

Minutes of the C&C Committee

March 16, 2009

1. Minutes from November 2008 meeting approved.
2. Report on BoD minutes: 12 club championships were held on the internet (with masterpoint caps on overall awards).
3. Discussion of new Platinum Pairs Event
 - a. 10,000 MP okay as alternate qualification for entry.
 - b. Schedule change: Vanderbilt to start Monday (from Sunday), Pair event to be the first Fri-Sat-Sun
 - c. Discussion of impact to Silodor pairs due to direct conflict.
 - d. Discussion of impact to other pair events (e.g., Mixed) due to more people in Vanderbilt.
 - e. Discussion of swapping the IMP pairs and Silodor pairs rather than having competing MP events.
4. Motion to swap IMP Pairs and Silodor Pairs – passed, no opposed. (see 3e)
5. Discussion of Pre-Alert procedure for light preempts
 - a. Examples given, such as 9xxxx vs. Jxxxx
 - b. Suggestion of global review of alert procedures, not piecemeal.
 - c. Suggested that the TD staff produce a list of common problem areas to be addressed, tabled until July meeting.
6. Discussion of procedures for approving a bidding defense.
Brief review of current practices.
7. Discussion of transfer responses to 1C, possibly making GCC legal. No changes made.
8. Discussion of changing start times to some or all of the national events.
 - a. Report of survey regarding start time of premier events. Based on this survey, most favor 10 and 3:30 start times (before screens)
 - b. It was noted that if these became the new start times, finding appeals committees may be more challenging. (Players in other events, other start times.)
 - c. There was discussion about keeping the premier events separate from other national events, as there is a better chance of approval by the BoD.
 - d. Premier events include: Spingold, Vanderbilt, Reisinger, Senior KO, Wagar
9. Motion to have BoD review changes to start times for Premier events – passed.
10. Discussion of smoothing the IMP scale (using fractional imps) for IMP pair events only. Tabled for consideration.
11. Discussion on Dual-carding
 - a. Questions of legality, everyone in agreement that in the discussed scenario (a preemptor playing a middle card in the preempted suit) is okay.
 - b. No real issue, other than perhaps clarifying the wording of the paragraph of the description in the convention charts.

12. Poll of committee members on frequency of attendance at all levels: club, sectional, regional, NABC. This was due to feedback that the C&C is heavy with NABC players, but not enough players of “normal” games. Committee was found to be very diverse at all levels.
13. Discussion of controlled psychs.
 - a. Specific scenario discussed: 2S – 2NT (on a bust) – 3x – 3S. If opener can never bid, can be used as a controlled psych.
 - b. Suggestion that there was at some point in time a file on “Risk Free Psychs” in the ACBL files, may be able to draw some insights from that file.
 - c. Long discussion of disallowing 2NT without game interest vs. opening bidder being allowed to bid past 3M. [e.g., 2S – (P) – 2NT – (4H) – 4S]. Committee was split on the issue, but the majority felt that so long as some auctions exist such that opener can bid above 3M (such as above), the psych is not risk free and is therefore legal.
 - d. The possibility of a bulletin article addressing the issue was suggested.
 - e. Gary Blaiss to work on the wording describing psychic controls for the convention charts.
14. Draft of appeals procedures, alert procedures and IMP smoothing tabled to email discussion.
15. Very light openers: Pre-alert & alert. Alert redundant, but somehow never made it into the minutes. Unknown if there was a previous vote. Tabled into general discussion of alert procedure.