

Steve Moese (Vice Chair substituting for Doug Couchman) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM ET. He welcomed new members. The General AC Meeting will take place August 4th – Doug Couchman will be sending the invitation. (Attendance: 44-47 AC Members present from at least 13 Districts).

Steve reminded everyone to change their screen names to begin with the District Number (for making attendance easy to ascertain). Steve asked members to raise their hand to get attention from the chair. Steve also asked everyone to stay mute unless commenting on a topic, and to limit comments to two minutes to insure an orderly meeting. Steve asked everyone to offer constructive comments.

Steve reviewed the agenda limiting this meeting to input on motions from the Board of Directors and proposals from the AC Teachers and Club Managers Committee. Steve thanked Margot Hennings and the Board of Directors for getting their motions to us in a timely way.

Steve reminded the Advisory Council that Governance Committee Codification or Procedure changes are the purview of the Board of Directors, and that we should respect their right to govern themselves. Our comments should be limited to how governance changes affect the Advisory Council.

BOARD MOTIONS

Lee Lin D24 asked if the motions were in final form – Steve mentioned that what we have are a final draft appropriate for our input.

Motion 242-AC01 – Report on Hearings – No Comment

Motion 242-AC02 - Update of Recorder Regulations (Appendix details not provided). No comment.

Motion 242-BR01 – Redefinition of Limited Regionals

Lee Lin D24 – These come from the Bridge committee. Can we ask for changes?

Steve: We will read the motion as written then ask Dennis Carman if there are any changes pending.

Dennis Carman – the motion is as written.

Motion 242-BR02 & BR03 – Changes to NAP and GNT Flights

Jason Furman D3 – Why not make the nomenclature between the same flights the same name?

Peter Boyd Bowman D7 – Against the motion as proposed. Seems like inflation like happened with Masterpoints. What data is behind the proposal? Moving 2500 to 3500 is too big a step.

Susan Miguel D25 – Call the flights the same between the NAP and GNT. Lowest flight needs to keep the NLM restriction to attract the newest players.

Steve Moese: This 750 MP limit matches with Gold Rush.

Susan Miguel D25: Gold Rush attendance is dwindling – masterpoint inflation has gotten people too high beyond their true ability. Newbies will not be attracted to an event playing against Life Masters.

Lee Lin D24 – supports fourth flight in GNT. Confusing asymmetry in today's model. Not every District has enough players to field teams. The new flight 0-6000 is more likely to attract more teams back to the event. On the NLM issue. It's really a pain to explain what NLM or under 500 really means every year. District 24 had top two teams in NLM last year, and were not close to LM status. Folks are not likely to be intimidated.

Brett Kunin D3: Agree increasing the MP limits. Important however to maintain the NLM flight. We aren't worried about who will win we want people to play in the events.

Martin Hirschman D12 – No problem with increasing the MP limits. Fits with MP inflation. The NLM limit gets in the way when one partner is a LM and the other isn't.

Peter Boyd Bowman D7 – this will cost \$75K extra for expense play cost for running the event. Symmetry isn't important because there is a vast difference between pairs and teams. In pairs journeyman pairs on a good day can qualify. Teams won't do this. We don't need to cater to the 0-6000 MP players.

Jeff Bayone D24 – Top teams in NY of the they rate to win National Events. That discourages everyone else from entering the Championship flight. In favor of raising the 2500 to 3500. Rather have the new 750 limit be 500 with no restriction on LM.

Motion BR04 – Masterpoints for concurrent club games. (Masterpoint Committee)

Susan Miguel D25 – Violently opposed to eliminating concurrent games online for F2F games. There are F2F games that run F2F open and online limited games simultaneously.

Motion BR05 - 75 Mile Radius Restriction on Special Games in Clubs

Jason Furman D3 – Why is it limited to Sectionals and Regionals – Should we include NLM Regionals?

Lee Lin D24 – 75 miles is not the same in all parts of the country. – propose 75 miles and under 90 minutes of typical driving

Bronia Jenkins ED – a friendly amendment is coming to make it 45 miles or one hour. Distance is not the best variable, but it's the only practical one for these decisions. We have to be reasonable in applying this criterion.

Steve Moese - - Whatever metric we choose needs to be easily doable.

Peter Boyd Bowman D7 – I have 35 tables a week. My club bill to ACBL to the ACBL this month was about \$750. I sell good times and masterpoints. 75 miles means 12 Fridays lost per year. You are taking away my key appeal because tournaments I can't control are nearby. We close the club if the tournament is nearby. An arbitrary metric doesn't help when distances have not the same meaning across the country.

Steve Gaynor D14 – It's not the distance but the people halfway between that matters.

Martin Hirschman D12 – How can Peter run so many special games?

Peter Boyd Bowman D7 – I have many special games I can choose from.

Jeff Bayone D24 - Is that Upgraded Club Championships?

Peter Boyd Bowman D7 – Send me your email and I can send a schedule for the whole year.

Tomi Storey D16 – Mileage is different in different places. Ranch in Dallas the size of Rhode Island, we are not talking about the same impact that distance creates.

Susan Miguel D25 – Assuming this rule is to control miscreant clubs. No way to legislate bad behavior away. They will figure out another way to skirt the regulations. Wish for a code of conduct for clubs or some other enforceable way that encourages people to play bridge when they want to play, where they want to play, and how they want to play.

Gary Waldron D22 – Used to be sectionals were on Saturday and Sunday. They are moving back in the week. In southern California, 25 miles can take an hour, and 75 miles is like being on the other side of the moon – you are not going to get there from here. The amendment makes

Henry Robin D15 – Pick a number for the distance. Why not let the tournament allow clubs to run the games they want?

Jeff Bayone D24 – Trying to understand the concept. If I want to run a club championship (1.5x-2x) how is this going to draw people away from a Sectional at a nearby location? I don't buy the premise at all. The people going to a sectional are going and I cannot get them back. I save my special games for times when I know the players want to play at my club. Running a club championship will not draw people away from a sectional. Sectional players want to play competitively. Don't need restrictions. Take the 25 miles off too. It doesn't matter.

Steve Moese reminded the meeting that the following Governance Committee motions should be reacted to in terms of their impact on the Advisory Council.

Motion 242-GV01 Regional Director Elections When No Declared Candidates

Jason Furman D3 – Why will the incumbent want to stay on for another year if they decided to leave?

Steve Moese – mentioned that the term limitation ought to take precedence and disallow any extension past that limit.

Bob Heller Past President – Don't understand why we need this. The Board doesn't represent the Region, they represent the ACBL. That's why the AC exists we communicate the Why would we want someone who has no interest?

Hugh McSheffrey D19 – We don't want this to be a popularity contest or a way to eliminate unliked board members. Just let the position stay vacant for a year.

Martin Hirschman D12 - Now that we have a smaller Board, they are to run the ACBL. They might need an additional person to do the work. We need a mechanism to fill the vacancy.

Steve Moese - Since registration closes in May and elections are in November, there is an opportunity for the Election Manager to poll the affected District Presidents for nominees.

Tomi Storey D16 – Is this a common occurrence? I am horrified that people wouldn't care enough to step up and help run the ACBL.

Jason Furman D3 – With a smaller board this is less likely to be a problem. It's not for the District Boards to put forward a candidate. It's the Unit Boards who should put forward the candidate.

Brett Kunin D3 – This fails the logic test. If someone resigns, a District board should be able to nominate someone.

Motion 242 GV02 – Board Oversight Committee Members – No Comments

Motion 242 GV03 – Changes to the Role for the Board Executive Committee – No Comments

Motion 242 GV04 – Revised Board Meeting Procedures

Ann Romeo D19 – Is it common that the President has to approve everyone who attends Board Meetings?

Margot Hennings President – if you had a reason to come in and talk to the Board its to make sure the space can handle the attendance and the agenda can be set ahead of time.

Motion 242 GV05 - Policy Regarding Official ACBL Publications

Motion 242 GV06 – Board Social Media Policy

Jason Furman D3 – What is the MIM?

Margot Hennings President – stands for Meetings In Motion – an acronym for a tool used by the Board of Directors to manage documents for a meeting. In the future we will call it the Electronic Document Repository

Motion 242 GV07 – Removal of the Education Foundation Bylaws from the Codification. No Comment

ADVISORY COUNCIL TEACHER AND CLUB MANAGERS COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

Steve Gaynor D14 –

Upgraded Club Championships for the clubs that recruit new members. Need to consider more reward for higher performers to give clubs more incentive to recruit. Put our money where it works well

Jeff Bayone D24 – A club Manager receives a \$10 bonus for each member created. We get 1 UCC for every 10 new members. Clubs already can run UCCs on a regular basis. Maybe it made sense back in the 60's when thousands were joining. A club runs 250 games a year. One club championship for 250 sessions is peanuts. People play in person because of the social benefit. The ACBL used to say that clubs are the lifeblood of the organization. They should say that in-person clubs are the lifeblood. Reward the clubs with something more commensurate with the effort they expend. One bonus for three new members is about right.

Hugh McSheffrey D – If a club can recruit new members, the benefit should go to the new players. Why not add special games for the 0-20 or 0-50 crowd. All players benefit when they play simultaneously with open games.

Martin Hirschman D12 – How can clubs run so many special games?

Bronia Jenkins Executive Director – If clubs are astute and doing enough recruiting, its possible. Can't run 15 UCCs in one year without substantial recruiting. Reasonable to lower the 10 new members to say 4 to try to get people excited about recruiting progress. Free Guest Membership will have longer times to convert at \$29. The real goal is to get them to convert at full dues. There are a lot of clubs breaking the rules. We are levying fines. If you put in a game that's not right, we tell you to change it. If you don't, we change it ourselves and fine you. We are building tools so that our Clubs Department will see when people are doing the wrong thing.

We Ask the Board of Directors and Management to provide useful feedback on motions and proposals presented by the Advisory Council. We need your objective actionable feedback. We have a lot of bridge experience that we offer to you. Don't reject our ideas summarily, educate us.

Steve Moese – The ask is simple – please respond to our proposals and our motions with sufficient details so we understand why your decision was made. Please give that information to the Advisory Council Chair and they will report it to all of us.

425 Mile Rule – we don't like that the original sanction holder can veto an application. We should look at who is playing and how many people are playing. Mentioned the Champaign regional and the Minneapolis Regional – there was minor loss but a big win for players in both cities. People will tell you with their feet where they want to play.

Bronia Jenkins Executive Director – Clear up this question – the rule triggers a discussion. Could be based on the heat map. Can't have no rule – can't have a complete free for all. We need guidelines. Years ago; this number was 500 miles.

Steve Moese – mentioned that Jay Whipple fast results e-bulletins provide maps showing where people attending your tournament come from. It would be fair to ask the two parties to provide this data as part of the decision discussion.

Susan Miguel D25 – D25 was the genesis of this 425-mile rule. The rule triggered no conversation and found no agreement. We need not to schedule our tournament opposite a neighbor unless there is an exceptional circumstance. If the original sanction holder doesn't want to be reasonable, you're stuck.

Jason Furman D3 – Im in the northeast where we have this mileage problem. We don't deliberately schedule events on top of each other. The local tournaments aren't affecting each other's attendance. Dialogs between Unit and Districts have to be realistic (data based) and I haven't seen hat in my experience.

Jeff Bayone D24 – A major problem in booking a Regional is cost. The best times we can afford is very limited. We used to run two per year – Memorial Day weekend and Christmas Year End. That said> What if that conflicts with another regional miles away. We need a mechanism for solving the problem when it does arise. Toronto is 300 and some odd miles from NYC. Its another country. If they can stop my tournament because they have precedence, I want management to step in.

Bronia Jenkins Executive Director – We've had several cases where we have been able to reach reasonable agreements. We want to create a reasonable conversation among reasonable people. It's hard to tell if people playing one week at a tournament are affecting the attendance at a nearby tournament the following week.

Steve Moese – Considering the case where two districts are involved, ought we have an appeal process when one tournament blocks another from happening? (Board of Directors, Management, IBA).

Bob Heller Past President – I've served for 9 years when regionals were much larger. We had 3 conflicts where an appeals committee met. 30 minutes and they were done. This was not broken. Check the codification between 2010 to 2020. No one flies a crow to a tournament anyway. We used to require three years in advance for sanctioning.

Ann Rome0 D19 – I would love to schedule our tournament 3 years in advance. We choose dates then try to find a space. We cannot in the current environment schedule even 6 months in advance. We need to charge more for our entries. Even 1 year in advance is impossible right now.

Jeff Bayone D24 – What can we learn from the D25 Case where the tournament was denied? What is the process going forward if a sanction is denied.

Jeff Bayone D24 – Online Bulletin Ads. What's the percentage of people getting Bulletins online?

Bronia Jenkins Executive Director– Guest members get online Bulletins. All members access online.

Jeff Bayone D24 – GNYBA Meeting discussed Advertising costs. We chose one ad because of the \$850 expense. That expense is due to the cost of printing. The GNYBA proposed that there be an online bulletin section only with ads from Districts Units Teachers and Clubs. Make these online ads available for a nominal fee.

Jason Furman D3 – I read the Bulletin cover to cover. How many people are going to read an addendum for ads? I don't think this will work. We are required to have print ads for our tournaments. I am not sure what this will do for attendance.

Steve Moese – This is a testable proposition.

Ann Romeo D19 – I run an ad once per year digitally that costs \$800. Why not create a site on ACBL.org where we can post our flyers?

Steve Moese – The ACBL Tournament Calendar does that.

Ann Romeo D19 – I want something with fewer clicks. I want the flyer up front.

Steve Moese tabled any conversation on the Online Silver Point Games – Bronia will propose changes for next year. Perhaps we'll have an update by our August Meeting.

Steve Moese asked all Advisory Council Members to use the [BRIDGE WINNERS ACBL ADVISORY COUNCIL FORUM](#) for constructive discussions and idea building between meetings. Steve has updated the members of the forum, and added the current Board Members and Bronia Jenkins to allow for constructive dialog and clarifications as appropriate. Board Members do not answer to the Advisory Council. Together we engage us in constructive dialog - a real two-way conversation aimed at improving the bridge experience for everyone and enabling better decisions. Advisory Council Members must be members of Bridge Winners to access the ACBL Advisory Council Forum. Membership on [BRIDGE WINNERS](#) is free. We expect collegiality at all times and will not allow this resource to turn into a complaint forum. Steve Moese and Doug Couchman control access and content.

With no further business at hand, Steve Gaynor motioned to adjourn (Tomi Storey seconded). Steve Moese adjourned the meeting at 8:34 PM

Submitted Respectfully,
Steve Moese K082411
Vice Chair, Advisory Council

[ACBL BOARD REPORTS LIBRARY](#) [ADVISORY COUNCIL TEACHERS AND CLUB MANAGERS COMMITTEE](#)

APPENDIX – ATTENDANCE TABLE (7 PM)

CHAT RECORD

- 19:18:19 From D25 Susan Miguel : It's not the competition. It's a marketing thing.
- 19:18:52 From D25 Susan Miguel : He was correct in reengaging B+ people
- 19:22:42 From D25 Susan Miguel : It's the 2501 player that needs re-engaging
- 19:24:18 From D7 - Peter J B-B : Then we need to engage them in a manner that promotes sportsmanship.
- 19:24:30 From D7 - Peter J B-B : There is honor in playing well in a large field where you are not the best player.
- 19:24:59 From D7 - Peter J B-B : I don't think we need to continue to build a sense of entitlement where players feel there's always a field they can play in where they avoid the best.
- 19:26:23 From D15 Phil Clayton : Reacted to "I don't think we nee..." with 👍
- 19:26:40 From David D22 REP Sizemore : Reacted to "I don't think we nee..." with 👍
- 19:28:54 From D3, Brett Kunin, Prez, U140, : I agree with raising the limit from 25 miles. Bronia's suggestion of 45 mi. Makes sense to me.
- 19:32:34 From bronia jenkins : Award masterpoints....
- 19:32:40 From D24 - Lee Lin : Charity, grass roots, education fund, etc etc
- 19:33:05 From D25 Susan Miguel to D11 Steve Moese(Direct Message) : Man my hands been up since last question

19:35:48 From D14 Steven Gaynor - Minnesota : I agree that the F2F games should continue to receive credit for concurrent online games run by the same club.

19:36:07 From D7 - Peter J B-B : That's horsecrap.

19:36:08 From Ann Romeo : duncan vs rancho mirage.....open when the regional is on sad

19:36:11 From D11 Steve Moese to D25 Susan Miguel(Direct Message) : apologies!

19:36:13 From D7 - Peter J B-B : The two are separate

19:36:29 From D7 - Peter J B-B : And the club you're talking about are probably already stealing their table count from outside their area.

19:36:35 From D7 - Peter J B-B : *clubs

19:37:53 From D7 - Peter J B-B : agreed

19:38:25 From D25 Susan Miguel : Missing the point. They are legislating what happens at a club with this motion

19:39:00 From D7 - Peter J B-B : No they're not. They're saying that a face to face club is a different entity than an online club.

19:39:02 From D25 Susan Miguel : BRAVO!

19:44:03 From D19 Ann Romeo : because you need to have regional representation, if not then why have district reps at all

19:55:11 From D19 Ann Romeo : i have a question on the junior \$5.....not discussed

19:56:32 From D15 Phil Clayton : Reacted to "i h?ave a qu on the ..." with 👍

19:57:13 From D19 Ann Romeo : misspelling on p24: in contenenent not incontentent

20:00:34 From D11 Steve Moese : You can all see the work product from the AC Teachers and Club Managers Committee here: <https://www.district11bridge.com/BoG/2017BoGTCODocs.html>

20:01:29 From D7 - Peter J B-B : Reacted to "misspelling on p24: ..." with 😄

20:01:41 From D11 Steve Moese : If you want to see the proposals from the T&CM Committee see this: <https://tinyurl.com/zzhudjnp>

20:01:53 From D7 - Peter J B-B : Replying to "misspelling on p24: ..." Different. Similar maybe? But different.

20:05:30 From D19 Ann Romeo : Joe Grill, at 13 Top Tricks can give lots of advice on how to offer special games every week (often every day) in a month.

20:05:51 From D25 Susan Miguel : It's not just CCs

20:06:04 From D25 Susan Miguel : You an run all kinds of games depending on the month

20:06:17 From D25 Susan Miguel : Charity, Education, Fund Etc....

20:06:45 From bronja jenkins : Reacted to "You an run all kinds..." with 👍

20:06:56 From D25 Susan Miguel : NAPs, Unit games, etc...

20:08:07 From D25 Susan Miguel : Let's just let people play where they want!!

20:08:34 From D25 Susan Miguel : No one schedules things on duplicate days unless it's necessary

20:11:46 From D11 Steve Moese : Reacted to "Let's just let peopl..." with 👍

20:15:40 From David D22 REP Sizemore : The reason I place my District number between my first and last name is so these chats show my initials, as you see here DS isn't me its Susan Miguel:)

20:15:54 From D19 Ann Romeo : forget hotels in our area (Seattle) we can't book at all in hotels. bigger issue for us is sectionals; one up north, one down south in d19. or one in Victoria vs Vancouver--they don't have the same audience even though they are right next to each other. I think we all have this problem.

20:16:23 From David D22 REP Sizemore : and it still doesn't always work correctly as it has in the past, worth a thought...

20:16:34 From D3 AC Jason Fuhrman : I agree with Jeff. We have the same issues.

20:19:43 From D25 Susan Miguel : BRAVO!

20:19:59 From D25 Susan Miguel : We keep making mountains out of mole hills

20:20:19 From D25 Susan Miguel : If you need to provide site, no one can do that now

20:20:41 From D19 Hugh McSheffrey to D11 Steve Moese(Direct Message) : Steve: You have run a very efficient meeting. Thank you for your efforts.
20:20:42 From D25 Susan Miguel : Thanks the truth in post-covid world
20:21:56 From D25 Susan Miguel : You don't want to know
20:29:43 From D3, Brett Kunin, Prez, U140, to D11 Steve Moese(Direct Message) : Thanks, Steve, great job moving the meeting along!

DRAFT