

**ACBL Board of Directors
Online Meeting via Zoom
January 13, 2023
Special Meeting**

The Board of Directors Special Meeting was called to order by President Joann Glasson at 2:00 p.m. ET on January 13, 2023.

Present: Jonathan Steinberg R1, Mark Aquino R2, Margot Hennings R4, Dennis Carman R5, Barbara Heller R6, Larry Sealy R7, Jeff Overby R8, Paul Cuneo R9/Interim Executive Director, Cindy Shoemaker R10, David Lodge R11, Jackie Zayac R12, Tim White R13, Flo Belford D2, Carlos Muñoz D3, Joann Glasson D4, Georgia Heth D8, Deana Liddy D14, Stu Goodgold D21

Absent: None

Also Present: Doug Couchman, Advisory Council Chair, Montie Hamble, Meeting Services Manager, Peyton Dodson, Director of Finance and Sabrina Goley, Administrative Coordinator

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Item 23S1-01 Certify R7 Special Election

Effective January 13, 2023, Larry Sealy is hereby certified as having been duly elected to the Board of Directors of the American Contract Bridge League as Region 7 Regional Director for a four-year term.

Approved unanimously.

Item 23S1-02 Report on Hearings

In the Matter of Renate and Ronald Conlon, the Committee approved the Negotiated Resolution entered into by the parties and ACBL Management in which the Conlons admitted to a violation of CDR 301(A)(2) Collusive Cheating Online. Mrs. Conlon agreed to a penalty of 1 year suspension to start on December 5, 2022, 3 years probation following suspension during which time she is prohibited from playing online with Ronald Conlon, and a forfeiture of 10% of her current Masterpoint total. Mr. Conlon agreed to a penalty of 2 years suspension to start on December 5, 2022, 3 years probation following suspension during which time he is prohibited from playing online with Renate Conlon, and a forfeiture of 10% of his current Masterpoint total. Mr. and Mrs. Conlon also each agreed that this agreement was voidable by the ACBL if they played in any ACBL sanctioned game between December 5, 2022 and when the agreement was accepted by Appeals and Charges. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their probationary period.

In the Matter of Nancy Farmer and Luther Merry, the Committee, pursuant to CDR 406(B)3, rejected the Negotiated Resolution but provided the following condition for acceptance: in

addition to the penalty already included in the Negotiated Resolution, Ms. Farmer and Mr. Merry will be prohibited from playing with each other online during the entire period of probation.

Farmer and Merry accepted the condition. A new NR was executed and approved.

In the Matter of Larry Abramovitz and Karen Pickelsimer, the Committee approved the Negotiated Resolution entered into by the parties and ACBL Management in which Mr. Abramovitz and Karen Pickelsimer admitted to a violation of CDR 301(A)(2) Collusive Cheating Online. They each agreed to a Suspension of 6 months beginning on January 3, 2023, followed by a Probation of 2 years during which time they are prohibited from playing with each other online, and a forfeiture of 40 Masterpoints each. They will be members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their probationary period.

In the Matter of James and Sue Jordan, the Committee approved the Negotiated Resolution entered into by the parties and ACBL Management in which the Jordans admitted to a violation of CDR 301(A)(2) Collusive Cheating Online. They each agreed to a penalty of 6 months suspension to start on December 16, 2022 and 2 years probation following suspension. They may not play together online during the duration of their probation. They will each forfeit 10% of their respective current Masterpoint total. Mr. and Mrs. Jordan also each agreed that this agreement was voidable by the ACBL if they played in any ACBL sanctioned game between December 16, 2022 and when the agreement was accepted by Appeals and Charges. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their probationary period.

In the Matter of Bala and Pracheth Srinivasan, the Committee upheld the finding of the OEOC Panel that they violated CDR 3.20 Cheating and Other Ethical Violations. The Committee also upheld the penalty imposed by the OEOC panel. Accordingly, Bala Srinivasan will be suspended for a period of five years and Pracheth Srinivasan will be suspended for a period of two years. Both will serve a period of ten years probation following their suspension, a condition of which is they are prohibited from playing with each other during the probationary period. Each party will forfeit 50% of their total Masterpoint holding. Each party will forfeit any Mini-McKenny and Ace of Clubs awards won at the national, district or unit levels for performance in 2020 (the Committee acknowledges that due to administrative and technical challenges, this may take significant time to effectuate.) They will be members “Not in Good Standing” during their probationary periods.

In the Matter of Lucie McCartney, the Committee upheld the finding of the OEOC Panel that she violated CDR 301(A)(2) Collusive Cheating Online. The Committee found that there were sufficient mitigating circumstances, not known to the OEOC, to modify the penalty imposed by the OEOC. Accordingly, Mrs. McCartney will be suspended for one year effective October 8, 2022, to be followed by two years probation. Circumstances have rendered immaterial any exclusion from playing with Brian McCartney. Mrs. McCartney will be a member “Not in Good Standing” during the probationary period. She will forfeit 30% of her current Masterpoint total.

This report was received by the Board.

Item 23S1-03 2023 Operating and Capital Budget

This item was withdrawn from consideration prior to a Board vote.

Item 23S1-04 Reconsideration of 223BR-06

A 2/3 vote by the Board is required to reconsider a motion. 223BR-06, which created an Ace of Virtual Clubs, was accepted by the Board for reconsideration and was then defeated by a vote of 12-3-3.

Item 23S1-05 Amended 223BR-06: 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.

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.

Approved unanimously, with a retroactive effective date of January 1, 2023.

Action Item 23S1-01

This item was introduced as an Action Item for Management to expand the ACBL Masterpoint brand to the international community by providing opportunities for international players to earn pigmented points in online games. BBO would enable Instant Matchpoint Games (IMG) - (Flighted Single player games) that would pay silver and gold points to provide a path to Life Master for players living outside North America. These games would be marketed and available

only to District 99 players. D99 players would be eligible to earn up to 75 Silver and 100 Gold points.

This Action Item was approved unanimously and is effective immediately.

The open session of the meeting adjourned and opened into Executive Session at 6:13 p.m. ET.