

ACBL Advisory Council Summer Special Meeting**Attendance: 64****Quorum:**

Doug Couchman Called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 PM Eastern Time.

Doug mentioned that the Board of Directors will be doing more by discussion topics than formal motions, and that we should provide solutions to problems and proposals, instead of motions.

Gary Hann expressed concern about an asserted lack of procedure for this special meeting.

Doug Couchman – a second reading for the bylaws amendment has not yet happened so it is not ready for an Advisory Council vote.

Gary Hann – withdrew his concern.

Board of Directors Motions:

ID	Title	Action
DI232-FN02:	Proposed Membership Fee Increase D15 Henry Robbin – Develop graduated fee schedule.	
DI232-FN03:	Patron Member Levels How to improve the Patron Membership? David Sizemore – think more carefully about giving patrons value for money.	
DI232-FN04:	Tiered and Flexible Membership Social bridge membership – U100 MPs per year. Stop losses from lapsed members who participate in a limited fashion. Steve Moese D11 - expressed concern about appealing to all NLMs. Betty Starzec D16 – Go to monthly payments for ACBL membership. For all members. Jay Apfelbaum D4 – Not allow people to play in an ACBL sanctioned game. If you do want to play, pay the full membership. Paul Cuneo R9 - The limitation is 100 MPs lifetime – not 100 MPs per year. We are not retaining 50% of new members after 2 years. Looking for price appeal. Henry Robin D15 – limite people to 100 MPs. This will bias 99 flights in a bad way.	
DI232-BR06:	Pigmented Points Several ideas for pigmented points in the club. Steve Moese – Asked that the BoD allow Regionals to run 8 is Enough Swiss two session events for gold points. D8 Debbie Romero – concern about clubs cannibalizing area tournaments. Marty Hirschman D12 – this sounds like just another step in giving away points. Does not support this change. Kathie Macnab D1 – Opposes pigmented points at the club. Club appreciation brought novices to the clubs. Now the ACBL charges clubs extra for Club	

	Appreciation games. Keep it as once special event. Don't overdo it. Keep them special.	
DI232-BR07:	Come Play Cards with Us	
232-BD02:	Online Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments	
232-BR01:	Codification Clean Up – Sectionals Steve Moese asked for local sectionals to be allowed to hold two session pair events.	
232-BR02:	GNT Conditions of Contest Permit unproctered online play (District level).	
DI232-BR01:	Listing of Top Lifetime MP Holders Clarifies who gets listed.	
DI232-BR02:	Strength of Field Are we ready to spend funds on this? Steve Gaynor D14 – Disappointed how SoF worked for the KOs – seemed to benefit the top tier disproportionately. Entry of any new pair always increases the MP awards. Modification to the KO program is not on the table right now. Also not applicable to events that have fixed awards.	
DI232-BR04:	NAP & GNT Grass Roots Funding Prehaps a change in structure that might revitalize these events.	
DI232-BR05:	Virtual Online Calendar How will the ACBL schedule online events? Steve Moese – suggested online regionals be scheduled during NABCs – can see data if there is an attendance impact. Jason Furhman – lack of night games – could get people who cannot play at regular regionals. Evening bridge. Susan Miguel – Seonded what SM said – just because you can do something doesn't mean you should do something. Just because we can do online school doesn't mean we should do that? Gary Hann – supported creative proposals. Marty Hirschman – Concern about cheating online. Cheating is too easy to do. Unpigmented points. Process underway to capture cheats online. Methods require they cheat a lot. Long term solution is to use cameras. People don't have that. We should not have big events online until we can eliminate cheating. David Lodge R11 – BoD looks at economics – OLR are moneymakers for the league. Aross the 60,000-70,000 people who play online people still cheat.	
232-FN01:	Accounts Payable	
DI232-FN01:	Charity Discussion Distribution of charity funds.	
232-GV01:	Member Not in Good Standing Wording changes Said member is not allowed to do anything in club administration.	
232-GV02:	Bulletin Editor owns the content.	
232-GV03:	International Bridge	












































	If the ACBL representative resigns from the Board, they should resign from the WBFL Exec. Council. Changes regarding reporting. Budget issues.	
232-GV04:	Vetting of All Candidates for ACBL Awards and/or Honors Review disciplinary records of everyone.	
232-GV05:	Untable 231-GV05 Stu Goodgold – the detail of the HoF committee has been updated. The HoF committee will provide the list and get reviewed. Marty Hirschman D12 – Focus on convictions not recorder memos. Jay Apfelbaum – all data should be reviewed.	
DI232-GV01:	Board Operations and Governance Board’s getting smaller. Less about micromanaging and more about big priorities and delegation. Steve Moese – The BoD can tap the expertise of the AC where necessary. Len Fettig D15 – The BoD hasn’t shown how it is handling the offloading of the last remaining bridge committees?	
232-ME01:	CAP Technical changes – Steve Moese – raised the question why clubs have to choose between BOOST and CAP when we need all efforts on membership creation.	
DI232-ME01:	11% to Units Len Fettig – My committee will define best practices on recruiting and retaining members. Help Units to implement practice that will work. Strong feelings about how this is presented. There’s a right way to encourage change in behavior. Steve Moese D11 – Agreed Unit best practices is necessary. Mentioned lack of good guidelines for Membership Committees. Proposed merging role of education and membership at the Unit level. ACBL should require accountability from Units for funds received. Units that fail to recruit new members should not get full share of rebate. We need to determine what Units and do to support Teachers and Teachers and Clubs.	
232-BY01:	Bylaws Amendment – Arbitration Hugh McSheffrey D19 – Concern with one section of the proposed bylaw. Concern that certain convictions have no appeal process. Gordon Bowers D18 – Small issue. Goal to minimize the risk of litigation. Concern about retroactive application to ex members who address issues during their membership. Principle – Rules in force at the time of the issue are what governs adjudication. Martin Hirschman – This change is a part of a larger overhaul of the disciplinary system. There will be a fast-track approach for players under 2500. EDGAR would throw them out for 6 months. Appeal through the IBA. We are filling a need for the bylaws to mention IBA specifically. The plan was for experienced members to go directly to arbitration to hear the case from the start. There are people on the Anti Cheating Committee who do not like arbitration. If arbitration is good, then it will be as good as going to a court. Marty discussed the details of the paths to arbitration. Bronia Jenkins – Actively working on solutions to steps forward with EDGAR. David Sizemore D22 – has trained for the IBA.	Not Ratification Sense of AC: 28 Yes 7 No

	<p>Jay Apfelbaum wants to train for the IBA.</p> <p>Mike Cassel D14 – Under what circumstances would “an internal disciplinary process has not occurred.” – (Marty Hirschman) some cases simply go to arbitration. EOC and OEOC no longer have the power to give unlimited sentences. Anyone who the ED decides a larger penalty is warranted, they go to the IBA.</p> <p>Jason Fuhrman D? – More comfortable if the arbitration panel understands bridge. Prefers arbitration to courts for that insight.</p> <p>Jay Apfelbaum – We have a history of bridge expertise in the courts. Judges might or might not have technical knowledge of a subject, but they do require expert witnesses.</p> <p>Hugh McSheffrey – issue with awarding of costs and fees. Doesn’t specify that the pane can require reimbursement of other fees (like expert witnesses). Silent as well to if a charged party and uses an expert witness in front of the OEOC or EOC can they recover those costs.</p> <p>David Sizemore – extensive rules in place. Awards are chosen to avoid being overturned in court. Skill of the arbitrators match the skill of the case.</p> <p>Jason Furhman – Arbitrator has broad latitude in assigning awards of costs.</p> <p>Jay Apfelbaum – basic problem with the system is that it takes \$900 to initiate an arbitration. David Sizemore – League will pay the fee. Marty Hirschman – ACBL not going to pay. Doug Couchman – in cases without initial determination, the appellant bears to cost (U2500 MPs, >6 months).</p> <p>Link to IBA Training https://bridgearbitration.org/training/#wing</p> <p>Gordon Bower – Concern about the vote we are about to have. If we vote now, the BoD might ignore the concerns we raised.</p> <p>Mike Cassel – What are the concerns of those not in favor?</p>	
--	---	--

Steve Moese moved the meeting adjourn. Steve Gaynor seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Moese K082411
Vice Chair, Advisory Council

 JF Jason Fuhrman	 DM D20 Merle Stetser	 NL Nance Lodge District 22
 JE jeff edelstein	 DS D20, Samuel Asai	 PC Paul Cuneo Region 9
 JW joanne wicker d21 unit 550	 DB D25 Brenda Montague	 PG Phil Grella 242
 JS Jonathan Steinberg	 DL D4 Larry Sunser	 R1 region 10 shoemaker
 KM Kathie Macnab	 DL David Lodge Region 11 Director	 RS Roger Smith
 KM Ken Monzingo	 DS DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE	 RV Rosella Vanek D-14
 KR Kyle Rockoff	 DL Deana Liddy District 14	 SG Sabrina Goley
 KR Kyle Rockoff	 DR Debbie Romero D8	 SG Stu Goodgold
 LS Larry Sealy	 DennisCarman Region5Director	 SM susan miguel
 L Len Fettig D-15	 Dian Petrov	 TW Tim White R13D
 MH Margot Hennings--Region 4 Director	 GH Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994	 TS Tomi Storey D16
 ML Martha Leary	 G George Retek	 VS Vangie Smith
 MH Martin Hirschman	 GH Georgia Heth	 XJ XPresident Jay Whipple
 MC mike cassel D14	 GF Greg Frank	
 D16 Nancy Strohmmer	 JZ Jackie Zayac	

Chat log –

- 19:01:06 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:
No sound here
- 19:01:25 From D11 Steve Moese to Everyone:
If you are a voting member remember to put your District number (D##) in FRONT of your name. Thanks.
- 19:03:33 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:
Fixed
- 19:08:08 From susan miguel to D11 Steve Moese(Direct Message):
Good evening...
- 19:11:35 From D1 - Jean La Traverse to Everyone:
We will collectively make meaningful progress when we keep our governance LIGHT
- 19:17:53 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:
Hugh, excellent comment!
- 19:21:31 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:
Allan Falk should be invited to comment.
- 19:21:50 From mike cassel D14 to Everyone:
it would have been helpful, given Allan's extensive efforts, to have had him at this meeting
- 19:26:14 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:
Gordon, superb comment!
- 19:26:54 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:
Replying to "Gordon, superb comme..."

yes indeed

19:31:39 From Gary Hann - Chair 1991-1994 to Everyone:

I applaud the ED properly withholding comment.

19:54:25 From mike cassel D14 to Everyone:

<https://bridgearbitration.org/training/#wing>

20:00:53 From D12 Susan Bailey-Carman to Everyone:

please state what the proposed change is

20:02:06 From D19 Jeff Ford to Everyone:

If you thumbs up it will go away - you need to use hands

20:02:54 From D1 - Jean La Traverse to Everyone:

28/?

20:06:20 From Jay Apfelbaum D-4 to Everyone:

I would be in favor if any discipline was deferred pending the outcome of arbitration.

20:06:59 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

agree

20:12:47 From D19 Jeff Ford to Everyone:

Districts are already doing that.

20:13:29 From D20, Samuel Asai to Everyone:

D20 is also doing that.

20:22:32 From Tomi Storey D16 to Everyone:

excellent suggestion, Steve

20:25:08 From mike cassel D14 to Everyone:

I would appreciate seeing the historical distribution of grass roots funds. Certainly the pandemic decimated grass roots fund raising at the club level.

20:25:14 From D19 Jeff Ford to Everyone:

We aren't going to have good directors for an online regional if it's opposite the NABC.

20:25:56 From Len Fettig D-15 to Everyone:

Jeff Ford, good comment.

20:26:26 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

thanks mike very true-good point for discussion

20:27:32 From D12 Susan Bailey-Carman to Everyone:

agree with Marty

20:28:17 From Tomi Storey D16 to Everyone:

I do as well

20:28:18 From mike cassel D14 to Everyone:

Our district relied on Grass Roots Funds to support our GNT champions. This issue deserves closer attention with the goal of incentivizing, particularly the less experienced players, to participate in grass roots events.

20:29:03 From susan miguel to Everyone:

Regionals should be run by Districts not the league

20:29:28 From Tomi Storey D16 to Everyone:

Yes!!

20:29:59 From susan miguel to Everyone:

Quick money doesn't solve our problem, a long-term strategic plan to have more players in F2F seats does.

20:30:49 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

right susan we need younger players in those seats

20:31:28 From Phil G unit 242 to Everyone:

It seems to me that the only positive effect BBO has for the game was to allow players to boost master point levels (perhaps by not being most ethical) and has made it near impossible for clubs to exist with Face to Face bridge. Just eliminate all master point awards given on BBO.

20:32:49 From susan miguel to Everyone:

Not to mention, our volunteer base is a critical component to our long-term growth and online tournaments at the expense of units and districts threatens that

20:54:59 From D11 Steve Moese to Everyone:

I like the idea of monthly continually recurring fee reframed to \$4.99/month - sounds much more inviting than \$60 per year.

20:58:40 From Tomi Storey D16 to Everyone:

Agreed!

21:00:29 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

I would recommend a tiered increase over 3-5 years instead of 20% in light of our 5+% inflation we are now seeing- let us give them some choice instead- future research recommend

21:04:57 From Len Fettig D-15 to Everyone:

I favor increasing the Member Benefits before fee increases.

21:05:45 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

yes Len a little perk can make a big impression on newer people

21:08:05 From Len Fettig D-15 to Everyone:

A moratorium on masterpoint changes should be implemented.

21:08:42 From DAVID(D22) SIZEMORE to Everyone:

Thanks Kathie- appreciate your long experience