

Appeals & Charges

Item 183-02: Barring cheaters who have been expelled from the ACBL from ever participating in an ACBL activity.

Sections 10.2.2 and 10.2.3 of the CDR will be amended as follows:

~~10.2.2 Timing of Request for Readmission Following Expulsion. The ACBL Board of Directors will not hear, and ACBL Management hereby is instructed not to forward to the Board, any request for readmission before ten (10) years from the date of Expulsion. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, if the individual who was expelled admitted to the factual basis of the Charges prior to the commencement of the hearing on those Charges, he may apply for readmission after five (5) years.~~ 10.2.3 No Readmission Following Second Resignation or Expulsion. Under no circumstances will the ACBL Board of Directors hear a request for readmission regarding a an Expulsion or second resignation to avoid possible disciplinary actions or combination thereof.

Bridge

Item 183-10: BSAF KO Bracket Changes – Second Reading

Item 182-28: BSAF KO Bracket Changes

A KO event may be scheduled with the first two sessions played as a Round Robin or Swiss to qualify four teams to the semifinals and finals played over the next two sessions. The current Bracket Size Adjustment Factors for KO Team events are replaced by those in the following charts and the rules following the charts apply to the play and awarding of Masterpoints in the semifinal and final matches.

Bracket Size Adjustment Factor (BSAF) Changes
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Top Bracket of an Unlimited KO with 2+ Brackets					
Teams in Bracket	Current BSAF	New BSAF 4 rounds	% Increase	New BSAF 3 rounds	% Increase
16	1.000	1.000	1.00		
15	0.960	0.970	1.01		
14	0.920	0.940	1.02		
13	0.880	0.910	1.03		
12	0.840	0.880	1.05		
11	0.800	0.850	1.06		
10	0.760	0.820	1.08		

9	0.720	0.790	1.10	0.760	1.06
8	0.600	0.760	1.27	0.700	1.17
7	0.525	0.730	1.39	0.640	1.22
6	0.450	0.700	1.56	0.580	1.29
5	0.375	0.670	1.79	0.520	1.39

Second and Subsequent Brackets of an Unlimited KO					
Teams in Bracket	Current BSAF	New BSAF 4 rounds	% Increase	New BSAF 3 rounds	% Increase
16	1.000	1.000	1.00		
15	0.960	0.965	1.01		
14	0.920	0.930	1.01		
13	0.880	0.895	1.02		
12	0.840	0.860	1.02		
11	0.800	0.825	1.03		
10	0.760	0.790	1.04		
9	0.720	0.755	1.05	0.735	1.02
8	0.600	0.720	1.20	0.680	1.13
7	0.525	0.685	1.30	0.625	1.19
6	0.450	0.650	1.44	0.570	1.27
5	0.375	0.615	1.64	0.515	1.37

When Round Robin played to Q 4 teams to KO:		
5 or 6 teams in RR	Semifinal losers may play off for 3 rd place If played, 3 rd pays 35% of 1 st , 4 th pays 20% of 1 st If not played, no ranks, both teams get 20% of 1 st	Gold Red
7 or 8 teams in RR	Semifinal losers may play off for 3 rd place If played 3 rd pays 45% of 1 st , 4 th pays 35% of 1 st If not played, no ranks, both teams get 20%	Gold Red
9+ teams in RR	Semifinal losers need not play off, both are ¾ If played, 3 rd pays 45% of 1 st , 4 th pays 35% of 1 st	Gold Gold

The sponsor may stipulate that, as a condition of contest, the 3/4 playoff exists. If the sponsor so stipulates, and one team pays to play but the other team forfeits, ranks and awards for 3rd and 4th apply as if played, by RR size, as above. The sponsor may stipulate that all semifinalists pay for both matches up front.

Item 183-11: Masterpoint for Regular Club Games - Second Reading

The “Masterpoints for Regular Club Games” section of the Masterpoint Book is revised as follows:

Masterpoints for Regular Club Games

A sanctioned club game awards masterpoints to approximately 40% of the contestants in each session. Section awards for all games (open, invitational, restricted, and newcomer) are based on the number of pairs, teams, or individuals in each group.

The size or denomination of a masterpoint award is determined by a formula that takes into account the level of competition and the number of tables.

♠ CALCULATING THE AWARDS

Section awards for all games (open, invitational, restricted and newcomer) are based on the number of pairs, teams or individuals in each group. For example, an eight-table Mitchell movement is two groups of eight pairs. A five-table Howell movement is one group of ten pairs. In a Mitchell movement, a half table will be treated as though it were a full table. For example, seven and a half tables would be eight pairs in each group while a five and a half table Howell is eleven pairs in the comparison group. Depth of awards is 40% times the number of pairs in the comparison group, rounded to the nearest whole number with .5 rounded up. For overall awards, a half table is counted as a full table.

A. OPEN GAME AWARDS

Open games award .10 MP per table for first place in each group. The second place award is 70% of 1st, third is 50% of 1st, fourth is 35%, fifth is 1/5 and sixth is 1/6, etc. This applies to all open sections for pair, and individual games. The maximum section award is 1.50 masterpoints. Stratified pairs may be conducted with two or three strata. The lower strata may have any upper masterpoint limitations suitable for a club, with masterpoint awards calculated as if they were independent restricted games. For section awards, the lowest strata must have at least three pairs. For overall awards, the lowest strata must have five pairs, regardless of movement.

1. MARGIN FOR RANKING FINISHERS

Score adjustments, carryovers and raw scores will be rounded to two decimal places, with .01 constituting a margin of separation for ranking and masterpoints. Any margin between contestants will be sufficient separation for purposes of qualification.

2. SEEDING

Seeding means specifically seating strong pairs (or weak pairs) in a manner such that, relative to the movement, every contestant plays against a group of opponents of approximately the same strength. In a one-section event, both directions should be balanced. In a multi-section event, all fields should be balanced. In two-session events, the balance should be maintained for both sessions.

If there is an active effort to seat all strong pairs in one direction and the weak pairs in the other, the session must be classified as an invitational/restricted game. Further, if all strong pairs are seated in one section and all weak pairs in another, the strong section qualifies as open, and the other section becomes restricted/invitational.

Seeding is not mandatory for any regular masterpoint games. All seating may be random by luck of the draw or on a first-come, first-served basis. Regular masterpoint games generally are not seeded, but all events with club championship or higher rating should be seeded.

3. AWARDS FOR TIED POSITIONS

When two pairs tie for the same position, the appropriate individual masterpoint awards are determined by adding the masterpoints for that position and the next lower position; the members of each pair then receive half of that total. If three pairs tie for a position, the masterpoints for that position and the next two lower positions are added, and the members of each pair receive one-third of that total. In the unlikely event that four or more pairs tie for the same position, this mathematical procedure continues to the appropriate level to determine the masterpoint awards for the members of each pair.

When there is a two-way tie for the last position awarding masterpoints, the next lower award is calculated. This is added to the last place award, and the sum is divided between the two pairs.

4. NUMBER OF BOARDS

An open pair game must have a minimum of two and a half tables. A two table individual with a one winner movement or a two table team game (match awards only) is allowed. In any open club game, every contestant must be scheduled to play a minimum of 18 boards to receive full masterpoint awards.

Sanctioned clubs may hold shortened regular open games with a minimum number of boards played of 12 - 17. Masterpoints are awarded at 60% of the award for open games.

B. INVITATIONAL/RESTRICTED GAMES AWARDS

1. INVITATIONAL GAMES

An invitational game is one that limits or places restrictions (other than masterpoint holding) on who can participate in its events. Some common restrictions include:

- ♠ Members and guests of the organization that holds the sanction (such as country club or fraternal organization).
- ♠ Personnel (and their families and guests) of industries that are currently participating in commercial and industrial leagues
- ♠ Sections or directions segregated according to strong and weak pairs
- ♠ Strong players forbidden to play as partners
- ♠ Husbands and wives only
- ♠ Life Masters excluded or required to play with non-Life Masters
- ♠ Members of one sex only

Eligibility may be restricted for any reason except those that violate ACBL regulations.

Invitational games award .08 masterpoint per pair for first place in each group. Other placements are based on the same percentages as for Open clubs. The maximum section award is 1.20 masterpoints. The same awards are used for men's/women's, mixed, pro-am and senior games in both Open and Invitational clubs.

2. RESTRICTED GAMES

A restricted game is one that limits participation based upon the masterpoint holding of the participants. An upper limit is defined for the game and no player holding more than that value should be allowed to participate. In limited circumstances, a player holding more than the limit may

be allowed to participate (such as to fill a half table), but the pair in question are ineligible to earn masterpoints.

Restricted games determine their first place awards using a scale value based upon the masterpoint limitation of the game, multiplied by the pairs in each group. Other placements are based on the same percentages as for Open clubs.

The scale values per masterpoint limitation are as follows:

<u>Upper Limit</u>	<u>Multiplier</u>
300 or more masterpoints but not Open	0.8
200 masterpoints	0.7
50 masterpoints	0.6
20 masterpoints	0.5
10 masterpoints	0.4
5 masterpoints	0.3

If a club elects to use limits between the defined values, the multiplier used is that for the lower limit value. So, a game with a 100 masterpoint limit would use the same 0.6 multiplier as a game with a 50 masterpoint limit.

C. NEWCOMER GAME AWARDS

A newcomer game is limited to players who hold fewer than 20 masterpoints, although a club can set a lower maximum, such as one masterpoint, if it so desires. A newcomer game is conducted to acquaint new players with duplicate bridge and to encourage participation by inexperienced players.

A newcomer pair game must consist of at least two and a half tables. However, there are masterpoint awards for two table newcomer games conducted as individuals or team games. Participants must be scheduled to play a minimum of six boards.

ACBL recognizes that some relatively skilled players, through failure to register their club masterpoints, retain masterpoint eligibility to participate in newcomer events inappropriate to their skill and/or experience. When the director or club management determines that the ability of a player is vastly superior to that of the other newcomer game participants, the club may refuse entry of that player in its newcomer events. In such a case, the director should advise the player, as diplomatically as possible, that he or she is too proficient to play in the newcomer game. The director should encourage the player instead to participate in the club's games with a higher masterpoint limitation or the open games.

1. PLAYERS WITH 20 OR MORE MASTERPOINTS

Subject to specified conditions, a club may allow one or two players who hold 20 or more masterpoints to play in a newcomer game. This would be the case when there is a single newcomer player available whose participation would eliminate a half table movement. For example, if there were 13 pairs plus one single, there would be a six and a half table game which, by adding a player, would become seven tables. In this instance, the club may allow one non-newcomer to play.

In addition, when there are an odd number of newcomer pairs entered, resulting in a half table movement, the club may allow two non-newcomer players to participate if each plays with a newcomer partner. If a Mitchell type movement is used, then the two newcomer/non-newcomer pairs must sit in opposite directions. These pairs are ineligible for masterpoint awards from the newcomer event. In no case may the two non-newcomer players play as partners.

2. LOSS OF RANKING

Pairs in which one partner is a non-newcomer will not receive masterpoints and will not be ranked. For example, if an ineligible pair earns sufficient matchpoints to have finished second, that pair is not ranked. Instead, the third place pair is ranked second and receives the second place masterpoint awards. In such a case, all lower ranked pairs move up one rank, accordingly.

3. MASTERPOINT AWARDS

Newcomer games award masterpoints per the masterpoint limitation as in a restricted game, or the values defined based upon the number of boards played. If the number of boards played is less than twelve, the masterpoint value is the same as in a game limited to 5 masterpoints (0.3 per pair in group).

D. OVERALL AWARDS FOR LARGE CLUB GAMES

Club games with more than one section may issue overall awards comparing all the sections. Club games with a single section exceeding fifteen tables may also issue overall awards. Awards may not exceed 4.00 for Open clubs, 3.20 for Invitational clubs and 3.00 for Newcomer clubs. Second place would be 75% of first, third 75% of second, etc. through a maximum of six places.

1. PAIR AWARDS – SECTION OR OVERALL

Pairs receive their section awards or their overall award, whichever is greater, but not both. For example, a pair whose section award was 0.50 and whose overall award was 0.65 would be credited with 0.65 masterpoints. Conversely, a pair with a section award of 0.90 and an overall award of only 0.75 would be credited with the 0.90 masterpoints.

2. ADJUSTMENTS TO SECTION AWARDS

For large games, the section masterpoint awards formula for lower placements is modified to provide a smooth transition from fifteen to sixty pairs. The following applies for 16 to 59 pairs:

1. Calculate the placing award using the scale for overall awards for 4 session events. Second is 75% of first; third is 75% of second; lower placements use the formula:

$$A_p = (A_1 * 4) / (p + 5)$$

where A_p is the masterpoint award for a place position, A_1 is the first in section award (1.50 by regulation) and p is the place position of the pair.

2. Calculate the placing award using the existing club scale for first place without the 1.50 regulation cap.

3. Compare the placing awards from #1 and #2 above and use the lower award.

So, as an example, the fourth place award in a twenty table game would be the lower of the values of #1 and #2. The formula in #1 gives a value of $(1.50 * 4) / (4 + 5) = 6 / 9 = 0.67$. The value under #2 would be $(0.35) * (20 * 0.1) = 0.70$. Accordingly, 0.67 would be the award given. In contrast, the fifth place award would use #2, where the value would be 0.40, in comparison to the 0.60 derived from #1.

D. OTHER CLUB GAMES

1. CRUISE CLUBS

Games held under special sanctions for sea and land cruises award masterpoints that are restricted based upon the number of boards played in the event. If the games are between 12-17 boards, the masterpoints are 50% of the award for a similarly sized Open club game. If 18 or more boards are played, then the award is 80% of an Open game. Cruise clubs are allowed to hold one club championship for every fourteen days they are at sea. The masterpoint awards from the championship use the same reductions based upon the boards in play.

2. ONLINE CLUBS

Sanctioned online games award masterpoints that have no pigmentation (“colorless”). The total number of masterpoints available to be awarded in an online club game is the same as in a comparably sized face-to-face game.

3. FLIGHTED EVENTS AT CLUBS

Open clubs that run open events concurrent with masterpoint restricted events may add the table count from the restricted event to that of their open game for determining the masterpoint awards for the open event. If the Open event is stratified (field divided based upon masterpoint levels into additional comparison fields within the event), then this addition only applies to the awards for the unrestricted Open field; lower restricted fields are based solely upon the table count within their field in the event. This addition may only be used by Open games; Invitational or Restricted games are not eligible.

Clubs that run Newcomer (under 20 masterpoint) events concurrent with their regularly sanctioned games may include the table count from the newcomer event to that of their regular game for determining the masterpoint awards for their game. This addition applies to all comparison fields in the regular game.

Special Club Games

The ACBL authorizes clubs to offer a variety of special games which provide increased masterpoints.

The ACBL has divided the special games that clubs can hold into two groups, based upon the classification rating used as a variable in the General Formula assigned to those events.

Club Special Games Class I – Rating 150% of Standard Masterpoint Game:

- ♠ Club Championship Game
- ♠ Unit Championship Game
- ♠ Inter-Club Championship Game
 - ♠ Special Fund Games (Junior Fund, Charity Fund, International Fund, Grass Roots Fund & Educational Foundation)

Club Special Games Class II – Rating 200% of Standard Masterpoint Game:

- ♠ Club Appreciation Game (Pairs & Team)
- ♠ Club Membership Game
- ♠ Upgraded Club Championship
- ♠ ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game
- ♠ North American Pairs
- ♠ Grand National Teams
- ♠ ACBL-Wide Senior Pairs
- ♠ ACBL-Wide Charity Game
- ♠ World Wide Bridge Contest
- ♠ ACBL-Wide International Fund Game
- ♠ ACBL-Wide International Fund Game – Canada
- ♠ GNT Fund Raiser Games
- ♠ NABC Promotional Games
- ♠ Progressive Sectional Qualifying Game
- ♠ Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STaC) Game
- ♠ Unit/District Fund Game
- ♠ Unit Extended Team Game

- ♠ CNTC Master/Non Master Club Level & Canada Rookie/Master
- ♠ CWTC
- ♠ CNTC (Club and Unit Level)
- ♠ COPC Club Level
- ♠ CBF Simultaneous Pairs

A. NUMBER OF BOARDS

Clubs are allowed to hold either regular club championships (18+ boards played) or shortened club championships (12-17 boards played). The overall awards for shortened club championships are 60% of regular club championships. A shortened club championship (12-17 boards) overall award is capped at 3.60 masterpoints. Regular club championships (18+ boards) and Special Fund games Class I are capped at 6.00 masterpoints. For all other special club games (Class II), the minimum number of boards is 18 and the overall award is capped at 8.00. Specific events require a higher number of boards. That requirement is defined in the conditions of contest for those events. If a two-session special game is held, the first place award receives an additional 50% increase.

In all events, the 1st place award, rounded to the nearest one hundredth of a masterpoint, is used to compute all subsequent awards. The following table describes how these awards are calculated for the events listed under the T variable.

Overall Position	One Session	Two Sessions	Three or More Sessions
2	75% x Previous Position Award	75% x Previous Position Award	
3	75% x Previous Position Award	75% x Previous Position Award	
4	75% x Previous Position Award	75% x Prev. Pos. Award	See formula below
5	75% x Previous Position Award	Award (P) = $\frac{(\text{First Place Award}) * (\# \text{ of Sessions})}{(\text{Overall Position} + 2 * (\# \text{ of Sessions}) - 3)}$	
6	75% x Previous Position Award		
7	75% x Previous Position Award		
8	75% x Previous Position Award		
9+	1st Place Award / Overall Position		

Note: For six session NABC+ pair games, all pairs that qualify for the final two sessions will receive the calculated overall awards (i.e., the absolute limit will not apply).

1. DEPTH OF AWARDS – PAIR EVENTS

For more than 10 tables, additional awards will be given if the calculated award is not less than one (1.00) masterpoint. The depth of the award is at least 10% of the number of pairs in the field, up to a maximum of 25% of the number of pairs in the field, subject to the absolute limit on overall awards.

2. DEPTH OF AWARDS – TEAM EVENTS

For more than 19 tables, additional awards will be given if the calculated award is not less than one (1.00) masterpoint. The depth of the award is at least 10% of the number of teams in the field, up to a maximum of 25% of the number of teams in the field, subject to the absolute limit on overall awards.

3. DEPTH OF AWARDS – INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

For more than 5 tables, additional awards will be given if the calculated award is not less than one (1.00) masterpoint. The depth of the award is at least 5% of the number of players in the field, up to a maximum of 35% of the number of players in the field, subject to the absolute limit on overall awards.

B. SESSION AWARDS FOR PAIR/INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

The depth of session awards is 40% of the number of entrants in field (rounded to the nearest integer with halves rounded up). Awards for second and lower positions are based on the same percentages as for regular club masterpoint games; i.e. 70% for second, 50% for third, 35% for fourth, and lower awards as the first award divided by the place position.

Tables	Places
3	2
4	3
5-6	4
7-9	5
10 +	6

Tables	Places
3-4	1
5-6	2
7-8	3
9-12	4
13-18	5
19 +	6

Tables	Places
2	2
3	3
4	4
5 +	5

C. MATCH AWARDS IN SWISS/ROUND ROBIN TEAM EVENTS

In team events, the award for winning a match is determined based upon the number of boards played in the match and factors based upon the level of competition and classification of the event. The formula for these awards is:

$$\text{Match Award} = D * L * M * P$$

The two new factors (D & L) are defined as follows:

♠ D A factor based on the classification of the event.

CLASSIFICATION	D FACTOR
Club Masterpoint	0.450

♠ L A factor based on the number of boards played in a match.
 For fewer than 24 boards, $L = (\text{Number of Boards})/24$
 For 24-47 boards, $L = 1.00$
 For 48+ boards, $L = 1.50$

D. SPECIAL AWARDS IN CLUB EVENTS

For the following events at clubs, color masterpoints other than black are authorized as part of the awards.

- ♠ ACBL-wide International Fund Events – Awards 50% Black/50% Red masterpoints
- ♠ North American Pairs: Club Level - Awards 50% Black/50% Red masterpoints
- ♠ World Wide Bridge Contest - Awards 50% Black/50% Red masterpoints
- ♠ Grand National Teams: Club Level - Awards 50% Black/50% Red masterpoints
- ♠ Club Appreciation Game: Teams – Awards 5% Gold masterpoints, up to maximum of 0.25 masterpoints; remaining awards are black masterpoints
- ♠ ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game – Section tops include 1.00 gold masterpoints; remaining awards are 50% Black/50% Red masterpoints

Item: 183-12: NT Announcement

the ACBL alert chart be amended to change the “No Trump Openings” announcement column from “State the agreed range for all natural 1NT openings” to “State the agreed range for all natural 1NT openings if not within the range of 15-17”.

Item 183-13: Grand National Teams General Conditions of Contest

The 2018-19 general conditions for the Grand National Teams state:

No level or stage may be scheduled which would prevent a player from attending one or more days of a North American Bridge Championships or participating in the United States Bridge Championship (May 10 – 19, 2019), the United States Women’s Bridge Championship (May 14 – 20, 2019) or the United States Senior Bridge Championships (May 29 – June 6, 2019).

Item 183-14: Short Game Table Fees for Clubs

The table fees for clubs holding short games (12 to 17 boards) increase from \$0.55 to \$0.58.

Item 183-15: Sectional Tournament Staffing

Chapter X, Sectionals, Section D Operations be amended:

Section 1 – Staffing

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

1.1.1 Sectionals with an upper masterpoint limit of ~~500~~ ~~400~~ masterpoints or fewer may be run ~~non-rated~~ by directors who are not ACBL employees. Such directors must be certified club directors.

1.1.2 With management approval, a sponsoring organization may run a limited sectional with a maximum of 750 masterpoints using directors who are not ACBL employees.

- a) Approval will be granted or withheld at the time the sanction is approved. It is expected that approvals will be made on an exception basis and that most such applications will not be approved.
- b) Final determination will be made by the ACBL Manager of Bridge Operations in conjunction with the appropriate Area Manager.

1.1.3 Regardless of masterpoint limit, any Sectional lasting four days or longer must be staffed by an ACBL employee.

1.1.4 For tournaments not staffed by an ACBL employee, the Sectional Surcharge applies. This Surcharge is to offset the cost of processing at ACBL Headquarters that would normally be done on site by a TD.

1.1.5 Tournaments staffed by a non-employee do not use ACBL-provided hand records and do not display results on ACBL Live.

- a) Tournaments may make arrangements with a nearby ACBL TD to provide these services. Such arrangements must be made at least two weeks prior to the start of the tournament.
- b) If ACBL hand records are used, the normal charge applies. If an ACBL employee submits results to Live or provides any other support, the tournament will be charged a fee of \$50 over and above all other fees and charges.

1.1.6 Regardless of staffing, all tournaments are expected to follow ACBL policies and regulations relating to permitted methods, use of bidding boxes, and non-member eligibility and charges.

1.2...

Item 183-16: Flight C NAP

On page 23 of the 2018 Masterpoint Book, the following change be made to the chart below:

Rating of Session Awards for Flight C NAP District Finals be adjusted from 50% of Regional rating to 62.5%

NAP DISTRICT FINALS AWARDS

Flight	First Overall 2 3 4 Session Session Session			Color Overalls Awards	Color Section Top	Color Session Awards	Rating of Session Awards
A	24.00	30.00	36.00	100% Gold	Gold	Red	100% of Regional
B	16.00	20.00	24.00	100% Gold	Gold	Red	70% of Regional
C	10.00	12.50	15.00	25% G 75% R	Gold/Red	Red	50% of Regional

Item 183-17: 4-Session Regional Events

On page 22 of the 2018 MPBOOK, change the following:

3. FOUR SESSION REGIONAL EVENTS

For those four session Regional events, other than Knockouts, ~~the Masterpoint awards computed by formula shall be increased by 40%.~~ the award shall be computed as the higher of the following:

- 1) 140% of the award as calculated by the standard MP formula; OR
- 2) 40% more than the award calculated for a 2-session open pairs event if such an event were concurrent with the first 2 sessions of the 4-session event.

Item 183-18: Uniform Electronic Device Policy

Codification Chapter VIII North American Bridge Championships, E. Operations Section 1.81 be amended as follows:

1.8 Electronic Devices

- 1.8.1 The electronic device policy at NABCs all ACBL sanctioned tournaments allows players to bring electronic devices into the playing area. Except for health-related equipment and/or by permission of the Director-in-Charge of the tournament, all such devices must be inoperable and turned off.

Codification Chapter IX Regionals, Chapter D. Operations shall now include Section 2 – Uniform Electronic Device Policy and 2.1, as follows:

- 2.1 The electronic device policy in place at NABCs shall be adopted by all ACBL Regional tournaments. Exceptions include health-related equipment by special permission of the Director-in-Charge of the tournament, the Conditions of Contest specifically addressing a more stringent policy for electronic devices, and any Regional tournament not staffed by an ACBL Tournament Director.

Finance

Item 183-40: 2019 Operating and Capital Budget

The 2019 operating budget and the 2018 capital budget are received.

Item: 183-41: Late Fees for Clubs

Codification Chapter VI – Club Sanctioned Games, Section A. ACBL Sanctions for Club Masterpoint Games be amended as follows:

Section 5–Sanctioned Club Game Requirements

5.1 Manager

5.1.1 Every ACBL sanctioned masterpoint club game must designate an active ACBL member in good standing with all service fees and dues paid as its manager. The club manager is accountable to the ACBL for the enforcement of ACBL rules and regulations in all sanctioned games the club conducts. The club manager must supervise the following activities:

- (a) Preparation and filing of the Monthly Financial and Masterpoint Report(s). ~~The signature of the club manager must be on the form when it is filed.~~
- (b) Correspondence with the ACBL on club game matters
- (c) Application for sanction renewals and reporting any change of club managers, club address or session changes on an online form provided by the ACBL or by email.

~~5.2 Late Charge for Overdue Club Monthly Financial Reports and Rating Masterpoint Point Reports~~

~~5.2.1 Club managers who do not submit timely club reports will be charged \$.25/day after the 10th of the month up to a maximum of \$5.00 for the first month. These clubs will be notified that such reports must be submitted along with any late charges within 30 days. If a report and late charges are not received within the 30 days, an additional \$25.00 charge will be assessed and the club will be suspended until the report and monies due, including the late charges, are received at Headquarters.~~

Item 183- : NABC Financial Plan

Chapter VIII – North American Bridge Championships, Appendix 8C NABC Financial Plan be amended as follows:

NABC FINANCIAL PLAN

~~Allocations to the local organization in support of an NABC will be divided into the following three categories:~~

- ~~1. Services and materials directly funded and provided by ACBL.~~
- ~~2. Funds provided to the local organization based upon table count.~~
- ~~3. A number of sleeping rooms provided for the local host organization.~~

D. Services and Materials provided by ACBL

1. Player Hospitality – The ACBL will host a welcome party on the first Friday of the NABC.
2. The ACBL will provide a snack for the players on the first Thursday and from Saturday to Saturday after the evening session. The ACBL will confer with the local committee on the choice of snacks to provide local flavor.
3. The ACBL will provide a \$2 coupon to be used at the concessions for each player at the 10 and 3 games.
4. The local committee may choose a welcome gift for the players. The cost of the welcome gift is not to exceed \$5 inclusive of tax and shipping to Horn Lake and is submitted to the Meeting Planner for approval. The ACBL will order and pay for the welcome gifts.
5. The local committee may choose a section top prize for the players. The cost of the prize is not to exceed \$4 inclusive of tax and shipping and must be submitted to the Meeting Planner for approval. The ACBL will order and pay for the prizes
6. Printing, as approved by ACBL - to include the souvenir program, restaurant guide, flyers and other promotional materials.
7. Intermediate/Newcomer Program - ACBL will arrange for and compensate all Intermediate/Newcomer program speakers. ACBL will provide promotional

material to clubs and to players with fewer than 100 masterpoints within the area of dominant influence of the tournament.

8. The local committee may choose a welcome gift for the Intermediate/Newcomer players. The cost of the welcome gift is not to exceed \$3 inclusive of tax and shipping to Horn Lake and is submitted to the ACBL Meeting Planner for approval. The ACBL will order and pay for the Intermediate/Newcomer welcome gifts.
9. Supplies - ACBL will provide signs, bulletin boards, registration cards, partnership cards, etc.
10. Vu-Graph - ACBL will produce and fund the vu-graph program for the major team event finals.
11. ACBL will host a dinner prior to the tournament for key local volunteers or provide the local committee with \$5,000 in lieu of a local volunteer dinner.
12. The ACBL will provide 350 \$10 coupons to be applied against entry fees for local volunteers.
13. The local committee is responsible for any other expenditures and is encouraged to raise additional funds through the NABC promotional games and event sponsorship. The local committee may choose to use local funds to supplement the ACBL funds for either specific items or additional items/events.

DI. ~~Funds provided to the Local Organization~~

~~NABC funds are provided for the implementation of the activities and services at the NABC.~~

~~Approximately one year in advance, management shall provide an allocated dollar amount that will be provided to the host organization for reimbursement of expenses. If the tournament is projected to be larger than 10,000 tables, the amount will be based on the estimated number of tables @ \$11.50 per table. Should the actual table count exceed the estimated table count, an additional \$11.50 per table will be provided to the host organization.~~

~~Management will ensure adequate funds are provided to meet minimum hospitality requirements for sites with estimates of fewer than 10,000 tables.~~

~~The following requirements must be met to receive funds from ACBL in support of an NABC:~~

1. ~~Intermediate/ Newcomer Program: The local organization must follow program guidelines as listed in the tournament chair's manual.~~
2. ~~Player Hospitality: Provide a minimum of eight player hospitality functions. Team event finals featured on vugraph may be included as a hospitality function if food, beverage or other amenity is provided with the program. Plans should be discussed with the ACBL Meeting Planner before they are finalized.~~
3. ~~Registration/Information: Provide players with a registration gift. Registration gift costs should not exceed \$5 each (including tax and shipping) to be taken out of~~

~~funds provided by ACBL. Minimum value for registration gifts should be \$3\$4. Any expense for registration gifts over \$5 (including tax and shipping) each will be the responsibility of the local organization. Gifts must be approved by the Meeting Planner to avoid duplication.~~

- ~~4. Volunteer Hospitality: Some form of hospitality should be provided for volunteer workers. This may be in the form of a hospitality suite with snacks between sessions, meal tickets, scrip, free parking or other methods of recognition and appreciation.~~

DII. Sleeping Rooms for volunteers

1. Rooms will be provided to key committee chair during the time their presence on site is necessary to the smooth running of the NABC. This may include the following committee chairs:

- Partnership
- Registration
- Player Hospitality
- Information
- Intermediate/Newcomer
- Section Tops/Awards

2. Up to three more rooms will be provided as needed for other committee chairs, to include:

- Volunteers
- Caddies
- Special Events (Tours)
- Transportation
- Tournament Co-Chairman

3. The tournament chair will be provided with a one-bedroom suite. In short, ACBL will provide 10 guest rooms for volunteers, plus a one-bedroom suite for the tournament chair.
4. ACBL will provide a one-bedroom suite for the host district director.

~~Other Funds Provided by ACBL~~

~~Please contact the Meeting Planner for more information.~~

Item 183-43: NABC Fees

Entry fees at NABCs be raised to \$35 for NABC+ events, \$30 for other NABC events, \$25 for regional events and \$20 for all other events.

A rebate of \$10 per player/per session, either in the form of scrip or hotel credit, will be given as an incentive to players staying at the host hotel.

Management will be authorized to offer an equivalent rebate to players within a reasonable commute of the NABC.

Governance/Board Operations

Item 183-51: Masterpoint Committee – Deferred from 2018 Atlanta Summer Meeting

CHAPTER IV – ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, D – COMMITTEES, Section 25 – Other ACBL Bodies be appended as follows:

5.11 Masterpoint Committee

- 5.11.1 The purpose of the Masterpoint Committee is to review the allocation of masterpoint awards and make policy-based recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Masterpoint Committee reviews the allocation of masterpoints and makes recommendations to ensure: a) overall consistency in masterpoint awards, b) an appropriate balance in awards between types of events, c) appropriate award levels among finishers within an event, and d) clarity of requirements and formulas for those organizations responsible for calculating masterpoints.
- 5.11.2 The Masterpoint Committee will consist of a minimum of seven members, ~~three of whom are appointed at large by the Chairman of the Board of Governors, two of whom are members of the board of directors and two of whom are ACBL employees.~~ **Two of the members are members of the Board of directors. Three of the members are appointed by the ACBL President. Two members are ACBL employees.**
- 5.11.3 The three at-large appointees ~~of the Chairman of the Board of Governors~~ shall be neither ACBL employees nor members of the Board of Directors. **The Chairman of the Board of Governors shall make recommendations for the three at-large appointees, and the ACBL President shall choose from among those recommendations.**
- 5.11.4 The ACBL President and the Chairman of the Bridge Committee are ex-officio members of the Masterpoint Committee. If either or both of these ex-officio members prefer not to be on the Masterpoint Committee, then the ACBL President may appoint a replacement from among the board of directors. ~~In addition, a~~ **Any member of the board of directors may elect to become a member of the Masterpoint Committee by so notifying the ACBL President. ~~Management shall annually appoint two members to the Masterpoint committee.~~**
- 5.11.5 The term of office for the three at-large members shall be staggered three-year terms.
- 5.11.6 The chairman of the Masterpoint Committee shall be annually selected from among the committee members.

- 5.11.7 The Masterpoint Committee members will be appointed and confirmed at the Spring NABC. The term of office will begin on the day following the end of the Spring NABC and will expire on the day following the end of the appropriate subsequent Spring NABC.
- 5.11.8 If a member of the committee is unable to serve his entire term for any reason, the vacancy so created will be filled by the ACBL President at the next meeting of the Board of Directors, subject to board approval. The newly appointed member will serve the remainder of the unexpired term.
- 5.11.9 Members of the Masterpoint Committee who are not members of the ACBL Board of Directors or employees of the ACBL will receive one two-session entry per meeting to an NABC+ event or lower. It is good for one year from date of receipt. Only those in attendance for all required meetings will be compensated.
- 5.11.10 Any member of the Masterpoint Committee that has an unexcused absence as determined by the committee chairman for three consecutive meetings will be considered as resigned and the president will appoint someone to finish out the remaining term.
- 5.11.11 Recommendations of the committee that require incorporation into systems that compute masterpoints are due by April 15th so that they may be reviewed and voted on in the summer board meeting.
- 5.11.12 The initial work requested of the Masterpoint Committee is a report no longer than three pages summarizing in a non-technical way the status and major issues of the Masterpoint Committee. The ACBL President and Chair of the Bridge Committee may jointly agree to change all or any part of the initial work request.
- 5.11.13 Motions passed by this committee potentially require two readings of the Board of Directors.

Item 183-52: Reduction, Relocation, and Rescheduling of BOD Meetings

Codification Chapter IV- ACBL Board of Directors Section C. - Meetings - be amended as follows:

CHAPTER IV - BOARD PROCEDURES C. MEETINGS

The Board of Directors will meet prior to ~~each~~ the Summer NABC at the site of the Summer NABC. It will also have a face-to-face meeting in early calendar 1st Qtr of each year in a location conveniently located close to the site of the ACBL HQ. The goal of the members of the Board of Directors is to have shorter meetings with more work being done in advance electronically and otherwise. The ~~spring and~~ summer meetings will end on the day before the Board of Governors meeting, the length of each meeting will be determined by the ACBL President in consultation with management.

Section 2 – Conduct of Meetings

2.4 - Annual Actions

2.4.1 - The president and the treasurer will be elected at each ~~fall~~ 1st Qtr meeting. The term of office will begin on the day of election and continue until the election of new officers at the following winter meeting.

2.4.3 – The operating budget for the following calendar year will be approved at the ~~fall~~summer meetings.

Item 183-53: ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code

Chapter IV – Board Procedures, A. Administration, Section 5 – ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code be rescinded in its entirety and replaced with:

Section 5 - ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code

- 5.1 The Board of Directors is Sole Judge of the department of its members. The Board has the right and obligation to enforce its own rules and to require that its members refrain from conduct injurious to the ACBL and its purposes.
- 5.2 A Committee of the Corporation to be known as the Board Oversight Committee is hereby authorized to investigate and report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding issues of conduct by Board Members.
- 5.3 The Board Oversight Committee will consist of three members, The Chairman of the Board as the committee chairman and the two most immediate past presidents currently on the Board.
 - 5.3.1 If any, or all, of the above are ineligible to serve because they are no longer on the Board or are the subject of the complaint, then the Board member(s) with the longest tenure will fill any vacancy(s). Should there be more than one member eligible to fill any vacancy, the decision will be made by a coin toss.
- 5.4 The Board Oversight Committee will receive complaints from any member of the Board of Directors or the Executive Director concerning inappropriate behavior of a Board member. The committee will conduct a confidential investigation and review the facts of the case, making any necessary inquiries of the parties involved.
- 5.5 The Board Oversight Committee has no power to require the accused, or any other person, to appear before it, but it should quietly conduct a complete investigation to learn all relevant facts. Information obtained in strict confidence may help the committee to form an opinion, but it may not be reported to the Board of Directors or used in a hearing before the Board of Directors (see 5.11), except as may be possible without bringing out the confidential particulars.
- 5.6 Any board member accused of an offense will be promptly informed of the details of such offense, and will have the right to address the Board Oversight Committee and present evidence before any action is taken.

- 5.7 If, after investigation, the committee's opinion is favorable to the accused, no discipline is warranted, and the matter can be resolved satisfactorily, no further action will be required, and the matter will be considered closed.
- 5.8 Offenses for which Board members may be referred to the Board Oversight Committee include, *but are not limited to*:
- 5.8.1 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.
- 5.8.2 Sexually explicit remarks or behavior toward any employee.
- 5.8.3 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.
- 5.8.4 Conduct that would embarrass or damage the credibility of the ACBL or the Board of Directors.
- 5.8.5 Discussing any personnel matter, other than in a private conversation, in any forum except an Executive Session of the Board of Directors.
- 5.8.6 Breaching the confidentiality of any ACBL business discussion designated as confidential.
- 5.8.7 Failing to comply with the requirements of Codification Chapter IV, Section 8 Conflict of Interest Policy.
- 5.8.8 Actively engaging in a campaign for a Unit, District or ACBL elected position in districts other than his own.
- 5.8.9 Any action tending to injure the good name of the ACBL, disturb its well-being, or hamper it in its mission.
- 5.9 If the committee decides that disciplines are appropriate, the case will be presented to the Board of Directors by the committee in an Executive Session of the Board at its next regular meeting or at any special meeting called for that purpose.
- 5.10 The accused has the right to be informed of the charge, given time to prepare his defense, and to appear and defend himself.
- 5.11 A case before the board cannot legally establish the guilt of the accused, as understood in a court of law, it can only establish his guilt as affecting the best interests of the ACBL. Witnesses are not sworn, and hearsay evidence is admissible. The name(s) of the accuser(s)

will not be divulged to anyone except the three members of the Board Oversight Committee.

- 5.12 The Board, after hearing all the evidence, can determine that there is no basis for a complaint or that punishment is warranted.
- 5.13 If the Board determines by a majority vote of all those voting that punishment is warranted, the following will apply. The Board member who is the subject of the case may not vote on the matter.
 - 5.13.1 The Board may, by majority vote of all those voting, approve a motion to reprimand or privately censure the member.
 - 5.13.2 The Board may, by majority vote of all those voting, approve a motion to publicly censure the member. If the member is publicly censured, a public censure will be included in the minutes. The motion will only say that the board has censured the member. No other details will appear in the minutes.
 - 5.13.3 The Board may, by majority vote of all those voting, approve a motion to remove an officer elected by the Board from his position.
 - 5.13.4 As it deems necessary the Board may, by majority vote of all those voting, approve motions setting forth more stringent punishments such as removal from committee chairmanship or membership or other punishment deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.
- 5.14 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.
- 5.15 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.

Item 183-54: Residency Requirement for Election of District Directors

Codification Chapter III – Administration, D. Election, Section 1-Declaration of Candidacy be amended to add the following:

- 1.7 There are additional residency requirements for all candidates who declare their candidacy.
 - 1.7.1 A candidate must have resided and currently reside in the District in which he/she is running for at least six months prior to the deadline for declaration of candidacy for that election.
 - 1.7.2 All candidates must submit with their declaration of candidacy one of the following proofs of residency (photocopies acceptable) to the Director of Elections:
 - a) property deed, including date of purchase
 - b) accommodations rental agreement
 - c) utility bill with address, and dated on or before the date listed in 1.7.1

- d) driver's licence
 - e) if not a then-current resident, proof that the candidate lives close to the District boundary and has done a significant amount of volunteer work in, or is otherwise significantly connected to, the District in which the candidate is running as set forth in Codification Chapter I-Membership, A. Membership, Section 3-Residency.
- 1.7.3 A request for a review of a candidate's residency may only be made by the other candidate(s) or by the District President and must be submitted to the Director of Elections within ten (10) business days of the closure of the declaration of candidacy period (currently May 31).
- 1.7.4 The request will be addressed by an Election Credentials Committee, which will be made up of three District Directors, all in the first year of their current term who are the most senior in length of service to the ACBL Board of Directors. The Director of Elections and ACBL In-House Counsel may serve as non-voting members of the Election Credentials Committee.
- 1.7.5 District Directors serving on Dec 31, 2018 will not be affected by this article 1.7 for as long as they continuously serve on the ACBL Board of Directors.

Item 183-55: Alignment of Committees referenced in the Codification with Bylaws

Chapter IV – Board Procedures, D. Committees, be rescinded in its entirety and replaced with:

[*Committee Motion for Codification consistency with Bylaws--Content--rev1.pdf*](#)

Item 183-56: Zonal Conference

Moved that:

Chapter VII, Paragraph A, Zone 2 NBOs, Section 1.2 be amended as follows:

1.2 The ~~ACBL Board of Directors~~ North American Bridge Federation will act as the Zonal Conference (Authority) for Zone 2, which consists of the following for International WBF Play:

- a. USBF
- b. CBF
- c. MBF

NABC Review

Item 183-66: GLM Players Eligibility

Chapter XIII, Section F, Paragraph 1.1.4(b) of the Codification shall be modified to read as follows:

(b) Flighted (By masterpoints only). Three flights event. Each flight may have two strats. Note: Flighted KO events at Regionals may be bracketed (but may not be randomly grouped) to finish in 4 sessions. Any player who has won an event that would qualify that individual to be designated Grand Life Master when 10,000 masterpoints are accumulated, will automatically be entered into the top flight of the particular event.

Chapter XIII, Section F, Paragraph 1.1.4(c) of the Codification shall be modified to read as follows:

(c) Stratified: (By masterpoints only). Two or three strats. Up to five strats are permitted in a one-session event which has an upper limit of 300 or fewer masterpoints – specifically an IN event.

Note: At sponsor option, the stratification of a team in an Open Stratified Swiss Event may be determined by the average master point holding of all team members. Any player who has won an event that would qualify that individual to be designated Grand Life Master when 10,000 masterpoints are accumulated, will automatically be entered into the top strat of the particular event.

Chapter XIII, Section F, Paragraph 1.1.4(f) of the Codification shall be modified to read as follows:

f. Bracketed (KO and Swiss Teams) Based on masterpoint holding of entrants. Any player who has won an event that would qualify that individual to be designated Grand Life Master when 10,000 masterpoints are accumulated, will automatically be assigned the higher of their actual masterpoint holdings or 10,000 masterpoints when determining their team's bracket designation. In a Bracketed Swiss in which the top bracket is open to all teams, or in which there is a Flight A/X Swiss being played simultaneously, such player shall be placed in the top bracket, or Stratum A of the Flight A/X Swiss, as applicable.

Strategic

Item 183-76: Member Growth Business Metrics

the ACBL shall create the proper business metrics for defining where new members are being created, where recruitment exceeds demographic expectation, and where potential growth is greatest to flagged target audiences. (One example target audience is 50-85+ yr olds; another is 18-30+ yr olds).

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

No fee will be charged for this service.

Item 183-77: District and Unit Support for Clubs and Teachers

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

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