

**ACBL Board of Directors
November 21-23, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by President Joann Glasson on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 9:03 a.m. MST.

Present: Jonathan Steinberg R1, Mark Aquino R2, Margot Hennings R4, Barbara Heller R6, Paul Cuneo R9, David Lodge R11, Tim White R13, Flo Belford, D2, Carlos Muñoz D3, Joann Glasson D4, Georgia Heth D8, Jeff Overby D9, Larry Sealy D10, Deana Liddy D14 (joined at 9:21 a.m.), Cindy Shoemaker D17, Laurie Rowe D20, Stu Goodgold D21

Absent: David Moss D24, Dennis Carman R5

Also Present: Doug Couchman, Advisory Council Chair, Joseph Jones, Executive Director, Peyton Dodson, Director of Finance, and Sabrina Goley, Administrative Coordinator.

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Consideration of Non-Agenda Item

Item NA223-01 Goodwill Member of the Year Appointment was approved as a non-agenda item by unanimous vote.

Consent Calendar

Items 223-BR02 was included on the Board's consent calendar based on unanimous approval by the Bridge committee:

Item: 223-BR02: Virtual Club NABC Fundraising Week

Section 4.1.2 was added to Codification, Part 2, Ch. VI - Club Sanctioned Games, D. Club Championships and Special Events:

Section 4 - Other Frequent Club Events

4.1 North American Bridge Championship Promotional Game

4.1.1 The ACBL allocates to each District one week of Sectional-rated face-to-face NABC fundraising games in each of the three years prior to a North American Bridge Championship held within the District.

4.1.2 ACBL also allocates to each District one week of Sectional-rated virtual NABC fundraising games in each of the three years prior to a NABC held within the District. The last week may be held within the calendar year (but preceding) the

NABC, if necessary. This would only apply for NABCs held in the District of the sanctioned Virtual Club.

Effective Immediately

Item 223-BD01: Election of ACBL President

Joann Glasson was elected by acclamation as ACBL President for a one-year term, January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Absent: D14 Liddy

Item 223-BD02: Election of ACBL Vice President

Margot Hennings was elected by acclamation as ACBL Vice President for a one-year term January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Absent: D14 Liddy

Item 223-BD03: Election of ACBL Treasurer

David Lodge was elected as ACBL Treasurer for a one-year term January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Absent: D14 Liddy

Item 223-BD04 Certification of Elections

The following individuals were certified as having been duly elected to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League for four-year terms, January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026:

Region 8 Jeff Overby, Region 10 Cindy Shoemaker, Region 12 Jackie Zayac

Carried Absent: D14 Liddy

Item 223-BD05: ACBL Honorary Member of the Year Appointment

Betty Starzec was appointed by ACBL management as the 2022 ACBL Honorary Member of the Year.

Absent: D14 Liddy

Item 223-BD06: Nadine Wood Volunteer Member of the Year

Brian Platnick and Franco Baseggio were appointed as the 2023 Nadine Wood Volunteer Members of the Year.

Absent: D14 Liddy

ACBL Management Report

The report of Executive Director Joseph Jones was received. (Attachment A)

Litigation Report

The report on the status of litigation was received. (Attachment B)

The Board of Directors adjourned at 10:15 a.m. for committee meetings.

The Board of Directors reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Item 223-BD07: Executive Committee Member and Alternate Appointments

David Lodge was appointed as the Western Zone Executive Committee Member for a three-year term, January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025. Cindy Shoemaker was appointed as the Western Zone Executive Committee Member alternate for a three-year term, January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025.

Non-Agenda Item 223-01: Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year

Morris Jones was appointed as the 2023 Aileen Osofsky ACBL Goodwill Member of the Year.

Carried Abstain: R6 Heller

The Board of Directors adjourned at 1:12 p.m. for committee meetings during the remainder of the day.

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The meeting was called to order by President Joann Glasson on Tuesday, November 22 at 9:00 a.m. MST.

Present: Same as November 21 except Dennis Carman was present.

COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE

Shoemaker (C)
Aquino, Belford, Rowe

Staff: Stratton

As reported by Communications Task Force Chair

The Communications Task Force Chair reported on the current projects and the accomplishments of improved communication within the Board of Directors, between the Board and ACBL management, and the Board and ACBL membership.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Goodgold (C)
Aquino, Heller, Steinberg

As reported by Committee Chair

The Bylaws Committee Chair reported that the Bylaws change adding a Vice President (22S4-03) was ratified after the Advisory Council Special Meeting on November 13, 2022.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Lodge, (C), Moss (VC)
Cuneo, Hennings, Liddy, Munoz, Rowe, White

Staff: Dodson

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 223-FN01: Club Sanction Changes

Changes be made to the Codification (Chapters 5, 6 and 9) such that for club sanctions beginning in 2024 (renewal period beginning in Sept. 2023), clubs will purchase an annual sanction to run games but not be specific to the traditional sessions. A sanctioned club may run their games when they see fit.

Deferred

Item 223-FN02: 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets

The 2023 operating budget and the 2023 capital budget were proposed for approval.

Failed 0-18-0

STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

Cuneo (C), White (VC),
Aquino, Goodgold, Liddy, Sealy, Shoemaker

Staff: Jones

As reported by Committee Chair

The Strategic Committee Chair presented the current strategic direction of the ACBL. Management was assigned an action item to implement VACB table fees and rebates.

BRIDGE COMMITTEE

Carman (C), Sealy (VC)
Aquino, Belford, Heller, Moss, Steinberg

Staff: Weinstein

As reported by Committee Chair

The Bridge Committee Chair reported on the success of Royal STaCs. A straw vote passed and management was directed to allocate two Royal STaCs to each District in 2023.

Item 223-BR01: Increase Limited Regional Allocation

Codification Part 2 - Bridge Operations, Chapter IX – Regionals, A. Regional Tournament Scheduling and Sanctioning, Section 2: Regional Tournament Allocations was amended as follows:

- 2.2 Each District is allocated four annual Regionals which may be open or Senior. Each District is allowed to split one Regional. In addition, a District is allocated five limited regionals which may be any of the following:
 - a. Junior Regional
 - b. Youth Regional
 - c. Non-Life Master Regional with an upper limit of 750 masterpoints. (Effective January 2016)

- 2.7 No District may be awarded more than 11 Regionals in a calendar year under the above allocation formula.

Effective immediately upon conclusion of the final Board meeting session prior to the tournament Thursday, November 24, 2022.

Carried Nay: D2 Belford Abstain: D10 Sealy, D21 Goodgold

Item: 223-BR03 MBF Regional

Codification Part 2 – Bridge Operations, Chapter IX – Regionals, Section A. Regional Tournament Scheduling and Sanctioning

Section 2 - Regional Tournament Allocations

- 2.1 Regionals are allocated to ACBL Districts. A District may conduct its Regionals or allocate them to Units within the District. Additionally, the WBF, the MBF and the CBF may be awarded a Regional according to subsection 2.8 below.
- 2.8.2 An annual Regional is awarded each year to each of the MBF and the CBF for the purpose of supporting teams representing Mexico and Canada in international competition. Depending on the location, the affected District and the MBF or CBF must agree on the specifics (e.g. date, schedule and fund-sharing). The normal conflict rules shall apply to the scheduling of the tournament.

Effective immediately

Carried Abstain: R2 Aquino

Item 223-BR04: Special Games for VACBs

Codification Part 2 – Bridge Operations, Chapter V - Charity, Foundations, Special Funds B. Charity and Fund Games – Clubs, Section 2 - Special Games at Clubs was amended as follows:

- 2.6 Only this section applies to Virtual Clubs. No other part of Section 2 applies. Management shall designate one week in each of the Special Games months defined in 2.1 thru 2.5 for Virtual Clubs (VACBs) to hold special games for the designated charities. During the month of April, Section 2.3 all VACB games held during the designated week shall be for the benefit of the ACBL Charity Foundation.
- 2.7 In the remaining eight months of the year, one game per month per sanctioned session may be a special game for any one of the Junior Fund, International Fund, ACBL Educational Foundation, Grass Roots Fund, or a charity, charity foundation or charity fund.
- 2.8 When a Sectional (excluding STaCs) or higher rated event is being conducted within 25 miles of a club game's playing site, the club is permitted to hold only its regularly scheduled club masterpoint games (i.e., no special games may be held). This regulation does not apply to Limited/Restricted Sectionals.

Effective January 1, 2023

Carried Nay: D10 Sealy Abstain: D21 Goodgold

Item 223-BR05: Codification Amendment to Sectional Operations

Codification Part 2 – Bridge Operations, Chapter X – Sectionals D Operations Section 1 – Staffing was amended as follows:

- 1.1 Championship Sectional tournaments will be staffed by Tournament Directors who are ACBL employees. Championship Sectionals are defined as open sectionals with an anticipated attendance of 25 or more tables per session.
- 1.2 Local Sectionals, which are defined as open sectionals with an anticipated attendance of less than 25 more tables per session, may be staffed by Tournament Assistants or club directors who have been certified for Local Sectional staffing.
 - 1.2.1 Masterpoints awarded 80% Silver, 20% Black, 100% Sectional rating
 - 1.2.2 No more than two events in any one session; only single-session pair games; swiss team games will be allowed to be one or two sessions
 - 1.2.3 Maximum two sessions per day and six sessions in total
 - 1.2.4 ACBL will provide a specific ACBL Tournament Director to work remotely with each Local Sectional’s club director, assisting with rulings, movements, and other questions, as well as immediately posting session results online. Note: One ACBL TD would work with 3-6 Local Sectionals at a time.
- 1.3 For tournaments not staffed by an ACBL employee, the Sectional surcharge applies. This Sectional surcharge is to offset the cost of processing at ACBL Headquarters that would normally be done on site by a Tournament Director.
- 1.4 NLM Sectionals with an upper masterpoint limit of 750 masterpoints or fewer may be run by Tournament Assistants or club directors who have been certified for Local Sectional staffing.
- 1.5 Regardless of staffing, all tournaments are expected to follow ACBL policies and regulations relating to permitted methods, use of bidding boxes, and non-member eligibility and charges. Championship Sectionals are required to accept credit cards and online entries
- 1.6 ACBL will produce educational content for those club directors and Tournament Assistants that want to be eligible to run our Local Sectionals and Non-Life Master Sectionals or assist at larger tournaments. This content will be made available at no charge to these directors. These club directors and Tournament Assistants would need to pass a test on directing skills once every two years to continue working at those tournaments.

Effective January 1, 2023

Carried Nay: R2 Aquino, D8 Heth Absent: D14 Liddy

Item: 223-BR06 Ace of Virtual Clubs

Codification, Part 2, Chapter I - Membership Operating Guidelines, B. Rankings, Masterpoints and Races was amended as follows:

Section 3 - Masterpoint Races

3.1.2 Mini-McKenney, Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs and Ace of Virtual Clubs

3.1.2.1 Certificates will be awarded, and medallions may be purchased by Units, on an annual basis for winners in the various masterpoint rank categories and categories of Life Master (Bronze, Silver, Gold Life Master, etc.) for the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs, Ace of Virtual Clubs and the Mini-McKenney races.

3.1.2.2 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs, Ace of Virtual Clubs and Mini-McKenney eligibility at all levels (overall placements and Unit placements) will be determined by the player's total masterpoint holding at the start of the year, not the designated rank.

3.1.2.3 All sanctioned games held at face-to-face clubs, with the sole exception of STaCs, are to be counted in the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Races at Unit, District and ACBL-wide levels.

3.1.2.4 All sanctioned games held at ACBL Virtual Clubs (VACB), are to be counted in the Ace of Virtual Clubs Masterpoint Races at Unit, District and ACBL-wide levels, and are not to be counted in the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs or Mini-McKenney races.

3.1.2.5 To be eligible for an award in a Unit Mini-McKenney, a Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs and an Ace of Virtual Clubs race, a player must be a member of that Unit for more than six months during the year and need not be a member on the last day of the year. This does not apply to those who have been ACBL members fewer than six months.

Effective January 1, 2023

Carried unanimously

Item: 223-BR07 Virtual Appreciation Club of the Week

Virtual clubs be permitted to have a Virtual Club Appreciation Week in October with increased master point awards such as face-to-face clubs are allowed to run for the month.

Failed Yay: R6 Heller, R9 Cuneo, D2 Belford, D8 Heth, D14 Liddy, D20 Rowe
 Abstain: D10 Sealy

Competition and Conventions

The Bridge Committee Chair reported on two proposals from Competition and Conventions which passed by a straw vote and will take effect after 30 days. The committee also recommended holding an online NABC:

1. Chart Usage:

For All Pair Events and non-Bracketed Team Events

Basic Chart: Applies in any event where the upper limit per player is 750 or less—change 750 to 300

Bracketed Events

Basic Chart: Any bracket where the highest team averages less than 750 masterpoints per player—change 750 to 300

Discussion: The basic chart most closely resembles the old limited chart; as such it was generally used in only the most limited event (0-5 up to 0-199, etc.). This change will put the Basic+ Chart as the default for Gold Rush events.

2. Multi (effective 7/1/2023)

Multi shall be allowed in the 3-day pair events (Platinum, Von Zedwitz, Blue Ribbon) and the Reisinger.

3. The committee recommended that the board look into adding an online NABC, preferably 6 days, in the July slot following Chicago. The committee recommended a 6-day team event, and 2 pairs events. Assuming this is successful, the committee looks to have at least one such event in future years. These events would NOT be NABC+ events, nor would they award platinum points. There was considerable discussion about the time slot and this recommendation will be further refined for consideration at the next meeting.

Executive Session

The Board of Directors convened into executive session at 3:14 p.m. MST.

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The meeting was called to order by President Joann Glasson on Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. MST.

ACBL Charity Foundation Membership Meeting

The ACBL Charity Foundation meeting was called to order by Trustee Cindy Shoemaker at 9:01 a.m. MST. Rebecca Brown and Jennifer O'Neill submitted declarations of candidacy for the one

trustee position open. Jennifer O’Neill was elected for a four-year term, January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026.

Cindy summarized the Charity Foundation’s accomplishments during 2022 and presented the financial statements.

The ACBL Charity Foundation membership meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m. MST and the ACBL Board of Directors meeting reconvened.

Present: Same as November 22.

Also Present: Educational Foundation President Robert Todd

Educational Foundation Presentation

The Board approved continued funding for Boost Face-to-Face Bridge, a pilot program of the ACBL and the ACBL Educational Foundation, which launched in September of 2022. The program is aimed at building membership by providing support for F2F beginning bridge teachers and F2F bridge clubs. Selected teachers must offer guest memberships to students and have access to a F2F club where students can take lessons and advance to in-person supervised play.

The ACBL uses social media ad campaigns to identify individuals interested in learning bridge. Leads generated from these campaigns are then funneled to participating teachers. The ACBL is tracking program results and analyzing the data to ensure efficiencies in lead acquisition/cost.

In the summer of 2022, the Board approved an initial program investment of up to \$100,000. Of the \$100,000, only about \$17,200 was needed to generate 1,287 leads for 30 teachers. This translated to 110 new students for fall classes. In addition, 158 individuals have expressed interest in attending future classes.

To date, the 1,287 leads have generated \$8.6K to teachers through classes and about \$3.2K to clubs.

Social media ad campaigns have already begun for classes starting in early January. So far, approximately 50 beginning bridge teachers have been selected to participate.

APPEALS AND CHARGES COMMITTEE	
White (C), Rowe (VC)	
Carman, Heth, Liddy, Overby, Sealy	Staff: Edelstein

As reported by Committee Chair

The Appeals and Charges Committee Chair provided a status update on the Institute for Bridge Arbitration and EDGAR.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Hennings (C)
Belford, Goodgold, Heller, Overby, Shoemaker, Steinberg

As reported by Committee Chair.

Item 223-GV01 Board Minutes

The Codification was amended as follows:

Part 1: Governance, Chapter IV - Board Procedures, C. Meetings, Section 5 - Minutes, Subsection 5.2, and was amended as follows:

- 5.1 All actions of the Board of Directors will be reported in the minutes, including summaries of Committee Chair reports and reports or collateral documents relating to Board actions.
- 5.2 To maximize the accessibility of Board actions, Board minutes will be included on the ACBL website and key actions will be published in the ACBL Bulletin.

Part 2: Bridge Operations, Chapter II - Business Management, D. ACBL Bulletin, Section 2 - Content and Editorial Policy, Subsection 2.4

- 2.4: The Board of Directors Meeting page(s) contained in the Bulletin shall include a condensation of major enacted motions, actions and ACBL elections and appointments. Publication of the complete minutes is not required. The ACBL President (or designee) shall prepare the content and approve the layout before publication.

Effective: Upon conclusion of Board meetings prior to the tournament.

Carried Absent: R6 Heller

Executive Session

The Board of Directors adjourned the open session of the meeting and convened in executive session at 1:57 p.m. MST.