

ACBL AC Preliminary Meeting

27 February 2022

Notes

Doug called the meeting to order at 7 PM sharp. He welcomed new members.

Doug invited Barbara Heller to say a few words about the passing of Mike Kovalchic. Barbara shared many memories and contributions Mike made to bridge in District 7.

Next Meeting – General Meeting in Reno NV March 13 2022 Pacific Daylight Time 10 AM While it conflicts with some regional events, it's the best we can do. Future will be better.

Steve Moese gave an update on the recommendation that the Teacher and Club Manager Committee will make to Management at the general meeting. The committee recommends Management enable open games to use concurrent tables from games held either online or in person, and that an equitable method for alliances to participate in table count benefits be developed that is doable with the technology at hand.

Item 221-AC02: Retire Anti-Cheating Commission

Martin Hirschman commented on the difference between his committee and the ACC. Article on current Bridge World about how to cheat. Commission was not functional at this time. Proposing use of tablets at the C&C Committee in Reno. USBF survey on use of tablets in October was positive. Coles and Ivatury consulted on feasibility. McKenzie Meyers on directing such an event. Hope for a trial at Phoenix NABC (Soloway & Reisinger).

Peter Marcus D25 – Commented on the optics of eliminating the committee at the time when there's much attention to the cheating problem. Perhaps changing the committee rather than eliminating it is a better choice.

Danny Sprung C&C Chair – will be considering tablets in Reno.

Item 221-BD01: Hall of Fame Committee Appointments

Item 221-BD02: Competition and Conventions Appointments

Item 221-BD03: Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments

Item 221-BD04: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments

Item 221-BD05: Laws Commission Appointments

Item 221-BD06: Election of NABF Board Members

Item 221-BD07: Election of ACBL Treasurer

Item 221-BR01: Update appointment and terms of the Competition and Conventions Committee members

Doug described the terms of the changes.

When a Committee approves a motion unanimously, then the time goes on the consent calendar. Some things get passed without discussion. There are 7 items on the consent calendar.

Item 221-BR02: Limited MP Event Eligibility

Some implementation problems with the motion as written – withdrawn from consideration and will be sent to C&C committee to configure. Please consider whether the eligibility rules should also deal with eligibility for MP races.

Danny Sprung – Will discuss in Reno, but not clear C&C looks at MP races and eligibility.

Item 221-BR03: Change Table Counting for Human Robot Pairs

Change the way that tables are counted for online bridge. Not count robot pairs toward the table count. Count Human-robot pair counts as ½ pair. Solution complicated. Resolution for now is to refer to MP committee for further consideration. Many complications.

Item 221-BR04: Update Electronic Device Policy

Allows presence of devices but they must be turned off.

Bret Kunin – an improvement in current policy.

Greg Coles – motion came from a TD team and recommended this update. Fully support the motion.

Item 221-BR05 – Give Masterpoint Committee discretion to make minor changes without Board Approval (Consent Calendar)

Doug added this motion and discussed why it wasn't on the published list. Will be voted on in Reno. As the Board gets smaller the Board needs to get more efficient.

Item 221-BR06: NABC District Fundraising Week

Changes to rules that Districts can and cannot do to raise funds for the NABC.

Item 221-BR07: NABC Website

Districts that hold an NABC not be allowed to have their own website. Bridge Committee unanimously opposed to that.

D24 Lee Lin – Googling ACBL NABC RENO led to district sites and not the ACBL NABC website.
D11 Steve Moese spoke in favor of the motion as long as it doesn't stop Districts to promote the NABCs.

Barbara Heller D7 – Crucial that we allow other websites.

Brett Kunin D3 – District get things done – make two sites cooperative. Philadelphia NABC inquiries handles better than the ACBL site.

Doug Couchman – Joanne Glasson was aware of Philadelphia experience

Jackie Zayac D21 – ACBL no longer running an online partnership desk. For Reno, D21 has created an online partnership desk and offered to the ACBL and they refused to use it.

John Dickenson D4 Mentioned error propagated by ACBL copy-pasting Providence details from the wrong year.

Item 221-BR08: Eliminate Redundancy in NABC Hospitality Requirements

Follows a discussion in Austin. Not clear under new schedule who has to provide hospitality to whom. Gives more control to local committees to do what's needed.

Item 221-BR09: Permanent Royal STaC

Consideration that making the Royal STaC permanent is premature – we don't know how this works yet. So the event remains on an experimental basis.

Peter Marcus D25 – only one run so far, and another ended today. Not enough proof of success. Every point awarded is converted to the 4 pigments. Mentioned concern about giving away gold points. Presented as an experiment to help clubs get off their feet. One and done. D25 Board violently against it. Help clubs come out of covid, not to compete with Sectionals and Regionals.

Tomi Storey D16 – Agree with Marcus. Poorly communicated to begin with. Need to give it a fairer shot than this approach gave us. Problem the way it was handled. Meant to help clubs get back up on their feet.

Henry Robin D15 – Ours finished today. Wildly successful. Yes, everybody gets gold points. Finishing fourth in the 0-5 strat might get you 0,02 gold – why worry about that. Attendance up.

Mike Cassel D14 – Problem of large consortiums sucking table from small clubs over time. Mentioned table counts. Local area players are migrating to larger games. Organize games by regions. New regions should work with Districts to come up with ideas that compete with alliances.

Brett Kunin D3 – Agree with Henry. D3 participated in first of the Royal STaCs. Pandemic hit NJ hard and people are coming back. Our club experiences a 35% uptick during the Royal STaC. Hooked 6 C players who got their first gold.

Bob Heller D7 – Agree completely with D15 Henry. Peter knows better – number of MPs in 3rd strat are miniscule awards even across the board in U20 games. Perhaps these Royal STaCs should not have the District wide or wider "lottery" that amplifies overall awards. If the lottery is taken out of the equation, we still help the clubs. Take away the over the top of pigmented point awards in virtual clubs. We are fighting against our own people in in-person clubs.

Peter Marcus – 5 tables 0-20 game pays 0,1 Gold points.

Steve Moese-D11 – extend the idea for 4 more months while clubs are still trying to get their feet under them.

Item 221-ED01: Succession Plan Amendment to Codification
Executive Direct succession plan.

Item 221-GV01: Elimination of Charity Committee (Consent Calendar)

Item 221-GV02: Update Codification Regulations Related to Units
Brett Kunin D3 – Concerned about three of these provisions.

1.10 - requires all business with ACBL done electronically. Must be the most unwise thing ever. Right now tourney trax is out of date. Had to call up person at ACBL to get it done.

1.12 – Require each unit to provide a copy of finances to the District. What about the converse – access to District records (not currently permitted).

1.16 – Requires each unit to be audited annually. Extreme imposition. Done internally is not right and having to hire an outside accountant is an imposition.

Peter Marcus D25 – Agree with Brett K. Tourney Trax needs to be improved to become “dysfunctional”. Until ACBL is capable for IT, a requirement

Steve Moese D11 – mentioned concern about deletion of the language referring to the independence of the businesses.

Margot Hennings BoD – confirmed that this removal eliminated duplicative language that was unnecessary.

Bob Heller D7 - Am alarmed about what Brett said about his District. Any member of the District Board can always see the District financial records.

Margot Hennings – Districts publish records to websites. Take the discussion offline to resolve the matter.

Item 221-GV03: Correct duplication in Election Procedure (Concent Calendar)

2 different parts of the codification discussed election procedure and they were not consistent. This fixes the problem. Separate discussion about criteria for election underway.

Discussion Items

GB1 – Unit formation and Dissolution.

Board will continue to discuss how the codification will be updated to help units having trouble and looking for partners/mergers.

Challenges facing the Organization:

Steve Moese D11 – mentioned the need for recalibrating the Business Risk approach to decision making. We appear to be too fond of deciding based on avoiding legal action and not growth benefits.

Joann Spring D17 – Meeting week before the Nationals might give us the chance for timely input, and do the meeting in the evening.

Doug Couchman – this right now is a meeting right as the BoD agenda came out

Joann Spring D17 – Make this meeting the general meeting.

Doug Couchman – At the moment the bylaws say that the general meetings must be in conjunction with the NABCs. As of now we are required to hold one at the NABCs. Also benefits

any member who wants to attend. This meeting is for us to impact the Board Dialog – The other meeting doesn't help with the advisory function.

















































Outreach Meetings

















































Last year the AC conducted outreach meetings among Unit and District Board Members. Find the AC members in your district, learn who is in your REGION, and plan outreach meetings with your REGION. GOAL: Put together a list of people important in the District – people who are in touch with the community. Conduct outreach meeting with these folks. D11 will be doing one in May.

COME TO RENO!

Yes in person and zoom meeting will happen. Come to RENO!

Adjourned by Doug Couchman at 8:37 PM EST

-  D11-Steve Mo... (Co-host, me)  
-  Zoom Webinar (Host)  
-  Doug Couchman D17 (A... (Guest)  
-  AJ Stephani D11 BOD (Guest)  
-  Barbara Doran (Guest)  
-  Barbara Heller D7 (Guest)  
-  Brett kunin, D3 (Guest)  
-  D 23 Gene White (Guest)  
-  D1_Kathie Macnab (Guest)  
-  D11 - Ryan Schultz (Guest)  
-  D11 Tom Bishel (Guest)  
-  D12 Susan Bailey-Carman (Guest)  
-  D17 JoAnn Sprung (Guest)  
-  D20 Merle Stetser (Guest)  
-  D21, Anne Hollingsworth (Guest)  
-  D3 John Hogan (Guest)  

-  D21, Anne Hollingsworth (Guest)  
-  D3 John Hogan (Guest)  
-  D4 Joann Glasson  
-  D6 - Barbara Doran (Guest)  
-  Danny Sprung C&C Chair (Guest)  
-  DavidD22(AC) Sizemore (Guest)  
-  Deana Liddy D14 Director (Guest)  
-  Dennis Carman Region 5 (Guest)  
-  Georgia Heth District 8 B... (Guest)  
-  Greg Coles  
-  Henry Robin D15 (Guest)  
-  Hugh McSheffrey (D19) (Guest)  
-  Jackie Zayac D21 (Guest)  
-  John Dickenson D4 (Guest)  
-  Joseph Jones  
-  Ken Monzingo (Guest)  

KM	Ken Monzingo (Guest)		
MH	margaret hansell (Guest)		
MH	Margot Hennings--R4 Director (...)		
MH	martin hirschman (Guest)		
MC	mike cassel D14 (Guest)		
NL	Nance Lodge District 22 (Guest)		
PH	pastpres-Bob Heller (Guest)		
PM	Peter Marcus D25 (Guest)		
RP	Richard Popper D4 past c... (Guest)		
RS	Roger Smith Past Pres (Guest)		
RS	Ron Sholes-District 8 (Guest)		
SG	Sabrina Goley		
SS	Stan Subeck (Guest)		
	Steven Gaynor (Guest)		
SS	Suzi Subeck (Guest)		
TS	Tomi Storey D16 (Guest)		
VS	Vangie SmithD 11 (Guest)		
NL	Nance Lodge (Guest)		

Jerry Thorpe
Lee Lin D24

Submitted Respectfully,
Steve Moese D11
AC Vice Chair