

Motion to Create a Hybrid Sectional Tournament

Changes to the ACBL Codification

Chapter 10 of ACBL Codification, Part A, Section 1.8 is amended to read:

Sectionals may be Open, Senior, Limited by masterpoints (specifically, 0-100; 0- 200; 0-300; 0- 750) Junior, Youth, Progressive Style, *Hybrid* or StaC.

Chapter 10 of ACBL Codification, Part A, creates a new Section 8 which reads:

Section 8 - Hybrid Sectionals

- 8.1 A hybrid sectional is identical to an open sectional, except for the playing sites. The Flight A events will be run from a single site. The other flights, whether flighted or stratified, may be run from multiple sites.
- 8.2 Staffing will be based on the expected attendance at the Flight A site.
- 8.3 Masterpoints will be awarded for the Flight A event the same as if the entire Sectional was held at a single site.
- 8.4 Masterpoints will be awarded for the Flight B-C event the same as if it were a STaC.

Explanation for Motion

ACBL tournaments are expensive to run, especially in metropolitan areas. Rent for an attractive site is so high that it is cost-prohibitive to hold a tournament there. There often are several bridge clubs in these metropolitan areas that could host a site (the Flight A event site and/or one of the Flight B-C event sites). The possible savings in site rental could be the difference in holding a tournament or making it cost-effective. By staging the Flight B-C portion of the tournament at multiple sites, these players will not have so far to travel. This may improve attendance.

The Flight B-C portion of the tournament will be run much the same way as a STaC. Masterpoints will be awarded as if it were a STaC. Masterpoints for the Flight A portion of the tournament will be awarded as if the entire tournament was held at a single site.

The Flight A event is at a single site. Most metropolitan areas have a number of Flight A players. These players have fewer opportunities to compete at a high level. Most sectional schedules separate the Flight A event, so the Flight B-C players do not compete against them. The Flight A event is small enough that a single site is affordable. More money will be available for hospitality that should help increase attendance.

Cost to ACBL

Uncertain without experience, but the potential for increased attendance and resulting sanction fees could mean that ACBL will profit from these sectionals.