

**Motions and Discussion Items for the
July 13, 2025
Advisory Council Meeting
(For discussion at this meeting and available as of July 6,
2025)**

1. **DI252-BD01:** Removal by Competition and Conventions Committee of Requirement for Written Defense to Multi-2D
2. **252-BR01:** Regional Tournament Codification Cleanup
3. **DI252-BR01:** Rank Advancement
4. **DI252-BR02:** Titanium Points
5. **DI252-BR03:** Management Experiment for Fall 2028 NABC
6. **DI252-BR04:** Online Events for FTF Regionals
7. **DI252-BR05:** Tournament Topics from Memphis Task Force Conversation
8. **DI252-BR06:** Clarifying Major versus Minor Changes
9. **252-FN01:** Exchange Rate Policy
10. **252-GV05:** Streamlining the ACBL Board and Advisory Council Election Process
11. **DI252-GV03:** WBF Executive Council Representative
12. **252-HF01:** Hall of Fame Events
13. **252-HF02:** Hall of Fame Electors
14. **252-HF03:** Hall of Fame Election Procedures

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-BD01: REMOVAL BY COMPETITION AND CONVENTIONS COMMITTEE OF REQUIREMENT FOR WRITTEN DEFENSE TO MULTI-2D

Date: June 6, 2025

Submitted by: Margot Hennings on behalf of Mark Aquino, Barbara Heller, Jeff Overby, and Larry Sealy

Coordinated with: Jeff Ford, Chair of Competition and Convention Committee

Purpose: To discuss C&C's decision to remove the requirement to provide a written defense to Multi-2D for all 6+-board events as a Minor Change in their May 11, 2025 Notice to the Board of Minor Changes. *[Original notice sent to the Board with relevant rationale only for removing requirement to provide a written defense to Multi is included at the end of this Discussion Item]*

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

Inasmuch as Multi is allowed to be played at the Regional level (at an NABC or at a Regional) in any 6-board event or greater, the written defense should be made available by those players playing Multi. This needs to be done at the beginning of the event and the opponents given time to discuss which of the defenses they plan to use and to question the players using Multi as to their meaning.

At National level events, if written defenses are no longer required to be presented at the table by those playing Multi, ACBL should produce and provide written copies of the defenses (Simple and Complex, that were required for many years) that are available for event participants to pick up for their use when entering the event.

Input from C&C Chair:

“I think that there is a natural progression for methods that are unusual. At first, things are so out there that we don't allow them at all. Then at some point we allow them in top level events, with written defenses allowed because of their unfamiliarity. But the next step after players are familiar with them is to remove the written defenses. They have been the compromise we use to allow new methods, but ultimately they slow down the game and give rise to other issues (e.g., there is UI if I just pass vs. if I carefully read the defense then pass).

In my opinion, Multi has reached the familiarity point where it's time for that next step of removing the written defense. We have ample evidence from it being played in other places that even club level players can handle it once it is just a normal part of the game. I also think that when we provide written defenses we spend a lot of time on "what is the perfect defense if you didn't have to remember it" and give players that, and then that leads to an attitude that it's hard to play against because you would have to remember that perfect defense when in practice you would just play something simpler.”

Timeframe: N/A

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Assignment of Action Item:

Recommendations for change or no change to current policy (requirement to provide written defenses to Multi wherever it is allowed) to be identified during Summer meeting of the ACBL Board of Directors in Philadelphia.

Board decision—leave requirement for written defense to Multi in place in all events where Multi is allowed/only for Regional-level events; allow there to be no written defense to Multi presented at the table in all events where Multi is allowed/only at National-level events; wherever there is no requirement for written defenses, require ACBL to provide copies of defenses at those events; other—to be communicated to C&C through Board C&C Liaisons (Voting Committee Members Carman and Sealy). to take Board recommendations back to C&C. and presented to C&C at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Original Notice of Minor Changes

Submitted by: Competition and Conventions Committee

Date: 05/11/25

The Competition and Conventions Committee hereby provides the ACBL Board of Directors with notice, pursuant to Codification Chapter IV—Board Procedures, D.

Committees, § 5.3.1, of a change to competition and conventions policies or procedures.

This change is a:

- Minor change — The change will be effective on the date listed below (not less than 30 days from the date of this notice) unless the Board of Directors takes action before that date.
- Major change — The Committee seeks approval from the Board of Directors to make the change, which will not be effective unless the Board grants such approval.

Regulations Affected:

- Alert procedures
- Convention Chart usage
- Allowable defenses
- Other _____

Purpose: To address existing inconsistencies across event Conditions and to align alerts and conventional treatments with what is being done by other bridge organizations

General Description: Miscellaneous changes to alert procedures and allowable defenses based on March 26, 2025.

Details:

1. Defined Multi 2D and removed the written defense requirement for Multi 2D.
 - a. A definition of Multi 2D was added to the convention charts along with the sentence "However no written defense is required for a Multi 2D Opening" to the section on written defenses. There are no changes to when Multi can be played or to the requirements for certain other complicated methods to provide written defenses.
 - b. No one at the meeting was in favor of keeping the written defense. Some were in favor of removing all written defenses, but that did not pass. It is the belief of the committee that the written defense is causing more problems than it solves, particularly with Multi now being legal in Platinum Pairs and Reisinger where consulting written defenses both slows the game and causes UI problems. Both the WBF and the USBF have recently made the same change.

MOTION

252-BR01: REGIONAL TOURNAMENT CODIFICATION CLEANUP

Date: June 27, 2025

Submitted by: Joann Glasson

Coordinated with: Bridge Committee

Purpose: To clean up incorrect, old and unnecessary language

x	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
	Requires Action Item
	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes:

Moved that:

Chapter IX – Regionals be updated:

Chapter IX - Regionals

A. Regional Tournament Sanctioning and Scheduling

Section 1 - Regional Tournament Allocation

1. Regionals are allocated to ACBL Districts. A District may conduct its Regionals or allocate them to Units within the District. Additionally, the WBF, the MBF and the CBF may be awarded a Regional according to subsection 1.8 below.
2. Each District is allocated four annual **Open** Regionals ~~which may be Open or Senior~~. Each District is permitted to split one Open/~~Senior~~ Regional. In addition, a District is allocated five limited Regionals. A District may also schedule one of the following per year:
 - a. Junior Regional

b. Youth Regional

c. Collegiate Regional

3. Upon request and verification, a District with 9,000 to 12,000 ACBL members is allowed one additional Regional each year; a District with 12,000 ~~or more to 15,000~~ members is allowed two additional Regionals each year; ~~a District with 15,000 to 18,000 members is allowed three additional Regionals each year, and a District with 18,000 or more members is allowed four additional Regionals each year.~~ Membership qualifications for such additional Regionals will be based on a calendar year's average of the four Quarterly Unit Information Package (QUIP) Reports of 3/31, 6/30, 9/30, 12/31. A District earning a qualification based on its QUIP Reports may schedule the additional Regional(s) two years after the qualifying year.
4. Any annual Regional held at, or near, the same site that reaches 2,000 tables in three out of four consecutive years will not count against the district's base allocation. This tournament must remain in the same locality unless there are extraordinary circumstances verified by ACBL management. An additional Regional earned by consecutive table counts higher than 2,000 may be held in the year immediately following the qualification.
5. If a District fails to maintain the requirements for an additional Regional (either by a drop in its total membership or by the failure to remain a 2,000+-table tournament), the District will be entitled to keep its additional Regional(s) for two years. If, within that two-year period, the District again meets the requirements, the additional Regional(s) may continue to be scheduled without interruption.
6. The following offshore and special Regionals are allocated:
 - Alaska - District 19;
 - Bermuda - District 2;
 - Hawaii - District 20;
 - Mexico (2) - District 16.
7. No District may be awarded more than 11 Regionals in a calendar year under the above allocation formula.
8. The following Regionals are not allocated to any specific District:
 - 1.8.1 A World Bridge Federation Regional when a WBF championship is held in Zone 2. Such Regionals are to be held at the site where the WBF

championship is being held. A Regional running concurrently with a WBF Championship may be of a length equal to the WBF Championship.

1.8.2 An annual Regional is awarded each year to the MBF and the CBF for the purpose of supporting teams representing Mexico and Canada in international competition. Depending on the location, the affected District and the MBF or CBF must agree on the specifics (e.g. date, schedule and fund-sharing). The normal conflict rules shall apply to the scheduling of the tournament.

1.9 The Regional Tournament Allocation Plan will be reviewed at least every five years.

Section 2 - Regional Tournament Scheduling

2.1 The minimum/maximum number of days a Regional may be held is as follows:

a. Open Regional ~~or Senior Regional~~ – minimum of three days; maximum of seven days.

b. Youth, Junior and masterpoint-limited Regional - minimum of two days; maximum of seven days.

~~c. Individual Regional – maximum of two and one-half days. In addition, a one session Charity Game or Fund Game may be held the afternoon of the first day.~~

~~c.~~ d. Collegiate Regional – minimum of one and one-half days.

2.2 ACBL Regional tournaments will not be sanctioned to run concurrently with any portion of a NABC.

2.3 A Regional restricted by ~~age or~~ masterpoints may run an open Sectional tournament concurrently with the Regional with the permission of the Unit in which the Regional is being held. An Open Regional ~~or Individual Regional~~ may not run a Sectional in conjunction with the Regional.

2.4 A District may move a Regional from the calendar year in which it hosts an NABC to any of the three prior years or any of the three succeeding years, provided the Regional meets all requirements under “Regional Tournament

Sanctioning” below. This regulation extends to include Acts of God or hotels canceling contracts.

2.5 A District may, with permission from the contiguous District, hold a Regional in a contiguous District.

~~2.6 Senior Regionals may hold open side games or an Open Sectional.~~

~~2.7 A 199er Regional may be held in conjunction with a Senior Regional:~~

2.8 A NAP District Final, a GNT District Final or the CNTC may be run concurrently with a Regional or Sectional. If they are run concurrently with a Sectional, the District must have permission from the sponsoring Unit. Such events must also conform to the scheduling restrictions of their respective conditions of contest.

Chapter IX - Regionals

B. Finances

Section 1 - Sanction and Other Fees

1. Sponsoring organizations are required to pay all funds due to the ACBL at the conclusion of the tournament.
2. The sanction fee for **Non-Life Master** ~~199er~~ Regionals will be **set by management.** ~~the same rate as the sanction fee for Open Sectionals.~~
3. There will be no sanction fees for Junior/Youth Regionals or Junior/Youth Sectionals. Sanction fees do apply to Junior events at Open Regionals or Sectionals.
4. The sanction fee will be waived for Sectional and Regional tournament events which are designed to introduce new players to tournaments, and which do not charge entry fees.
5. Each Regional will be allocated one sanction-free midnight game held to subsidize District GNT competitions. Regionals held in Canada, Mexico or Bermuda, shall be allocated one sanction-free midnight game held to benefit the zonal or national team competition.

6. No sanction fees will be charged for free fill-ins.
7. The minimum monetary contributions for Fund Games, Foundation Games or Charity Games held at a Regional is \$7.00 per table, per session.
8. All sanction fees, per session sponsor fees and other tournament fees are subject to annual review by the Board of Directors as part of the budgeting process and are posted on the ACBL website under Prices and Fees.

Section 2 - Non-Dues Paying Players' Surcharge

1. All participants in any ACBL-sanctioned Regional tournament are required to have a valid ACBL member number (even if inactive).
2. Except for charity events, events limited to players with fewer than 20 masterpoints, and active members of the American Bridge Association:
 - a. For all Regionals, the sponsoring organization will charge a mandatory additional fee for inactive members. This fee will be determined by ACBL management. For tournaments that are hosted in Canada, this fee will be collected in Canadian dollars.
 - b. It is suggested that the sale signage present this as a discount to members.
 - c. The additional fee shall be remitted to the ACBL. Fees collected in Canadian dollars will have that amount converted to US dollars before being remitted.

Chapter IX - Regionals

C. Events

Section 1 - General

1. At least one two-session event must be scheduled for **Non-Life Master** ~~199er~~ Regional tournaments which are three days or longer in duration. All championship events may be single session for **Non-Life Master** ~~199er~~ Regional tournaments which are two days in duration.

2. All single-session events, except Side Series Pairs, Pro-Am Events or any event restricted to Non-Life Masters on the first day of a full seven-day Regional, must be Charity Games. The first single-session event must be run for the benefit of the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the ACBL Junior Fund, the International Fund, the Grass Roots Fund, or the Canadian equivalent of these. Subsequent single-session events on the first day of a full seven-day Regional must be run for the benefit of one of the above funds or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.
3. A Regional may run two-session gold point events on the first day of a full seven day Regional tournament. In addition, a Regional may schedule the first two sessions of a knockout event on the first day of the tournament. The first session of all these two-session, gold point events must be run for the benefit of the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the ACBL Junior Fund, the International Fund, the Grass Roots Fund or the Canadian equivalent of these. The second session may be run for the benefit of one of the above-listed funds or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.
- 1.4 For all Regionals other than full seven-day tournaments, the sponsor may choose to hold a Charity Game on any day. The first game held for charity must be run for the benefit of the ACBL Charity Foundation, the ACBL Educational Foundation, the ACBL Junior Fund, the International Fund, the Grass Roots Fund or the Canadian equivalent of these. Any subsequent Charity Game(s) may be run for the benefit of one of the above listed funds or an approved charity selected by the sponsor.
- 1.5 Exclusive of Knockout Teams and Side Game Series events, a Regional may schedule up to four gold point sessions per day. For purposes of this regulation overlapping schedules are deemed to be the same two sessions since participation in one of the events precludes entry into the other. For example, 10 a.m./3 p.m. and 1 p.m./7:30 p.m. ACBL management may, with cause, disallow more than two gold point sessions per day.
- 1.6 Only events scheduled for two or more sessions at Regionals may award gold points.

~~Section 2 - Senior Events~~

~~Senior events may be held with minimum age restrictions of 64 as of January 1, 2024 and 65 as of January 1, 2025. Such events may be stratified by masterpoints. The masterpoint awards will be 80%.~~

Section 2 ~~3~~ - Knockout Events

1. A sponsoring organization may run a knockout event at Regionals, handicapping all teams.
2. At the option of the sponsor, if fewer sessions are required than were originally scheduled, finals of knockout matches may be played at a time agreed upon by all parties. The entire match must be finished prior to the conclusion of the tournament. When this option is exercised, the two teams may enter any new event.
3. Whenever there are fewer than eight Flight A teams, volunteers may be solicited from the Flight B event to bring Flight A event up to eight teams. All teams in that flight will be assigned a handicap in IMPs. Pairings shall be by random draw.
4. In a flighted Regional Knockout team event, where one or more Flight B teams volunteer to play in Flight A to constitute an eight-team event, and thereby cause random pairings and handicapping of teams, the following method will be used to determine a team's handicap:
 - a. Each team's average masterpoint holding (counting all team members) will be subtracted from 1500. Teams with an average masterpoint holding of 1500 or greater receive a zero handicap.
 - b. Any remainder obtained in subsection (a) is divided by 1000.
 - c. The quotient arrived at in subsection (b) is multiplied by the number of boards in the match and rounded to the nearest whole number to determine the team's handicap.
 - d. If two competing teams have an average of less than 1500 masterpoints, the handicap for the team with the higher average is deducted from the handicap for the team with the lower average. The difference is the lower team's net handicap for the match.
- 3.5 In Regional-rated KO events, teams shall be required to win two matches, not including Byes, to receive overall masterpoint awards.

- 3.6 No regional Knockout will be sanctioned unless the type of Knockout to be held is specified and all sessions have a specifically stated starting time. (TBA is not acceptable).
- a. Flighted. One or more flights may be bracketed by design or as necessary, but the intent to bracket must be stated in the schedule.
 - b. Bracketed. Bracketed with random draw matches or as a seeded event.
 - c. Open or Women's. These may be bracketed, as necessary, but that possibility must be stated in the schedule.
 - d. Handicapped.
- 3.7 Regional Knockouts of three sessions in length may be scheduled. The overall masterpoints will be reduced by a factor of 30%. When there are at least four scheduled sessions, attendance may dictate less than four sessions in some cases, such as a Flight A with only eight teams entering. The intent of this regulation is to not allow 32 teams to be divided into four groups of eight to finish in three sessions
- 3.8 Sponsoring organizations may choose to seed the event, randomly draw the teams into seed positions, or randomly draw the matches each round with or without stipulations on repeats. It is recommended that when an event contains two sessions of round robin play, teams who have met previously in round robins not be allowed to meet again in a second round robin. Note: For four session events, this applies only to brackets of 9, 10 or 11 teams.
- a. Strat C - Amateur/Amateur - Points awarded on number of pairs in Strat C with appropriate M value for the masterpoint limit of event.

Effective Date: 8/1/2025

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

After the recent regional review, it was discovered that there were some items remaining in the Codification that were no longer relevant. The purpose of this motion is to remove them and to clarify language.

There are no substantive changes.

Removed references to Senior and Individual Regionals and Senior Events, all of which no longer exist.

Removed 15,000 to 18,000 district members since no district has that many members.

Changed all references to I/N or 199er Regionals to Non-Life Master Regionals, the current terminology used for these events.

DISCUSSION ITEM
DI252-BR01: RANK ADVANCEMENT

Date: June 30, 2025

Submitted by: Barbara Heller on behalf of the Task Force for Rewarding Members through Rank Advancement

Coordinated with: Jenkins and Kerr

Purpose: To encourage new and lower-ranking members to maintain their membership and to progress through the ranks.

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
X	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

The American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) recognizes the importance of rewarding members as they progress through their bridge journey. By implementing a structured rewards system tied to rank achievements, we can enhance member engagement, retention, and participation in competitive bridge.

The proposed ACBL Ranking Rewards Program is designed to celebrate players' accomplishments at key milestones, offering exclusive incentives such as free entries, merchandise, and special events.

The Task Force created to develop this program met to discuss the options available to us for inspiring players of all ranks to continue their progress. The attached presentation, *Incentivizing Ranks*, in Column D for this DI provides detail on many of the ideas that were discussed and the progress made. Marketing the ACBL ties hand-in-hand with the options that were identified.

Questions for the Board:

1. What items do *you* think a member would wish to have to recognize the ranks of achievement?
2. Does a Merchandising Catalog promoting membership advancement and personalization appear to be a way to encourage membership?
3. Would Sapphire rewards be logical to extend to the lower ranks to promote education and bridge progression?
4. Do rank incentives have any value at the NABC level?

Please see other supporting presentations on the MIM for the ED presentation (Sapphire Rewards) and for DI252-BR04 (Titanium Points).

Timeframe: Completion before summer 2026

Estimated Cost/Savings: No monies will be saved but it is unclear as to what the proposed budget would be.

Assignment of Action Item:

Management working with a Board Task Force and other Members are best positioned to complete this effort.

DISCUSSION ITEM
DI252-BR02: TITANIUM POINTS

Date: June 30, 2025

Submitted by: Management

Coordinated with: Competition and Conventions Committee, Masterpoint Committee

Purpose: To attract players to NABC events at all levels (*not* NABC+ events where Platinum points are awarded).

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
X	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

See attached presentation (Column E for this DI) for more detail.

Management seeks Board input and support to begin planning and coordination of a new masterpoint color: Titanium. Titanium Points would be awarded for top-tier performance in NABC national-level events (excluding NABC+ events), and are designed to elevate and differentiate these championships.

Titanium would sit in the masterpoint hierarchy between Gold and Platinum—filling a long-acknowledged gap—and provide a clear, aspirational incentive for players who are excelling at the national level but not playing at the NABC+ championship level. Titanium would be exclusive to in-person NABC participation, helping differentiate the NABC from regionals and online play.

Coordination has begun with both the Competition and Conventions Committee and the Masterpoint Committee. Implementation would require changes to the ACBL Codification, Masterpoint Book, and all member-facing materials that reference colored points.

The goal is to energize and reward strong national play, create clearer achievement pathways, and add excitement and status to the NABC experience. The visual hierarchy of masterpoints would now include:

1. Crystal (Online)
2. Black (Club)
3. Silver (Sectionals)
4. Red (Regionals)
5. Gold (Regionals)
6. Titanium (National NABC Events)
7. Platinum (NABC+ Championships)

Titanium is about more than color—it's about celebrating national-level bridge at its best and making that experience more visible, valuable, and aspirational.

Questions for the Board:

1. Do you support the introduction of Titanium Points for national-level (non-NABC+) events?
2. Are there additional adjustments or support systems needed to ensure Titanium enhances the overall masterpoint system?
3. Should we consider additional branding or ranking recognitions tied to Titanium achievement (e.g., titles, incentives)?

Timeframe: Begin awarding Titanium points at the Spring 2026 NABC if communication to Members can be completed before the schedule is published. This would help attract players to St. Louis. If a marketing plan is not in place in time, roll-out would shift to the Summer 2026 NABC in Minneapolis.

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Assignment of Action Item: Bronia to assign

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-BR03: MANAGEMENT EXPERIMENT FOR FALL 2028 NABC

Date: June 30, 2025

Submitted by: Management

Coordinated with: Competition and Conventions Committee

Purpose: To provide input from the Board for Management to move forward with planning to implement a new NABC/NABC+-event -only concept for the Fall 2028.

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
X	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

See attached presentation (Column E for this DI) for more detail.

Management seeks a straw poll from the Board in support of planning a new format for the Fall 2028 NABC, modeled more closely after successful formats used by the European Bridge League (EBL) and the World Bridge Federation (WBF). This event would be centered entirely on national-level events (NABC and NABC+), open to all levels of players, but with a tournament structure and branding that elevates the player experience.

All players—newcomers, intermediates, and experts—will be welcomed, but will participate in events designed to feel more prestigious, with clearer titles and stratifications, and with opportunities for progression and achievement. Management is exploring the concept of creating a new class of masterpoints (tentatively called “Titanium Points”) to be awarded in top-level national finals, distinguishing them from traditional gold and platinum points.

This refined format also allows access to high-quality, mid-sized venues—e.g., hotels with two 25,000 square foot ballrooms—opening opportunities in walkable, vibrant cities. Scheduling

would be more structured, with pre-registration, side games for players not advancing, and EBL-style formats like Final A and Final B events to provide a continuous, high-quality playing experience.

Rather than focus on what is removed (such as regional events), the goal is to elevate what remains—by creating a tighter, more professional championship environment that provides status, structure, and excitement for all participants.

Questions for the Board:

1. Do you support testing a Fall NABC format modeled after EBL/WBF structures with national events only?
2. Would you support the creation of a new masterpoint tier (e.g., Titanium Points) for elite national finals?
3. What recommendations do you have for ensuring the format appeals to players across experience levels?

Timeframe: Planning to begin as soon as possible, with frequent status reporting to the Board on venues and event scheduling.

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Assignment of Action Item: Bronia to assign

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-BR04: ONLINE EVENTS AT FACE-TO-FACE REGIONALS

Date: June 20, 2025

Submitted by: McKenzie Myers on behalf of Management

Coordinated with: Bridge Committee

Purpose: To propose eliminating online events held in conjunction with Regional tournaments, with encouragement to Tournament Organizers to NOT hold these events, effective immediately. The purpose is to address pervasive financial issues, underperformance, and participant dissatisfaction with District-level online events held in conjunction with Regionals.

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
X	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

There are compelling reasons to discontinue this offering. The financial performance has been consistently poor (please see table below on page 3). Participation has declined, with many events struggling to get even three tables in play. These small games generate customer service complaints and fail to provide the competitive experience participants expect. The technical restrictions of playing on Bridge Base Online require specialized Tournament Director knowledge and at least two TDs, even with a field as small as three tables. Many Districts and Units put these events on their Regional schedule without full understanding of the costs involved or expected attendance, causing them to lose money unnecessarily.

ACBL runs four online Regional and higher tournaments annually which are open to Members from any District, so the removal of these events will not eliminate the possibility of higher-level tournament play for those Members who may not be able to travel to a live Regional.

Questions for the Board:

- Should we remove the regulation from the Codification that allows ACBL to sanction online events in conjunction with District- and unit-sponsored regionals?
- Until we do so (if that is the decision of the Board), should ACBL advise Tournament Organizers (TOs) when they submit their schedules that, even though legal, we strongly advise against running an online event and this is why...? **Note:** *This approach will be further discussed under DI252-BR03, where we will discuss ACBL taking a more active role in **advising** TOs **rather than simply approving** an event/schedule because there is no illegality, even when they think a different event or two would be better,*

Timeframe: As soon as possible

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A, but reduces potential loss to regional

Assignment of Action Item: Motion to be prepared by Bridge Committee

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-BR05: TOURNAMENT TOPICS FROM MEMPHIS TASK FORCE CONVERSATION

Date: June 20, 2025

Submitted by: McKenzie Myers on behalf of Management

Coordinated with: ACBL President, Bridge Committee

Purpose: To gain sense of the Board on potential actions Management would like to undertake on experimental bases

X	Will Require Change in Codification (eventual)
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
X	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

ACBL operates in a significantly changed post-pandemic landscape, with traditional tournament formats facing new challenges in participation, venue availability, and operational costs, while also dealing with an aging membership. Greater flexibility in scheduling, staffing, and formats is needed.

The attached background document, developed in collaboration between Management and Board members, provides some suggested improvements to staffing and scheduling practices, as well as some tournament formats that are not currently supported by Codification. In addition to those in this document, other suggestions of format changes are welcome.

Board discussion and approval of these practices and management experiments will enable ACBL to adapt more nimbly to post-pandemic conditions while maintaining tournament quality and member satisfaction. The experimental nature allows for data collection and evaluation before any permanent Codification changes, ensuring that only successful innovations become standard practice.

Important items to discuss:

- Regional format experiments
- NLM Regionals
- Appeal of short games
- Organizational approach regarding Local Sectionals

Timeframe: As soon as possible

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A, but reduces potential loss to regional

Assignment of Action Item: Management implementation of proposed “approved” experiments with feedback to Board once there is enough data to make further recommendations.

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-BR06: CLARIFYING MAJOR VERSUS MINOR CHANGES

Date: June 30, 2025

Submitted by: Mark Aquino

Purpose: To provide clear guidance to the Masterpoint (MP) Committee and Competition and Conventions (C&C) Committee as to what constitutes a Minor vs a Major Change – and to ensure proper documentation of minor changes.

x	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
x	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
x	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
x	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Reference: Codification, Chapter IV Board Procedures D. Committees Sections 5.8 ff

Discussion:

This DI is intended to prompt a discussion about how we might clarify current guidance regarding Minor vs Major Changes from C&C and MP Committees.

We also would like to prompt a discussion about how we can best ensure that Minor Changes will be properly documented – and if necessary, to ensure the Codification will be updated.

Background

Codification Chapter IV Board Procedures, Section D. Committees, spells out the duties and responsibilities of the Masterpoint and Competition and Conventions Committees.

With the Board reorganization from 25 to 13 members, there became a greater need for expanding the authority of the MP and C&C Committees and to streamline the decision-making and revision processes.

Currently, the Codification allows these committees to submit Minor Changes that will become in effect only after the board has 30 days to review and no fewer than four board members object within that specified 30-day notification period. Currently, once a Minor Change has been made by one of these two committees and objected to by fewer than four board members within 30 days, the change is considered to be effective – but there is no requirement or protocol to follow to ensure that the change is properly recorded and documented.

Major Changes require full board review and approval. The only codified guidance these committees have are specific examples of Major Changes:

Per Chapter IV, Section 5.3.1:

“C&C shall seek affirmative approval from the BOD on major changes to these documents. (e.g. significant structural changes allowing a previously prohibited controversial convention, significant change to event structure)”

Per Chapter IV, Section 5.8.1:

“The Masterpoint Committee shall seek affirmative approval from the BOD on major changes to masterpoint rules or policies. (e.g., the ability to earn pigmented points online in clubs or ACBL-sanctioned games and the multiplier to be used in each case.)”

Topics for Discussion

- 1) Find ways to ensure Minor Changes are properly documented and can be easily referenced.
- 2) Discuss various options for providing general guidance to the MP and C&C for stipulating Minor Changes. The closer the BOD and these committees are aligned on the guidelines, the less likely that there will be four board members who will object to Minor Changes.
- 3) Discuss how more general guidelines may be most easily developed and followed.

For example, let’s think in terms of policy or codified rules as containing a combination of details behind the What, Where, When, How and Why of a particular issue.

Should we suggest that Major Changes would impact new policies, or the Board’s essential rationale behind existing policies – the What and the Why?

Should we suggest that Minor Changes would address more of the implementation details of the current policy – the Where, When and How?

MOTION
252-FN01: EXCHANGE RATE POLICY

Date: June 25, 2025

Submitted by: Joann Glasson for Finance Committee

Coordinated with: Finance Committee, Jennifer Webster

Purpose: To clarify management’s responsibility for exchange rates

x	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
	Requires Action Item
	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes:

Moved that: Chapter II – Business Management be updated:

Chapter II – Business Management
Finance

A.

Section 3 – Management Functions

3.1 The following items, previously passed as Board policy, will become operations to be performed by ACBL management:

3.1.3 Set the exchange rate applicable to all Canadian ~~members~~ and Mexican transactions.

~~**Section 7 – Foreign Funds**~~

~~7.1 The Canadian exchange rate for membership renewals, club sanction fees, tournament entry fees and other Canadian Fund receipts will be reviewed and changed quarterly if warranted and posted on the ACBL website.~~

~~7.2 ACBL's policy with regard to setting the exchange rate for annual dues of Canadian members is to optimally balance the needs to:~~

~~7.2.1 Protect the Canadian ACBL member from overpaying because the Revised January 1, 2025 57 Canadian dollar strengthens.~~

~~7.2.2 Protect the ACBL from exchange losses because the Canadian dollar weakens.~~

~~7.2.3 Control the administrative burdens and costs of changing dues renewal exchange rates too often.~~

~~7.3 The exchange rate used to determine the dues rate for renewing Canadian members shall be the rate established for that year, except that the exchange rate will be modified during a year under the following conditions:~~

~~7.3.1 Once a quarter on the 20th day (or on the first business day thereafter) of March, June, September and December, the average Canadian exchange rate as reported in the Wall Street Journal for that week will be checked.~~

~~7.3.2 If this rate differs from the exchange rate then in effect for billing renewing ACBL Canadian members by three Canadian cents or more, the average exchange rate for that week shall become the rate used to bill renewing Canadian members effective with bills issued in the following month. This revised rate will remain in effect for the remainder of the calendar year unless and until altered in accordance with this provision.~~

Effective Date: 8/1/2025

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

To clarify the language in Section 3 – Management Functions – that establishes that the setting and computation of Exchange Fees is a management function.

Removes Section 7 – Foreign Funds which is the management process currently used for exchange fees from the codification.

When the board was reduced to 13 members, certain financial functions which were previously codified through board motions were changed to management functions. At that time, Section 7 – Foreign Funds should have been removed from the codification since it details changes in the published exchange rate that are implemented by the accounting department.

Any policy on the internal handling of exchange rates in the accounting department should be an internal document. Recently, the Director of Finance has decided to change the frequency with

which the exchange rates are billed from quarterly to monthly.

MOTION

252-GV05- STREAMLINING THE ACBL BOARD AND ADVISORY COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS

Date: June 28, 2025

Submitted by: Overby on behalf of the Governance Committee

Coordinated with: Goley as Director of Elections

Purpose: To establish a more streamlined and transparent system for ACBL Board elections, with crucial adjustments intended to benefit both the membership and administrative operations.

X	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
X	Requires Action Item
	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes: <i>(List attachments by title and column in the MIM)</i>

Moved that:

Chapter III - Administration, D. Elections, be amended as follows:

[Note: The content of this motion reflects the intended changes; however, some of the section numbers (mostly the deleted sub-sections) and fonts did not import correctly from the Codification into this Motion. Please review for content only in the text below. Motion Maker will ensure changes to the Codification are made correctly once approved by the Board.]

Chapter III - Administration

D. Elections

Section 1 – Declaration of Candidacy

1. In order to declare candidacy, campaign for or serve as Regional Director or Advisory Council Representative, a member of the ACBL must be a member in good standing (Codification Part 1 - Governance and Policy, Chapter 1 –

Membership, A. Meetings, Section 2.3), a member of a Unit in the Region or District he or she seeks to represent, at least 18 years of age, and must have an email address and telephone number registered with the ACBL.

- 1.1. The declaration must be received by the Director of Elections or designee no later than midnight CT on March 31. Delivery ~~may be by mail,~~ must be by email. ~~In the physical absence of the Director of Elections, the Executive Director of the ACBL (or his/her nominee) will act as Director of Elections on the last day designated to receive declarations.~~
- 1.2. The Director of Elections will email each candidate written confirmation that their declaration ~~and that of any other candidate~~ has been received by the ACBL. The onus of proof of receipt lies with the candidate.
- 1.3. The declaration must contain the name, player number, Unit to which he/she belongs, office for which the candidate is applying, an email address, and telephone number to receive communication from the Director of Elections. The Candidate must also provide one and only one biography, which may not exceed one page and a photo for the official records of the ACBL. Changes to the photo or biography will not be accepted.
- 1.4. Candidates running for the Advisory Council will not be required to submit a biography.
- 1.5. If there are no declared candidates in an election year for the position of Regional Director, the position will be declared vacant at the conclusion of the incumbent's term by the Director of Elections. Such vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the ACBL Regulations (which may include, but not limited to, a special election). ~~Bylaws.~~

Section 2 –Candidates

- 2.1 If there is no opposition, qualified candidates will be deemed elected on April 1. ~~June 1.~~ With opposition, an election will be required.
1. ~~Candidates with opposition who wish to include a biographical summary with election materials must submit such a summary to the Director of Elections by June 15.~~
 - 1.1. ~~The biographical summary may not exceed one letter size page. Any summary that exceeds one letter size page may be truncated.~~
 - 1.2. ~~The biographical summary is the creation of the candidate. ACBL~~

~~disavows responsibility for content or accuracy of the information contained therein.~~

2. ~~In addition to the information provided by the Director of Elections to Unit electors pursuant to section 5.1, candidates may request, free of charge, one set of labels of the Unit Board members within the District(s) comprising their Regions so that they may write and mail materials directly. In addition to or in lieu of labels,~~ One list of electors contact information is automatically provided to the candidates. This list may contain street addresses or email addresses or both at the request of the candidate. Such request will not be fulfilled until ~~April 15~~ **July 1**, allowing the Units ~~until March 1~~ **time** to confirm that the Unit Board members on record are accurate for the upcoming election.

2.3 Candidates or current Board members may not campaign for anyone other than themselves outside the District(s) comprising their Region, that is, candidates may send letters to those who will be voting in their election and/or post about themselves on social media (e.g., “Facebook” or “*Bridgewinners*” forums set up for this purpose), but they may not send letters to electors, or post about a candidate running, in another District/Region.

- 2.4. No Candidate may use the name or photograph of any ACBL employee or member of the Board of Directors in any campaign materials, unless it is the candidate’s own name and photograph. This rule also prohibits the use of another Board member’s or employee’s name or photograph in a way that implies and endorsement of the candidate.

Section 3 – Electors

3.1 Regional Directors and Advisory Council Representatives shall be elected by Unit Board Members under the authority of the ACBL Director of Elections. Each elector is required to vote and timely return his/her electronic ballot.

2. By April 25, ~~June 15~~, the Director of Elections will provide notification to the Unit Presidents and Secretaries within the Districts in which an election is required. The notification must include:

3.2.1 A list of the Unit Board ~~members~~ electors of record,

3.2.2 Each Unit ~~Board member’s/Elector’s~~ email address that is on file with the ACBL and those Members’ Unit number of record and

3.2.3 Notice that the entire election shall be electronic. ~~voting method will be electronic.~~

3.2.4. Unit Presidents are required to affirmatively provide, via email, to the Director of Elections the names and email addresses of all Unit Board members entitled to vote in the upcoming election on or before March 1st of each year.

3.2.5 A copy of the election regulations from the ACBL Codification.

3. By April 15 ~~June 15~~, the Director of Elections will provide all candidates a list of all Unit Presidents and Secretaries within their District(s). Candidates are encouraged to take an active role in the update process and contact these Unit officials to request that they provide accurate lists of Board Members together with those Members' email addresses to the Director of Elections by the deadline set by ACBL.

3.4 By March 1 of each year ~~July 1~~, the Unit will ~~corroborate or~~ confirm and/or update the roster of electors and each elector's email addresses.

3.4.1 If the roster is not corroborated or updated, the Unit Board Members on record will be final for the upcoming election.

3.4.2 All Unit Board Members, who have an up-to-date, valid email on record with the ACBL as of the cutoff date, must be allowed to vote in an election. A Unit may not submit a partial or incomplete list of its Unit Board members to vote in any election.

3.4.3 All Board members on record, regardless of their Unit affiliation, if voting within one region, shall be deemed valid electors, with the exception that no Board member will be considered a valid elector if they are not a member of a Unit within the Region of the election. If there is no email address of record for any Elector and one is not timely provided, that person shall not be designated as a valid elector.

3.4.4 No Unit Board Member may be designated as a valid Elector on more than one Unit Board.

3.4.5 Unit voting power, as defined below, will reflect the number of valid electors, not the number of Board Members.

Section 4 – Unit Voting Power

4.1 Each Unit Board of Directors member who has been determined to be a valid elector based on the criteria stated in section 3.3 above shall have "Unit Board Member Voting Power" based on the following formula:

4.1.1 The Unit membership divided by 100 and computed to the second decimal place.

1. The membership of a Unit is the number of its dues-paying members as recorded by ACBL on **March 1** ~~June~~ 1.

2. The division of the Unit membership in subsection 4.1.1 above shall then be divided by the number of valid electors in the Unit and computed to the fourth decimal place.

2. By **April 15**, each candidate and Unit shall be sent the Unit Elector Voting Power accorded for each Unit.

2.1. Objections to the Unit Board Member Voting Power must be filed with the Director of Elections by **April 25**.

2.1.1. Such objection will be forwarded to the Election Protest Committee and the procedure set forth in Section 14 - Protests below will be followed.

2.2. If no such objection is filed, the Unit Elector Voting Power shall be considered binding, and no protest may subsequently be filed.

Section 5 – ~~Candidate’s Right to Address Unit Boards~~

1. ~~If a candidate requests to address a Unit board, the Unit must allow the candidate to do so, either at the meeting at which in-person voting is conducted or at a regularly scheduled meeting if electronic voting is used. The Unit does not have to schedule a special meeting to allow the candidate to address the board, but it must accommodate the candidate if a meeting is held any time between June 1 and September 15. The candidate may appear in person or by any means by which they may be heard, e.g., Zoom, Facetime, speakerphone.~~

Section 5 – Voting Period

~~5.1—Election materials will be mailed to the Unit President for in-person election meetings. For Units that will vote electronically, The instructions for voting ballots will be emailed to individual voters. Both of these actions will occur prior to **May 1**.~~

1. ~~The voting period commences once the Unit or individual voter is in receipt of the election materials.~~

5.2 In order to be included in the count, the ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by midnight on **May 15**.

Section 6– Voting Methods

1. Electronic Election

6.1.1 The voting method will be electronic. The election(s) shall be conducted electronically only. Each elector will be emailed instructions about how to cast his or her ballot. ~~unless the Director of Elections receives written notice from the Unit President or Secretary by July 1.~~

2. ~~Election material~~ The ballots will be emailed on or about **May 1**.

3. Each Unit Board member is responsible for having his/her email registered with the ACBL to allow the receipt of the **material and to cast their ballot information**.

2. ~~A Unit may opt to vote at an in-person Unit Meeting for the purpose of voting if written notice from the Unit President or Secretary is provided to the Director of Election by July 1. It is permissible to conduct other Unit business during the course of the meeting.~~

2.2. ~~A Unit's decision to hold a Unit meeting is binding for all electors in that Unit. The Unit President or Secretary must provide the Director of Elections a specific date of such meeting.~~

2.3. ~~A Unit Board member unable to attend an in-person election meeting should notify the Unit President and Secretary that they will not be present. The Unit Board member may request, in writing, an absentee ballot from the Director of Elections (after an election has been called and the nominations have closed).~~

2.3.1. ~~Unit Board Members that request an absentee ballot will vote electronically. The Director of Elections will email an election package directly to the elector.~~

2.4. ~~The Unit President or Secretary will give the Unit Board of Directors and the Director of Elections appropriate notice of the special or a regular meeting for the announced specific purpose of voting.~~

- 2.4.1. ~~The date, time and location should be included in the notification.~~
- 2.4.2. ~~A statement with the notification of the Unit meeting that a board member may request an absentee ballot from the Director of Elections any time prior to the Unit's scheduled in-person meeting (after an election has been called and nominations have closed).~~
- 2.4.3. ~~If the Director of Elections has been notified of a Unit meeting, notification of when and where the Unit will conduct its election will be made to the candidates in a timely manner prior to the election meeting.~~
- 2.5. ~~Voters should have a private area where their ballot may be cast. Voters shall:~~
 - 2.5.1. ~~Place their ballot in the envelope provided;~~
 - 2.5.2. ~~Seal the envelope; and~~
 - 2.5.3. ~~Sign and record their player number in the designated area on the back of the envelope. Failure to sign the envelope shall render the ballot null and void.~~
 - 2.5.4. ~~Proxies are not permitted.~~
 - 2.5.5. ~~Write-in votes are invalid.~~
- 2.6. ~~Upon completion of voting, the board member conducting the meeting shall collect the sealed ballot envelopes, sign and date the Unit Board of Director roster provided, place all in the pre-paid, self-addressed overnight mail service envelope provided, and mail them to the Director of Elections.~~
3. ~~On or about September 1, the Director of Elections will send a notice to all electors that have not cast a vote.~~

Section 7– ~~Ballot Count~~ Release of Results

1. Results are not released until ~~counting~~ the audit is completed for each contested position.

7.2 Voting closes **May 15**. Regional Director and Advisory Council Representative ballots will be ~~counted~~ reviewed on the first business day following **May 15**, followed by an audit.

3. The Director of Elections and one additional member of the ACBL professional staff selected by the Executive Director will jointly be responsible for ~~counting~~ auditing election and recall ballots. ~~Each candidate, or his representative, is entitled to witness the opening and counting. An ACBL employee may not represent a candidate for this purpose.~~ The rules for ~~counting~~/auditing ballots for elections and recalls shall be the same.
4. Per the calculation of the Unit Voting Power of valid electors stipulated in Section 4 of this Chapter, if computing the election results to the fourth decimal place produces a tie, the tie will be broken by the Director of Elections by a drawing.

Section 9 – ~~Inadmissible Unit Vote~~

1. ~~Under all circumstances in any ACBL District-wide election in which all of a Unit's ballots are deemed inadmissible, the Director of Elections may establish a new election within the Unit by email ballot within 14 days following all possible appeals.~~
2. ~~Such new election will only take place if it might affect the outcome.~~
3. ~~Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the new election.~~

Section 8 – Regional Director Election Results

- 8.1 On the first business day following **May 15**, the Director of Elections will provide the result to the candidates.
 2. After all candidates have been notified, the Director of Elections will communicate the names of the elected candidates, and in the event of a run-off election, the names of those candidates, to the members of the Board of Directors. The Director of Elections will include a statement that confirmation of the elected candidate will not be final until certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.
- 8.2.1 The names of the elected candidates or those candidates involved in a run-off shall be posted on the Election Chart on the ACBL website and will be updated as necessary.
 1. Upon request from board members and other ACBL members, the election result will be distributed, without restrictions of confidentiality after the certification by the ACBL Board of Directors. The election result is defined as the total number of votes cast and the percentage of weighted votes received for each candidate.

Region / District	Candidate A		Candidate B	
	Votes Cast	Weighted Vote	Votes Cast	Weighted Vote
R47/D28	#	%	#	%
R47/D29	#	%	#	%

3. In the event one candidate does not receive a majority of votes cast using the Unit Elector Voting Power as calculated in section 4 of this chapter, a run-off election will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest votes using that Unit Elector Voting Power.
 - 3.1. If a run-off election is required, the Director of Elections will commence an electronic election.
 - 3.2. Only those persons eligible to vote in the initial election are eligible to vote in the run-off election.
 - 3.3. On the first business day after the protest period expires and a determination that a run-off election is required, the Director of Elections will email electors the date on which voting will commence. ~~Biographies per section 2.2 for the remaining candidates will be provided with this notification.~~
 - 3.4. Voting for the run-off election will commence on June 1, assuming no protests. This provides the run-off candidates two weeks to contact electors prior to the commencement of voting.

- 3.5. ~~In order to~~ To be included in the count, the electronic ballots must be received by the Director of Elections by midnight CST on June 15.
- 3.6. Elector votes shall be calculated as described in section 4 and election results announced on the first business day after voting ends. Candidates, members of the Board of Directors, and ACBL members may request details on the elections as described in this section. The total number of votes cast, and the percentage of the weighted votes received for each candidate.
- 3.7. During the period of a run-off, the incumbent Regional Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.
4. ~~If there are no declared candidates in an election year for the position of Regional Director, the position will be declared vacant at the conclusion of the incumbent's term by the Director of Elections. Such vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.~~

Section 9 – Advisory Council Representatives Election Results

- 9.1 On the first business day following May 15 and before the results are formally released, the Director of Elections will communicate the outcome to all candidates.
2. The three candidates in each District receiving the greatest number of votes using the Unit Board Member Voting Power will be deemed elected.
3. If there are not three declared candidates for Advisory Council Representatives, the position(s) for which there is no candidate(s) shall be filled in accordance with the ACBL Bylaws.

Section 10 – Nullification of Election for Regional Director

10.1 The death or ineligibility to run as a candidate for Regional Director, opposed or unopposed, during the period ~~of time~~ from March 1 to the close of business on May15 will cause a new election to take place.

1. The new election will commence under the direction of the Director of Elections.
 - 1.1. The Director of Elections will set new dates for the Region's election in order to allow the appropriate amount of time for candidates to file. ~~and~~ campaign.

- 1.2. The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.
 2. If the new election is still in progress when the term of office expires, the incumbent Regional Director will continue in office until his/her successor is certified by the ACBL Board of Directors.
 3. If the incumbent does not remain in office until a successor is chosen, an expedited election will be held in accordance with the succession procedures in the ACBL Bylaws.
2. The resignation of a candidate for Regional Director in a two-candidate race will cause the remaining candidate to be declared elected.
 3. The resignation of a candidate for Regional Director in a three plus candidate race will cause only the ~~preparation and~~ dissemination of new electronic ballots. ~~ing materials.~~
 - 3.1. The same Unit Board members will be called upon to vote in the new election.

Section 11 – Protests

- 11.1** A protest to a candidacy or an election is under the authority of the ACBL Board of Directors and will be heard by the Election Protest Committee.
2. ~~For elections occurring in 2021, the Election Protest Committee is composed of the three District Directors, all in the first year of their current term, who are most senior in length of service on the ACBL Board of Directors. For elections occurring in 2022 and thereafter, The Election Protest Committee is composed of the three members of the Audit Committee. No member of the Audit Committee, involved in a protest, may concurrently serve on the Appeals and Charges Committee for an appeal of that specific protest. Regional Directors, all in the first year of their current term, who are most senior in length of service (whether as a District Director or Regional Director) on the ACBL Board of Directors.~~
 1. ~~No member of the Election Protest Committee may serve on the Appeals and Charges Committee for the purpose of the election appeal.~~
 3. A protest to a candidacy or an election should be filed with the Director of

Elections ~~in writing~~ by email and must specify in detail the nature of the protest.

4. The protest must be ~~sent~~ emailed and received by the ACBL Director of Elections no later than ten (10) days after (a) the deadline for receipt of declarations of candidacy when protesting a candidacy or (b) the election results are announced by the Director of Elections when protesting the results of an election.
 - 4.1. ~~If the 10th day is a postal holiday, the 10th day will be deemed to be the next business day that is not a postal holiday.~~
5. The Election Protest Committee will review the protest forthwith and will forward a copy of the protest to each candidate in said election.
 - 5.1. As part of such review, the Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do ~~any and~~ all things necessary to decide such protest in an equitable manner.
 - 5.2. If, in its judgment, it is desirable and practical, the Committee may arrange for email ~~or mail~~ ballots to be sent to the Board members of the Units involved in the protest. The time of return of ballots is to be fixed by the Election Protest Committee.
6. The Election Protest Committee will decide the protest and ~~send by regular mail~~ ~~or~~ email a copy of the decision, along with an explanation of such decision, to all ~~interested parties~~ candidates affected by the protest.
7. An appeal of the Election Protest Committee's decision to the ACBL Board of Directors must be filed by ~~regular mail or~~ email within ten (10) days after the announcement of the Committee's decision; otherwise, such decision is final.
8. The investigation of the protest will be assigned to the ~~Appeal and Charges~~ Audit Committee of the ACBL Board of Directors.
 - 8.1. In the conduct of such investigation, the Audit Committee may hold hearings, interrogate witnesses, examine all pertinent documents, and do any and all things necessary to determine all the facts to assist the ACBL Board of Directors in deciding the appeal in an equitable manner.
9. Upon disposition of any protest that will require a new election, the Director of Elections will commence an electronic election, following all procedures specified in Section 11 above.

Section 12 – Deadlines

12.1 All deadlines for action will be as stated above, with the exception that if a deadline falls on a non-business day (a weekend or a holiday), the deadline will be extended to the next business day.

Effective Date: Q4 2025 based on new election timeline

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

These proposed changes to Board election procedures represent a pivotal step forward for the ACBL. By leveraging electronic systems, these reforms aim to streamline operations, condense timelines, and ensure a more seamless transition for incoming Board leadership. Ultimately, these initiatives will bring increased efficiency, enhanced engagement, and greater flexibility to the entire electoral process as highlighted below:

All future ACBL elections, declarations of candidacy, and protests will be conducted electronically, eliminating paper ballots. This shift addresses past issues where electors claimed paper ballots were late or never received. Moving to an electronic system means unit board members will not need to meet in person to vote, and no ballots will be lost or delayed in the mail. It also streamlines the process significantly by eliminating the need to manually count ballots, freeing up staff time. Protests will also be filed electronically for greater efficiency.

The election timeline has been shortened. Electors now have two weeks to return their ballots once they're emailed, and results for all contested races will be released by May 25, following the audit. This condensed schedule aims to foster a more focused and engaged audience, improving the efficiency of the process and avoiding a drawn-out campaign, especially beneficial as summer typically sees less engagement from unit boards and volunteers.

Units are required to update their list of Board members/Electors annually by March 1. This allows the ACBL to accurately identify who should receive a ballot and ensures their correct, current email addresses are on file. In the past, many Units have been slow or non-responsive, causing staff to spend significant time confirming ballot transmission details. Ballots will be emailed on May 1 and must be returned within two weeks.

Declarations of Candidacy will also be moved back to March 31. The January ACBL Bulletin will feature an article advising which Regions and Districts have upcoming elections and the new deadline to submit declarations, March 1. This article will serve as the cornerstone of a communication strategy, proactively ensuring all members are well-informed and setting the stage for subsequent reinforcing messages across various ACBL communication channels.

Investigation of any filed protests will be handled by the Audit committee. It appears that since there is no discipline involved, the Audit Committee is the more appropriate committee to conduct any review of the election should one be contested.

Adjustments to the overall election timeline, i.e., March 1 cutoff, provide more time and flexibility to attract candidates. This coupled with the employment of an improved more comprehensive communication strategy will reduce the need to hold a special election.

Expediting the election process will ensure a smoother transition for newly elected Board members, giving them more time to learn ACBL procedures, gain a better understanding of their roles, and prepare for their terms beginning in January.

Assignment of Action Item:

Overby/Governance Committee to collaborate with management to develop a communication strategy to inform ACBL membership of changes to the election process and the availability of these positions.

DISCUSSION ITEM

DI252-GV03: WBF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Date: June 28, 2025

Submitted by: Glasson and Shoemaker

Coordinated with: White (as International Stakeholders Task Force Lead)

Purpose: The purpose of this discussion is to inform the ACBL Board about the upcoming vacancy in the WBF Executive Council Representative position and its Codification requirements. We are seeking the Board's input on potential new constraints or enhancements to the role, specifically concerning information flow and fiscal oversight, to guide revisions to the Codification.

	Will Require Change in Codification
	Will Require Change in CDR
	Will Require Change in Bylaws
	Management Action Item as Next Step in the Process
	Committee/Task Force Action Item as Next Step in the Process
X	Motion as Next Step in the Process

Discussion:

Refining the Role of the WBF Representative

The WBF Executive Council Representative serves as the ACBL's direct connection to the World Bridge Federation (WBF). This critical role ensures the ACBL Board receives essential information, including financial reports, to effectively inform its decision-making, maintain oversight, and ensure ACBL's interests are represented in international bridge policy and development.

The current representative's four-year term concludes at the end of 2025 necessitating the Board's selection of a new representative at its fall 2025 meeting. (Note: The four-year term is a requirement of the WBF. It is recorded in ACBL Board minutes but not detailed in the Codification.)

Although the next meeting of the WBF Executive Council doesn't occur until late summer/early fall in 2026, filling the vacancy at our fall meeting will give the new representative ample time to

learn more about international bridge and the Zone 2 National Bridge Organizations (NBOs) to prepare for this important role.

The Codification states that the ACBL Board can nominate one or more people from whom the North American Bridge Federation (NABF) selects one person to serve on the WBF Executive Council. The nominee(s) must be ACBL Board members and it is strongly recommended that the nominee resign from the WBF Executive Council if they resign from the ACBL Board.

The purpose of this discussion is to inform the Board about the upcoming vacancy in this position and its Codification requirements. We seek Board input on potential new constraints or enhancements to the role, particularly regarding information flow and fiscal oversight, which would guide potential Codification revisions.

ACBL Codification: WBF Representative

The Codification outlines the current structure, responsibilities, and qualifications for the WBF Representative (ACBL Nominee).

Reports To: ACBL Board of Directors (via reporting requirements)

Key Responsibilities (from Codification):

2. **Representation:** Serve as a NABF representative on the WBF Executive Council.
3. **Reporting:** Periodically submit comprehensive reports to the ACBL Board, including:
 2. Significant WBF actions relevant to ACBL.
 3. Agendas and anticipated actions for upcoming WBF meetings.
 4. Detailed WBF financial information (budgets, operating statements, balance sheets, and explanations of unusual expenses).
 5. Specific assignments held within the WBF.
 6. Any compensation or benefits (excluding basic travel/lodging/per diem for Executive Council meetings) received from the WBF.
1. **Communication & Input:** Provide reports/notifications in advance of WBF meetings for ACBL input; submit follow-up reports within 30 days.
2. **Meeting Attendance:** Represent ACBL at the Executive Council meetings that are held annually, usually at a date between May and October at the location of the WBF World Championships. The WBF reimburses all travel expenses for one ACBL representative for the meetings and one or two days before and after the meetings. Other financial incentives may occur.

3. **Committees:** Participate in assigned committees and other meetings.

Qualifications & Requirements (from Codification)

1. **ACBL Board Membership:** Must be an elected ACBL Board member (Codification, Chapter VII, B.1.1).
2. **Communication Skills:** Ability to facilitate effective communication.
3. **Commitment:** Strong commitment to bridge governance.
4. **Travel:** Availability and flexibility for international travel.
5. **Resignation Clause:** Strongly recommended that if the representative resigns from the ACBL Board, they also resign from the WBF position.

Key Questions for Board Discussion: Potential Constraints & Operational Enhancements

Representative Selection & Qualifications

2. Should the ACBL Board nominate multiple Board members to NABF for the WBF EC Rep position, and does this affect selecting the ideal candidate who offers strategic alignment, accountability, and seamless information flow?
3. Should the ACBL consider non-Board members for the WBF Representative role, or should the requirement for the nominee continue to be a Board member?
4. Given the travel and time commitment often required for WBF Executive Council meetings and other international engagements, how will the Board assess a candidate's capacity to fulfill these demands effectively without impacting their primary ACBL Board duties?

Fiscal Oversight and Reporting

2. What new reporting requirements, stricter deadlines, and formalized procedures should be established to ensure the timely delivery of WBF financial data (budgets, operating statements, balance sheets, and explanations of unusual expenses) to the ACBL Board?
3. How can these procedures best empower the Board to effectively scrutinize this information, thereby enhancing fiscal oversight and ensuring transparency of WBF activities and ACBL's contributions?

Accountability, Performance, and Continuity

1. How can the ACBL Board establish, enforce, and maintain clearer performance standards and reporting requirements for the WBF Representative, including mechanisms for disciplinary action or removal of an ineffective representative?
2. What are the implications and necessary actions for the ACBL Board if an elected WBF Representative's ACBL Board membership concludes (e.g., due to term expiration or resignation) while they still have time left in their WBF term?
3. What formalized contingency procedures should be implemented to ensure seamless coverage and knowledge transfer during any absence or departure?

Conclusion

The Board's selection of the WBF Executive Council Representative is a crucial decision for the ACBL, impacting its global influence and the effective stewardship of its resources. By engaging in open discussion and addressing these key questions regarding accountability, continuity, fiscal oversight, and the practical demands of the role, the Board can make an informed choice in the fall that best serves the interests of the ACBL and ensures effective representation in international bridge governance.

Reference Documents

1. ACBL Codification, Chapter VII – International Bridge B. WBF Representatives and NABF Board Members Section 1.
2. Board Motion 232-GV03 from July 2023. Location: Board Room, formally known as the MIM.

Timeframe: (See action below)

Estimated Cost/Savings: None

Action: The aim of this discussion is to ensure any new criteria for the WBF Executive Council Representative position are formally in place before the selection process, allowing the Board to make an informed decision on the next representative with a clear understanding of the updated expectations. To achieve this, feedback from this discussion will inform proposed amendments to the ACBL Codification regarding this role. We will create a motion to present these proposed changes to the Board, optimally during a special meeting held in time to make the changes to the Codification, prior to the Fall 2025 meetings in San Francisco.

MOTION
252-HF01: HALL OF FAME EVENTS

Date: June 25, 2025

Submitted by: Joann Glasson

Coordinated with: Paul Linxwiler, John Carruthers

Purpose: To update the list of events in the Hall of Fame Performance Chart.

x	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
	Requires Action Item
x	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes: Clean Copy of the Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Moved that: the events in the Hall of Fame Performance Chart be updated:

Appendix I

Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Events on the Hall of Fame Performance Chart

A. Finishing first or second (including ties) in the ACBL events listed below will be shown on the Hall of Fame Performance Chart:

ACBL OPEN NABC++ EVENTS

- Vanderbilt Knockout Teams**
- Spingold Knockout Teams**
- Soloway Knockout Teams**
- Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams**

- Kay Platinum Pairs
- von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs
- Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs

ACBL WOMEN'S NABC++ EVENTS

- Machlin Women's Swiss Teams
- Wagar Women's Knockout Teams
- Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams

ACBL OTHER NABC+ EVENTS

- Morehead Grand National Teams (Championship Flight)
- Roth Open Swiss Teams
- Jacoby Open Swiss Teams
- Keohane North American Swiss Teams
- Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams
- NABC+ Women's Swiss Teams
- NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams
- Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams
- Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams

- Baldwin North American Pairs (Flight A)
- NABC+ Open Pairs
- Wernher Open Pairs
- Nail Open Pairs
- Silodor Open Pairs
- Oshlag Fast Pairs
- Lebhar IMP Pairs
- Super Senior Pairs
- Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs
- Senior Mixed Pairs
- Rockwell Mixed Pairs
- NABC+ Mixed Pairs
- Smith Women's Pairs
- Wagar Women's Pairs

- Whitehead Women's Pairs

B. Finishing first, second or third (including ties) in the WBF events listed below will be shown on the Performance Chart:

WBF OPEN EVENTS

- Bermuda Bowl
- World Olympiad Open Teams
- Rosenblum Teams
- World Open Pairs

WBF WOMEN'S EVENTS

- Venice Cup
- World Olympiad Women's Teams
- McConnell Cup
- World Women's Pairs

WBF OTHER EVENTS

World Mixed Contests

- Wuhan Cup
- World Olympiad Mixed Teams
- World Transnational Mixed Teams
- World Transnational Mixed Pairs

World Senior Contests

- d'Orsi Trophy
- World Olympiad Senior Teams
- Rand Cup
- World Senior Pairs

Note: The archaic term "Olympiad" refers to WBF contests that are part of the World Bridge Games. It is used here for differentiation only.

[Deleted wording follows]

Appendix I

to Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Events on the Hall of Fame Performance Chart

A. ~~Finishing first or second (including ties) in the ACBL events listed below will be shown on the Hall of Fame Performance Chart:~~

~~ACBL OPEN NABC ++ EVENTS~~

- ~~▪ Vanderbilt Knockout Teams~~
- ~~▪ Platinum Pairs~~
- ~~▪ Spingold Knockout Teams~~
- ~~▪ Soloway Knockout Teams~~
- ~~▪ Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams~~
- ~~▪ Kay Platinum Pairs~~
- ~~▪ von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs~~
- ~~▪ Reisinger BAM Teams~~
- ~~▪ Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs~~

~~ACBL WOMEN'S NABC ++ EVENTS~~

- ~~▪ Machlin Women's Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ Wagar Women's Knockout KO Teams~~
- ~~▪ Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match BAM Teams~~

~~ACBL OTHER NABC + EVENTS~~

- ~~▪ Morehead Grand National Teams (Championship Flight)~~
- ~~▪ Roth Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ Jacoby Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ Keohane North American Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ NABC+ Women's Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams~~
- ~~▪ Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams~~
- ~~▪ Freeman Mixed BAM Teams~~
- ~~▪ Baldwin North American Pairs (Flight A)~~
- ~~▪ NABC+ Open Pairs~~

- ~~Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Werner Open Pairs~~
- ~~Nail Open Pairs~~
- ~~Silodor Open Pairs~~
- ~~Oshlag Fast Pairs~~
- ~~Lebhar IMP Pairs~~
- ~~Super Senior Pairs~~
- ~~Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Senior Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~Rockwell Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~NABC+ Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~Smith Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Wagar Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Whitehead Women's Pairs~~

- ~~Silodor Open Pairs~~
- ~~Jacoby Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Rockwell Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~Whitehead Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Baldwin North American Pairs~~
- ~~Lebhar IMP Pairs~~
- ~~Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Freeman Mixed BAM Teams~~
- ~~Morehead Grand National Teams~~
- ~~Wernher Open Pairs~~
- ~~Roth Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Truscott Senior Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Fast Pairs~~
- ~~Nail Life Master Pairs~~
- ~~Smith Life Master Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Mitchell Open BAM Teams~~
- ~~Keohane North American Swiss Teams~~

B. ~~Finishing first, second or third (including ties) in the WBF events listed below will be shown on the Performance Chart.~~

~~WBF OPEN EVENTS~~

- ~~Bermuda Bowl~~

- ~~World Olympiad Open Teams~~
- ~~Rosenblum Teams~~
- ~~World Open Pairs~~

~~WBF WOMEN'S EVENTS~~

- ~~McConnell Teams~~
- ~~Venice Cup~~
- ~~World Olympiad Women's Team~~
- ~~McConnell Cup~~
- ~~World Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Venice Cup~~
- ~~World Olympiad Women's Team~~
- ~~World Women's Pairs~~

~~WBF OTHER EVENTS~~

~~*World Mixed Contests*~~

- ~~Wuhan Cup~~
- ~~World Olympiad Mixed Teams~~
- ~~World Transnational Mixed Teams Pairs~~
- ~~World Transnational Mixed Pairs Teams~~
- ~~Transnational Open Teams~~
- ~~Mixed Transnational Teams~~
- ~~Senior Bowl~~

~~*World Senior Contests*~~

- ~~D'Orsi Trophy~~
- ~~World Olympiad Senior Teams~~
- ~~Rand Cup~~
- ~~World Senior Pairs~~

Effective Date: 8/1/2025

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

The purpose is to update the list of events that are used on the performance chart for each candidate that is being considered for election to the ACBL Hall of Fame.

Some new events have been added, the Soloway Teams and the Wuhan Cup and other events have been changed in the order listed. Lists of team events and pair events have been combined together.

MOTION
252-HF02: HALL OF FAME ELECTORS

Date: June 25, 2025

Submitted by: Joann Glasson

Coordinated with: Paul Linxwiler, John Carruthers

Purpose: To update the list of electors eligible to vote in the Hall of Fame election.

x	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
	Requires Action Item
x	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes: Clean Copy of the Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Moved that: the list of electors eligible to vote in the Hall of Fame election be updated:

APPENDIX II

Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Hall of Fame Electors

The Electors of the ACBL Hall of Fame will be as follows:

- A. All living Hall of Fame Members
- B. Paid-up ACBL members in good standing, who reside in the U.S., Canada or Mexico, and have won at least five (5) of the ACBL/WBF events shown below:

ACBL OPEN NABC++ EVENTS

- Vanderbilt Knockout Teams
- Spingold Knockout Teams
- Soloway Knockout Teams
- Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams

- Kay Platinum Pairs
- von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs
- Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs

ACBL WOMEN'S NABC++ EVENTS

- Machlin Women's Swiss Teams
- Wagar Women's Knockout Teams
- Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams

ACBL OTHER NABC+ EVENTS

- Morehead Grand National Teams (Championship Flight)
- Roth Open Swiss Teams
- Jacoby Open Swiss Teams
- Keohane North American Swiss Teams
- Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams
- NABC+ Women's Swiss Teams
- NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams
- Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams
- Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams

- Baldwin North American Pairs (Flight A)
- NABC+ Open Pairs
- Wernher Open Pairs
- Nail Open Pairs
- Silodor Open Pairs
- Oshlag Fast Pairs
- Lebhar IMP Pairs
- Super Senior Pairs
- Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs
- Senior Mixed Pairs

- Rockwell Mixed Pairs
- NABC+ Mixed Pairs
- Smith Women's Pairs
- Wagar Women's Pairs
- Whitehead Women's Pairs

WBF OPEN EVENTS

- Bermuda Bowl
- World Olympiad Open Teams
- Rosenblum Teams
- World Open Pairs

WBF WOMEN'S EVENTS

- Venice Cup
- World Olympiad Women's Teams
- McConnell Cup
- World Women's Pairs

WBF OTHER EVENTS

World Mixed Contests

- Wuhan Cup
- World Olympiad Mixed Teams
- World Transnational Mixed Teams
- World Transnational Mixed Pairs

World Senior Contests

- d'Orsi Trophy
- World Olympiad Senior Teams
- Rand Cup
- World Senior Pairs

Note: The archaic term “Olympiad” refers to WBF contests that are part of the World Bridge Games. It is used here for differentiation only.

Placing second in the following events counts as a win for determining the players that have won five events:

- **Bermuda Bowl**
 - **Vanderbilt Knockout Teams**
 - **Spingold Knockout Teams**
 - **Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams**
 - **Soloway Knockout Teams**
 - **Wagar Women’s Knockout Teams**
 - **Bermuda Bowl**
 - **World Olympiad Open Teams**
 - **Rosenblum Teams**
 - **Venice Cup**
 - **McConnell Cup Teams**
 - **Venice Cup**
 - **World Olympiad Women’s Teams**
- C. **Up to five (5) journalists selected by the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA) Executive Committee.**
- D. **ACBL Grand Life Masters.**
- E. **World Grand Masters.**

[Deleted electors follow]

ACBL++ EVENTS

- ~~Vanderbilt Knockout Teams~~
- ~~Spingold Knockout Teams~~
- ~~Soloway Knockout Teams~~
- ~~Reisinger Board-A Match Teams~~
- ~~Morehead Grand National Teams (Championship Flight)~~
- ~~Roth Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Jacoby Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Mitchell Open Board-A Match Teams~~
- ~~Keohane North American Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Truscott/USPC Senior Swiss Teams~~
- ~~NABC+ Women's Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Sternberg Women's BAM Teams~~
- ~~Wagar Women's Knockout Teams~~
- ~~NABC+ Mixed Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Freeman Mixed BAM Teams~~
- ~~Baldwin North American Pairs (Flight A)~~
- ~~NABC+ Open Pairs~~
- ~~Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs~~
- ~~Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Werner Open Pairs~~
- ~~Nail Open Pairs~~
- ~~Silodor Open Pairs~~
- ~~Oshlag Fast Pairs~~
- ~~Lebhar IMP Pairs~~
- ~~Super Senior Pairs~~
- ~~Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Senior Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~Rockwell Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~NABC+ Mixed Pairs~~
- ~~Smith Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Wagar Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Whitehead Women's Pairs~~

- Platinum Pairs
- Machlin Women's Swiss Teams
- Silodor Open Pairs
- Jacoby Open Swiss Teams
- Rockwell Mixed Pairs
- Baldwin North American Pairs—Flight A

- ~~Whitehead Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Lebhar IMP Pairs~~
- ~~Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Spingold Knockout Teams~~
- ~~von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs~~
- ~~Wagar Women's KO Teams~~
- ~~Wernher Open Pairs~~
- ~~Roth Open Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Morehead Grand National Teams—Championship Flight~~
- ~~Freeman Mixed BAM Team~~
- ~~Senior Swiss Team~~
- ~~Reisinger BAM Teams~~
- ~~Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs~~
- ~~Sternberg Women's BAM Teams~~
- ~~Nail Life Master Open Pairs~~
- ~~Mitchell Open BAM Teams~~
- ~~Keohane North American Swiss Teams~~
- ~~Smith Life Master Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Truscott Senior Teams~~

~~WBF EVENTS~~

- ~~Bermuda Bowl~~
- ~~World Olympiad Open Teams~~
- ~~Rosenblum Teams~~
- ~~World Open Pairs~~
- ~~Venice Cup~~
- ~~World Olympiad Women's Team~~
- ~~McConnell Cup~~
- ~~World **Olympiad** Women's Pairs~~
- ~~Wuhan Cup~~
- ~~World Olympiad Mixed Teams~~
- ~~World Transnational Mixed Teams~~
- ~~World Transnational Mixed pairs~~
- ~~D'Orsi Trophy~~
- ~~World Olympiad Senior Teams~~
- ~~Rand Cup~~
- ~~World Senior Pairs~~

- World Mixed Pairs
- Senior Bowl
- Senior International Cup
- Transnational Open Teams
- Transnational Mixed Teams
- McConnell Teams
- Venice Cup
- World Olympiad Women's Team
- World Women's Pairs

Placing second in the following events counts as a win for determining the players that have won five events:

- Bermuda Bowl
- Vanderbilt Knockout Teams
- Spingold Knockout Teams
- Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams
- Soloway Knockout Teams
- Wagar Women's Knockout Teams
- Bermuda Bowl
- World Olympiad Open Teams
- Rosenblum Teams
- Venice Cup
- McConnell Cup Teams
- Venice Cup
- World Olympiad Women's Teams

F. Up to five (5) journalists selected by the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA) Executive Committee.

G. ACBL Grand Life Masters.

H. World Grand Masters.

Effective Date: 8/1/2025

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

The purpose is to update the list of events that are used to determine the list of electors eligible to vote in the Hall of Fame election.

Some new events have been added, the Soloway Teams and the Wuhan Cup, and other events have been changed in the order listed.

MOTION

252-HF03: HALL OF FAME ELECTION PROCEDURES

Date: June 25, 2025

Submitted by: Joann Glasson

Coordinated with: Lynn Baker, John Carruthers

Purpose: Revision of the Hall of Fame Election Procedures

x	Requires Change in Codification
	Requires Change in CDR
	Requires Change in Bylaws
	Requires Action Item
x	Specify Attachments to be Included in the Minutes: Clean Copy of the Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

Moved that: the Hall of Fame Election Procedures be changed:

Appendix 4-D2

Hall of Fame Operating Procedures

5. Elections

Voting for Nominees

ACBL management shall send all eligible electors a ballot package which shall include a cover letter, instructions on how to vote, a ballot, and an up-to-date biography for each nominee, a list of Hall of Fame members, and a performance chart showing the NABC and WBF performance history (See Appendix I Events on the Hall of Fame Performance Chart) of each nominee while they were a

member and representative of the ACBL.

Each nominee shall be considered separately by the electors. **The ballot provided to the electors shall contain the name of each candidate with a single “YES” box to be checked if the elector feels that candidate ought to be elected.** ~~On the question of whether the nominee shall become a member of the Hall of Fame, the electors may vote yes, no, or abstention for each nominee. If no vote is recorded by an elector for any or all of the nominees, then the ballot shall not be counted in determining the total votes cast for a nominee.~~ **In order for an election to be valid, at least 50% of electors must cast a ballot. A ballot that is submitted by an elector with no candidate receiving a “YES” vote shall count as a cast ballot. In a valid election, if 67% of electors casting a ballot check a candidate’s “YES” box, that candidate** ~~Any nominee who (i) receives yes votes representing at least 67% of the total votes cast for that nominee and (ii) has at least 50% of the electors voting having cast a ballot for that nominee~~ shall be elected to the Hall of Fame.

Effective Date: 8/1/2025

Estimated Cost/Savings: N/A

Discussion:

The previous election process was complicated and required each candidate to have a block to check for Yes, No or Abstain.

The Hall of Fame Committee has decided to go with a simpler process in which the elector votes “yes” for candidates that they think should get in the Hall of Fame with no option to vote “no” or to abstain.

An elector is not required to vote yes for any candidate on the ballot. A ballot submitted with no boxes checked is still a valid ballot.

In a simpler tabulation than what was previously used, any candidate receiving 67% of the votes cast (as long as 50% of the electors cast a ballot) is elected to the Hall of Fame.