

**Minutes
ACBL Board of Directors
Hyatt Regency Long Beach
Long Beach, CA
July 15 – 17, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Tuesday, July 15, 2003 at 8:30 am.

Present: George Retek #1, Jonathan Steinberg #2, Joan Levy Gerard #3, Craig Robinson #4 Sharon Fairchild #5, Nadine K. Wood #6, Bruce Reeve #7, Georgia Heth #8, Shirley Seals #9, Charles D. Wilkinson #10, Jim Reiman #11, Harriette Buckman #13, Sue Himel #14, Virgil Anderson #15, Dan E. Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Barbara Nist #19, G. S. Jade Barrett #20, Roger Smith #21, James H. Kirkham #22, Alan LeBendig #23, Alvin Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Absent: Thomas Gardner #12

Also

Present: Don Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, CEO; Jack Zdancewicz, CFO; Gary Blaiss, Executive Administrative Officer; Rick Beye, Chief Tournament Officer; and staff Nancy Foy, Linda Granell, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, Cecil Cook past president, Val Covalciuc past president, and Kelley McGuire.

Approval of Philadelphia Minutes

The Philadelphia minutes are approved.

Carried.

Ratification of Audit Committee

The Memphis firm of Jackson, Howell and Associates, P.C. is retained as auditor for the year 2003.

Carried without dissent.

Election of ACBL President

Bruce Reeve and Chuck Wilkinson had previously declared their candidacy. There were no other declarations of candidacy. Nominations were closed. By secret ballot, Bruce Reeve was elected to the office of ACBL President for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2004.

Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting are ratified.

Carried. Absent: 12 Abstain: 20

(Minutes of the meeting follow)

Minutes Executive Committee of the Board of Directors July 7, 2003

The Executive Committee met today at 10:00 am CT, by conference call, to consider a request from Linda Weiner, a District 20 Recall Committee Member, to extend the July 23, 2003 deadline for receipt of the petition to recall the District 20 Director.

Present at the meeting were all the members of the Executive Committee: Al Levy, chair, George Retek, Roger Smith, Jonathan Steinberg, and Nadine Wood. Also present were Jean Patterson, Director of Elections, and Kelley McGuire, scribe.

Since the current effort to recall the District 20 Director was in progress on March 15, 2003, July 23, 2003 is the date the petition of recall must be received by the Director of Elections. This is established in the ACBL Election Procedures, sections XX IV (f).

Linda Wiener requested that the July 23, 2003 deadline be extended until August 6, 10 days after the end of the summer NABC.

After careful consideration, the Executive Committee, by a vote of 4-1, denied the request for an extension of the July 23 date for receipt of the petition to recall the District 20 Director.

Non Agenda Items

1. Canadian Bridge Federation Regional – Bridge
2. Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs) – Conditions of Contest
3. Canadian Senior Team Championship and Canadian IMP Pairs Championship – International
4. Unit 409 Disbanded – Governance
5. Binding and Compulsory Arbitration – Governance

ACBL President Report

The report of President Al Levy is received. (Exhibit 1)

ACBL CEO Report

The report of CEO Jay Baum is received. (Exhibit 2)

ACBL CFO Report

The report of CFO Jack Zdancewicz is received. (Exhibit 3)

League Counsel Report

Peter Rank, League Counsel, reported on the status of litigation. (Exhibit 4)

ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointment

President Al Levy announced the appointment of Jeff Polisner to Chairman of the ACBL Disciplinary Committee.

The meeting was called to order by President Al Levy on Wednesday July 16, at 2:30 pm.

Present: Same as Tuesday, July 15. Addition of Thomas Gardner #12.

Absent: Virgil Anderson # 15.

Also Present: Same as Tuesday, July 15

Bridge					
Gerard, Chair	Wood, Vice-Chair				
DeMartino	Fleming	Heth	Kirkham	LeBendig	Morse
Reiman	Robinson	Seals			

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-75: Membership Residency Requirements

Members of the ACBL are normally expected to belong to the Unit in which they reside. If a member chooses to belong to a Unit in which he/she does not reside, the member, appropriate club manager, or a Unit or District official must specifically make this request in writing (e-mail is permissible) to the ACBL stating the Unit of preference and the reasons for the request. Further, if the Unit is not in the same District as where he/she resides, both Districts must approve the membership in the other District. The following are some of the reasons why a member would be given permission to belong to a Unit outside the District of residence. To warrant consideration, a player should meet at least two of the six reasons listed:

1. Plays at least once a month in a club in that Unit.
2. Attends STaCs or Sectionals in that Unit at least twice a year.
3. Attends the annual unit dinner and/or annual membership meeting.
4. Participates in Unit special events.
5. Serves on the Unit Board and/or Unit committees.
6. Serves on the District Board and/or District committees.

If it is determined that a member requests a change of Unit membership for the sole purpose of Grand National Teams (GNT) or North American Pairs (NAP) play, the request must be denied. The membership approval granted by a District in which the member does not reside may be reviewed by that District at least every five years to assure the above criteria continue to justify non-residency membership.

If a player has been a member of that Unit and wishes to remain and does not participate in GNT and NAOP events in that District, permission may be granted by the District without the player meeting any of the above six criteria.

Items 902-92, 931-86 and 003-106 are rescinded.

Carried: Nay: 3 Absent: 15

Item 032-76: Canadian Bridge Federation Regional

Item 933-81, paragraph A4, is amended to include:

... 13. Canada

An annual regional is given to the Canadian Bridge Federation for the purpose of supporting the CBF International Fund. The CBF will determine the district (1, 2, 18, or 19) in which the tournament will be held.

Item 021-306 is rescinded.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15.

Bridge – Conditions of Contest					
Kirkham, Chair					
DeMartino	Fleming	Gerard	Heth	Kirkham	LeBendig
Morse	Reiman	Robinson	Seals	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-85: Conditions of Contest

The 2003 Conditions of Contest, as amended at the Summer 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors, are approved and ratified for 2004 and 2004/05. Management may, at its discretion, alter wording to permit a clearer understanding of the intention of the Conditions and/or adjust dates as appropriate.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15.

Item 032-86: Additions to ACBL Convention Charts

- A. Any well-defined defense to a 1NT opening bid will be allowed as a general chart convention.

Motion failed: Aye: 6, 7, 20, 21, 22, 23 Absent: 15

- B. Moved that the reversal of the 1S and 1NT(forcing) responses to a 1H opening be moved to the general convention chart.

Motion failed: Aye: 23 Absent: 15

Item 032-87: NABC+ Life Master Pairs Participants

All Conditions of Contest for NABC+ Life Master Pairs are amended as follows:

An ACBL member, who has equivalent status in a Bridge Organization other than the ACBL, may request, in writing, an exemption from the requirement to be an ACBL Life Master. Only the Chief Tournament Director or his designee may grant this request.

Effective date: Immediately.

Carried. Nay: 5, 7, 17, 19. Absent: 15

Item 032-88: Swiss Team General Conditions of Contest

The ACBL Swiss Team General Conditions are amended as follows:

PAIRING

2. For each subsequent match, pairings will be assigned (within groups of teams) such that:
 - a) No two teams shall meet twice in the event.
 - b) Each team shall meet a team whose current record is as close to its own as possible, or for an event with an even number of entries ONLY (i.e., no three-way matches).
 - c) Teams will be randomly paired for their second round match.

For the remainder of the first session or the one-half the total number matches (rounded down) each team shall meet a team whose record after the previous match is as close to its own as possible. Current record must be used for the final session or for the last one-half (rounded up) of the total number of matches.

PLAY

6. There are no seating rights. If a disagreement cannot be resolved by the captains involved, there shall be a coin-flip. The team losing the coin flip will seat its pairs first. The team winning the coin flip will then seat its pairs.
11. It is the duty of each team captain to ensure that one of his/her pairs is playing N-S and the other E-W, regardless of table assignment method in use. If teams fail to achieve a match result because of incorrect placement of players, each such team will receive zero, whichever scoring method is in use. For pairing purposes, these teams have not yet played each other.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-89: Blue, Red and Silver Ribbon Conditions of Contest

A. The Conditions of Contest for the Blue Ribbon Pairs is amended as follows:

2. The Blue Ribbon Pairs will be open to pairs, each of whom has a Blue Ribbon Qualification and is a paid up member of ACBL. Use of one qualification does not cancel others. See Appendix R for more complete information on how one obtains a qualification.
3. An ACBL member, who has equivalent status in a bridge organization other than the ACBL, may request, in writing, from the Chief Tournament Director a one-time exemption, in their first year of ACBL membership, to enter.

B. The Conditions of Contest for the Silver Ribbon Pairs is amended as follows:

2. The Silver Ribbon Pairs is open to pairs, each of whom must be at least fifty-five years of age as of his/her most recent birthday, is an ACBL paid-up member and has a Silver, Red or Blue Ribbon qualification. Consult Appendix R for more complete information on how these qualifications are earned. An ACBL member, who has equivalent status in a bridge organization other than the ACBL, may request, in writing, from the Chief Tournament Director a one-time exemption, in their first year of ACBL membership, to enter.

C. The Conditions of Contest for the Red Ribbon Pairs is amended as follows:

2. The Red Ribbon Pairs is open to pairs, each of whom has fewer than 2000 Master Points (as of the 1st of the month of the year and month of the event), and is an ACBL paid up member. Further, each player must have earned a Red, Blue or Silver Ribbon qualification. Consult Appendix R for more complete information on how these qualifications are earned.

Effective date: Fall 2003

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-90: Appendix R

Appendix R is amended as follows:

III. Blue Ribbon Eligibility

3. Except for Continuous Pairs/Side Game Series type events, first and second (including ties) in all Gold Point Regionally-Rated events with no upper masterpoint limit or with an upper masterpoint limit of more than 1500 masterpoints. For bracketed KOs the foregoing applies to brackets issuing 100% gold points and for an applicable team in any bracket having at least one member with more than 1500 masterpoints.

Effective date: January 1. 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-91: Wagar Women's Knockout Seeding Points

Appendix BW is amended such that seeding points awarded to women on teams participating in open events are reduced by the factor shown when the team is not an all-women's team.

# players	# Wmn	Reduce Pts by
6	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
6	2	$\frac{1}{2}$

6	3	3/8
6	4	1/4
6	5	1/8
5	1	3/4
5	2	1/2
5	3	1/4
5	4	1/8
4	1	3/4
4	2	1/2
4	3	1/4

Effective date: January 1, 2004.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-92: Swiss Team General Conditions

The Swiss Team General conditions are amended as follows;

3. A player must play at least fifty percent of the matches in the event in order to be eligible for overall masterpoint awards or other privileges due his/her team. As exceptions, a player will be deemed to have played fifty percent and be eligible for overall awards or other privileges in the following two cases:

- a. Playing the last 50% of the matches rounded down in a 7 match Swiss. (For example, a player must play a minimum of any four matches or the last three matches in order to receive overall awards.)

Carried. Nay: 8, 24. Absent: 15

- b. Playing the three-match session of a two-session Swiss consisting of 8 matches, if the three-match session is the final session.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried: Nay: 5, 10, 16, 17 Absent: 15

Item 032-93: Reisinger and BAM Barometer Scoring

The 2003 and 2004 Reisinger Conditions of Contest are amended as follows:

Management, at its discretion, may, for the final day, authorize barometer scoring with publication of previous rounds' results and standings throughout the day with a one round lag

through the penultimate round (i.e., the last preliminary posting will be through the anti-penultimate round).

Effective date: Immediately

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-94: NABC+ Board-a-Match Events

The Conditions of Contest for each NABC+ Board-a-Match event are amended such that there is an offset of the seeded teams in one of the paired sections (using a Mirror Mitchell movement) so that no team will avoid playing a top seeded team for both sessions that day.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-95: Addition to General Convention Chart

The General Convention Chart is amended to permit the use of transfer responses/advances to overcalls where the call shows length or values in the suit of the transfer (i.e., a bid of 2 Hearts as a transfer to spades would show length or values in spades).

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-96: Guidelines for NABC+ Qualifying Rounds (except the Reisinger)

For the Life Master Pairs and Blue Ribbon Pairs, the field shall be reduced by approximately 55 to 60% each round to produce 2-4 thirteen (or fourteen) table sections for the final day at the discretion of the Director-in-Charge.

Motion failed: Aye: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 17, 24, 25. Absent: 15

Item 032-97: ACBL Mid-Chart Amendment

The ACBL Mid-Chart is amended as follows:

**ALLOWED ** Unless specifically allowed,
methods are disallowed ****

1.
2.

3.

4. Any call that promises four or more cards in a known suit except that weak openings at the two level or higher that show hands with two suits must be no less than 5-4 distribution in the two suits.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-98: NABC+ Pair Event Scoring

- A. The Conditions of Contest for two and three day NABC+ pair events are amended to require two section comparison/qualifying groups on the first day of these events except that one three-section group is permitted when necessary.
- B. The Conditions of Contest for three day NABC+ pair events are amended to require across-the-field-scoring on the second day with up to seven sections. With more than seven sections, the Director-in-Charge may, at his or her discretion, score across the field, if logistically appropriate, or arrange for two- or three-section comparison groups.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-100: General Conditions of Contest

The ACBL General Conditions of Contest are approved as amended as attached.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-101: NABC+ Senior Knockout Teams

The Senior Knockout Teams Conditions are amended as follows:

- 2. The teams will be ordered by their average seeding points with ties broken by lot. The defending champion will be seeded number one provided at least four members are playing together. The remaining teams are seeded in order by average masterpoint holding.

Effective date: Fall 2003

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-102: Knockout Teams General Conditions

The General Conditions for Knockout Teams are amended as follows:

8. Should any head-to-head match end in a tie, a 4-board playoff will be played. Should the first playoff end in a tie, continuing two-board playoffs will be played until the tie is resolved. Except that in the special case of Compact Knockouts where there is another match to play in the current session, the initial tie is broken, in order, as follows:
 - a. Total Points Scoring
 - b. Board-a-Match Scoring
 - c. Coin-Flip

11. The team(s) eliminated from a round-robin shall be determined as follows:

Net IMPs - the difference between the total number of IMPs won and the total number of IMPs lost.

- A. When two teams progress and one team has not lost both matches:

1. If each team has won a match:
 - a. Net Imps
 - b. Result of the head-to-head match if two teams are tied in negative net IMPs.
 - c. If the net IMPs for each of the three teams is zero:

Playoff (continuing three-way matches of 2 boards until the tie is resolved) except for a Compact Knockout match where there is another match to play in the current session.

In this instance the tie is broken using the following methods until the tie is resolved:

 - (1) Total Points.
 - (2) Board-a-Match Scoring
 - (3) Coin-Flip (odd man out)
2. If one team has won two matches and the other two teams tied, use #8 above.

- B. When one team progresses and one team has not won both matches:

1. If each team has won a match:
 - a. Net Imps
 - b. Result of the head-to-head match if two teams are tied in net IMPs.
 - c. If the net IMPs for each of the three teams is zero:

Playoff (continuing three-way matches of 2 boards until the tie is resolved) except for a Compact Knockout match where there is another match to play in the current session.

In this instance, total point scoring is used to resolve the tie. If still tied, BAM scoring is used to resolve the tie. If still tied, each team draws a card - high card progresses.
2. If two teams beat the third team and tie their match use #8 above.

- C. For three-way matches in which one team is meant to be eliminated after the first session: Unless one team has lost both matches (i.e., is behind in both 16-board matches), the match continues as a full day three-way match (playing a total of 32 boards against each of the other teams). In such a case, if there is a tie in the matches won, the tie will be broken as in "B" above.

When a team is eliminated after 16 boards against each of the other teams, the two teams continue with full carryover from their match only.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-103: Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (StaCs)

The General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (StaCs) is amended as follows:

**General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for
Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (StaCs)**

.....
.....

II. PARTICIPATING CLUBS

- a) Ay club within the area of the participating Unit may hold a STaC game in lieu of its regularly scheduled club game. Additional games may be held, as noted above.
- b) The ACBL General Convention Chart will be used unless the sponsor specifies and advertises otherwise.
- c) A minimum section size of 10 pairs is needed to be included in the Championship session. Sections with fewer than 10 pairs may be reported, combined, and included as a Sectionally rated Championship. This restriction may be modified or waived, prior to the start of the tournament, at sponsor option.
- d) Invitational games will be scored and ranked as stand alone sectionally rated Championship event with 1 restriction unless these games are opened to all players and advertised as such.
- e) Limited masterpoint games will be scored and ranked alone unless a like limited masterpoint game is held at one or more other STaC sites. In this case, these games will be scored together for overall rankings and masterpoint awards.

Effective date: Immediately

Carried. Nay: 2 Absent: 15

Bridge – Special Events					
LeBendig, Chair					
DeMartino	Fleming	Gerard	Heth	Kirkham	Morse
Reiman	Robinson	Seals	Wood		

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-105: NAP and GNT Events

NAP and GNT Committee's preliminary report is received. A final report, including proposals, will be available for the Fall 2003 meeting.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-106: GNT Flights B and C Seeding

The conditions of contest for the ACBL Finals of Flights B and C (non-LM) are amended as follows:

A. The finals will be a seeded knockout.

B. Seeding will be by average masterpoints. Ties will be broken by lot.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried. Nay: 10 Absent: 15

Bridge – Tournaments					
Reiman, Chair					
DeMartino	Fleming	Gerard	Heth	Kirkham	LeBendig
Morse	Reiman	Robinson	Seals	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-110: Tournament Director Training & Evaluation Program Status Report

Management's Tournament Directors training and evaluation program status report is received.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-111: North American Bridge Championships – Appendix 6 (031-112)

The newly amended Appendix 6 to the North American Championships Guidelines is approved as a living document with periodic changes being made as new information becomes available.

Referred to the NABC Advisory Committee.

Deferred to the Fall 2003 NABC.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-112: Regional Tournament Allocations

Regional Tournament Allocations, item 933-81 paragraph A3, is amended as follows:

3. In addition to its four (4) allocated Regionals, a District with 9,000 to 12,000 members is allocated one (1) additional Regional each year; a District with 12,001 to 15,000 members is allocated two (2) additional Regionals each year; a District with more than 15,001 members will be allocated three (3) additional Regionals each year.

Effective date: January 1, 2004 for Membership
January 1, 2005 for Tournament

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-114: Appeals Administrator/Appeals Casebook

- A. The following Board Resolutions are rescinded:
 - (921-1) Required Procedures and Certification of Appeals Committee Members
 - (943-04) Appeals Administrator
 - (962-05) Appeals Administrator
 - (971-06) Duties of the Appeals Administrator
 - (991-63) The Appeals CasebookAny other resolution prior to July 2003 involved with the Casebook or Appeals Administrator.
- B. The Casebook is a project of the ACBL Board of Directors. The Editor of the Casebook is selected and hired by Management to work with the Board of Directors on this project.
- C. Management shall ensure that the following functions are performed:
 1. An appeals casebook is compiled and ready for publication within 120 days of each NABC.
 2. Each casebook should include a description of each appeal.
 3. Each casebook should include commentary on selected appeals that have instructive value or interest as determined by the Editor of the casebook and Management.

4. Management should publish descriptions of likely controversial decisions in the Daily Bulletin of the NABC at which the decision took place when submitted by the Editor and the Chairman of National Appeals.
5. The commentators for the Appeals Casebook will be selected and the number of commentators determined by the Editor, Director of National Appeals and Management. Any one of the above may require that a specific commentator not be used.
6. The Editor and Management may include appeals cases from events conducted by the USBF, CBF and MBF, which qualify contestants to International competition.
7. If possible, the casebooks will be published on the ACBL web page.
8. Members of the ACBL National Appeals Committee and ACBL Board of Directors will be furnished with a hard copy of the casebook.
9. The casebook shall be reviewed and approved by League Counsel, the Director of National Appeals and Management before it can be published.

Carried unanimously. Absent 15

Item 032-115: Recorder Regulations and Procedures

A. The ACBL Recorder Regulations and Procedures are amended and approved as follows:

RECORDER REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

1. GOAL.

The aim of the recorder system is to establish a method of dealing with complaints that: 1) by themselves do not warrant the filing of formal charges or 2) are very serious but there is only the implication of wrongdoing without substantial evidence necessary to bring formal charges.

2. DEFINITIONS.

\$ Appointing body: The entity (ACBL, District or Unit) that appoints the recorder.

\$ Assistant Recorder: A person authorized to act by or on behalf of a recorder.

Note: Unless otherwise noted every reference to a recorder applies equally to an assistant recorder.

\$ Complaint: A written request to a proper entity to form a disciplinary committee and bring formal charges against the subject of a player memo.

\$ File: The collection of written documents that include the player memo, any written response, all investigative notes and other documents.

\$ Player Memo: A written document informing the Recorder about an incident.

\$ Recorder: The person with the ultimate responsibility for carrying out the duties outlined in these guidelines.

\$ Reporter: The person who signs and files the player memo.

\$ Subject: The person who is the subject of the player memo.

3. APPOINTMENT.

With the exception of the ACBL Recorder, a recorder is an official of the appointing body who may be removed from office by whatever reasonable procedures are established by that body. Each appointing body is encouraged to create reasonable procedures for appointment of assistant, replacement or temporary recorders. All of these procedures should be constructed to distance the position of recorder and the person who is charged with this responsibility from the political arena.

4. QUALIFICATIONS.

A recorder must be qualified to perform the duties outlined in these guidelines. These qualifications are not absolute. However, an ideal candidate will have the following:

- a. Unimpeachable ethical integrity, honesty, and demeanor.
- b. Ability to discuss all matters including the most serious ethical concerns with a subject without giving offence to an innocent individual.
- c. Excellent communication skills.
- d. Acknowledged bridge ability.
- e. Ability to act in a non-political manner.

Since ACBL members must have the highest confidence in the persons appointed as recorders, the system will operate successfully only if there is a general belief that a recorder will perform the duties of the office honestly and impartially.

To adequately perform the duties of the office, a recorder should have a familiarity with the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge and the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

- A. Receives, investigates and evaluates Player Memos.
- B. Educates reporters and subjects about proper behavior and ethical behavior in accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge and the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.
- C. Communicates, as appropriate, with those involved in a reported incident, especially the reporter and subject.
- D. Maintains a record of all player memos including investigation and resolution.
- E. Makes or assists with a partial presentation to a disciplinary committee; brings the complaining on behalf of the appoint organization or his/her behalf.

6. LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY.

A recorder has no disciplinary authority and MUST not give any indication to the contrary.

A recorder may file a complaint with an appropriate disciplinary body against a subject as a way to resolve a player memo or memos. A recorder may choose to inform a subject that a complaint may be filed in the future should the undesirable behavior continue. In either case the recorder must ensure that the authority of the office of recorder is not abused.

7. ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER BRIDGE OFFICE.

- A. A recorder should not, during the tenure of office, serve on any disciplinary body created under authority of that recorder's appointing body. If he is already a member of such a body, a recorder must assume inactive status or resign.
- B. A recorder should not, but *may*, be a member of a disciplinary committee for another appointing body. For example, a District Recorder may serve on a Unit or Sectional tournament disciplinary committee and vice versa. However, a recorder may not participate in any case in which the facts may present a conflict of interest, and must not participate (as a member of the committee) in any case that he or she investigated as a recorder.
- C. A recorder may be a member of any disciplinary committee after leaving office, but shall not hear any case with which he or she was involved while serving as a recorder.
- D. A recorder may not be a member of any bridge appeals committee that creates a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- E. A recorder should consider declining to serve on a bridge appeals committee when other qualified people are available.

8. TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

The recorder should be available for any tournament sponsored by the appointing body. If he is not available, the recorder is responsible to nominate a qualified assistant to perform all recorder functions. While acting as assistant recorder the appointed person is subject to all limitations imposed on the recorder. In the event that no recorder is available for a tournament, the Director-in-Charge (not an assistant) will act as an on-site recorder.

9. GUIDELINES FOR EXECUTION OF DUTIES.

- A. The recorder must maintain the confidentiality of the process in speaking with people about player memos; he must exhibit care when revealing information only when necessary to the investigation. This responsibility is of the highest priority and must continue even after his or her duties have ended.

Violating the confidentiality of the process is a basis for removal from office.

- B. The subject and, to a lesser extent, the reporter are entitled to privacy regarding the reported incident subject to the needs of the investigation. If the recorder files a complaint, then a qualified exception on a need-to-know basis is given to those involved in processing and hearing the complaint. This includes, but is not limited to, the disciplinary body that will hear the complaint plus any witnesses (to the extent that they will need to know when and where the hearing will take place, the name of the subject and the basic complaint).
 - C. A recorder should leave instructions with club managers, tournament chairpersons and tournament directors (as relevant) as to how to deliver player memos.
 - D. Upon receipt of a player memo, a recorder should make an initial assessment as to whether the subject matter could form the basis for a complaint even in conjunction with other reports. If not, the recorder should discuss the matter with the reporter prior to placing the memo in a closed administrative file.
 - E. Upon receipt of a player memo that could be the basis for a complaint, the recorder either investigates the matter or refers the player memo to the appropriate recorder to investigate. Matters that could involve major ethical breaches should be referred to the ACBL recorder for evaluation prior to the start of an investigation. The recorder should discuss other matters with the subject and give the subject an opportunity to reply to the report in writing. As appropriate, the recorder may investigate further by interviewing witnesses and holding additional meetings with the reporter or the subject.
 - F. After investigation, the recorder makes a preliminary evaluation; further investigation may be appropriate before making a final decision. If a recorder will not be filing a complaint, the subject and reporter should be so informed. A recorder should retain a copy of the closed file for at least five years and send a copy of the file to the ACBL Recorder care of the National Office of Recorder at ACBL Headquarters. In addition, Unit recorders should send a copy to the subject's District and Unit Recorder; District Recorders should also send a copy to the subject's District and Unit Recorder.
 - G. If a recorder chooses to file a complaint, the subject and reporter should be informed. A recorder files the complaint with the appropriate disciplinary committee. In addition, a copy of the file should be sent to the ACBL Recorder care of the National Office of Recorder at ACBL Headquarters. Further, Unit recorders should send a copy to the subject's District and Unit Recorder; District Recorders should also send a copy to the subject's District and Unit Recorder.
 - H. Nothing in this document shall supersede the provisions of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.
10. RECORDER FILES.
- A. All files are the property of the investigating recorder's appointing body. Access to that file is by permission of the appointing body's recorder.

- B. At least twice every calendar year, a recorder should review all files in his or her possession. If the subject of a five year old file is not also the subject of a more recent player memo, the file should be discarded - except that memos which note major ethical breaches should be retained indefinitely. During each semiannual review, a recorder should note if more than one player memo involves the same subject. If so, he or she should reevaluate the memos for possible action based on a possible pattern.
- C. In general, a recorder should communicate with the reporter regarding the status of a player memo. However, given the circumstances of any case and the need to preserve the subject's right of confidentiality, the recorder has discretion to limit the amount of information given to the reporter. This includes the discretion to tell the reporter only that (1) the player memo was received and is being investigated, (2) the player memo was received and the recorder has concluded the investigation, or (3) the player memo was received and the recorder intends to file a complaint with no further details.
- D. To the extent possible a recorder should cross-file the memos under the complainants name.

11. NATIONAL OFFICE OF RECORDER.

The National Office of Recorder is the administrative office of the ACBL Recorder.

Daily administration is under the aegis of the ACBL Recorder. The primary purpose of this office is to help the ACBL Recorder perform legitimate duties of the recorder in the event the ACBL Recorder is not at Headquarters.

The National Office of Recorder maintains the files forwarded to it by the ACBL Recorder, any Assistant ACBL Recorder and other recorders.

The ACBL Recorder reviews all files at least twice annually, discarding a player memo that is five or more years old if its subject is not also the subject of a later player memo. Memos involving major ethical breaches should not be discarded.

The files are property of ACBL.

SPECIAL ACBL RECORDER REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

A. ACBL RECORDER.

The ACBL Recorder is selected and hired by ACBL Management and serves at the pleasure of the ACBL CEO. The ACBL Recorder may appoint assistants with the approval of ACBL Management.

Each Assistant ACBL Recorder will perform those functions assigned by the ACBL Recorder. The authority of an assistant recorder may never exceed the authority of the ACBL Recorder.

B. ADDITIONAL ACBL RECORDER DUTIES.

1. Advise Unit and District recorders as necessary.
2. Conduct seminars for recorders at NABCs as appropriate.
3. Supervise the National Office of Recorder as necessary concerning files.
4. Determine, along with the Director of National Appeals, determine whether to videotape in conjunction with an investigation as per Board Resolution 972-11.
5. Arrange for Videotaping when the decision to take this action has been made. The ACBL Recorder and the Director of National Appeals shall make this determination. The CEO or designee shall be notified of a decision to videotape.

B. The following items are hereby rescinded:

873-1	Recorder Regulations and Procedures
962-02	Suggested Procedures for Tournament Recorders
851-43	Use of Recorder System at NAC
852-51	Use of Recorder System at NAC
982-41	ACBL Committees and Special Appointments ACBL RECORDER section only
983-41B.	On-Line bridge Games
991-65	On-line bridge Ethics Regulations

Carried unanimously. Absent 15

Item 032-116: ACBL Senior Events

To be eligible to play in an ACBL Senior Event, a player must be sixty years of age or older.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Motion failed. Aye: 2, 10, 16, 21, 22, 23 Absent: 15

Item 032-117: NABC Starting Times

With the approval and cooperation of the local sponsoring organization, Management is authorized to experiment with 10am and 3pm starting times during an upcoming NABC.

Management will poll the 2003 Spingold entrants to determine if there is any preference for 10am and 4pm starting times for future Spingold and Vanderbilt events.

Effective date: Spring 2004.

Carried. Nay: 5, 14, 20 Absent: 15

Marketing – Education					
Nist, Chair					
Anderson, R.	Anderson, V.	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner
Himel	Reeve	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-145: Education Status Report

Management's education status report is received.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-146: Intermediate / Newcomer Status Report

Management's Intermediate / Newcomer status report is received.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Marketing - Juniors					
Steinberg, Chair					
Anderson, R	Anderson, V	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner
Himel	Nist	Reeve	Smith	Wilkinson	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-155: Junior Fund Money (031-160/023-165)

The ACBL will conduct Zone 2 trials to select its Junior teams for international competition. The trials are open to all Zone 2 members; teams must be comprised of members of the same NBO.

Funding for ACBL Junior teams participating in international competition will be provided by ACBL regardless of the country of origin.

All Junior Fund Money collected from ACBL sanctioned Junior fund games shall go to the ACBL. Those funds will be used to support junior programs and activities intended for all ACBL Juniors. Any unused junior Fund Money will be carried forward.

Motion failed. Aye: 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 23 Absent: 15

Item 032-156: Junior Pair Event

- A. A Junior Pair event will be run on the first Sunday of the Summer NABCs.
 - 1. The event will run for two sessions and will be open to any person under age 26 at the time of the event.
 - 2. The will be run as a Stratified Event.
 - 3. The event must have at least 3 tables in the lowest Strat.
- B. Scholarships will be awarded to several winning pairs. The number of pairs and the amount of the scholarships to be determined later. These scholarships are being awarded by the Junior Bridge Scholarship Fund of the Educational Foundation.
- C. If a pair is not eligible for the scholarship, the scholarship will be given to the next pair that is eligible. Both members of the pair must be eligible in order to receive the scholarship grant. All pairs winning the scholarships must be approved by the Junior Bridge Scholarship Fund committee.
- D. The checks will be sent to the winners' accredited schools, colleges or universities.

Effective date: Summer NABC – New York 2004

Estimated **cost**: 1 Director - \$300, which will be more than offset by the entry fees

Deferred to Fall 2003.

Carried. Nay: 3, 6, 9, 20. Absent: 15

2008 Spring NABC Site Selection

Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center is accepted as the site of the 2008 Spring North American Bridge Championship from March 6 – 16.

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 19, 20, 25 Abstain: 1, 9, 14 Absent: 15

* * * * *

Present: Same as Tuesday, July 15.
Absent: Thomas Gardner and Virgil Anderson # 15 (until afternoon session).
Also Present: Same as Tuesday, July 15

2009 Fall NABC Site Selection

San Diego is accepted as the site of the 2009 Fall North American Bridge Championship at the Manchester Grand Hyatt from November 26 to December 6.

Carried. Abstain: 1, 7, 9, 20 Absent: 12, 15

Marketing				
Reeve, Chair	Fairchild, Vice-Chair			
Anderson, R	Anderson, V	Barrett	Buckman	Gardner
Himel	Nist	Smith	Steinberg	Wilkinson

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-125: Marketing Status Report

Management's marketing status report is received.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

International & Zonal				
Morse, Chair	LeBendig, Vice-Chair			
Anderson, R.	Anderson, V.	Barrett	Gardner	Gerard
Kirkham	Smith	Steinberg	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-65: International Fund Game

On the afternoon of the first day of each NABC, there will be a one-session regionally rated red-point event for the benefit of the International Fund. Proceeds shall be determined by subtracting actual expenses from revenues. A surcharge of \$1.00 will be made.

Effective date: As soon as can be implemented but no later than Spring 2004 NABC.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-66: International Fund Game at Sectionals

- A. Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management, all Units (i.e. Sectional Sponsors), are permitted to run up to two (2) International fund sessions at each Sectional with the exception of STaCs.
- B. An International Fund game can be run as an open game, senior game, team or pair game, newcomer game, or any other game that is run at a Sectional.
- C. The point awards will be regionally rated silver points.
- D. The Sponsor of the sectional will be charged \$1.00 per player. In Canada the charge will be \$1.00 Canadian.
 - 1. If the game is run at a Sectional in the US, the money will go to the US International Fund.
 - 2. If the game is run at a Sectional in Canada or Mexico, the money will go that NBOs International Fund.
- E. The normal sanction fee for Sectionals will also be charged to the Sponsoring Organization.
- F. All previous motions governing International Fund Games held at Sectionals are rescinded.

Effective date: As soon as can be implemented.

Carried. Nay: 10, 11 Absent: 15

Item 032-67: Zone 2 Regulations

- A. The following items are rescinded: 751-54D, 903-55,952-81,991-99,992-99,022-116, 023-90
- B. Zone 2 Regulations
 - 1. The ACBL Board of Directors will act as the Zonal Conference for Zone 2.
 - 2. The authority to approve a player and NPC from Canada, Mexico and the US participating in World Bridge Federation or other international competition is delegated to the Canadian Bridge Federation, Mexican Bridge Federation and United States Bridge Federation respectively. The player may be approved only if the player meets all Zonal Conference requirements.
 - 3. Zone 2 requirements for nomination are as follows:

An ACBL NBO may nominate a player for invitation to play in a WBF Championship only if he or she:

- I. is a citizen or a resident (per the appropriate Federation's regulations) of the United States, Canada, or Mexico, as appropriate,
- II. is a member in good standing of the United States Bridge Federation (USBF), Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) or Mexican Bridge Federation (MBF) as appropriate,
- III. meets WBF criteria and/or conditions for nomination,
- IV. will not, at the time of the event, be under suspension from ACBL or any other NCBO or NBO,
- V. will not, at the time of the event, be under ACBL or ABA probation where the period of such probation was more than 90 days,
- VI. has not been specifically excluded from playing in such event by an appropriate disciplinary body under ACBL or ABA jurisdiction,

Referred to the USBF, CBF and MBF for comments and suggestions as to the responsibility (i.e. whether the issues should be regulated by the Zonal Organization or the Federation.)

Deferred to the Fall 2003 NABC.

Carried unanimously. Absent:15

Item 032-68: WBF Youth Competition Program

The ACBL supports the development of the WBF Youth Competition Program. In 2004, Zone 2 will host the WBF Junior Camp. The World Junior Individual Championship will be scheduled preceding the junior camp. Starting in 2007, this event is scheduled to be held every second year in North America.

The ACBL Junior Fund will contribute \$5,000 to the cost of organizing the World Junior Individual Championship.

Effective date: Summer 2004

Estimated cost/savings: \$5,000 for the World Junior Individual (as already passed)
Junior Camp in North America: Previously budgeted at \$25,000

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Item 032-69: WBF Membership Dues

Item 002-55 WBF Membership Dues, be modified to read as follows:

Effective January 1, 2004, ACBL will remit to the WBF annual membership dues of \$30,000, to come from the ACBL General Fund. This amount will be increased on January 1, 2005, and

each year thereafter, by an inflation factor equal to the percentage rise in the U.S. Consumer Price Index for the preceding twelve (12) months.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Estimated savings: \$45,000 (at least)

Deferred to Fall 2003.

Carried. Nay: 3, 6, 8, 16, 24. Absent: 15

Item 032 -70: International Fund Money

Money raised by and from events held by ACBL for the benefit of the United States International Fund must be divided among all teams representing the USA with the only exception being the Junior Teams, which are funded separately. Teams designated as one such as USA one must receive equal funding from the US International fund whether they are Open Teams, Women Teams or Senior Teams. Teams Designated as Two may receive less than the teams designated as one but again it must be equally distributed.

Effective date: January 1, 2004

Carried. Nay: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 14, 18, 24, 25. Abstain: 16 Absent: 15

Item 032-71: Canadian Senior Team Championship and Canadian IMP Pairs

The ACBL will sanction two new Canadian events to be held during Canadian Bridge week:

- A. Canadian Senior Team Championship (CSTC)
- B. Canadian IMP Pairs Championship (CIPC)

Effective date: January 1, 2004.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 15

Appeals & Charges				
Anderson, V., Chair		Steinberg, Vice Chair		
Kirkham	Morse	Reeve	Reiman	Wilkinson
Committee Report by Vice Chairman				

Item 032-01: Report of Disciplinary Cases

In the matter of the current membership status of Stephen Norwich, current ACBL number R0818 79 – ACBL number in 1966, 3315177:

His current status is reaffirmed as being a member in good standing.

In the matter of John Peters' (ACBL number 5609917) request for a readmission hearing:
Request denied.

In the matter of the Bill and Cindy Handy's (ACBL numbers L424897 and M370481) request for a modification of discipline:

Request denied.

The issue of a GNT game in which the Handy's played together at a club in San Bernadino, CA is referred to the Unit for appropriate action.

In the matter of the review of Howard Piltch's (ACBL number N966671) violation of ACBL Probation:

A review hearing was deferred until after Mr. Piltch's appeal period has expired and, if an appeal is filed, until after the Appellate Committee issues a decision.

Allegations of sexual harassment and creating a hostile work environment were referred to ACBL Management which is instructed to investigate and render a decision using the procedures and guidelines of 5.1.12 of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

Carried unanimously.

Item 032-02: ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations

The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

A. Definitions:

ACBL	The American Contract Bridge League.
ACBL Management	The ACBL Chief Executive Officer or his or her designee.
Advocate	A person selected by the Unit, District or ACBL Management to represent the organization by prosecuting the complaint.
Appeals and Charges Committee	A committee of the Board of Directors which hears all disciplinary appeals on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Presenter	A person selected by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or the organization with jurisdiction who makes or assists with an impartial and neutral presentation of evidence to a disciplinary body.
President	The President of the ACBL Board of Directors.
Probation	See CDR 4.1.2.

B. Appendix A (Handbook for Disciplinary Hearings)

III The Disciplinary Committee

C. Presenter

An individual who makes or assists with an impartial presentation of evidence to a disciplinary committee. A presenter may be the recorder, tournament director or other party. The presenter may act as an aide to the disciplinary committee to insure a fair and complete presentation of the evidence for the committee to consider.

D. Advocate

A person selected by the Unit, District or ACBL Management to represent the organization by prosecuting the complaint. An advocate is a representative of the complainant. As such, the advocate is not neutral or unbiased. The advocate is free to aggressively prosecute a complaint.

V. Hearing Procedures

.....

The chairperson should begin the hearing by reading the complaint. At a tournament a tournament director, who might also be a witness in the case, presents most cases to the committee. At a Unit or District hearing, the case will usually have been referred to the committee after review by the President or a designee, who may be the recorder. In the absence of a person to officially present the case (such as the recorder), the chair will provide an opportunity for each side to present its case.

Carried unanimously.

Finance					
DeMartino, Chair		Wilkinson, Vice-chair			
Fleming	Heth	Nist	Reiman	Robinson	Seals

Item 032-30: 2004 Preliminary Budget Assumptions

Management's preliminary budget assumptions for 2004 are approved.

1. Finance Committee Liquidity Ratios

The League's position with regard to the Finance Committee liquidity ratios if (a) the ACBL operates at break-even or (b) what would be the largest possible loss incurred by the ACBL and still pass the three guideline ratios. (Both cases assume a 2003 loss of \$291,000)

<u>Guideline</u>	<u>Goal/Target</u>	<u>Break-even</u>	<u>Max Loss</u>
Projected Loss	-	\$ - 0 -	\$ (1,085,000)
Net Worth	\$ 2.5 Million	\$ 3.6 Million	\$ 2.5 Million
Current Assets	3.0 x Liabilities	4.8 times	4.1 times
Cash Reserves	3.0-4.0 Months	4.7 Months	3.2 Months

Management's plan is to present a "break-even" 2004 budget at the Fall Meeting.

2. Board Profitability Guidelines

The fully-allocated cost guidelines for 2004:

<u>Guideline</u>		<u>2003B</u>	<u>2004B</u>	
Marketing Programs	14.5% of Tot Exp	\$2,132,000	\$2,262,000	<u>Maximum</u>
Governance Limit	3.3% of Tot Exp	\$ 463,000	\$ 515,000	
Tournament Loss	2.8% of Tourn Rev	\$ (497,000)	\$ (154,000)	
Product Sales	Break-even - Profitable	\$ (27,000)	\$ 0	

3. Rate of Inflation

Annual Change, Consumer Price Index :

1997	2.3%
1998	1.6%
1999	2.2%
2000	3.4%
2001	2.8%
2002	1.6%
2003	2.2% (12 mos through April)

Anticipated 2004 inflation:

General	2.5 %
Health Care	10.0 %
P&C Insurance	10.0 %
Salaries	3.5 %

4. Price Increases

Membership Dues	No Change (last changed 1/1/2001)
Sanction Fees	+ 8.0 % (last changed 4/1/2002)
Tournament Session Fees	+ 6.5 % (3.5% salary + 3.0% catch-up) (last 1/1/2003)
NABC Entry Fees	+ \$4.00 per table (last changed 1/1/2002)

Price increases are necessary in the tournament activities line of business to meet levels required by the Board Profitability Guidelines.

5. NABC Attendance

		2003			2004
		-----			-----
Spring	Philadelphia	11,000 tables	vs	Reno	15,000 <u>14,000</u> tables
Summer	Long Beach	14,000 tables	vs	New York	12,500 tables
Fall	New Orleans	12,000 tables	vs	Orlando	14,000 tables
		-----			-----
Total		37,000 tables	vs		41,500 tables

Carried. Nay: 2, 5 Absent: 15

Governance					
Himel, Chair	Smith, Vice Chair				
Anderson, R.	Anderson, V.	Barrett	Buckman	Fairchild	Gardner
LeBendig	Nist	Reeve	Steinberg	Wood	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 032-45: Hall of Fame Charter (031-46/023-41)

The Hall of Fame Charter is amended as follows:

HALL of FAME CHARTER PROPOSED CHANGES FOR JULY 2002 CHARTER

June 8, 2003

During the past year the HoF Committee (HoFC) has continued to review the Charter that was approved last summer at WDC and have recommended changes that would be effective for the 2004 election. Listed below are the significant changes that have been incorporated and the HoFC recommends that the Board approve the changes to make the selection and administration of the process even better. While all of the changes are important, the most important change is the weighted vote by the electors (items 6 and 7 below). There has been considerable discussion by the committee and subsequently by

some Board members regarding a minimum percentage for each candidate to be elected. The HoFC recommends that the results from the 2004 election be analyzed and then decide on whether it is appropriate to make a change to require a minimum percentage.

LISTED BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES

1. Originally the HoFC planned on having sections discussing the WEB site and the Gallery at the Memphis office. Sections reserved for those items have been deleted.
2. The Section 8 discussing the HoF banquet has been completed and describes the banquet requirements (the ACBL staff has assisted in determining the items that need to be covered in this section).
3. Section 3, Committee Records, has been added to improve in the consistency of operation. These items may be changed without Board approval.
4. The von Zedtwitz and Deceased category have been combined and the initial selection of candidates is made by a new Veterans sub-committee. The HoFC makes the final selection as they have been doing on the von Zedtwitz category.
5. The previous Living category will be designated as an Open category.
6. The maximum number of votes each elector can cast has been defined as a function of the number of candidates listed in each category. The number of candidates elected to the HoF is determined after the number of candidates in each category has been determined. The reason for this process is that some years there are more worthy candidates eligible (over 60 years old) for election than other years and the Committee didn't think it was necessary to force a worthy player to wait for a future year.
7. The electors can now show a priority preference for each candidate they select. The highest weighted vote is equal to the number of votes each elector is allowed to cast in each category. See Appendix II for examples. In the past electors would vote for only one or two candidates. What the elector was attempting to do is control the election by not giving another less worthy candidate in their evaluation a vote. By weighting the vote, the elector can now show that preference.
8. An elector will be removed from the list of eligible electors if they have not voted for 2 consecutive years. They may be re-instated by requesting ACBL to add their name to the list of electors. (Note: Current Board of Governors and past and present Board of Directors members will remain as electors).
9. Added section 7 to define the HOF operating procedures. Many of these items were taken from other sections of the approved charter and put in this new section.
10. Appendix I, item E was modified to change the winners of the Mixed Pairs to be shown on the performance charts from 1946 to 1985. In 1985 the Mixed Pairs was moved to be opposite the Vanderbilt and therefore the level of competition has changed, hence it does not have the same stature as earlier years.
11. Election of inductees.....there will not be any predetermined number of inductees to the Hall of Fame from the Open category. Until an approved process is in place for voting inductees into the Hall of Fame in the Open category, no more than two inductees may be elected.

12. Hall of Fame banquet.....To be held at Summer NABC, but Hall of Fame committee will work with ACBL management if a change of time or place is needed. Remove the note about free tickets for Patron members.

Memo to Hall of Fame Committee: It is the sense of the Board of Directors that the Hall of Fame Committee should develop a more restrictive process to select inductees for the Open category perhaps by determining a minimum percentage of votes required for induction. This should be done in such a way that there is no guaranteed number of inductees. In fact, there may be some years when no nominees in the Open category are selected for induction into the Hall of Fame. We would like to suggest that some minimum percentage of votes be required to be eligible for selection as an inductee. . If this process is not received and approved at the Fall 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors, then a maximum of two inductees may be elected.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-46: Board of Directors Procedures Review Committee Report

The Board of Directors Procedures Committee report is received.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12.

Item 032-47: NABC Nationally-Rated Events Eligibility

Item 031-50: NABC+ Events Eligibility is amended as follows:

In order to participate in a Nationally-rated event at an NABC, a person must be an ACBL member whose service fee or dues is current.

Effective date: As soon can be implemented.

Carried. Nay: 4, 6, 11 Absent: 12, 15

Item 032-48: Barring Club Game Players

Board Item 011-42 is amended as follows:

No open club may bar a player, or players as a class, based upon the player's race, creed, religion, political affiliation, sexual orientation, national origin or on his proficiency at bridge.

Except as detailed in the previous paragraph, a club may bar a player for whatever reason it deems proper consistent with ACBL Rules and Regulations and the Laws of Duplicate Contract

Bridge. An obnoxious or incompatible partnership may be barred as a pair, but each may be permitted to play with other partners.

To bar a player, club management must notify the player in writing and send a copy of the notification to the ACBL Club Membership Department. The notification must include the player's name and player number and the reason for the barring.

An open club can bar players from its regularly club masterpoint games, membership games, ACBL-wide games, club championships, charity and international fund club championships, and other special events specifically allocated to clubs as outlined above.

If the player feels that his or her barring does not comply with these regulations prohibiting barring players as a class, religious or political affiliations, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, physical disability or proficiency at bridge, he or she may appeal the barring sequentially to the unit board, the district, and the ACBL Board of Directors. Until the appeal is lodged and heard, the player remains barred unless reinstated by the club.

A club may extend the barring of a player from Grand National Teams, North American Pair events, STaCs, qualifying sessions of a progressive sectional, unit or district competitions, such as unit championships, charity games, IMP games, and unit- or district-wide championships held at the club. In such cases, the written notice to the person barred must include the person's right to appeal the action to the Unit Board in which the club is located within thirty days of the action taken by the club. Written notice is required; otherwise the barring shall not be effective. The club may not impose partnership restrictions on such players for these events unless the unit, district or ACBL first imposes them.

Carried: Nay: 3, 10, 24 Absent: 12

Item 032-49: Board of Directors Travel Policy

All air travel by ACBL Board members that is paid for by ACBL must be booked through the official ACBL travel agent.

Effective date: September 1, 2003

Estimated savings: \$4,500

Not carried: Aye: 2, 4, 10, 18 Absent: 12.

Item 032-50: Rescinded Items

The following regulations are rescinded:

Time for Holding Trustees Meetings (741)

The ACBL Charity Foundation Trustees' meetings shall be held at a time contiguous to the ACBL Board Meetings, and the Trustees are urged to attend ACBL Charity Committee Meetings. Effective immediately.

Charity Foundation's Contributions to ACBL Units (762-23)

The ACBL Charity Foundation's program of sharing contributions with the ACBL Units is approved.

ACBL Charity Foundation Administrative Fee (912-42)

Effective July 1, 1991, the annual administrative fee the ACBL Charity Foundation remits to the ACBL shall be \$42,000.

Knockout Team Game/Charity Pairs Game at NABCs (913-96)

A Regional-rated knockout team game, held in conjunction with the regular Thursday night Charity Pairs game, shall be added to the schedule for each NABC. Proceeds from the first session only shall benefit the ACBL Charity Foundation.

Request for Foundations and Bridge Ventures (951-33)

33A: Condensed annual financial statements from the Charity Foundation, Educational Foundation and Bridge Ventures shall be made available.

33B: Moved and seconded, that the recommendation that at least one member of the Board of Governors serve on the Charity Foundation Board of Trustees and on the Educational Foundation Board of Directors is hereby referred to the Charity Foundation and the Educational Foundation.

Trustees of the ACBL Canadian Charitable Trust (751-25)

The Canadian Bridge Federation's request that the Federation Executive be confirmed as Trustees of the ACBL Canadian Charitable Trust is approved. Effective July 1, 1975.

Canadian Charitable Fund Trustees (761-3)

The number of Canadian Charitable Fund Trustees shall be increased from six to seven. All Trustees of the Canadian Charitable Fund shall be appointed by the Canadian Bridge Federation. Effective immediately.

Educational Foundation Proposal (892-23)

- A. Item 883-34 which approved the addition of a \$2.00 optional contribution (to the ACBL Charity / Educational Foundations) to bills for membership dues and Life Master service fees, is rescinded.

- B. The dues billing form shall be changed to incorporate and clearly identify an optional \$2.00 per year membership dues to the Educational Foundation. Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.

ACBL and Affiliated Companies (951-73)
Administrative Duties Performed in Memphis

Accounting Services:

1. Provide for the collection of donations submitted on the Foundation's behalf including the \$2.00 donations included in ACBL membership dues payments.
2. Provide cash distribution procedures to facilitate the payment of Foundation's grants, Peter Pender Fund activities, special funding projects and expenditures. All distributions are subject to prior Foundation authorization.
3. ACBL Accounting Department will prepare monthly bank account reconciliation's, trial balance and trimester financial statements. The monthly trial balance will be mailed to the Foundation Treasurer with copies of the various bank/brokerage statements. Trimester financial statements will be mailed to the Treasurer for distribution at each of the three Meetings. Additionally, ACBL Accounting Department will collect royalties on the video tapes and submit regular statements to the Foundation which reflect balances against advances and payment of monies to the Foundation. ACBL's Chief Financial Officer will certify all financial statements produced by ACBL Accounting Department for the Educational Foundation.
4. Management, in association with Foundation directors, will secure the services of an outside professional audit firm to conduct annual audits of the accounts.
5. Annual tax filings will be made by ACBL Accounting Department.

Administrative Services:

1. Respond to all donations with a Foundation-approved card or letter of acknowledgment and appreciation.
2. Coordinate the notification and payment of scholarship funds with the award winners and respective college.

3. Perform as meeting secretary at all Board Meetings, preparing the pre-meeting agenda, taking the minutes during the meeting and distributing copies of the final approval minutes.
4. Coordinate the request for funding of library book donations, author selection and order processing.
5. Assist with programs aimed at audience expansion of video series by providing information regarding area television stations to interested members.
6. Bulletin Services will provide space for a 2 page Educational Foundation "ad" each month in the BULLETIN as well as publish periodic publicity articles concerning the Foundation in the monthly BULLETIN and in the Daily Bulletin at NABCs.

Non-Sanctioned Events Run Concurrently with Sanctioned Games (732-1)

"No sanctioned ACBL duplicate tournament shall be held concurrently with and on the same club premises as a non- sanctioned bridge tournament awarding prizes in excess of League regulations. Effective immediately."

Club Directory (871-46)

(From Finance and Budget Committee)

Club Directories shall not be included as part of the BULLETIN but a separate club directory, combining Eastern and Western editions, shall be published in April of each year and made available to members free of charge upon request. This policy shall be announced in the BULLETIN.

Relationship Between Clubs and Units (872-21)

- A. Management shall complete the Novice Program manual as rapidly as possible. Each Unit shall be provided a copy and urged to develop a Novice Program under the guidelines established by Management.
- B. On an annual basis, Management shall provide each club and Unit with a printout names, addresses, telephone numbers and ranks of all ACBL members residing within the area defined by the first three digits of the club's zip code (first two digits of the postal code in Canada). Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.
- C. Upon request, the ACBL shall provide each club and Unit with a list in zip code sequence of non-members having a known interest in bridge. Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.

- E. Management shall urge Units to publish club game schedules for distribution to motels, hotels, etc., throughout the Unit and host an annual director's coursed in conjunction with a Sectional tournament.

Club Directory Distribution (883-92)

Each sanctioned club shall be sent two club directories. Additional directories will be furnished to clubs and/or individual members upon request. Club directories shall be included with each tournament packet and shall be available at NABC's. Effective as soon as can be implemented by Management.

FlexiBridge, Affiliated Club Program (983-66)

- A. Flexibridge and Affiliated Club Program is established as follows:
1. A test market for this program will be established in the Montreal area beginning January 1, 1999. Any participating clubs will be assured that this program will remain available for a minimum of two years.
 2. Session renewal fees, game fees and table fees will be the same as they are for all other regular club games.
 3. These associate club games will not need a director certified by ACBL.
 4. These games will not be required to hold Charity games, but may do so if they wish.
 5. Masterpoints will be 25% of those issued in currently sanctioned open games.
- B. The criteria for determining the success of this program will be:
1. Revenue received from these club games.
 2. Number of new members joining ACBL from these games.
 3. How many of the currently sanctioned small club games have requested approval to change to an associate club game.

Club Disciplinary Matters (871-1)

Existing regulations set forth in the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations pertaining to Club-Unit relationships are reaffirmed. Management shall prepare an informational article for the Club Managers Digest and Unit Officers Dispatch, explaining that although Units do not have jurisdiction over clubs, they do have jurisdiction (under Section 4.1 of the Disciplinary Code) over members of the Unit, those residing within the Unit's geographical boundaries, and persons

participating in a sanctioned event (including club games) held within its geographical boundaries.

Bridge Cruise Regulations (892-92)

Management shall review and determine sanction fees for cruise ships on an annual basis.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item: 032-51: Attendance at Board of Directors' Meetings

Providing space and other practical considerations permit, meetings of the ACBL Board of Directors' will be open to any ACBL member, with permission of the ACBL President. Members are excluded from Executive Sessions and meetings concerning Appeals and Charges and sensitive issues. Members attending such meetings shall not participate in the proceedings unless requested to do so.

Items 922-134, 912-130 and 812-61 are rescinded.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-52: Duties of Board of Directors Committee Chairmen

The chairmen of a Board of Directors Committee or his designee is responsible for presenting his committee's motions to the Board as a whole for consideration or vote. Other duties of chairman continue to rest with the ACBL president or his designee.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-53: Board of Directors Election Procedures

Board of Directors Nominating and Election Procedures for Officers and Other Elected Positions are approved as follows:

A. Nominations

1. An eligible ACBL member desiring to be a candidate for ACBL President, ACBL Treasurer, WBF Representative or any other position elected by the ACBL Board of Directors, may declare his or her own nomination by filing with the Director of Elections a declaration of candidacy, of no more than one typed page. The declaration may contain biographical material, the candidate's particular

qualifications and any programs, etc., that he or she is interested in promoting. This information shall be distributed to all Board members prior to the election.

2. A Board member may declare or nominate an eligible candidate from the floor at the time of the election.

B. Voting Procedures

1. Single seat available.
 - a. One person nominated: No vote necessary, the nominated person is elected.
 - b. Two people nominated: Voting continues until one of the two nominees gains a majority of members present.
 - c. Three or more people nominated: Voting will proceed as follows:
 - (1) On the first ballot, each elector casts one vote. The nominee with the highest number of votes, if a majority, is elected.
 - (2) If there is no nominee with a clear majority on the first ballot, the one nominee, if any, with the fewest number of votes is eliminated and another vote is taken. If there is no single nominee with the fewest number of votes, then no nominee is eliminated and another vote is taken.
2. Two or more seats available.
 - a. Voters will vote for one position at a time. If the terms are different, the positions will be filled in order of term length starting with the longest or longer.
 - b. The voting will proceed as follows:
 - (1) On the first ballot, each elector casts one vote. The candidate with the highest number of votes, if a majority, is elected.
 - (2) If there is no nominee with a clear majority on the first ballot, the one nominee, if any, with the fewest number of votes is eliminated and another vote is taken. If there is no single nominee with the fewest number of votes, then no nominee is eliminated and another vote is taken.
 - (3) Once the first position is filled, the process is repeated for the second and any subsequent position.

C. Counting Ballots

League counsel, if available, and a member or members of Management designated by the ACBL President will count the ballots. The vote count will be announced.

D. Election of Zonal Representatives to the ACBL Executive Committee.

1. A member or members of the Board shall be nominated and elected to the Executive Committee by the District Directors of the National Tournament Zone involved by a majority vote. In the event of a tie vote by the Directors of the Zone involved, the full Board shall determine between the nominees using the process of B.1. above.
2. A member or members of the Board shall be nominated and elected as an alternate to the Executive Committee by the District Directors of the National Tournament Zone involved by a majority vote. In the event of a tie vote by the Directors of the Zone involved the full Board shall determine between the nominees using the process of B.1. above. The alternate shall serve on the Executive Committee when the primary Executive Committee member is unavailable.
3. In case a member of the Executive Committee resigns, or his term as District Director expires during his term as a member of the Executive Committee and he is not reelected to another term as District Director, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with B.1 above.

Items 993-40, 962-121, 903, 872-11, and 733-12, part B2 are rescinded.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-54: Executive Committee Terms of Office

The Executive Committee shall consist of the current President, as Chairman, the current Chairman of the Board and three members of the Board of Directors each elected to serve a three-year term. One member shall be elected from each of the three National Tournament Zones. A member so elected shall not be eligible to be elected as a Zonal Representative for a successive term to the Executive Committee.
Item 733-12 B is rescinded.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-55: Rescind item from the Board Operations Committee

The following regulations are rescinded:

Resolutions Adopted at the 1992 Annual membership Meeting (923-135)

At the 1992 Annual Membership Meeting, the following resolutions were adopted by the membership:

1. RESOLVED that the size and cost of Board of Directors meetings be reduced in order to achieve a more efficient Board.
2. RESOLVED that the flat sum honorarium be removed and be replaced by actual and reasonable costs.
3. RESOLVED that the spouse / companion airfare be eliminated.
4. RESOLVED that a tournament committee consisting of three Board members, one member of the Board of Governors and one member-at-large be appointed at each NABC.

The following are responses to the foregoing resolutions:

1. At the 1992 Fall meetings, the Board of Directors agreed to reduce its regular meetings from three to two meetings (spring and fall) per year (see Item 923-138). Further, the Board of Directors reaffirmed its previous action to reduce the ACBL from twenty-five to nineteen Districts (See Item 923-138).
2. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Board of Governors (See Item 923-52). The Honorarium will continue to cover expenses (telephone calls, faxes, mailings, etc.) connected with the office of District Director and Chairman of the Board of Governors.
3. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Board of Governors (See Item 923-52). The reimbursement of spouse / companion airfare will continue.
4. The Board reviewed and clarified the Reimbursement of Expenses Policy for members of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Board of Governors (See Item 923-52). The current policy concerning tournament committees at NABCs will continue. However, per diem reimbursement will be at one-half the prevailing per diem for only those days a Board member serves on a Committee as determined by ACBL President.

This regulation is outdated and not needed.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-56: Special Standing Rules

Item 911-26 is amended as follows:

The ACBL shall adopt a policy of Special Standing Rules as a supplement to the ACBL By-Laws, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Board of Directors present is required to amend, suspend, or rescind these Special Standing Rules. These special standing rules shall be:

Former ACBL Board of Director Remuneration Agreements (011-49)

No member of the ACBL Board of Directors or Chairman of the ACBL Board of Governors shall be employed as a permanent or temporary employee of the ACBL in any capacity other than that of tournament director until at least one year after leaving said position. The requirement that a past Board member be out of office at least 12 months shall not apply to independent contractor situations where sole payment is on a sales commission formula for quantifiable benefits brought to the ACBL.

Board of Directors Candidacy and Employment (972-40)

The ACBL shall not engage for compensation, in any capacity whatever, any individual who is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League or is a candidate for such position.

Conflict of Interest Policy - District Representatives (961-03)

- A. No District Director shall serve on a committee hearing an election protest or appeal from his/her own district involving that person, nor shall he/she be allowed to vote on such an appeal if said appeal comes before the ACBL Board of Directors.
2. All parties to the appeal may be present during a committee or ACBL Board hearing and allowed to speak.

ACBL Board of Directors Conflict of Interest Policy (961-04)

The following conflict of interest policy for members of the National Board of Directors is adopted:

ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Members of the ACBL Board of Directors should not act in any way in which his/her personal interest is, or may be, affected by the result of the proposed action. Members should also avoid actions which may give the appearance of a

conflict of interest. This policy does not apply to actions which affect the Board of Directors as a whole.

Conflict of Interest Policy (961-10)

The Employee Conflict of Interest Policy is approved as follows:

An employee may not engage in any activities, nor accept paid employment or compensation from any entity that is either (1) a subdivision of ACBL, (2) another bridge organization, (3) a competitor, or (4) a provider of services to ACBL, a subdivision or another bridge organization, without first obtaining written permission from ACBL CEO. Any request must be in writing, including a description of the activity and the duties for this entity, the amount of time needed to perform the functions and the term of involvement.

Should an ACBL employee or consultant act contrary to the general guideline expressed in his conflict of interest policy, then it may cause the dismissal of that employee or consultant without any compensation. Furthermore, the person(s) involved may be subject to further penalty and legal action if warranted.

Board Participation at NABC Level of NAOP and GNT (982-39)(013-45)

Members of the ACBL Board of Directors may not represent their districts at an NABC in the NAOP when this event is scheduled on Board meeting days. Members of the Board may not represent their districts at the National level of the GNT while they are actively serving at the National Board meeting of an NABC. Such restriction is waived for the evening sessions of the event when the Board of Directors has no official scheduled function where attendance is expected.

Ethical Oversight Committee (003-59)

A new Ethical Oversight Committee will consist of fifteen members, 12 of whom must be from the current EOC members, appointed by the President of the ACBL. Five members shall be appointed each year for staggered three-year terms.

During the first year (2001) five members will be appointed for a one-year term, five members for a two-year term, and five members for a three-year term. Each year thereafter, the President will appoint five members for three-year terms. During their tenure in office a member may not be dismissed except for grossly inappropriate behavior. If the President of the ACBL or the Chairman of the Ethical Oversight Committee call together the members of the Committee, they may, by majority vote, remove a member of the Committee.

The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected from within the body. The Chairman may not serve more than three consecutive one-year terms.

Annual Audit (922-26 B.1.)

At the end of the fiscal year the Treasurer shall cause there to be an audit of all funds, properties, accounts and liabilities of the ACBL. Said annual audit report shall be provided to the Board of Directors and the Board of Governors and be made available to the membership for their consideration at the annual membership meeting. Upon the request of any member of the ACBL, for a reasonable fee, the Treasurer shall furnish said member with a copy of said audited financial statement. A summary of the audited financial statement together with the Treasurer's report shall be published in the BULLETIN and a full report provided to District Presidents.

Regulations on Reconsideration of Board Actions (942-55)

An item considered and acted upon by the Board may not be reconsidered at the next subsequent meeting unless it is submitted for reconsideration by the Board of Governors or a motion to reconsider is first passed approved by a 2/3 vote. An item considered and acted upon at the next subsequent meeting may not be reconsidered at the following meeting unless a motion to reconsider is first approved by a 2/3 vote.

An item considered and acted upon by the Board may only be reconsidered at the same meeting upon a motion by a member of the Board who voted on the prevailing side and subsequent approval of the Board by a 2/3 vote.

Deferred to the Fall 2003 NABC.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-57: League Policy on Inmates of Penal Institutions

Item 722-61 League Policy on Inmates of Penal Institutions is amended as follows:

The Board of Directors establishes hereby the following policy regarding members incarcerated in places of penal confinement:

1. The American Contract Bridge League will assist and encourage the teaching and playing of bridge in penal institutions in North America.
2. Any person who is incarcerated in a place of penal confinement may, upon application become a member of the American Contract Bridge League.
3. In institutions which permit inmates to leave such institutions for limited periods of time, such an inmate may, with the sponsoring organization's approval, compete in sanctioned American Contract Bridge League activities. Any award won by such inmate in a

sanctioned activity within or without the place of penal confinement shall be treated as awards won by any other player in equivalent competition.

4. In the assistance and encouragement of bridge, Management may, upon application, sanction games within places of penal confinement and may supply cards, boards, instructional material and direction.
6. Funding of this program may be undertaken both by the American Contract Bridge League and by the American Contract Bridge League Charity Foundations.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032 -59: Unit 409 Disbanded

Unit 409, Hamilton, MT is disbanded and all members moved to the Missoula Unit 417.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

Item 032-60: Binding and Compulsory Arbitration

In accordance with the ACBL bylaws (Article III)

“.....

Every member in each category of membership shall be subject to regulations established by the Board of Directors establishing binding and compulsory arbitration to settle disputes involving the ACBL and its members,”

A. The following policy is adopted.

BINDING ARBITRATION

Any dispute which is in any way related to membership in the American Contract Bridge League ("ACBL"), or any action for damages or injunctive relief against the ACBL, or any action to reverse, amend, modify or delay enforcement of a disciplinary action by the ACBL, regardless of the facts or the legal theories which may be involved, shall be resolved by binding arbitration before the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") by a single arbitrator in accordance with the Commercial rules of AAA in effect at the time the arbitration proceeding is initiated. The arbitration hearing shall be held in the AAA's Southeast Case Management Center (located at 2200 Century Parkway, Suite 300, Atlanta, Georgia 30345) or at such other location as the parties may agree in writing. The arbitrator shall prepare in writing an award which includes the legal and factual reasons for the decision. The parties shall divide equally the costs of the arbitration and shall pay their respective attorney fees and expenses, but the arbitrator may assess all such costs and the prevailing party's attorney fees and expenses to the non-prevailing party in the

arbitration award. The provisions of the Federal Arbitration Act shall apply to arbitration between the ACBL and its members.

B. Management is instructed to implement and publicize this policy as soon as possible.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

032-180: ACBL Technology 3-Year Plan

Management's ACBL Technology 3-year plan report is accepted.

Carried unanimously. Absent: 12

032-161: ACBL Board of Directors Reimbursement Policy

It is the policy of the ACBL Board of Directors that when a committee of the Board of Directors meets on day three (typically Board of Governors Sunday) of an NABC, or later during the tournament, Board members who are members of the committee will receive one additional day of per diem and have one additional hotel room night reimbursed.

The committee must be a Board of Directors Committee and the meeting time must be approved by the ACBL President.

Board members who are members of the committee will only receive one extra day of per diem and the extra night of hotel room reimbursement regardless of the day the meeting is held.

Also, if a Board member happens to be a member of two or more committees whose meetings qualify them for reimbursement, only one day of extra per diem and one extra night hotel room will be paid per tournament.

Effective date: July 17, 2004

Motion failed. Aye: 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 19, 20, 21, 23 Abstain: 13, 25. Absent: 12

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 23 and its units, including District Director Alan LeBendig and Tournament Chairman Jan Nathan, and all the other chair persons and numerous volunteers, plus a thanks to the Hyatt Regency hotel for their fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 5:00 pm.