

CHAPTER VI – CLUB SANCTIONED GAMES

C. General Club Game Regulations

Section 1 – Incentive Programs for Clubs

1.1 New Member Recruitment

1.1.1 Clubs can earn an upgraded Club Championship (Sectional-rated black points) by recruiting 10 new members. The 10 new members need not be recruited within any specific time period.

1.1.1.1 A maximum of two upgraded Club Championship games per session may be held in one calendar year. **(Effective March 1, 2018)**

1.2 Newcomer Game Incentives

1.2.1 Clubs holding newcomer games (an upper masterpoint limit of not more than 20) at the same time as an open, invitational or restricted game may include the newcomer game tables when computing awards for the open, masterpoint-restricted or invitational game.

1.2.2 If a club chooses to run a flighted game, tables in any restricted sections count toward club masterpoint awards for any unrestricted section in play at that club during that session (subject to the usual restriction for a rating point game, that the maximum awarded shall be 1.50). If there are two or more unrestricted sections, they shall share the credit for any other tables equally.

1.3 Cooperative Advertising Program (CAP)

1.3.1 The ACBL will subsidize teachers, clubs and Units who wish to use advertising to recruit students for bridge lessons or to promote the game. CAP will refund 75% of eligible advertising costs with a maximum reimbursement of \$750.

1.3.2 Advertising must be for newcomer programs, beginner bridge lessons or ACBL membership. Eligible media are newspapers, magazines, direct mail pieces (excluding postage), catalogs, posters/fliers, billboards, television, radio and online commercial websites.

Section 2 – Game Director

- 2.1 ACBL management is and shall be the sole arbiter of the right of any club level, or higher, director to conduct any ACBL sanctioned tournament or game. Any club, or higher-rated, Director must be ACBL member in good standing with all service fees and dues paid to be eligible to direct an ACBL-sanctioned game.
- 2.2 ACBL management has the right to cancel a club director's accreditation for cause upon 30 days' notice to the club director. Either of the following shall constitute "cause" for cancellation of accreditation:
 - a. direction of a club game out of compliance with ACBL regulation; and/or
 - b. an unsuitable club venue.
- 2.3 A cancellation of accreditation is usually for a fixed period of time, whereupon the club director may apply for reinstatement of accreditation (a new examination may be required by ACBL management for reinstatement). A cancellation may be permanent without the possibility of reinstating accreditation.
- 2.4 The 30-day notice of cancellation of accreditation shall provide the club director with the option of providing ACBL management with reasons in writing why the cancellation should not take place, whereupon ACBL management, in its own discretion, may leave the cancellation of accreditation in place, amend the cancellation or withdraw the cancellation.
- 2.5 The club director may file a written appeal of a cancellation of accreditation with the Appeals and Charges Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors within 30 days of the effective date of the cancellation; provided, however, that the cancellation will remain in effect until the appeal before the Appeals and Charges Committee has been decided. In order to be considered, such written appeal must include reasons why the cancellation is inconsistent with the terms of this Section C.
- 2.6 ACBL management may cancel a club game director's accreditation without notice if the "cause" for cancellation is such that continuation of the club director's club activities will result in substantial and immediate violation of ACBL regulations, increase the likelihood of lawsuit against the ACBL, or result in violation of state or Federal law.
- 2.7 Club Directors at Special Events
 - 2.7.1 Non-playing directors are encouraged but not required for games having not more than one section of 17 tables or fewer for the following special events held at clubs or units: ACBL-wide International Fund Games, ACBL-wide Charity Games, Junior Fund Games, International Fund Games,

Educational Foundation Fund Games, Senior Pairs, Worldwide Pairs, ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Games, Membership Games, NABC Promotional Games, GNT Fund Raisers, Club Appreciation Games, STaC Games, the Canadian Olympiad, the COPC, the CNTC, the North American Open Pairs club and Unit qualifying stages, the Grand National Teams club and Unit qualifying stages, Unit Championships, and Unit Charity Championships.

- 2.7.2 Playing directors in STaC games and their partners are ineligible to receive overall STaC masterpoint (silver point) awards but are eligible to receive section awards. At sponsor option, the above restriction may be waived. Such waiver shall be noted on the sanction application submitted to ACBL headquarters.

Section 3 – Operation of Clubs

- 3.1 The ACBL grants a club game sanction on the condition that the club conduct all game sessions in full compliance with ACBL regulations. To retain a sanction, the club manager must observe both the letter and the spirit of ACBL regulations.

3.2 Cancellation of a Regular Game Session

- 3.2.1 A club must hold regularly sanctioned game sessions as provided on its approved application. A club may not change a regularly sanctioned game session to a different day or time, even temporarily, without prior ACBL approval.

- 3.2.2 A club may cancel a regularly scheduled game session because of:

- a. Unusual weather such as a snowstorm, hurricane, or tornado alert
- b. A conflict with a higher rated event (optional - not required, but only a regular club game may be held)
- c. Holidays such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, and Christmas and other religious holidays
- d. Not enough tables for a legal game
- e. In the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda, all statutory holidays as well as local, provincial, national and religious holidays

- 3.2.3 There are no game or table fees for sessions canceled for an approved reason. The club must note the reason for a cancellation on its Monthly Report.

- 3.2.4 A club may not make up canceled games.

3.3 Club Records

3.3.1 The club must post recap sheets at the club and/or provide electronic access to the recap for each game no later than the next session of that game. Travelers, if used, must be available for player review through the next session of that game. The club must retain the game records for at least three months. For other than regular club games, the club must retain the game records for at least six months.

3.4 Non-ACBLscore Club Fees

3.4.1 Clubs not using ACBLscore to submit their Monthly Report and Club Masterpoint Report must pay an additional \$2.00 per game sanction fee.