

MINUTES

ACBL Competition & Conventions Committee
2011 Fall Meeting in Seattle, Washington
Monday, November 25, 2011 – 10:30 AM

Members Present:

Tom Carmichael, Chairman
Bill Arlinghaus
Steve Beatty
Doug Doub
Joan Gerard
Ellen Kent
Jeff Meckstroth
Barry Harper
Elaine Said
Linda Trent
Sol Weinstein

Also Present:

Jim Miller, National Recorder
Sam Whitten, Assistant National Recorder
Ken Horwedel, ACBL Manager of Bridge Quality

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Committee members discussed the minutes from the Seattle meeting. A motion to approve the Seattle minutes was made and seconded. The Seattle minutes were unanimously approved.
2. The Committee discussed the Seattle Senior Knockouts with 34 teams. What is the most appropriate way to eliminate two teams: 5-way round robin with two survivors or a 3-way round robin with one survivor. The Committee expressed support for the concept of attempting to find 2 teams to withdraw from the event. The Committee discussed which teams would be involved in a 5-way round robin. There was substantial support for the concept of a five-way round robin. The Committee believed that the players prefer round robins to having large numbers of byes in the first round.
3. The Committee discussed the problem of dumping in round robins with multiple survivors. The Committee believed that having no comparisons in the last few rounds would reduce the problem of dumping. The Committee decided that there were some logistical issues with the 5-way round robins, i.e. comparisons, lineup changes, dumping, and scoring method. The

Committee decided to deny the motion about 5-way round robins because of the logistical issues involved.

4. The Committee received an oral report about the work of the Seeding Subcommittee. A new seeding method for foreign players in the Vanderbilt/Spingold was approved by the Board of Directors based on WBF Masterpoints and Placing points. In addition, a subjective seeding method was approved on an experimental basis for the Memphis Vanderbilt. The Committee discussed seeding changes for the Senior Knockouts and Women's Knockouts. Both of these changes will be deferred until Memphis for a full report from Mike Becker from the Seeding Subcommittee.
5. The Committee discussed alert rules regarding Weak Jump Shifts. Currently, Weak Jump Shifts in competition by responder are not alertable. While, a Weak Jump Shift by advancer is alertable. The Committee approved a motion that a Weak Jump Shift by Advancer should not be alertable. The Committee clarified that "in competition" means that both sides have made a bid in the auction.
6. The Committee discussed the ACBL Convention Card. Length of minor opening bids was discussed. The Committee suggested that blue box should be used for a minimum length of two, while anything shorter should require an alert and the red box should be checked. The Committee approved a motion to revise the ACBL Convention Card to reflect announceable (blue box) minor opening with a minimum of two cards in the suit, and alertable (red box) minor openings with less than a minimum of two cards in the suit.
7. The Committee discussed the arrangement of the Drury convention on the ACBL Convention Card. The Committee approved a motion to change the Drury section to One-way, Two-way, and No Fit Drury.
8. The Committee discussed the Battlefield Tactics Subcommittee recommendations. The Committee reaffirmed that Item #5 on the ACBL Superchart should be modified to read, "Opening one bids which by partnership agreement could show fewer than 8 HCP in first and second seat (Not applicable to a psych)."

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Whitten