

ACBL Board of Directors
Online meeting via Zoom Webinar
September 17, 2020
Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Georgia Heth on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 1:31 p.m. (CDT).

Present: Leo Weniger #1, Paul Janicki #2, Carlos Muñoz #3, Joann Glasson #4, Brian Ellis #5, Margot Hennings #6, Mike Kovacich #7, Georgia Heth #8, Jeff Overby #9, Ned Irving #10, AJ Stephani #11, Dennis Carman #12, Suzi Subeck #13, Sharon Anderson #14, Warren Smith #15, Paul Cuneo #16, Cindy Shoemaker #17, David Johnson #18, Julie Smith #19, Laurie Rowe #20, Jackie Zayac #21, David Lodge #22, David Moss #24 and Bob Bertoni #25.

Absent: Kevin Lane #23

Also Present: Richard Popper, Chairman Board of Governors, Deana Liddy, incoming #14, Stu Goodgold, Incoming #21, Joe Jones, Executive Director, Peyton Dodson, Director of Finance, Linda Dunn, In-House Counsel, Greg Coles, Director of Operations, Mary Stratton, Director of Marketing, Susie Cordell, Director of Information Technology, Stephanie Threlkeld, Marketing Manager, Sol Weinstein, Field Manager, Robb Gordan, National Recorder, and Kelley Trejo, Secretary.

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Approval 2020 March 2020 and August 2020 Minutes Meetings

The 2020 March Spring and August 2020 online meeting minutes are approved. Carried unanimously

Executive Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on August 10, 2020 are received and ratified (Attachment A).

Carried unanimously

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Joe Jones gave an oral PowerPoint presentation on the ACBL management responses to the Online Bridge Task Force recommendations, followed by discussion with the Board.

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STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

Cuneo (C), Weniger (VC)

Anderson, Ellis, Irving, Johnson, Moss, Rowe, Shoemaker

Staff: J. Jones

As reported by Committee Chair

The Chair of the Strategic Committee gave an oral PowerPoint presentation about the strategic issues facing the ACBL followed by a discussion with the Board and ACBL management. (Attachment B)

APPEALS & CHARGES COMMITTEE

Stephani (C), Overby (VC)

Carman, Hennings, Janicki, J. Smith, Zayac

Staff: Gordon

As reported by Committee Chair

20S4-01: Report on Hearings

In the matter of Stephen Kishner, the Committee approved a Negotiated Resolution entered into by the party and ACBL management in which he admitted a violation of CDR § 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations). He agreed to a Suspension of 180 days followed by a Probation of 2 years and 6 months and a forfeiture of all Masterpoints won online in 2020. He will be a Member “Not in Good Standing” during the length of his Probationary period.

In the matter of Janice Kishner, the Committee approved a Negotiated Resolution entered into by the party and ACBL management in which she admitted a violation of CDR § 3.20: Cheating and other Ethical Violations. She agreed to a Probation of 3 years and a forfeiture of all Masterpoints won online in 2020. She will be a Member “Not in Good Standing” during the length of her Probationary period.

Both NRs were affirmed by a vote of 6-1-0.

[The Committee Chair indicated that he will direct the Recorder’s Office that all future NRs contain a recitation of the facts of the offense in the party’s own words.]

In the matter of Louis and Barbara Meola, the Committee conducted an Automatic Review of a discipline imposed by the Online Ethical Oversight Committee for a violation of CDR 3.1 (Violation of ACBL laws), 3.2 (Violation of ACBL regulations), and 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations). The Committee affirmed the OEOC finding that the conduct “more closely followed the discipline in E19.” Because of the parties’ lack of prior discipline and the fact that

they had already been barred from Bridge Base Online for 13 months, a 90-day Suspension followed by two years of Probation was imposed. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their Probationary period.

The OEOC finding was affirmed by a vote of 7-0-0.

In the matter of Gail Hanson and Michael Innis, the Committee conducted an Automatic Review of a discipline imposed by the Online Ethical Oversight Committee for a violation of CDR 3.1 (Violation of ACBL laws), 3.2 (Violation of ACBL regulations), and 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations). The Committee affirmed the OEOC finding that the conduct was more consistent with the discipline in E19. The OEOC imposed a 240 day Suspension, retroactive to their April BBO suspension. The panel also imposed 2 years of probation following the Suspension and forfeiture of any masterpoints won on BBO in March-April 2020. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their Probationary period.

The OEOC finding was affirmed by a vote of 7-0-0.

In the matter of Donna and Richard Holland, the Committee conducted an Automatic Review of a discipline imposed by the Online Ethical Oversight Committee for a violation of CDR 3.1 (Violation of ACBL laws), 3.2 (Violation of ACBL regulations). The Committee affirmed the OEOC finding that the parties were not responsible for the Charge of CDR 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations), but were responsible for violating CDR 3.1 (specifically Law 16B(1)(a) and 16D(1)), and 3.2. Specifically, the OEOC determined that the parties had Unauthorized Information from an unknown source and that the parties took advantage of this information without considering logical alternatives or calling the director. The OEOC imposed Probation for a period of 1 year and prohibited the parties from playing online with each other as partners or teammates for 90 days.

The OEOC finding was affirmed by a vote of 7-0-0.

In the matter of Kay Schulle and Gerald Sosler, the Committee conducted an Automatic Review of a discipline imposed by the Online Ethical Oversight Committee for a violation of CDR 3.20 (Cheating and other Ethical Violations). Specifically, the Committee determined that the parties failed to disclose their unusual methods to the opponents in a manner designed to obtain an unfair advantage over their opponents, but not in a manner that constituted “collusive cheating” or collusion by means of signaling as described in E16. The Committee did not find sufficient evidence to find the parties responsible for a charge of CDR 3.1 (Violation of ACBL laws). The OEOC imposed a 6-month Suspension followed by a 6-month Probation, with a prohibition against playing together for the term of their Probation. The OEOC also removed Masterpoints won by the pair in BBO games 6747, 7058, and 7505.

The Committee upheld the findings of the OEOC but felt that disciplines imposed were insufficient due to the severity of the parties’ conduct. Accordingly, it increased the Suspension to 1 year, followed by a Probation of 1 year, affirming the prohibition against playing together

for the term of their Probation and the removal of Masterpoints. They will be Members “Not in Good Standing” during the length of their Probationary period.

The OEOC finding was affirmed by a vote of 6-1-0.

BRIDGE COMMITTEE	
Carman (C), Ellis (VC)	
Bertoni, Moss, Muñoz, Rowe, J. Smith, W. Smith, Subeck, Weniger	Staff: Weinstein

As reported by Committee Chair

Item 20S4-02: CBF Mixed Teams Awards

The arbitrary award for the CBF Mixed Teams Championship shall be 80 Gold masterpoints, with a match award of 8.00 Red points and with the minimum tables rule applying.

Effective immediately **pending second reading**

Carried unanimously

Item 20S4-03: Session Award Threshold Clarification

The threshold for awarding masterpoints to session (section) ranks shall be set at two contestants (individuals, pairs, or teams) in the comparison group. This applies to both clubs and tournaments.

Effective immediately

Carried unanimously

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The Board of Directors convened into executive session at 4:20 p.m.

The Board of Directors reconvened into full Board session at 5:20 p.m.

The Board adjourned sine die at 5:20 p.m. CDT