

**ACBL Board of Directors
Westin Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA
March 7 – 10, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Smith on March 7, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

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, Bill Cook #10, Jim Reiman #11, Bill Arlinghaus #12, Harriette Buckman #13, Sue Himel #14, Phyllis Harlan #15, Dan E. Morse #16, Jerry Fleming #17, Richard Anderson #18, Barbara Nist #19, Jeffrey Taylor #20, Roger Smith #21, Jim Kirkham #22, Alan LeBendig #23, Alvin Levy #24, Richard DeMartino #25.

Also

Present: Linda Mamula, Chairman Board of Governors; Peter Rank, League Counsel; Jay Baum, CEO; Jack Zdancewicz, CFO; Rick Beye, CTD; Gary Blaiss, EAO; and staff Charlotte Blaiss, Nancy Foy, Linda Granell, Julie Greenberg, Galen Hardy, Jim Miller, Carol Robertson, and Kelley McGuire.

Approval of Orlando, FL Minutes

The Orlando, FL minutes are approved.

Carried.

Item 051-130: Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting (s) are ratified.

Carried.

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 10, 2004

The Executive Committee met today at 11:00 a.m. ET, by conference call. The subject concerns the sanction fee reduction for Regionals, Sectionals and STaCs.

Present at the meeting were members of the Executive Committee, Bruce Reeve, President; Al Levy, Chairman; Joan Gerard, Roger Smith, and Jonathan Steinberg.

Also present: Craig Robinson, District 4 Director; Jay Baum, CEO; Jack Zdancewicz, CFO; Rick Beye, CTD; and Kelley McGuire.

Bruce Reeve called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

The motion passed at the Orlando Board meeting regarding Sanction Fees indicated a 4.2% decrease. However, in order to achieve the intention of the Board to be revenue neutral the three "pools" (regionals, sectionals & STAC's) need to be calculated separately. The new numbers that we will be using are based on the 2003 table counts. The effect of this is a slight reduction in the amounts shown when this motion was passed"

Moved and seconded that the sanction fees for 2005 will be revenue neutral and adjusted as follows:

TOURNAMENT FEES

2005

Effective January 1

Per Table Sanction Fee

Open/Sr Regional	\$4.39
I/N Regional	\$3.04
Open/Sr Sectional	\$3.04
STaC	\$2.42
Prog Sect (qualifying)	\$2.65
Prog Sect (final)	\$3.04
I/N Sectional	\$2.04
In lieu of transportation	
Open/Sr Sectional Surcharge	\$110.00
I/N Sect. Surcharge per table	\$.50(\$110M)

Effective January 1

Per Session Sponsor Fee

N Tourn Director	\$134.00
AN Tourn Director	\$134.00
Tourn Director	\$123.00
Associate TD	\$100.00
Local TD	\$80.00
Reg DIC Supplement	\$0.00
Sect DIC Supplement	\$0.00
Other Fees	
Supply Fees	\$0.85
Boards Only	\$0.45
Expendables only	\$0.40

Tournament Assistant Test \$25.00

Carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Item 051-131: Election of ACBL Treasurer

Jerry Fleming is elected ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term May 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006.

Carried.

Item 051-132: Ratification of Audit Firm

Jackson, Howell and Associates is approved as ACBL's Audit firm for 2005.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-133: Hall of Fame Committee Appointments

Jan Martel, Cecil Cook and Amalya Kearse are appointed for a three-year term from the beginning of the Spring 2005 NABC until the beginning of the Spring 2008 NABC.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-134: Competitions and Conventions Committee Appointments

Jade Barrett is appointed for a three-year term January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007.

Bob Hamman, Chip Martel, Peggy Sutherlin, Steve Weinstein, and Bob Schwartz are appointed to a one-year term January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

Item 051-135: Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments

Mildred Breed, Paul Soloway, Dick Budd, Rose Meltzer and Jo Morse are appointed for a three-year term January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007.

Item 051-136: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments

Lisa Berkowitz, Tom Peters and Martin Caley are appointed for a three-year term January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2007.

Reconsideration Items

Director in Charge Fee – Tournament with input from Finance.
Amendment of Hall of Fame Charter – Governance.

ACBL CEO Report

The report of CEO Jay Baum is received. (Exhibit 1)

League Counsel Report

The report of League Counsel Peter Rank on the status of litigation is received. (Exhibit 2)

ACBL CFO Report

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

* * * * *

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Smith on Wednesday March 9, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Monday, March 7

Also Present: Same as Monday, March 7

The Strategic Five-Year Plan is approved. (Exhibit 4)

Carried.

MARKETING	
Fleming (C) Cook (VC)	
Anderson, Buckman, Fairchild, Harlan, Himel, Nist, Steinberg, Seals	Staff: Granell
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 051-100: Marketing/Publicity Status Report

Management's marketing/publicity status report is received.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-101: Education Status Report

Management's education status report is received.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-102: Club Appreciation Team Games

Club Appreciation Team games held during the month of October, as an ongoing part of Club Appreciation month, are approved.

Carried unanimously.

GOVERNANCE

Fairchild (C) Arlinghaus (VC)

Anderson, Buckman, Cook, Gerard, Harlan, Heth, Himel, Kirkham, LeBendig, Morse,
Steinberg, Taylor, Wood

Staff: Miller

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-20: Real Estate Committee

The verbal report from the Real Estate Committee is received.

It is recommended that we actively pursue the sale of our current facility.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-21: Insurance Committee

A committee will be appointed, and the results of its findings will be presented at the July 2005 NABC meeting.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-22: Hall of Fame

The following are recommendations for the Hall of Fame Committee:

1. The Hall of Fame does not require a charter. Like other committees, this committee should have a set of operating procedures.
2. The HoF electorate should be less restrictive. Consideration of adding Grand Life Masters is suggested.
3. The von Zedtwitz award should be limited to no more than one selection per year.
4. All NABC+ wins for each candidate should be listed.
5. A minimum percentage of those voting for induction into the HoF should be established.

We would like to see a proposal from the HoF Committee at the summer meeting that addresses these suggestions.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-24: Century Club

A Century Club will be established for our members who reach 100 years of age, and an appropriate mention will be made in the Bulletin of this achievement.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-25: Disbanding of Hobbs NM Unit 379

The Hobbs NM Unit 379 is disbanded and the members are moved into Carlsbad Unit #376.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-26: Transfer of Franklin County TN

Members of Franklin County TN will be transferred to Unit 179 in District 10. This move is fully supported by District 7 which wishes these members well in District 10.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-27: Transfer of Phelps County MO

Members of Phelps County MO will transfer from Unit 101 in District 15 to Unit 143 in District 8. The move is fully supported by District 15 which wishes these members well in District 8.

Carried unanimously.

BRIDGE	
LeBendig (C) Robinson (VC) Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Gerard, Heth, Kirkham, Levy, Morse, Reiman Retek, Taylor, Wood	Staff: Beye

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-51: Bridge Status Report

The Bridge Administration status report is received.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-52: Regional/Sectional Tournament Scheduling Procedures

A sub-committee will be appointed to review the procedures for scheduling Regional and Sectional Tournaments. A full report will be presented at the Summer 2005 NABC meetings.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-54: NABC Site Selection

Zonal rotation will no longer be one of the criteria for NABC site selection.

Motion defeated. Aye: 9, 23.

BRIDGE – SPECIAL EVENTS	
Robinson (C) Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Gerard, Heth, Kirkham, LeBendig, Levy, Morse, Reiman, Retek, Taylor, Wood	Staff: Beye

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-75: Special Events Report

Management’s report concerning special event games is received.

Carried unanimously.

BRIDGE - TOURNAMENTS	
Wood (C) Arlinghaus, DeMartino, Gerard, Heth, Kirkham, LeBendig, Levy, Morse, Reiman, Retek, Robinson, Taylor	Staff: Beye
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 051-138: Director in Charge Fee (043-122)

1. The Director in Charge fee will no longer be a separate fee charged to the tournament sponsor. The Tournament Director fees charged to the sponsor will be increased to cover the DiC fee across the board.
2. When non-salaried TD’s are assigned as Director-in-Charge, the tournament invoice will reflect the DiC fee and such fee will be paid to the TD. The salaried TD’s annual salary includes an amount to cover serving as DiC.

Carried. Nay: 8 Abstain: 7

INTERNATIONAL & ZONAL	
Morse (C) Retek (VC) Anderson, DeMartino, Gerard, Kirkham, LeBendig, Levy, Reiman, Steinberg, Wood	Staff: Blaiss
Committee Report by Chairman	

Item 051-40: WBF Dues

Beginning January 1, 2005, ACBL will remit to the WBF dues based upon ACBL’s membership* excluding members classified as juniors.

*For all purposes, ACBL’s membership is the sum of all paid members and active unpaid Life Members.

Carried. Nay: 1, 3, 8, 24.

Item 051-41: Uniforms for Teams Representing ACBL

ACBL will request that each Zone 2 NBO establish an appropriate dress code for teams representing that NBO in international competition.

Carried unanimously.

JUNIORS	
Seals (C) Harlan, (VC) Arlinghaus, Buckman, Cook, Fairchild, Fleming, Heth, Himel, Nist, Robinson, Taylor	Staff: Greenberg

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-120: Youth Camps (042-152)

The Youth Camp verbal report is received. Management is requested to bring an updated report to the Summer 2005 NABC.

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-121: Junior Fund Games

Monies raised from Junior Fund games will be available for all Junior activities. The first \$50,000 or the amount collected annually, whichever is less, will be given in July of the following year to the USBF to fund Junior Team activities.

Effective with the July 2006 payment.

Carried. Nay: 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 24, 25. Abstain: 1, 5.

BOARD OPERATIONS	
Harlan (C) Wood (VC) Buckman, DeMartino, Gerard, Himel, Levy, Nist, Steinberg	

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-141: Board Operations

- A. The President will be the official responder to any correspondence addressed to the Board of Directors. Copies of the correspondence with the reply will be sent to all Board members.

- B. The following policy passed by the Board last year should be implemented immediately.

“There will be an oversight committee of the Board, appointed by the President, whose duties will include addressing issues of conduct by Board members. The members of this committee will be appointed for three-year staggered terms and must be duly elected Board of Directors members and not be officers of the ACBL Board.”

Carried unanimously.

APPEALS & CHARGES

Heth (C) Kirkham (VC)

Anderson, Buckman, Fairchild, LeBendig, Morse

Staff: Blaiss

Committee Report by Chairman

Item 051-01: Report of Hearings

The following actions were reported:

In the matter of the Appeal of Brian Glubok, ACBL #N885000, to the Appeals and Charges Committee:

The Committee finds that there was sufficient evidence received by the ACBL Disciplinary Committee to support its finding that Mr. Glubok violated Section 3.7 of the Code of Disciplinary Procedures. However, the discipline rendered by the Disciplinary Committee is hereby vacated, and the following discipline is imposed: (1) Mr. Glubok shall be suspended from the ACBL from November 23, 2004 through March 10, 2005; and (2) Mr. Glubok shall serve 30 days probation commencing March 11, 2005. The Committee considered Mr. Glubok's prior disciplinary record in determining his discipline.

In the matter of the request from Dan Requard, ACBL #1712249, to revise his playing opportunities:

The previous permission to play in ACBL events conducted in District 13 is rescinded. Effective immediately, Mr. Requard may play in ACBL events conducted in District 8 and at the Thornton Duplicate Bridge Club located in Unit 123, District 13.

In the matter of the request from Bill and Cindy Handy, ACBL #s L42487 and M370481 for relief from their prohibition of playing as a partnership:

Request is denied. Further, they may not apply for relief for a minimum of two years (no sooner than the summer 2007 meeting of this committee).

In the matter of the request from Unit 351 against District 17's actions:

Having examined the bylaws of Unit 351 and District 17, the committee finds that Unit 351 did not have the authority to recall Ms Poulton as a member of the District 17 Board of Directors. Therefore, the request of Unit 351 as set forth in its letter of 2/4/2005 is denied.

Item 051-02: Disciplinary Code Amendment

- 3.7 Actions or behavior unbecoming a person participating in an ACBL sanctioned tournament or event; or a person attending (at the time and site of) an ACBL sanctioned tournament or event or ACBL activity (including a unit or district activity). "Site" includes, but is not limited to, parking lots, elevators, restaurants and hotels at or around the location of such tournament, event or activity. A private and confidential conversation is not within the ACBL's jurisdiction even if it takes place at a tournament site.
- 4.1.6 *Exclusion From Events and Programs.* A determination that a person has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the person's right to play in certain specified events or to participate in ACBL sponsored programs and receive the benefits therefrom. (See CDR 4.1.8.)

Carried unanimously.

Item 051-03: Change to ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations

- 1.9 The ACBL Disciplinary Committee shall hear cases regarding those matters specified in the CDR 2.2.3 (d) and (e), 5.3.14 (c) or other original cases when so instructed by the ACBL Board of Directors. This committee shall act as an appellate body and hear appeals per CDR 7.3.
- 5.3.14 When the TDC determines the charged person has committed an offense which may warrant a discipline exceeding ninety (90) days, the TDC, after imposing either a suspension of ninety (90) days or probation of ninety (90) days or both under CDR 5.3, shall refer its report with its recommendations via ACBL Management to:
- (a) The Unit having jurisdiction when the action occurred during a Sectional tournament.
 - (b) The District having jurisdiction when the action occurred during a Regional tournament.
 - (c) The ACBL Disciplinary Committee when the action occurred during a North American Bridge Championship tournament or

other event sponsored by ACBL.

- (d) The sponsoring organization having jurisdiction when the infraction occurred.

4.1.9 *Expungement.*

- (a) No ACBL disciplinary body of original jurisdiction may order expungement as a part of a discipline.
- (b) A discipline which has been issued by an ACBL disciplinary body of original discipline may be expunged from a person's record only by action of an appellate body for good cause when hearing an appeal filed in accordance with CDR 7.
- (c) The Appeals and Charges Committee may hear a request to have a person's record expunged and order expungement at the Committee's sole discretion.

- 9.3 When it is alleged that the Board of Directors has violated ACBL bylaws or regulations, or has acted in an illegal or improper manner or has improperly failed to act upon a complaint, a Unit, a District, a member or group of members may bring the matter directly to a Special ACBL Committee ("Special Committee") consisting of the ACBL President, the ACBL Chief Executive Officer and League Counsel to request a hearing. The Special Committee may decide not to conduct a hearing if it finds that the case does not warrant any action, the matter was previously dealt with in a reasonable matter or the matter lacks significance to warrant a hearing.

Carried unanimously.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 3:40 p.m.

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The meeting was called to order by President Roger Smith on Thursday March 10, at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Same as Wednesday, March 9
Absent: Jim Reiman District 11
Also Present: Same as Wednesday, March 9

The board convened in Executive session at 9:00 a.m.

The board reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

Jan Martel, President of the USBF, addressed the Board.

Closing Remarks

It was moved by Retek and carried unanimously that the Board expresses its thanks to District 5 and its units, District Director Sharon Fairchild, Tournament Chair Roni Gitchel, and all other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also thank the Westin Convention Center for its fine cooperation.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned *sine die* at 12:00 p.m.