Jay Whipple is appointed as the Eastern Zone Executive Committee Member for a three-year term, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Bob Heller is appointed as the Eastern Zone Executive Committee Member Alternate for a three-year term, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Item 153-106: 2015 Nadine Wood Volunteer Member of the Year

Debbie Rosenberg, District 21, was appointed as the 2015 Nadine Wood Volunteer of the Year.

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Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee Chairman

Sandy DeMartino declared her candidacy. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Sandy DeMartino was elected as the Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Committee Chairman for a three-year term January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018

Effective January 1, 2016

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Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m

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The meeting was called to order by President Suzi Subeck on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Sunday, November 22

Also Present: Marv Norden, District 19 Director Elect, Kevin Lane, District 23 Director Elect, Mark Aquino, District 25 Director Elect, Richard Anderson, Chairman Board of Governors, Peter Rank, League Counsel, Robert Hartman, CEO, Joe Jones, Mitchell Hodus, Alex Turner, Sylvia Hardin, Sam Whitten, Carol Robertson, Natasha Brown, Chris Van Leeuwen, Tom Marsh and Kelley McGuire, Secretary.

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Radek Kielbasinski, President of the Polish Bridge Union, made a presentation about the 2016 World Bridge Games in Wroclaw, Poland, September 3 -17, 2016 and encouraged members to attend.

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Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session from 8:32 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 11:30 a.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

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Item 153-101: Certification of Elections

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for three-year terms, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Leo Weniger, District 1; Sharon Fairchild, District 5; Bob Heller, District 7; Suzi Subeck, District 13; Phyllis Harlan, District 15; Claire Jones, District 18; Marv Norden, District 19; Kevin Lane, District 23; Mark Aquino, District 25.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as First Alternates to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for three-year terms, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Flo Belford, District 2; Carlos Munoz, District 3; Joann Glasson, District 4; Steven Gaynor, District 14; Paul Cuneo, District 16; Stu Goodgold, District 21; David Lodge, District 22.

The following individuals are hereby certified as having been duly elected as Second Alternates to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for three-year terms, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Gim Ong, District 2; Brett Kunin, District 3; Richard Popper, District 4; Debbie Romero, District 8; Susan Jackson, District 14; Robert Morris, District 16; Jacqueline Zayac, District 21; Warren Cederborg, District 22.

Item 153-100: Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held August 18 and October 10, 2015 are received.

Carried unanimously

APPEALS AND CHARGES

Heth (C), Mamula (VC)

Fairchild, Janicki, Pinsky, Reid, Smith

Staff: Van Leeuwen

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-01: Report on Hearings

In the Automatic Review concerning Frank Peirce, ACBL #M190467, the Committee upheld the District Disciplinary Committee's finding of guilt and amended the discipline to six month's suspension beginning January 1, 2016 followed by four and a half year's probation and removal of 20% of Mr. Peirce's total masterpoints.

In the Automatic Review/Appeal concerning Mike Passell, ACBL #J622382, the Committee upheld the Ethical Oversight Committee's finding of guilt and amended the discipline to a two-week suspension beginning December 20, 2015 and removal of the masterpoints won in the event in question from all members of Mr. Passell's team.

Item 153-02: CDR 9.6

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended by removing the following section:

~~9.6 Publication of Names of Suspended or Expelled Members.~~

~~9.6.1 When a player is suspended or expelled by the Ethical Oversight Committee and after the appeals process is complete their full name and player number shall be published in the ACBL Bulletin. This will not apply if on appeal the action is reversed.~~

~~9.6.2 In cases where a player or players are expelled (1) through actions of the National Appeals and Charges Committee or (2) through actions of the Ethical Oversight Committee that are not appealed, an article may be published in the ACBL Bulletin explaining what occurred. The purpose of this article is to educate the readership on what is and is not actionable behavior. The chair of the applicable committee will oversee the writing of the article. Publication is at the discretion of the Bulletin Editor.~~

~~9.6.3 Upon request for information regarding publication of the facts of a disciplinary case, management will advise the requestor of ACBL policy. [NOTE: Current ACBL policy is to publish an individual's name and ACBL player number, and a brief description of their offense after any appeals are exhausted or the time period for an appeal has expired.]~~

Effective immediately

Carried Absent: 3, 17, 23

Item: 153-03: CDR Charging Party

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is modified as follows:

1.5 The Ethical Oversight Committee shall, upon charges being brought by ACBL Management whether based upon a complaint submitted by ACBL or another entity or individual, hear original cases of alleged cheating by use of signals, other unauthorized information, other forms of cheating, or serious breaches of ethics. League Counsel, the ACBL President and District Director of the person charged shall be notified of a decision to hold an Ethical Oversight Committee hearing. The results of its hearings shall be reported to the parties, the Board of Directors and ACBL Management.

1.5.1 The ACBL National Recorder shall be the complainant and the ACBL CEO shall be the charging party.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

**Item 153-04: Disqualification of Pairs/Teams where a
Partner/Teammate has been convicted of Cheating**

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

4.1.8 Forfeiture of Masterpoints/Titles for Unethical Behavior.

(a) Any participant(s) in an ACBL sanctioned event convicted of premeditated or collusive cheating or any participant(s) who admits to such action or actions shall forfeit all masterpoints, titles and ACBL status ranks or other ACBL related awards theretofore earned by said participants through participation in all ACBL events.

The partners and teammates of said participant(s) shall forfeit all masterpoints, titles and status ranks earned while playing with said participant(s) during the four years preceding the admission or finding of guilt.

(b) Any participant(s) in an ACBL sanctioned event suspended as a result of ethical transgressions, other than those set forth in this CDR 4.1.8 (a), shall forfeit any masterpoints and titles won in the event in which the offense(s) occurred. Further:

(1) When a suspension of less than one year has been imposed, the committee may remove the masterpoints, titles and/or awards won within the twelve (12) calendar months preceding the date of the offense(s).

(2) When the discipline imposed is a suspension of one year or longer, the committee shall remove as a minimum, all masterpoints, titles and awards won within the twelve (12) calendar months preceding the date of the offense(s). The committee may remove additional masterpoints, titles and or ACBL status ranks or other ACBL related awards previously earned by said participants through participation in all ACBL events as it deems appropriate.

(c) Teammates and partners of (a) participant(s) who suffer(s) penalties as provided in CDR 4.1.7 and 4.1.8 (b) shall forfeit any title(s) and masterpoints won in events in which the offense or offenses occurred.

(d) Titles forfeited in CDR 4.1.8 (a), (b) or (c) shall remain vacant and there shall be no change in rankings or awarding of masterpoints for other contestants.

(e) Management shall assign eligibility points to equal the number of masterpoints that have been forfeited by the disciplinary body's decision.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

Item 153-05: CDR Cheating Provisions

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

9.5 Readmission of members who have resigned or who have been expelled.

9.5.1 A member who resigns to avoid possible disciplinary action may be readmitted to membership only by the ACBL Board of Directors. Further, no application for readmission may be considered before ten years from the date of resignation and thereafter only once every three years. The Board of Directors may impose such conditions upon readmission as it deems appropriate. In addition, there shall be no statute of limitations on the possible disciplinary action related to the resignation.

9.5.2 The ACBL Board of Directors will not hear and ACBL Management is instructed not to forward to the Board any request for readmission before ten years from the date of expulsion or resignation to avoid possible disciplinary actions provided that under no circumstances will the ACBL Board of Directors hear a request for readmission in regards to a second expulsion or resignation to avoid possible disciplinary actions or combination thereof. If the individual who was expelled admits to the factual basis of the charges prior to the commencement of the hearing on those charges, he may apply for readmission after five years.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

GOVERNANCE

Heth (C)

Anderson, Bagley, Hennings, Mamula, Morse, Pinsky, Smith
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Staff: McGuire

Committee Report by Chairman

Item: 153-85: Unit Boundary Special Election

ACBL Codification Chapter III, Section 3 is modified as follows:

3.2.9 In the case of a special election, all current ACBL members with a registered email address with no failed delivery residing in the affected geographical area will be included as an elector. All ballots will be sent via email. The end date of the election will be 14 days from the date on which the ballot is sent. A reminder will be sent to all electors who have not voted after seven days. A majority of the members with a registered email address with no failed delivery voting in favor of the proposed Unit Boundary change will place the issue before the ACBL Board of Directors.

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously

Item 153-86: Chapter III Administration - Section D - Elections

Chapter III Administrations, Section D, Elections of the codification is amended to remove the option of utilizing individual physical mailing of the ballot to unit board members and to shorten the length of the voting period.

CHAPTER III - ADMINISTRATION

D. ELECTION

Section 1 - Declaration of Candidacy

1.1 In order to declare candidacy, campaign for or serve as District Director, First Alternate Director, Second Alternate Director, or Board of Governors Representative, a member of the ACBL must be in good standing, and at least 18 years of age.

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

- a. Expelled,
- b. Serving a term of suspension,
- c. Serving indefinite probation,
- d. Serving a probation, the initial term of which was 24 or more months,
- e. Serving a term of probation following a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of 90 days.

1.3 The declaration must be received by the Director of Elections no later than 5:00 PM CT on May 31.

1.3.1 The deadline is fixed, even when May 31 falls on a non-business day.

1.3.2 Postmarked prior to June 1, but received after May 31 will not be considered as received on time.

1.3.3 Delivery may be by mail, fax, hand, or email.

1.3.4 In the physical absence of the Director of Elections, the CEO of the ACBL (or his/her nominee) will act as Director of Elections on the last day designated to receive declarations.

1.4 The Director of Elections will send candidates written confirmation that the declaration has been received by the ACBL.

1.4.1 The onus of proof of receipt lies with the candidate.

1.5 The declaration must contain the name, player number, and office for which the candidate is applying.

1.6 If there is no opposition, qualified candidates will be deemed elected on June 1.

1.6.1 With opposition, an election will be required. Candidates who wish to include a biographical summary with election materials must submit a summary to the Director of

Elections within 10 business days following June 1.

1.6.1.1 The summary may not exceed 150 words.

1.6.1.2 The summary is the creation of the candidate. ACBL disavows responsibility for content or accuracy of the information contained therein.

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.

1.6.2.1 Such request will not be fulfilled until 30 business days following June 1, allowing the Units time to confirm the Unit Board members on record are accurate for the upcoming election.

Section 2 - Electors

2.1 District Directors, First Alternate Directors, Second Alternate Directors, and Board of Governors Representatives shall be elected by the Unit boards of each District under the authority of the ACBL Director of Elections.

2.2 Within 10 business days following June 1, the Director of Elections will execute the following:

2.2.1 Advise the Unit Presidents and Secretaries, within the districts in which an election is required, of the Unit Board members of record at that time.

2.2.2 Solicit voting method preference.

2.2.3 Supply a copy of the ACBL Regulations for District Wide Offices.

2.3 By the 30th business day following June 1, the Unit will corroborate or update the roster and provide the voting method preference.

2.3.1 If the roster is not corroborated or updated, the Unit Board members on record will be final for the upcoming election.

2.3.2 If no voting method preference is provided, the Unit will default to an email ballot election.

Section 3 – Unit Membership

3.1 The membership of a Unit is the number of its dues-paying members and those who are active Life Members as recorded by the ACBL on June 1.

Section 4 – Unit Voting Power

4.1 Each Unit Board of Director in the District shall have “Unit Board Member Voting Power”, based on the formula following:

4.1.1 The unit membership divided by 100 and computed to the fourth decimal place.

4.1.2 The division of the Unit membership shall then be divided by the number of board members in the Unit submitting valid ballots.

4.1.3 The Unit Voting Power shall be computed to the fourth decimal place.

4.1.3.1 In the event such procedure does not break a tie, it will be broken by the Director of Elections by a drawing.

4.1.3.2 Properly executed requests for absentee ballots will be considered valid ballots.

4.2 Each candidate shall be sent the Unit Voting Power accorded for each unit within 30 business days following June 1.

4.3 Each unit shall be sent the Unit Voting Power accorded for their unit within 30 business days following June 1.

4.3.1 Objections to the Unit Voting Power must be filed with the Director of Elections by July 15.

4.3.1.1 Such objection will be forwarded to the Election Protest Committee and the procedure set forth in Regulation 15, “Protests” will be followed.

4.3.2 If no such objection is filed, the Unit Voting Power shall be considered binding, and no protest may subsequently be filed as to such matter.

Section 5 – Voting Period

5.1 Election materials will be mailed to the Unit President for election meetings or emailed to individual voters prior to August 15.

5.2 The voting period commences once the Unit or individual voter is in receipt of the election materials.

5.3 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by midnight on September 15.

Section 6 – Voting Methods

6.1 A Unit may opt to vote by one of the methods following:

6.1.1 A Unit meeting for the purpose of voting.

6.1.1.1 The decision to hold a Unit meeting by the Unit President or Secretary is binding for all.

6.1.1.1.1 A Unit Board member unable to attend the election meeting may request an absentee ballot.

6.1.1.2 It is permissible to conduct other Unit business during the course of the meeting.

6.1.2 Electronic election.

6.1.2.1 Upon application in writing to the Director of Elections by the 30th business day following June 1, the Unit President or Secretary may request that the unit vote electronically.

6.1.2.2 Election materials will be emailed on or about August 15.

6.1.2.3 Each unit board member is responsible for having their email registered with the ACBL to allow the receipt of the material and to cast their ballot.

6.1.2.4 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by midnight on September 15.

6.2 If the Director of Elections is not notified of the Unit preference, the Director of Elections will default to an email election.

Section 7 – Unit Meeting

7.1 When a Unit meeting is the Unit's preferred method of voting, a day certain must be established for the purpose of voting.

7.2 The Unit President or Secretary will give the Unit Board of Directors and the Director of Elections appropriate notice of the special or regular meeting for the announced specific purpose of voting. The date, time and location should be included in the notification.

7.2.1 The Unit President or Secretary shall include a statement with the notification of the unit meeting that a board member may request an absentee ballot from the Director of Elections any time prior to the unit's scheduled meeting (after an election has been called and nominations have closed).

7.3 If a candidate desires, the Unit must grant a request by the candidate(s) to appear at the Unit meeting. If a candidate is unable to attend, it is permissible for the candidate to send a representative to appear on their behalf.

7.3.1 If the Director of Elections has been notified of a unit meeting, notification will be made to the candidates in a timely manner prior to the election meeting, of when and where the unit will conduct its election.

7.4 Voters should have a segregated area where the ballot may be cast in private.

7.4.1 Voters shall:

- a. Place the ballot in the envelope provided;
- b. Seal the envelope;
- c. Sign and record their player number in the designated area on the back of the envelope.

7.4.1.1 Failure to sign the envelope shall render the ballot null and void.

7.4.2 Proxies are not permitted.

7.4.3 Write-in votes are invalid.

7.5 Upon completion of voting, the board member conducting the meeting shall collect the sealed ballot envelopes, sign and date the Unit Board of Director roster provided, place all in the pre-paid, self-addressed overnight mail service envelope provided, and mail to the Director of Elections.

7.5.1 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by the close of business on the September 15.

7.5.2 On or about September 1, the Director of Elections will notify the Unit Presidents and Secretaries of the status of unit's ballots.

Section 8 – Absentee Ballots

8.1 If a Unit Board member is unable to attend a Unit's scheduled election meeting, the board member may request an absentee ballot (after an election has been called and nominations have closed).

8.2 The board member should notify the Unit President or Secretary that they will not be present at the election meeting.

8.3 A request for an absentee ballot should be directed in writing to the Director of Elections.

8.3.1 The Director of Elections will email an election package directly to each Unit Board member.

8.3.1.1 The Unit Board member will vote electronically.

8.3.2 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by midnight on September 15.

Section 9 – Return of Ballots

9.1 It is the sole responsibility of the Unit to see that all ballots reach the Director of Elections by midnight on September 15. Any ballots received after this date will not be included in the count.

9.2 The Director of Elections will count ballots at ACBL Headquarters. Each candidate, or his representative, is entitled to witness the opening and counting. An ACBL employee may not represent a candidate for this purpose.

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 1st 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 1st 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 1st business day following September 15, followed by an audit of the initial count.

Section 10 – Inadmissible Unit Vote

10.1 Under all circumstances in any ACBL District Wide election in which all of a unit's ballots are deemed inadmissible, the Director of Elections may establish a new election within the unit by email ballot within 30 days following all possible appeals.

10.2 Such new election will only take place if it might affect the outcome.

10.3 Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the new election.

Section 11 – Elections for District Director, First or Second Alternate Director

11.1 In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of the Unit Voting Power, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest Unit Voting Power in the District.

11.1.1 Upon disposition of any protest that will require a new election, the Director of Elections will commence an email election.

11.1.2 Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the run-off election.

11.1.2.1 The ballots must be returned to the Director of Elections within 30 business days following the emailing of same.

11.1.3 During the period of a run-off or new election, the incumbent Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.

11.2 If there are no declared candidates in an election year for the position of District Director, First Alternate Director or Second Alternate Director, the position will be declared vacant at the conclusion of the incumbent's term by the Director of Elections.

11.2.1 Such vacancies are to be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

Section 12 – Election for Board of Governors Representatives

12.1 The three candidates in each district receiving the greatest Unit Voting Power will be deemed elected.

12.2 If there are not three declared candidates for Board of Governors Representatives, the position(s) for which there is no candidate(s) shall be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

Section 13 – Nullification of Election for District Director

13.1 The death or ineligibility to run as a candidate for District Director, opposed or unopposed, during the period of time from June 1 to the close of business on September 15, will cause a new election to take place.

13.1.1 The new election will commence under the direction of the Director of Elections.

13.1.1.1 The Director of Elections will set new dates for the District election in order to allow the appropriate amount of time for candidates to file and campaign.

13.1.1.2 The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.

13.1.2 If the new election is still in progress when the term of office expires, the incumbent District Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.

13.1.3 If the incumbent does not remain in office until a successor is chosen, an appointment will be made to the position following the succession procedures in the ACBL Bylaws.

13.2 The resignation of a candidate for District Director in a two-candidate race will cause the remaining candidate to be declared elected.

13.3 The resignation of a candidate for District Director in a three+ candidate race will cause only the preparation and dissemination of new balloting materials.

13.3.1 The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.

Section 14 - Protests

14.1 A protest to an election is under the authority of the ACBL Board of Directors and will be heard by the Election Protest Committee.

14.2 The Election Protest Committee is composed of the three District Directors, all in the first year of their current term, who are most senior in length of service on the ACBL Board of Directors.

14.2.1 No member of the Election Protest Committee may serve on the Appeals and Charges Committee for the purpose of the election appeal.

14.3 A protest to an election should be filed with the Director of Elections in writing and must specify in detail the nature of the protest.

14.4 The protest must be postmarked no later than ten days after the election results are announced by the Director of Elections.

14.4.1 If the 10th day is a postal holiday, the 10th day will be deemed to be the next day that is not a postal holiday.

14.5 The Election Protest Committee will review the protest forthwith and will forward a copy of the protest to each candidate in said election.

14.5.1 As part of such review, the Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do any and all things necessary to decide such protest in an equitable manner.

14.5.2 If, in its judgment, it is desirable and practical, the Committee may arrange for email or mail ballots to be sent to the Board members of the units involved in the protest. The time of return of ballots is to be fixed by the Election Protest Committee.

14.6 The Election Protest Committee will decide the protest and mail a copy of the decision, along with an explanation of such decision, to all interested parties.

14.7 An appeal of the Election Protest Committee’s decision to the ACBL Board Directors must be filed within ten days after the announcement of the Committee’s decision; otherwise, such decision is final.

14.8 The investigation of the protest will be assigned to the Appeal and Charges Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors.

14.8.1 In the conduct of such investigation, the Appeals and Charges Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do any and all things necessary to determine all the facts to assist the ACBL Board of Directors in deciding the appeal in an equitable manner.

Effective January 1, 2016
Carried unanimously

Item 153-87: Chapter IV, ACBL Board of Directors,
Section 5, Administration and Policy

All prior provisions of Chapter IV, ACBL Board of Directors, Section 5, Administration and Policy are hereby rescinded and replaced with the following:

Section 5 - ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code

- 5.1 The Board of Directors is Sole Judge of the department of its members.
- 5.2 Other than as relates to board duties, no board member will use his board member status to receive preferential treatment from League staff and, where possible and appropriate, will take reasonable, affirmative steps to avoid receiving such preferential treatment.
- 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.
- 5.4 The Board Oversight Committee will receive complaints from any member of the Board of Directors or the CEO concerning inappropriate behavior of a board member. The committee will investigate and review the facts of the case, making any necessary inquiries of the parties involved.
- 5.5 Offenses for which Board members may be referred to the Board Oversight Committee include, but are not limited to:

- 5.5.1 Inappropriate communication with any ACBL employee by telephone, mail, email or in person. Inappropriate communication includes, but is not limited to, condescending, rude or insulting remarks, and requests for significant amounts of information without going through the appropriate committee chairman.
 - 5.5.2 Sexually explicit remarks or behavior toward any employee.
 - 5.5.3 Condescending, rude or insulting remarks made to another board member or chairman of the Board of Governors in a board meeting or by phone, mail, or email.
 - 5.5.4 Conduct that would embarrass or damage the credibility of the ACBL or the Board of Directors.
 - 5.5.5 Discussing any personnel matter, other than in a private conversation, in any forum except an Executive Session of the Board of Directors.
 - 5.5.6 Breaching the confidentiality of any ACBL business discussion designated as confidential.
 - 5.5.7 Failing to comply with the requirements of Codification Chapter IV. Section 8 Conflict of Interest Policy.
- 5.6 Any board member accused of an offense will be informed of the details of such offense and have the right to address the Oversight Committee and present evidence before any action is taken. All information obtained will be kept confidential, except as set forth below in 5.10.
- 5.7 The committee may decide that no discipline is appropriate and that an informal discussion with the Oversight Committee will be sufficient.
- 5.8 If the committee decides that disciplines are appropriate, the case will be presented to the Board of Directors by the committee at its next regular or at any special meeting called for that purpose. Except as provided in Section 5.8.3 herein, the board, after consideration thereof, may by a three-fourths vote, of those voting, discipline such member. The board member who is the subject of the case may not vote on the matter. Discipline which may be recommended by the Board Oversight Committee include, but are not limited to:
- 5.8.1 Submittal of a motion to the Board of Directors for a private censure in an Executive Session.
 - 5.8.2 Submittal of a motion to the Board of Directors for a public censure to be included in the minutes. The motion will only say that the board has censured the member.

- 5.8.3 Submittal of a motion to the Board of Directors for removal of the board member for cause by three fourths of those voting. If such a motion is introduced, procedures in Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised for Trial of Members, should be followed, subject to the ACBL Bylaws.
- 5.9 Any board member accused of an offense will have the right to address the board, present evidence and have a representative present before any action is taken.
- 5.10 Nothing in this resolution will replace or abrogate ACBL Human Resources policy or the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations with regard to sexual harassment of ACBL, district or unit employees.

Effective immediately
 Carried: Abstain: 19

Item 153-88: Board Composition Review Committee

The 2016 President of the ACBL shall form a Board Composition Advisory Committee and appoint nine members to the committee. The purpose of this Committee is to review the current size of the Board, areas from which the Directors are selected, and the method by which they are selected. This Committee shall be composed of 3 Board of Directors members, 2 members from Management, chosen in consultation with the ACBL CEO, 2 members from the Board of Governors, chosen in consultation with the Chairman of the Board of Governors, and 2 members at large. The Committee chair shall be selected from one of the 3 BOD members on the Committee. The Committee will submit a status report at each NABC meeting with the final report due no later than the Spring 2017 Board meeting.

Effective immediately
 Carried Nay: 8, 13, 15, 21

Item 153-89: Chapter IV – Board Procedures A. Administration, Section 8, Conflict of Interest Policy

Chapter IV – Board Procedures A. Administration, Section 8, Conflict of Interest Policy Chapter Section 8 - Conflict of Interest Policy is 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.

8.2. Financial Interests

8.2.1. No member of the Board of Directors of the League may participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract in which he or his immediate family has a direct or indirect Financial Interest or with whom he is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment.

8.2.2 No member of the Board of Directors may vote on any matter which may directly or indirectly result in financial gain to that individual member or his spouse, child, parent, brother, or sister, by blood or marriage which may conflict with that member's obligations to another organization or to his employer, it being understood that Board members may vote on matters which have a financial effect applying equally to all Board members.

8.2.3 The following items are not considered to create a "Financial Interest or Financial Gain" under sections 8.2.1 or 8.2.2:

- (1) Payment of expenses (either through direct reimbursement, substitute allowances such as per diems or mileage expenses, or provision of free lodging) incurred in connection with attendance at meetings or tournaments where the Director is providing volunteer service;
- (2) Meals provided in conjunction with meetings and ACBL District and Unit events;
- (3) Free entries to ACBL sanctioned competitions;
- (4) Souvenirs or commemorative gifts from meetings or competitions;
- (5) Small gifts of appreciation for service with an aggregate value of less than \$250 per year.

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 ACBL serving as an officer or director of an ACBL District, Unit or Conference. Nor shall a Non-Financial Interest be created by a Board Member's service (whether by appointment or election) on behalf of, or as a representative of the ACBL to any other entity or organization, or as a board member or officer of an ACBL related foundation such as the Charity Foundation, the Education Foundation and the Foundation for the Preservation of Bridge.

8.4 A person with a financial 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.

8.5 A person with a financial or non-financial interest as defined herein may not make any attempt to influence improperly the deliberation or voting on the matter giving rise to such conflict.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 153-90: Unit and District Regulations

1) Chapter III, Section B of the Codification shall be amended to include:

1.1 The geographical area within which the district shall have jurisdiction shall be such area as is presently or may in the future be assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL.

1.2 The relationship between ACBL and each of its districts is that of independent organizations.

2) Chapter III, Section B of the Codification shall be renumbered to reflect the above addition.

3) Chapter III, Section B, shall be amended as follows:

2.6 No ACBL employee may serve on District Boards as voting members nor may they serve as proxies to vote at a district meeting.

4) Chapter III, Section A of the Codification shall be amended to include:

2.2.11 No ACBL employee may serve on Unit Boards as voting members nor may they serve as proxies to vote at a unit meeting.

5) Chapter III, Section A of the Codification shall be amended to include:

1.3.12 Units do not have the right to fix dues, whether in the form of assessments or otherwise.

Effective January 1, 2016
Carried Absent: 7

Item 153-91: Appeals & Charges Committee

Chapter IV, Section D, paragraph 2.3 of the Codification is amended to read:

2.3 Each of the committees will participate in planning and will recommend policies. Each committee may have subcommittees whose members need not be members of the committee.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 153-92: Board Oversight Committee

- 1) Chapter IV, Section A, Paragraphs 5.6 through 5.11 are rescinded.
- 2) Any and all other references to the Board Oversight Committee are also rescinded and shall be removed from the Codification.

Effective immediately
Motion failed: Aye: 7, 9, 12, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25 Abstain: 4

Item 153-93: 2nd Alternate Election

Nominations for 2nd alternate shall not close for at least one week after the election for 1st alternate is resolved.

Motion failed Aye: 1 Absent: 7

Item 153-94: CDR Changes

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended to read as follows:

5.1.12 If a complaint against a person based on the person’s sexual harassment of a full-time or part-time ACBL employee or a unit or district tournament employee, is brought before an ACBL Disciplinary Body or to the Director-in-Charge (DIC) of a sectional or higher rated tournament, the Disciplinary Body or the DIC shall immediately forward the matter, in writing, to ACBL Management for action as follows:

(a) ACBL Management shall expeditiously investigate the matter referred, including interviews of the complainant and accused, and make a decision to:

- Exonerate the accused and take no action.
- Require counseling
- Impose a warning, which, although not a discipline, shall be maintained in the person’s disciplinary file and may be used as evidence if future complaints of sexual harassment are made against this person.
- Impose a reprimand.
- Impose probation.

- Impose suspension.
- Impose expulsion.
- Any combination of the above.

(b) A written notice of the decisions of ACBL Management and the reasons therefore shall be provided to the accused person and the Appeals and Charges Committee.

(c) At its first meeting subsequent to an ACBL Management decision to impose discipline, the Appeals and Charges Committee shall make an automatic review of the discipline imposed by ACBL Management. Such reviews shall be consistent with the procedures at appellate review, except that the accused party shall be entitled to present evidence and witnesses at the review hearing and ACBL Management shall be entitled to present evidence and witnesses in response thereto.

Effective January 1, 2016
Carried unanimously

CLUBS/MEMBERSHIP	
Pinsky (C)	
Carman, Janicki, Smith, Weniger, Whipple	Staff: Robertson/Turner
Committee Report by Chairman	

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

Item 153-71: Marketing Materials

Chapter I, Section E, paragraph 1.1 of the Codification is amended to read:

1.1 Resources

1.1.1 Management shall develop and maintain appropriate marketing materials to assist clubs, units, districts and teachers in their member recruitment and member service efforts. A listing of available materials shall be published on the ACBL website.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

COMMUNICATIONS/DOCUMENTATION REVIEW	
Hennings (C) Bagley, Mamula, Pinsky, Reid, Smith	Staff: Turner

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-07: Document Distribution

Chapter IV, Section A, Paragraph 4.4.3 shall be amended as follows:

4.4.3 Documents created by committees are the property of ACBL. The CEO is responsible for determining the appropriate disposition with the exception of the disposition of documents created by the CEO Review Committee.

4.4.3.1 The distribution of such documents to persons other than members of the Board of Directors, however, shall be the responsibility of the ACBL president or his designee.

Effective immediately
Motion failed Aye: 1, 3, 10, 13, 17, 19, 21, 25 Abstain: 22

TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND EVALUATION	
Whipple (C) R. Jones, Mamula, Vilhauer	Staff: Hodus

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST	
Monzingo (C) R. Jones, Levy, Weniger	Staff: Delfs

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-20 Allowable Strats

Chapter XIII VI & VII of the ACBL Codification is amended as follows:

1.1.6 Regional Strat/Flight Upper Masterpoint Limits

Pairs

Pairs may be flighted or stratified or a combination (strata-flighted). If there are 2 flights, you are permitted up to 3 strata in each flight. If there are 3 flights, you are permitted up to 2 strata in each flights. Flight/strata limits are:

Flight A: 0 - Infinity

If stratified, the lower strata must be at least 500 above top of B and no more than 6000

Flight B: Must be at least 500 more than top of C

Flight C: Can have up to 2 strata with the top MP limit at least 500 under lower strata of B

Note: Pairs can also be stratified by expertise with Strat A being both players over a certain MP level, Strat B being one play over and one player under that level, and Strat C being both players under the level.

Flighted KO Team

Flight A: 0 – Infinity

Flight B: Must have an upper level of at least 500 above top of C, if that flight exists

1.1.6.1 Bracketed KO and Swiss Teams

Must be bracketed by either average MPs of all team members or total of top two MP members. Can be bracketed to end in three sessions.

Swiss Teams can be flighted, stratified, or a combination (strata-flighted). If there are 2 flights, you are permitted up to 3 strata in each flight. If there are 3 flights, you are permitted up to 2 strata in each flights. Flight/strata limits are:

Flight A: 0 - Infinity

If stratified, the lower strat must be at least 500 above top of B and no more than 6000

Flight B: Must be at least 500 more than top of C

Flight C: Can have up to 2 strata with the top MP limit at least 500 under lower strat of B

1.1.7 Sectional Strat/Flight Upper MP Limits

Same strat/flight rules apply to pair and team games as in 1.1.6 with the exception that each flight can have only two strata when there are multiple flights.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

Item 153-21: North American Pairs, Flight C

Chapter XI, Section C shall be modified as follows:

Section 2 – Club Level Qualifying

2.1 The club qualifying round for all flights of the NAP will be held in June, July and August.

2.2 A club may conduct two qualifying events in each flight for each weekly game sanctioned in each month.

2.3 A game may be held as a stratified event. When there is a separate Non-LM qualifying game, the Club may choose its own stratification levels.

2.3.1 Only those players placing in the top strat will be eligible to qualify and go on to the unit round.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

FINANCE	
Reid (C), Robinson (VC)	
Calkins, Carman, Heller, Monzingo, Morse, Pinsky, Whipple	Staff: Brown
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 153-30: 2016 Budget

A) The 2016 operating budget showing an excess of expenses over revenues of (\$61,534) is received.

The operating budget reflects the following fee increases, effective 4/1/16 except as noted:

All regional and sectional fees are increased by approximately 2%; STaC fees are increased by approximately 3%; the open sectional surcharge is increased by approximately 9%; and, TD session fees are increased by approximately 9%.

The \$1.25 club game fee is rescinded and the club per table fee is increased (from \$.74/table to \$1.00/table which means the net of these two changes for the average club game (8 tables) will be approximately 11%); and the short game (12-17 boards) per table fee is increased by approximately 6%. STaCs and NAP games and all unit and special games held at clubs will now be subject to the per table fee.

The NABC team screen table surcharge (Conditions of Contest) is rescinded and NABC+ entry fees are increased on average by 15%, effective at the Summer 2016 NABC.

Carried Nay: 19, 25

B) The 2016 capital budget of \$399,000.00 is received.

Effective date: January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

Item 153-31: Non-Member Surcharges

Chapter IX, Section B, 3.1 and Chapter X, Section B., 1.3 of the ACBL Codification are amended as follows:

CHAPTER IX – REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

B. FINANCE

Section 3 – Non-dues Paying Players Surcharge

3.1 Except for charity events or events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints:

- 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 and non-service fee paying LMs
- b. It is suggested that the sale signage present this as a discount to members.
- c. The additional fee shall be remitted to the ACBL.

CHAPTER X - SECTIONALS

B. FINANCE

1. GENERAL

1.3 Except for charity events or events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints:

- a. The sponsoring organization shall charge a mandatory additional fee of at least \$3.00 per person per session for non-members and non-service fee paying LMs.
- b. It is suggested that the sale signage present this as a discount to members.
- c. The additional fee shall be remitted to the ACBL.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 1, 2, 5, 9, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25.

Item 153-32: Entry Fees Team Events

All events held at an NABC, entry fees for team events of two sessions or more shall be charged on a per person rather than a per team basis.

Effective Date: January 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 13, 19, 21, 24, 25 Abstain: 2

Item 153-33: Patron Membership

Current codification paragraphs Chapter I, Section A, 2.2.6.1, 2.2.6.3 and 2.2.6.4 are rescinded.

The following shall be added to the codification

2.2.6.1 Patron membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors.

2.2.6.3 Patron membership benefits shall be determined by ACBL management, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Effective date: January 1, 2016

Carried unanimously

AUDIT	
Mamula (C) DeMartino, Heth	Staff: Jones

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given.

* * * * *

Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 3:52 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 4:20 p.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

TOURNAMENTS	
Robinson (C), Vilhauer (VC) Carman, DeMartino, Heller, C. Jones, Whipple	Staff: Whitten/Marsh

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-60: Gold Points in NLM Regionals

The percentage of gold points in NLM Regionals shall be increased.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 8 Abstain: 2, 20

The percentage of gold points in NLM Regionals shall be increased from 10% to 25%.

Effective January 1, 2016

Carried Nay: 2, 8

Item:153-61: 0-1500 LM Pairs

The Conditions of Contest for the 0-1500 Pairs shall be modified to allow all players with fewer than 1500 masterpoints to participate. The event shall be renamed 0-1500 Pairs.

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 5, 8, 13, 19

Item 153-62: Chapter IX Regionals, A. Regional Tournament Scheduling and Sanctioning

The ACBL Codification is amended by making the following changes:

CHAPTER IX - REGIONALS

A. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULING AND SANCTIONING

Section 5 – Split Site Regionals

5.1 Districts that have a history of running split-site Regionals during the years 2012-2015, may continue to run these tournaments according to the following schedule: Starting with the period 2016 – 2019 and every four years period after.

- a. Four tournaments in any four-year time period: District 8.
- b. Two tournaments in any four-year time period: Districts 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, 14, and 15.
- c. One tournament in any four-year time period: Districts 12 and 13.

Motion failed Aye: 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 18, 25 Abstain: 8 Absent: 7

5.2 Split-site Regionals award masterpoints according to the General Regional Masterpoint Formula.

5.3 Split-site Regionals count as one tournament under the Regional Allocation Formula listed in section 2.

5.4 Each Split-site Regional may run a different schedule than its corresponding Split-Site Regional and no events are combined between the two sites.

Effective January 1, 2016
Carried unanimously

Item 153-63: Tournament Assistants

1) Chapter IX, Section D of the Codification is amended to read:

1.1 Regional tournaments will be staffed by directors who are ACBL employees, except as noted below.

- a. Tournament sponsors may choose to hire a tournament assistant to work at their tournament. He or she must have passed the ACBL tournament assistant accreditation exam and meet the approval of the tournament DIC. Tournament assistants are authorized to only perform clerical and general administrative services. Tournament assistants may not take director calls, make director rulings and/or exercise rights and authority granted to tournament directors by the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. All employment issues such as compensation, payroll taxes, insurance, etc. are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization. A form must be submitted to ACBL acknowledging acceptance of these employment issues.
- b. The request of a unit that its I/N regional tournament be run by a director not qualified to run an open regional may be approved by the appropriate Field Representative or ACBL management.

2) Chapter X, Section D of the Codification is amended to read:

1.4 Tournament sponsors may choose to hire a tournament assistant to work at their tournament. He or she must have passed the ACBL tournament assistant accreditation exam and meet the approval of the tournament DIC. Tournament assistants are authorized to only perform clerical and general administrative services. Tournament assistants may not take director calls, make director rulings and/or exercise rights and authority granted to tournament directors by the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. All employment issues such as compensation, payroll taxes, insurance, etc. are the responsibility of the sponsoring organization. A form must be submitted to ACBL acknowledging acceptance of these employment issues.

Effective January 1, 2016
Motion failed Aye: 19

Item 153-64: Masterpoint Awards for ACBL Sanctioned Games on Cruise Ships

Masterpoint awards for ACBL sanctioned games held on cruise ships be amended as follows:

- When 18 or more boards are played, the awards will follow the scale of 80% of open games.
- When 12 - 17 boards are played, the current scale of 50% of open games will apply.

These awards will be in effect provided the games conform to all rules and regulations of ACBL that pertain to games held in clubs throughout ACBL-land.

Carried Nay: 7, 13, 16, 21 Absent: 19

CEO REVIEW	
Fairchild (C)	
Calkins, Janicki, Reid, Weniger Whipple	Staff: Hartman
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 153-16: CEO Contracts

It shall be the policy of the ACBL that employment contracts for the ACBL Chief Executive Officer:

- 1) Shall have contract periods that end on the 30th of June.
- 2) Shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors for contract renewal and/or extension at the Spring Board of Directors meeting.
- 3) Shall have a contract renewal/extension period of 30 days from the conclusion of the Spring Board of Directors meeting.

Effective Policy adoption immediately, to be implemented upon the next CEO contract or extension/renewal.

Motion failed Aye: 19

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE	
Pinsky (C)	
Calkins, Carman, Hennings, Morse, Smith	Staff: Robertson
Committee Report by Chairman	

An oral report was given.

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Suzi Subeck on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Tuesday, November 24
Also Present: Same as Tuesday, November 24

* * * * *

Executive Session

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

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session at 8:33 a.m. the Board of Directors resumed in open session.

* * * * *

NABC Site Selection

The Summer 2022 NABC will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC on July 21 – 31, 2022.

Carried unanimously

Item 153-107: 2016 Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year

Flora Pettit, District 16 was appointed as the 2016 Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year.

Item 153-40: 2016 ACBL Honorary Member of the Year

Patty Tucker, District 7 was appointed as the 2016 ACBL Honorary Member of the Year.

* * * * *

The ACBL Board of Directors adjourned its meeting and reconvened as the ACBL Charity Foundation.

ACBL Charity Foundation Membership Meeting

The membership meeting of the ACBL Charity Foundation convened.

The meeting was called to order by President Georgia Heth.

The Treasurer's report was received. (See ACBL Charity Foundation minutes)

Proposed Bylaw changes:

The following bylaw changes, proposed by the trustees of the Foundation, will be presented for consideration and approval at this meeting.

Article II

5. *Notice of Annual Meetings.* Notice of the time, place and purpose or purposes of the annual meeting shall be served, if personally by e-mail or by first class mail, not less than ten nor more than fifty days before the meeting upon each person who appears upon the books of the corporation as a member and, if mailed, such notice shall be directed to the member at his address as it appears on the books of the corporation, unless he shall have filed with the secretary of the corporation a written request that notices intended for him be mailed to some other address, in which case it shall be mailed to the address designated in such request. If mailed by any other class than first class mail, the notice shall be sent not less than thirty nor more than sixty days before the meeting.

Article III

- 9 *Quorum.* At all meetings of the Board of Trustees, a majority of the Trustees shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and the act of a majority of the Trustees present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board of Trustees, except as may be otherwise specifically provided by statute or by these Bylaws. If at any meeting there is less than a quorum present, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice to any absent Trustee, and may take such other and further action as is provided in Article II, Section 4, of these Bylaws. Attendance by electronic means, so long as all attendees may speak and be heard by all other attendees, and can hear all other attendees, shall be considered the equivalent of attendance in person.

From the Foundation Bylaws

ARTICLE XII Amendments

1. By Trustees. The Board of Trustees may recommend the alteration, amendment and repeal of the Bylaws of 9 the corporation by affirmative vote of a majority of the Board. Such recommended Bylaw, alteration, amendment and repeal shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the members, and if adopted by affirmative vote of a majority of all the members, shall become effective as though the procedures contained in Article XII (2) had been followed, provided further that the proposed action is inserted in the notice of such membership meeting.

Carried unanimously

2. By Members. The Members may make, alter, amend, and repeal the Bylaws of the corporation by affirmative vote of a majority of all the members, provided, however, that the action is proposed at a regular or special membership meeting and adopted at a subsequent meeting by the affirmative vote of a majority of all the members, except

as otherwise provided by law, provided further that the proposed action is inserted in the notice of such subsequent meeting.

Carried unanimously

Georgia Heth, Russ Jones and Jerry Thorpe declared their candidacies for Trustee. By secret ballot Georgia Heth and Russ Jones were elected to serve four-year terms, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

The ACBL Charity Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors reconvened as the ACBL Educational Foundation.

* * * * *

ACBL Educational Foundation Membership Meeting

The membership meeting of the ACBL Educational Foundation convened.

The meeting was called to order by Glenda Calkins, Trustee.

Russ Jones declared his candidacy for Trustee.

There being no other declarations or nominations. Russ Jones was elected to serve a three-year term January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Rod Bias, Betty Starzec, and Jay Winter declared their candidacies for Trustee. By secret ballot Rod Bias and Betty Starzec were elected to serve three-year terms, January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Jay Winter was appointed to fulfill the remaining term of Michael Bandler to end December 31, 2016.

The ACBL Educational Foundation meeting was adjourned and the ACBL Board of Directors reconvened.

INTERNATIONAL

Janicki (C)

Levy, Vilhauer, (Heth, ex-officio as WBF Rep)

Staff: Delfs

Committee Report by Chairman

Item: 153-46: WBF Representatives Terms

The ACBL Board of Directors shall elect five people to the World Bridge Federation (WBF) Board to represent Zone 2.

Beginning in 2018, all five representatives shall be elected at the Summer NABC for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2022. ACBL management will promote the election period to its membership beginning January 1, 2018 and nominations must be received by the ACBL Director of Elections no later than midnight on June 1, 2018. The same cycle shall be followed every four years (2018, 2022, 2026, etc...)

2016 and 2017 will serve as transition years to allow for this new election cycle:

2016: One WBF Representative is elected to serve a two-year term from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

2017: Two WBF Representatives are elected to serve a one-year term from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Effective immediately

Motion failed Aye: 2, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 20, 24, 25 Absent: 8

Item 153-47: CDR – Section 2, Jurisdiction

CDR – Section 2, F, Jurisdiction be amended as follows:

2.2.3 (f)When an ACBL member has been disciplined by another bridge organization for an ethical violation, the CEO of the ACBL may refer the matter to the Ethical Oversight Committee for resentencing purposes, but only if the sentence imposed was less than that contained in the suggested sentencing guidelines enacted by the World Bridge Federation. In all other cases, the ACBL shall honor the discipline imposed, enforcing it in ACBL events, unless the ACBL member requests a hearing under ACBL rules and regulations and provides substantial evidence that 1) he was not accorded a fair process in the hearing held by the other bridge organization and/or 2) the penalty imposed is grossly inappropriate for the violation proven. If the rehearing is granted, the sanctions will not be enforced until and unless the findings and sanctions are confirmed by the ACBL. The decision as to whether or not substantial evidence of a lack of a fair process was provided or that the penalty imposed was grossly inappropriate shall be made by the CEO of the ACBL with the advice of League Counsel. If a new hearing is requested, the ACBL is entitled to impose its own sentence if the conviction is affirmed or it is found that the penalty imposed was inappropriate. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the ACBL from initiating a disciplinary process for ethical violations in ACBL sanctioned events.

Effective immediately

Carried Nay: 19

BOARD OPERATIONS

Harlan (C), Anderson (VC)

Morse, Pinsky, Reid, Robinson

Staff: McGuire

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-11: Chapter IV – Board Procedures, D. Committees,

Section 2 – Permanent Committees

Chapter IV – Board Procedures, D. Committees, Section 2 – Permanent Committees shall be amended as follows:

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. 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 January 1, 2016

Carried Absent: 8

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Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session from 10:45 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

RANKING	
C. Jones (C) Heller, Levy, Monzingo, Vilhauer Committee Report by Chairman	Staff: Whitten

A written report was given. Written report attached. (Attachment C)

BRIDGE	
C. Jones (C). Levy (VC) DeMartino, Heller, R. Jones, Monzingo, Robinson, Vilhauer Committee Report by Chairman	Staff: Whitten

Item 153-76: Chapter 1B: Ranking, Masterpoints, and Races, Section 1-Ranking

Chapter 1B: Ranking, Masterpoints, and Races, Section 1-Ranking, of the ACBL Codification is amended as follows:

- 1.3 Additional Life Master designations shall be established and will be available only to players who have achieved the rank of Life Master. The Designations and requirements shall be as follows:

- 1.3.1 Bronze Life Master Life Master with memberships prior to January 1, 2010 with 500 masterpoints. Life Master with memberships beginning after January 1, 2010 with 750 masterpoints.
 - 1.3.2 Silver Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 1000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 200 silver, red, gold, or platinum points.
 - 1.3.3 Ruby Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 1500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 300 silver, red, gold, or platinum points
 - 1.3.4 Gold Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over than 2500 masterpoints including (b) no fewer than a combination of 500 silver, red, gold, or platinum points.
 - 1.3.5 Sapphire Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 3500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 350 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 700 silver, red, gold or platinum points
 - 1.3.6 Diamond Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 5000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 500 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
 - 1.3.7 Emerald Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 7500 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than a combination of 750 gold or platinum points and (c) no fewer than a combination of 1500 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
 - 1.3.8 Platinum Life Master: A Life Master with (a) over 10 000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than 100 platinum points, (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 gold or platinum points, and (d) no fewer than a combination of 2000 silver, red, gold or platinum points.
 - 1.3.9 Grand Life Master *: A Life Master with (a) over 10 000 masterpoints, including (b) no fewer than 100 platinum points, (c) no fewer than a combination of 1000 gold or platinum points, and (d) no fewer than a combination of 2000 silver, red, gold or platinum points
- 1.4 Section 1.3 applies to all players who attained Life Master after 1989. These changes will not cause any player to lose the rank which he or she has obtained as of December 31, 2011. In addition, each player who has obtained the rank of Life Master or higher as of December 31, 2011, will not have to fulfill the new 2012 rank advancement requirements to obtain the next higher rank advancement. In addition, any new ranks added by the 2015 rank motion below the next higher rank advancement mentioned in the preceding sentence are exempt from all pigmented point requirements. However, all players will be required to fulfill the new 2012 rank advancement requirements for any further rank advancements beyond the first advancement (past a rank existing as of 2012) achieved

after January 1, 2012. Nothing in Sections 1.3-1.4 shall be construed to cause a member to lose any ranks previously granted.

Example: A current Silver Life Master on December 31, 2011 would retain the current requirements for Gold Life Master, would not have any pigmented requirements for Ruby Life Master, but would need to fulfill the new requirements for Sapphire and Diamond Life Master.

Effective date: January 1, 2016
Carried unanimously

RECORDER SYSTEM REVIEW	
Janicki (C) DeMartino, Fairchild, Heth Committee Report by Chairman	Staff: Whitten

An oral report was given.

MASTERPOINTS AND EVENT STRUCTURE	
DeMartino (C) Carman, R. Jones, Robinson Committee Report by Chairman	Staff: Whitten

Item 153-51: Masterpoint Awards for Bracketed Swiss
Second Reading

A. The following formula for calculation of masterpoint awards for bracketed Swiss is deleted: Masterpoint awards will be computed according to the General Formula using "M" values calculated as follows. Each of the brackets will have a minimum "M" value according to the table below:

Brackets	I	II	III	IV	V	VI, etc.
	1.00	0.75	0.60	0.50	0.40	0.33

The "M" value for any bracket will be higher whenever the average masterpoint holding of the highest team in the bracket would have a higher value according the "M" table in the ACBL masterpoint book. For example, if the average holding for the top teams in bracket 3 were 800 points, the "M" value for that bracket would be increased to 0.70, the value of the "M" factor for the next lowest upper limit in the book (in this case 0-750).

For regionally rated events, overall awards will be red and gold according to the following table:

I	100% Gold
II	100% Gold
III	90% Gold, 10% Red

IV 67% Gold, 33% Red
 V 50% Gold, 50% Red
 VI (or higher) 33% Gold, 67% Red

Match awards will be computed according to the formulas, using the appropriate "M" value. First overall in any bracket will be based on the number of teams in that bracket plus all of the number of teams in all lower brackets. The number of overall awards in any bracket will be one third of the number of teams rounded up. (Board of Directors - Summer, 1996)

B. The above formula is replaced by the following:

MASTERPOINT AWARDS FOR BRACKETED SWISS

First Overall = Basic Award x K x P x 2/3 (to adjust for a 2-session event instead of a 4-session)

The following current rule for bracketed KOs is applied to bracketed Swiss:

In Regional Bracketed Swiss teams of two or more sessions, the top bracket will always award 100% gold as long as the average masterpoints per player is greater than 750.

For lower brackets, the percentage of gold awarded for overalls is as follows:

Average Masterpoints per Player	Pigmentation of Award
750+	100% gold
500 - 749	2/3 gold; 1/3 red
300 - 499	1/2 gold; 1/2 red
Less than 300	1/3 gold; 2/3 red

Effective January 1, 2016
 Carried unanimously

Item 153-52: Masterpoint Awards for Four Session Regional Events

Second Reading

For those 4 session Regional events other than KOs where another unrestricted event of the same type starts on the same day, the Masterpoint Awards computed by our formula shall be increased by 40%.

Effective immediately
 Carried unanimously

Item 153-53: KO Formula Change
Second Reading

The following statement shall be eliminated from the KO Section of Masterpoint Awards Manual.

“Note: After application of the Bracket Size Adjustment Reduction Factor, the resulting award must be at least 105% of the award for the next lower bracket.”

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 153-54: Masterpoint Awards For Team Trials and Canadian Championships
Second Reading

A. Awards for the following events be changed as follows:

- Lower the US Women’s Bridge Championship award to 100 masterpoints (currently 120) to make it identical with the Wagar.
- Increase the Canadian Senior Teams award to 80 Masterpoints. (from 60)

B. Minimum Table Requirements will apply to all Trials/Canadian Championship events, beginning at 16 tables, as follows:

16+ teams	100% award
< 16 teams	for each team below 16, there will be a 6.25% reduction in the award coming down to 50% for 8 or fewer tables.

C. Knockout Match Awards for the following events will be changed to make them more consistent with their championship counterpart:

US Bridge Championship	10.00
US Women’s Bridge Championship	8.00
Canadian National Teams	8.00
Senior Team Trials	8.00
Canadian Women’s Teams	6.00
Canadian Senior Teams	6.00

D. For these trial type events, the depth of field will be the same as for a knockout event with the same number of teams, independent of the format used to reach the KO stage. To be eligible for an overall award a team must have progressed past the first stage of the event.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

Item 153-55: Player Masterpoint Races

Chapter I, Section 3.1, is amended to read:

The following races will be determined by pigmented masterpoints won in ACBL-sanctioned events sponsored by the ACBL or its districts, units and clubs and any ACBL regional tournament or National Championship (Trials) event sanctioned to and conducted by a World Bridge Federation (WBF) Zone 2 National Bridge Organization (NBO). For the purposes of all ACBL Masterpoint Races, masterpoints won in an event are credited to the total for the year in which that event began, regardless of the tournament sanction number. The masterpoints won in the overalls of a side game series are credited to the total for the year in which that series began. This applies to events that end no later than January 10. Otherwise points are awarded in the year which the event concludes.

Retroactively effective January 1, 2015

Item 153-56: ACBL Lifetime Masterpoints Lists Online

The ACBL Board of Directors reconsider item 152-85 (142.71):

Item 152-180: ACBL Lifetime Masterpoints Lists Online

*This motion asked that ACBL motion 143-26 be rescinded. Effective immediately.
Carried 17-7-1*

Item 143-26: ACBL Life Time Masterpoints Lists

*On all printed lifetime Masterpoint lists issued after December 31, 2014, online
Masterpoints will be included next to the total.
Effective January 1, 2015
Carried: Nay: 2, 3, 4, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 20, 24, 25*

Carried (Aye 28, Opposed 22)

Effective date: 1/1/2015

Motion Failed Aye: 7 Absent: 14

NABC FANTASY

Monzingo (C)

Bagley, Calkins, Heller, Weniger

Staff: Van Leeuwen

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-66: Youth NABC

Chapter I, Section I, Subsection 4 shall be amended to read:

Section 4 – Youth North American Bridge Championship

4.1 The Youth NABC shall be held concurrently with the Summer NABC, at a location within the NABC designated playing areas.

4.2 An evaluation of the Youth NABC program shall be held at the Fall Board of Directors meeting following each Youth NABC.

Effective immediately
Carried unanimously

STRATEGIC REVIEW AND PLANNING

Anderson (C)

Calkins, Fairchild, Morse, Reid

Staff: Hartman

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given

NABC REVIEW

Bagley (C)

Hennings, Heth, Mamula

Staff: Sullivan

Committee Report by Chairman

An oral report was given and a written report is attached. (Attachment D)

WEBSITE REVIEW AND EVALUATION

R. Jones (C)

Bagley, Hennings, C. Jones

Staff: Turner/Hodus

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-26: Dues Publication

Current codification paragraphs Chapter I, Section C, 1.6 is rescinded.

The following shall be added to the codification in Chapter 1, Section C:

1.6 Rates for dues and Life Master service fees as determined by the ACBL Board of Directors shall be published on the ACBL website.

Effective immediately
Carried Absent: 21

REGIONAL ALLOCATION

Heller (C)

Carman, DeMartino, C. Jones, Robinson, Vilhauer

Staff: Marsh

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 153-95: Regionals-At-Seas

Regionals-At-Sea may not be scheduled in conflict with a regular regional. In conflict means the port of origin may not be within 200 miles of the regular regional. The date the ship leaves port closer than 200 miles from the regular regional cannot be such that it would prevent those attending the Regional-At-Sea from attending the entire regular regional.

This means if the ship leaves before the regular regional it must return at least two days before the first day of the regular regional. It must leave port at least two days after the regular regional is concluded. It cannot leave a port closer than 200 miles during the regular regional.

This policy would take effect when passed by the ACBL Board of Directors. Any Regional-At-Sea scheduled after this policy is passed and that violates these rules must be rescheduled to follow the new policy.

Motion failed Aye: 3, 19, 22 Abstain: 1, 2 Absent: 21

* * * * *

Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session from 2:55 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session the Board adjourned.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Morse and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 17 and its units, District Director and Tournament Co – Chairs Bonnie Bagley and Roy Weinstein and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank the Denver Downtown Sheraton for its fine cooperation.

The Board adjourned *sine die* at 5:45 p.m.

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