

# **ACBL BOARD OF GOVERNORS/ADVISORY COUNCIL**

## **Minutes: FALL SPECIAL MEETING**

**November 13, 2022**

Doug Couchman, Chair of the Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m. EST on Sunday, November 13, 2022. A quorum was present.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Chair Couchman opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.

**NEXT MEETING TIME:** The AC's next general meeting will occur at the Phoenix NABC at 7:30 pm Sunday, November 27. Members may attend in person or via Zoom.

**BYLAWS CHANGE:** The proposed Bylaws change 222-BY01, having been passed twice by a greater than two thirds vote of the Board of Directors and been published as required in the ACBL Bulletin, was presented to the Advisory Council. The primary substance of the change was to eliminate the office of Chair of the Board of Directors and create the office of Vice President, and to change somewhat the duties of the latter relative to the former.

After discussion, the change passed, 30-2. This being the final step in the ratification process, the change is made.

### **DISCUSSION OF MATTERS ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' FALL MEETING**

**AGENDA:** Chair Couchman detailed the items on the Board of Directors' agenda for the Fall meetings. Numerous items were presented; only those that generated substantial discussion are detailed in these minutes. Votes taken reflect support or lack thereof for the Board passing the respective motion; none has binding effect but the Chair will convey the results to the Board of Directors.

223-BR01, Increase Limited Regional Allocation: This motion generated lively discussion, with the majority of commenters expressing concern about the number of tournaments; some also question whether any District needs more than its current allocation. The Council disapproved of the motion, 8-23.

223-BR02, Virtual Club NABC Fundraising Week: Issues raised during the discussion included the need for a comprehensive plan for online play, and concern about further incentivizing online club play. The Council disapproved the motion, 13-18.

223-BR04, Special Games for VACBs: This motion, which would provide for certain online charity games, generated concern about further helping online clubs. The AC disapproved, 11-18.

223-BR05, Sectional Operations: This motion, which provided for expanded ability to staff sectional tournaments with Tournament Assistants, generated lively discussion and comments both for and against. Several members opined on the need to lower costs for

tournament organizers, particularly in the case of small tournaments; other members were concerned that the measure would result in decreased director quality. The measure was approved 15-13.

223-BR06, Ace of Virtual Clubs: This motion would effectively split the current Ace of Clubs Masterpoint races into two races, one for face-to-face play and one for online play. The measure as written was approved, 27-2. However, during the discussion several members expressed the opinion that the measure did not go far enough and specifically that Masterpoints won in online club play should be removed from the Mini-McKenney races as well. No vote was taken on this suggestion, but the Chair said he would convey it to the Board of Directors.

223-BR07, Virtual Club Appreciation Week: This motion generated concerns similar to other motions providing for increased awards for online play, and the Council disapproved, 9-18.

223-FN01, Club Sanction Changes: This motion generated various concerns, some apparently arising because it was not clear what effect the motion would have. The Council disapproved, 9-17.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 pm EST.