

This meeting suffered an incompetent zoom connection and was missed by 44 online members.

Advisory Council (AC) meeting documents: <http://www.acbl.org/bog-meeting-docs>

D11 AC Reports Library: http://www.district11bridge.com/ACBL_board_reports.html

Meeting Playlist (past videos): https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcAft4FoUHdTbWH2eG7XjDUD6cIO_TLLd

Executive Summary - Advisory Council Meeting – In-Person & Video Conference. Here are the highlights:

- **Membership** at 142, 256 is down **10,498 (-6.9%)** versus 1 year ago. Not include 3000 Guest Members since 2020 of which 460 are active. 1054 have converted to membership.
- **Tables**

	Sep-2021	Share	Oct-2021	Share	Nov-2021	Share	Dec-2021	Share	Jan-2022	Share
Virtual Clubs	74,474	22.5%	66,370	19.9%	59,141	18.3%	56,203	17.5%	87,539	23.5%
F2F Clubs	47,020	14.2%	51,378	15.4%	58,487	18.1%	46,973	14.7%	41,831	11.2%
BBO	208,991	63.2%	215,853	64.7%	205,080	63.5%	217,245	67.8%	243,769	65.3%
TOTAL	330,485	100.0%	333,601	100.0%	322,708	100.0%	320,421	100.0%	373,139	100.0%
F2F Clubs			1,257		1,369		1,359		1,088	

- **Tournaments: Fall NABC Austin TX**
 - Net Profit/(Loss): **(\$59,397)**; Total Tables: 5,296; Total Players: 2,232 Total Room Nights: 6,712
- **2021 Total Gain \$2.63MM. Net Gain from Operations \$2.17MM.** Sources: gains from \$1.5MM Employee Retention Credit, Reduced expenses from Marketing (\$602K), Field Operations (\$652K), IT (\$180K), and Accounting (\$1332K). Tournament fees were \$1.6MM below budget. Non-operating gains from investments (\$377K), lower pension liability (\$306K) and no legal settlement (\$221K).
- **2022 Budget projects a \$858K loss** driven by continued investment in information technology.
- **IT** led many performance improvements to the WordPress Content Management system underpinning the acbl.org website. Improvements to response speed, security, and Google Analytics were completed or are underway. The ACBL Registration application for tournaments is in field testing. Clubs and Tournaments services were improved/corrected including payment systems, Live4Clubs, BBO Games, and Tourney Trax. AS400 migration continues.
- **Marketing:** Website metrics dashboard reveals leading pages. 2021 652 emails sent, with 44% open rate and 4.5% click-through rate. 2022 through Feb 10, 89 emails sent, 53% opening rate and 3% click through. These rates compare favorably with industry averages (26% open and 2.7% click through). Email campaign for lapsed members drew 423 renewals in 13 days compared to 300 in the month of January. Social Media: Facebook (11,350), Twitter (3,672), and Instagram (1792) show increasing followers.
- **YTD Recruitment bonuses** paid \$22,500 in 2021. Cooperative Advertising Program paid \$10,423
- **ACBL Intro to Bridge** 880+ students. 86% would recommend the course, 80% plan or will consider to take more lessons. Over 72% prefer online lessons over in-person classes.
- **ACBL Intro to Bridge:** 30 classes and 1300 students. 10 classes Mar/Apr, with more offered quarterly.
- **34 Disciplinary Committee hearings** in 2022 matching 2021. 910 Player memos in 2021.

Submitted Respectfully,
 Stephen Moese, D11 K082411

Spring 2022 Meeting called to order at an unknown time PDT by Chair Doug Couchman. **Technical issues made online participation in the meeting for 44 Advisory Committee Members impossible.** I've attached that portion of the text created by Zoom for closed caption (misspellings abound) in the appendix that follows. Unfortunately, the ACBL administrator ended the zoom session so quickly that I could not capture the text from the last 15-20 minutes.

No quorum was present. The first 30 minutes of the meeting are unknown to this author.

Doug Couchman, Chair decided to run the meeting even though there were more members online than there were in person.

Executive Director Report (Joe Jones) See [Management Report](#).

Not available to this member

Litigation Report (Linda Dunn) See [Litigation Report](#)

Not available to this member

Audio restored (barely perceptible) at 10:39AM PDT.

Questions

Question regarding ACBL PII and how managed on the website. Linda Dunn replied in detail about the Policy and Terms of use. Masterpoints are not private information. LD discussed what is PII. BBO play revealed emails of ACBL members. How many points required to get to the next level, has to have access to MP data from the ACBL. LD mentioned that the ACBL is not responsible for PII leaked by other sources or wiped by hackers from other websites.

Doug Couchman apologized for lack of zoom connection.

Finance Report (Peyton Dodson) See [Slides](#) and [Financial Report](#) for details. Year end 2021.

Inaudible. Too much interference from frustrated members online.

Questions

Doug Couchman reviewed Board of Directors actions:

ID	Subject	Action
221-AC01	Report on Hearings	Accepted
221-AC02	Retire Anti-Cheating Commission	Passed
221-BD01	Hall of Fame Committee Appointments	Passed
221-BD02	Competition and Convention Appointments Gordon Bower, Lee Land, Steve Gaynor	Passed
221-BD03	Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments	Passed
221-BD04	ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments	Passed
221-BD05	Laws Commission Appointments	Passed
221-BD06	Election of NABF Board Members – Paul Cuneo and Doug Couchman	Passed
221-BD07	Election of ACBL Treasurer – David Lodge	Passed
221-BR01	Update appointment and terms of the Competition and Conventions Committee Members	Passed
221-BR02	Limited MP Event Eligibility	Sent to Committee
221-BR03	Change Table Counting for Human Robot Pairs	Sent to Committee
221-BR04	Update Electronic Device Policy	Passed
221-BR05	Masterpoint Committee Discretion	Passed
221-BR06	NABC District Fundraising Work	Passed
221-BR07	NABC Website <i>Management committed to collaborate with local committees on website content</i>	Withdrawn
221-BR08	Eliminate Redundancy in NABC Hospitality Requirements	Passed

221-BR09	Permanent Royal STaC <i>Board agreed that this motion was premature. Experiments will continue.</i>	Withdrawn
221-ED01	Succession Plan Amendment to Codification	Passed
221-GV01	Elimination of the Charity Committee	Passed
221-GV02	Update Codification Regulations Related to Units Split into technical changes and material changes. How to handle shrinking Units.	Passed Deferred
221-GV03	Correct Duplication in Election Procedure	Passed
221-GV04?	Establish Procedures for replacing a Regional Director <i>Temporary one-time process. Region 6 only. Election closes June 15.</i>	Passed

Motions for Reconsideration

Rich Carle – D20 – Asks for reconsideration of the electronic device policy. The Board rushed to this decision. Goes too far in allowing cell phones. Not have them active in the playing area. Seconded. Not a binding motion.

Richard Popper District 4 – polls are not online. We have to give them an opportunity to vote.

Doug Couchman will hold a special meeting to give all Advisory Committee members the right to vote.

AC Motions - Old Business –

Inaudible

AC Motions - New Business –

D25 Providence NABC website asks for recognition. Claims piracy of content.

Steve Gaynor - \$1 surcharge for all VACB games goes to Unit of the player involved. If a player is not an ACBL member the \$1 would go to the ACBL educational foundation.

Doug Couchman – many members of the Board are concerned about the interplay between online and in-person club play.

I received confirmation from the ACBL Meeting Contact via Zoom that all zoom attendees will be marked as present for this meeting, so the technology failure does not cost zoom attendees an absence.

Doug Couchman mentioned that he would call special meeting to review this meeting's contents. It is unknown if members of Management will be available for questions or if members of the Board of Directors will attend this special meeting. It is also unknown whether votes taken at a special meeting are binding on Management and the Board of Directors.

Since a quorum was not present, Life Masters will be approved for their rank at a later meeting.

Adjourned at 11:36 PM CST by Doug Couchman, Chair.

44 Meeting attendees were disenfranchised by the technical failure.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Moese

BoG Vice Chair

D11 BoG 1st Alternate Representative

Zoom AC Meeting Attendees as of 10:30 AM PDT

Recording View

Vangie Smith D11	D11-Steve Moese	D2Linda Lord	D16 Tomi Storey	DavidD22(AC) Sizemore	D2 Wybren Hoogland	michael cassel D14
eldon clayman	D6 - Barbara Doran	Ron Sholes-District 8	D1_Kathie Macnab	Rosella Vanek	margaret hansell	D19 Charles Bennett
Bruce Lang dist 9	Brett Kunin, D3	XPres Jay Whipple	martin hirschman	Kevin Wilson D7	jan assini	Alvin Levy - pas...
D3 John Hogan	D10 Director - Larry S...	sharon fairchild past p...	Debbie Romero-D8	Stan Subeck	jan assini	Alvin Levy - past pres
D3 John Hogan	D10 Director - Larry S...	sharon fairchild past p...	Debbie Romero-D8	Stan Subeck	sharon anderson	Len Fettig D15
XPres Jay Whipple	Zoom Webinar	CAESARS ESTABLISHMENT SLAV EXPO	Georgia Heth D8	Peter Marcus D25	sharon anderson	D5 - Dian Petrov
XPres Jay Whipple	Zoom Webinar	CAESARS ESTABLISHMENT SLAV EXPO	Georgia Heth D8	Peter Marcus D25	D23 Gene White	D5 - Dian Petrov
Margot Hennings	Leo Weniger	D25 Brenda Montague	D18 Gordon Bower	Dist 24 Phil Grella	D23 Gene White	D5 - Dian Petrov
Margot Hennings	Leo Weniger	D25 Brenda Montague	D18 Gordon Bower	Dist 24 Phil Grella	Region 9 Direct...	Suzi Subeck
		Sabrina Miles	D12 Susan Bailey-Car...	Deana Liddy	Region 9 Director Paul ...	
		Sabrina Miles	D12 Susan Bailey-Car...	Deana Liddy		

APPENDIX - CC text as captured by Zoom (meeting closed so last 20 minutes are missing).

Note: This represents text as captured from Zoom audio so when online attendees were speaking over the presenters in the meeting room, the presenter's content was drowned out.

13:32:10 Jim Calhoun District 17. Linda, You are our legal representative for ACBL.

13:32:17 Could you comment on what the law, as far as are the agreement?

13:32:23 I guess I should say that we have with clubs and what they do with our private information that is on our Acpl server that will be covered by the privacy policy which is co-owned by the director of marketing and myself

13:32:41 remember, clubs are independent entities. they are not affiliates of the A. Cbl.

13:32:46 So they are covered by the privacy policy which says that you are only allowed to use acbo member information for acbl business, and that's reporting club results.

13:33:01 If a club wants to have a directory, they have to go and ask people in advance.

13:33:07 If they want to be included, they can send. They can report results in club newsletters.

13:33:12 They can participate in Http alive. Teachers have special dispensations.

13:33:19 They can get from their electronic contact the names of members within their district and solicit them for classes.

13:33:27 But they can't go outside of their district without asking us However, if a club manager is savvy and i'm going to now go outside of my expertise scrape names, or Otherwise they are good at that listening what they want but they

13:33:47 end dependent when they get address, long as they do not get it from our memor.

13:33:54 Roster outside of our rules. We can't say anything about what they do, but they must follow our privacy policy.

13:34:02 Here's the other side of that same question within your opinion different points.

13:34:11 I have accumulated. Permit to anyone up the floats that's kind of hard question.

13:34:26 Yes, they're in races where your massive possible click out into the only so wants to put out into the public that anybody else can.

13:34:37 So. Yes, your masterpiece are not private information. Our email is.

13:34:46 And as our phone number. So when you address the phone number I ask them that your email address but my email address being a member of this line is anyone that can find in these real dot org you can get mine, because i'm sure yes,

13:35:06 You're just not on the board, but no one else is My problem is, you said I played in your game and got a response into an entity that, as far as I know, is not a club member or the governors or to

13:35:29 direct our Excuse me advisory council board directors, or anything like that.

13:35:37 And she gets email. Her email has been exposed from a non-entity.

13:35:44 Because we played in a game. You in, Chief. both of us got it.

13:35:50 The only way anybody got the information is we played on Bbo and a third party to all of this send emails to everyone.

13:36:02 Yeah, again, that's outside my expertise but I understand that there is a way some technical person can sort of correct me.

13:36:11 But there are ways that people can go out and and scrape and and find information embedded in the information out there in programs.

13:36:22 I don't know the details of how they do it I know that there are ways to scrub data and access people's emails, and we have no control over that.

13:36:31 Because it's Internet related. they're in those the point I was asking because of the mash point to me.

13:36:39 Hbo is the only one that has those master points on their computer.

13:36:47 Okay, I understand your point. But let's say when they say to me, how many points do you need to get to the next level?

13:36:55 They have accessed those masterpoints if they've accessed those masterpoints they had to get them from a cbl.

13:37:06 I'm sorry. yeah, but yeah, i'm just kind of trying to yeah set some stage here and try and get some information.

13:37:14 This is going on, and and our membership is being exposed.

13:37:24 Well understand the We take privacy very seriously, and we try to put in as the security measures that we able to do.

13:37:32 And so we do everything possible that we can to keep people's private information private, And can we agree that we'll look into whether this policy is being violated?

13:37:45 Are there any more questions for council? Thank you, Linda.

13:38:03 I am assured that our technical difficulties on zoom has been resolved.

13:38:07 Now let me say a word to those of you who are on zoom.

13:38:12 We apologize. I apologize that apparently you haven't been able to hear until about now from Acbo. President joined Glass, and we've heard from Executive George Jones.

13:38:27 We were just here we council, and had done and now we're going to hear from of director of finance picnics.

13:38:35 And again i'm sorry that we haven't haven't been able to to involve you up till now assuming that everything continues to go.

13:38:43 Well, then, we will have an opportunity for you to participate going forward.

13:38:47 If we do not, we will hold another meeting and make sure that we can address all the issues.

13:38:51 Now i'm going to introduce Director of finance Payton Dodson, who has the League's financial report again.

13:38:57 This is available in your meeting documents. I think we're think we're also going to be able to project it here.

13:39:02 Payton. Now, Tubman, hey? Good morning, everybody! thank Gods and Director of finance for me, Apollo.

13:39:15 Great to see everyone man, it's just you know I can't tell you all something I just get back to face to face and to be around people.

13:39:20 So. you know i'm an accountant and nerd who sits in a corner there's a lot of you know numbers. but I like to get out and see people, too.

13:39:28 So it's it's a great time and I think We're trying to get the right information, though this information like Doug said, is only with on the the website where we you know we keep information for the the meetings and So

13:39:43 there's 2 reports on there there's. one the presentation. Then you also have the financial information as well as a little more detail kind of hit the highlights here, saying so 1 one so this presentation is based on the

13:40:07 financial size of December as of them for the year or end of December, 30 first, 2,021, and very glad to say that we had a successful audit.

13:40:16 So the auditors came out for Dixon, Hughes goodman, and they did a great job in doing the audit, and we had no issues.

13:40:23 We got unmodified or clean opinions, which is great.

13:40:27 No significant transactions or material adjustments were noted.

13:40:31 That was great, and so we're very happy to Get that past us, and it was approved by the board this past week as well.

13:40:38 So it's always good to get that feline and everything's great as you're moving forward, and so I'm kind of hit on the little bit of highlights here real quick, So for the operations for the uranium

13:40:48 December, the 30 first 2,021 for revenues, we increased 822,000 versus the budget.

13:40:55 We had. Well, almost there. yeah, Tournament revenue was actually 1 point.

13:41:06 6,000,000 below Budget Nbc. was over budget by 816,000, and it was over Budget because we didn't actually budget for one.

13:41:11 We did not expect to have an Nbc in 2,021, but very fortunately we're able to have Austin, so that helped in that we did receive employee retention credit of the Federal program.

13:41:26 1.5,000,000, and then membership revenue was down 4.6 versus the budget, and that's dollar amounts.

13:41:35 Oh, here we are, great, all right, so if expenses for the year we were 634,000 below Budget.

13:41:42 The highlights. of that is field operations with 689,000 under budget meeting services over Budget by 861,000.

13:41:50 And that's because we had an abc and that's where the it may say even a quarter.

13:41:54 So we had the expense, and the revenue as well, and marketing was 602,000.

13:42:00 Under budget accounting was 132,000 under budget as well.

13:42:05 And i'll tell you information technology, was 180,000.

13:42:16 I failed to spring up one more time next. Okay, all right.

13:42:32 So we had a total change in that assets from operations of 2.2,000,000, which is 1.5,000,000 better than we budget. All right.

13:42:44 So for non-operating changes. So this was everything not related to operations that we had, that was a usually unusual or not normal or not directly related to operations.

13:42:54 We had a pigeon cost decrease of 270,000.

13:42:58 What that means is, we have an actual actuary come in every year and do an evaluation of our costs, living forward current and future current and long-term.

13:43:08 And we had a degrees in the amount that we had to pay long term.

13:43:12 That's that decrease change of market value of investments of 377,000.

13:43:14 So our investments went up for the year. Then the legal segment which we actually accrued, almost 200,000, for which Linda referenced for the balance sheet with operating cash was up 924,000 to 5

13:43:33 point 5,596,000. that for strictly cash investments told 8.1,000,000.

13:43:41 Ned assets increased. 2.5,000,002.5, 2.6,000,000 since.

13:43:55 And lastly, here the capital expenditures. We had approved.

13:43:59 Budget 87,000. We only spent 8 point like \$8,700 for a new copier and scanner.

13:44:07 We did have a on the budget was for the roof.

13:44:10 Repair replace winded up being able to make enough repair and the maintenance plan where we didn't have to incur.

13:44:17 I won't \$70,000 fast so that was really good that's it for me.

13:44:24 Any questions. Come on, somebody, go back to the expenses I think that's the one.

13:44:45 Okay, We also have zoom questions. we don't have we're gonna be able to hear him.

13:44:50 So we'll call on them one at a time when you're ready.

13:44:57 Go to the next slide. Did you want to say this one or the expense expense?

13:45:01 Right? Yeah, this is the one that we didn't that we flew by.

13:45:09 Okay, I can answer questions. Peter. Marcus. Yeah. Someone called my name.

13:45:29 Hello, hello! wearing your best Peter. Your Your hand is up as if you want to speak.

13:45:44 Yes, I know, and i'm unmuted and no one is hearing me so.

13:45:56 I have to do that. you won't always listen hi muted We can hear each other.

13:46:10 The problem is, we can't connect with meeting so how can they have a meeting when 42 of the people who are supposed to be there, Aren't allowed to participate in my age, all have locked us out of the room thanks to

13:46:27 marketing, Mary and her team, and Zerbeth, thinking that this is nonsense.

13:46:43 No, we do not thank you all in seeing problems. Thank you very much, Peyton.

13:46:55 Again. I apologize for our inability to get since we can't hear, you guys, we can be part of the meeting.

13:47:00 So why don't you just close it up and go home?

13:47:05 I agree this is useless waste of time why don't We send them a message so we're in the meetings plus you didn't have a you didn't have a quorum like the person is not a coordinates and the people that are in

13:47:24 in person. The quorum should be the whole forward or the whole.

13:47:28 All the people that are participating. So something is wrong with this whole way of doing business.

13:47:38 So the meaning should be system. Not a valid meeting they might as well have told all of us.

13:47:44 We're not letting you in and lock the door but clearly the way to run a meeting.

13:47:50 Clearly they did not they? Clearly they did not mean it this way. So let's just you let's just do excuse me what I speak for a minute, and her husband I would propose that we ask whoever can communicate our web

13:48:11 master to advise them that we wish to suspend the meeting.

13:48:15 Do you agree to gather that information I'm not agreed Okay, then, where's the chap that's let's see Zoom Web?

13:48:37 I'm trying to get the zoom webinar up but there's a button at the bottom of the screen for live transcript.

13:48:47 Yeah, I don't see that. but no I see the Button it's just i'm trying to find him, Linda.

13:48:56 I'm texting with lee who is the administrator for it, and they're aware of the problem.

13:49:03 She says she doubts it's going to get much better I'm.

13:49:06 10, telling them now that you want to. You all want to suspend the meeting.

13:49:09 So give me a minute. Okay, yes, I think we'd all like to suspend it.

13:49:14 That's limited Lord limited Lord I finally got the closed caption.

13:49:33 So we don't hear anything back from them Well, So why don't they react on like you're saying they must hear you somehow.

13:49:46 I don't believe so well, that's even worse so if they ask us for a question. We can't we can't this talk.

13:49:56 We have to type yes, that's exactly why I'm, saying, Tell them we're asking for the meeting to be suspended.

13:50:07 Because I clearly there's no communication and anytime you hear anything anymore from the meeting.

13:50:13 I can't hear No, We don't we'll be disconnected again.

13:50:17 I said So just wait everybody. And then if you would. okay, sure I just.

13:50:24 I just texted steve mose and told him we wanted to suspend the meeting, and he's vice chair so sure, and he and I have been texting back and forth.

13:50:32 So I know he's getting my message, thank you very much. Okay, So I just got a message from the administrator, saying, Doug is aware there is no quorum, and he has decided to continue.

13:50:46 Okay, then, none of the votes count I mean that's the message I got right.

13:50:53 The problem is, we've never been admitted to the meeting so we are benzene dummies goodbye.

13:51:02 I was received a message that Doug knew about it and there would be another meeting, Oh, and the meeting will be attended by 7 people, none of them for management or anywhere else.

13:51:19 Why don't we stimulate it later here morning excuse me Peter, You're making an assumption that I don't think is necessarily correct, that people everywhere with lightning parallel i'm gonna do a second to last

13:51:37 Doug doesn't control it to the hotel maybe people do right.

13:51:43 This family is not Peter Marcus. Nobody, Nobody did this on purpose.

13:51:49 This is just an unfortunate technical problem. I agree with you and that's why you should do that, right run .

13:51:57 We don't know better when you no longer You'll do better.

13:52:01 Mindset is 2020 that there was any any mouse and change the fact that when it comes to work, you then have to do something such as suspend the meeting till you can get it to work.

13:52:17 This isn't enough nobody's doing anything nasty it isn't fair 4050 odd people on the zoom to be cut out of the meeting because of a technical problem but for the meeting to go forward i'm not

13:52:32 arguing that he'd be doing anything that was unconditionally bad.

13:52:35 But when something doesn't work you stock so you can I agree.

13:52:41 Yes, we all we all agreed with that now .

13:52:49 On what basis does Doug have the right go on with meeting?

13:52:53 When a significant percentage of the body membership is not able to perfect to pay, not because they didn't try, but go on with the meeting, but I doubt that there can be any conclusions drawn in this meeting without our input someone

13:53:16 said that he's going to schedule another one I have a motion for this meeting.

13:53:23 How do I present that motion that involved a pair of robots that involve a robot?

13:53:29 I don't really think it's a meeting per se i'm.

13:53:45 Leaving goodbye bye, that the issue was probably much more common. complicated.

13:53:50 Then the motion reflected Yes, i'm leaving to sorry we all wasted our time today. But it's okay wasn't that perfect right?

13:54:00 It'll be better next time i'll be better exactly we'll just have a zoom meeting of the issue.

13:54:09 4 was the electronic device policy, like advice policy was Draconian.

13:54:20 And you know, if you if you had a cell phone speaking, and it was through harsh enough that I think it wasn't enforced a lot, or at least a lot of the board members thought that it was and thought also the

13:54:36 policy didn't reflect the modern world it didn't reflect 2,022.

13:54:42 We require on their cell phones, even to check their scores or to find out what table they're supposed to go at.

13:54:49 And all they're so much a part of our lives that in between rounds?

13:54:54 Why can't I show pictures of my grandkids or my grand dogs, or whatever it is?

13:54:58 And the feeling was among many members of the board that the electronic policies device policy should be updated.

13:55:07 The update. It includes a lot of technical details, but basically one you cannot discussion among Advisory Council members in our special meeting.

13:55:35 It passed, but not unanimously. The vote was 17 to 2. There are 19 voting members of the Board right now, and so that policy is now in it was ineffect immediately.

13:55:44 And so it is in effect today. we still can't be using your cell phone while you're playing bridge.

13:55:49 But but but the policy was updated to reflect what most of the Board thought was the realities of 2,022.

13:55:59 If you have comments on this or anything else we're going to hold them to the end.

13:56:02 The o 5 was emotion to provide essentially an masterpoint.

13:56:11 The masterpoint committee we'll have discretion to make minor changes to the masterpoint policy without going to the Board for it.

13:56:20 First if it's a minor change and minor isn't exactly defined boot.

13:56:23 It's up to the board. If it's a minor change then the Master Point Committee will notify the Board.

13:56:28 The change has been made, and if the board is okay with it and doesn't object, then 30 days thereafter the change will go into effect in Reno.

13:56:38 Excuse me. In Austin the board passed a very similar motion regarding the Competition and Conventions Committee.

13:56:44 This is the direction that the Board has chosen to go to do more and more technical and small and detailed decisions will be made, not by the entire board, but by committees of designated experts.

13:57:01 And so this is in essentially in keeping with that general flow, and I think all, most or all, probably all. But I can't speak for everybody of the Board members believe that this will make the board much more efficient.

13:57:13 This. This passed unanimously. That is the direction, especially as we go to a smaller board.

13:57:18 As Joanne Glasson mentioned, The board is now.

13:57:22 There are 20 spots opens sadly. There are only 19 members of the Board who are alive who can vote, and that is on the way down to 13 in a couple of years, and as the Board gets smaller it means to offload a lot of technical

13:57:36 things to these committees, and the members of this body participate on these committees. all right.

13:57:43 That's a 5 Oh, 6 is about fundraising for Nbc's with the pandemic for the past couple of years, face-to-face clubs of course haven't been able successfully to hold

13:57:56 fundraising weeks Traditionally a district. will be allowed a week of special games that pay extra master points and to raise funds to make the Nabc's work, and we're all in favor of that I think as was pointed

13:58:13 out by one of the board members. Some of the districts simply Hadn't had an opportunity to do that, so this motion gave them the opportunity essentially to make up for the mist.

13:58:24 You years, and so to If they missed a year. If they missed 2 years, then they can hold 3 weeks total, same amount of fundraising games, just changing the timing to reflect the realities of the pandemic that passed
13:58:38 unanimously. 7 was emotion that generated a lot of controversy and discussion in the Advisory Council meeting regarding the Nbc Websites.

13:58:54 Currently the Acbl establishes a website or a web page detailing, you know, what's coming up detailing everything about the Nbc.

13:59:05 And districts have also sometimes often put together their own websites.

13:59:10 There was a motion to require districts not to do that, and to require that there would be only one web page for each N.

13:59:21 Abc. This was believed by some to be a important for seo search engine optimization.

13:59:30 What that means is you want to you want your your page to pop up first on Google, and also, if there's going to be corporate sponsorship, we can't have confusion.

13:59:39 So there was a motion before the board to essentially prohibit districts from having their own websites, and that was the bridge committee didn't favor. This felt that this went too.

13:59:55 Far, or was too too early, and the board also did not favor this, or it was pretty clear that the Board didn't favor it, so that motion was withdrawn. so we don't have essentially and I was in the committee where a meeting in which this was

14:00:12 discussed, and I heard a commitment from management to work with

14:00:19 The local districts to produce websites and take together. in cooperation, and to do what's best for for getting the information out there, and that's what's most important.

14:00:33 You get the information out there. So that motion was It was on the agenda, and it was not past 8 was a motion to eliminate the some. Joe.

14:00:48 You have something to say about that. All right so those who are online?

14:01:00 Who can't hear this I will say that Yes, I understand you're requesting that we end the meeting.

14:01:06 And of course we're not going to do that because you know a lot of folks are here, but we're gonna we're gonna pick up this, and you'll have the opportunity both to hear this and to participate in in a subsequent

14:01:17 meeting and i'm not talking to the people who can hear me so i'm gonna stop them.

14:01:25 Oh, 8 was to eliminate some. some redundant language require about how you know how hospitality funds were allocated, and it really wasn't necessary anymore.

14:01:37 At least that was the feeling of the board in this past. Oh, 9!

14:01:40 The this again. This generated a great deal of discussion among Ac members regarding the Royal Stack Royal Stack, something that looks like a stack, a sectional tournament at clubs.

14:01:54 But it pays all sorts of different colors of points.

14:01:57 Quarter black quarter-old chloride or silver at least that's my belief.

14:02:05 And this were these were introduced a few months ago. as an experiment haven't run very many of them, and there was a motion placed before the board to make them permanent.

14:02:16 You know some folks were excited. The idea is you know people playing online don't have many opportunities to earn red and gold and silver points without traveling to tournaments.

14:02:29 If you don't travel to a tournament you have trouble in getting those points.

14:02:33 And so a royal stack provides that opportunity. On the other hand, by providing that opportunity, a royal stack some people felt, is competing with our tournaments.

14:02:44 If you, I mean you can get points without going to tournaments. so you don't have to go to tournaments.

14:02:53 Opinions went both ways on this issue. But what happened with the Board that most members of the Board agreed that it was premature.

14:03:03 The experiment has not been running for very long I mean the motion had been submitted. so the motion maker, the board member who made that motion, made another motion to withdraw his motion, and the that motion wound up being

14:03:20 withdrawn. So we're not ready let me say with respect to that.

14:03:26 Experiments are going on all the time experiments are going to continue to go on.

14:03:30 We're going to continue to run royal stacks in various districts, districts that have had time to to advertise them properly as D.

14:03:43 17 reps and a shoemaker pointed out.

14:03:46 We need to. You need more than a few weeks to get the information out there.

14:03:50 If you're going to get a fair trial of something but districts, several districts are doing different things, and that is okay with the Board, and we don't need motions to put things in place permanently.

14:04:02 Until we're Sure something is a good idea there'll be others of you know.

14:04:06 Experiments going on, and we're not going to go through all of them. in any case.

14:04:08 So oh, was with or excuse me. Oh, 9 was withdrawn.

14:04:15 All righty, executive director succession. plan We certainly hope we don't have to worry about replacing an executive director who, it becomes unavailable.

14:04:26 But the language regarding what happens in the very unfortunate event needed to be updated, and it was that past governance There was a motion to eliminate the Charity Commission, which again sounds weird, except My understanding.

14:04:43 Is the Charity Commission was really not you know it wasn't working right, and we so read that the the functions that it was originally intended to do were working elsewhere.

14:04:56 So there was a vote to eliminate the Charity Commission, which just confusing people in that past

14:05:00 The o 2 was to update the codification. The codification is the extensive list of the rules.

14:05:11 On what what the acbl does to update the codification with request regard to the regulations covering units units of the acbl.

14:05:21 This in committee got split into 2 parts there was essentially the technical stuff that doesn't maybe seem exciting, but it's absolutely got to be done to get things numbered right and to get you know all the words

14:05:32 lined up, and so forth, and to get things aligned I don't know how things had been cobbled together in the past, but the governance Committee, under the guidance of Margo Heller and the late Mike

14:05:43 Cobbach has been working really hard to clean this up, and this was part of that.

14:05:48 So part of it was just cleaning up the language and and making almost no substantive changes.

14:05:55 And this motion passed, I say, almost the only substantive change in that motion was to eliminate our requirement, which had been in place, that a unit has to hold a sectional every 2 years, and this was felt to be obsolete I

14:06:08 believe. So that motion passed. Now there was another portion of that motion that had a lot of substantive stuff about what to do when a unit shrinks to be so small that it simply can't function as a unit of the

14:06:24 acbl anymore what the acbl can do to help those units which, by the way, are not the same as the acbl.

14:06:29 They are their own, some of their corporations, some of them, are unincorporated entities.

14:06:35 We needed to to make some changes, or at least is believed by many, that we need to make some changes.

14:06:41 Those are still being discussed, and they're being discussed in part because of points that were raised in the meeting of the Advisory Council.

14:06:49 A special meeting that occurred a few weeks ago. if you have more. Say about that. Then I invite you to get in touch with the folks on the governance committee again.

14:06:57 That's chaired by margo hennings and we know they want to get it right. So that's been that's still being worked on, and I believe they intend to have something ready for props o 3 there, are issues with

14:07:15 elections, elections that take place in board of directors meetings, and this is splitting again into 2 parts.

14:07:24 One. There are elections for positions that involve other bodies.

14:07:29 The election for the representative to the Wbf Council.

14:07:34 I think, as elections for representatives to the North American Bridge Federation, which is technically the zonal authority that basically their Wbf members and those elections had been the procedures had been fixed except there was

14:07:53 a technical problem where there were conflicts between 2 to provisions, and that was fixed so that there would be no conflicts.

14:08:04 That was that was governance o 3, just basically eliminating duplicative language about how elections for the Nab.

14:08:14 Yeah. And so that passed. Now that I think more complicated issue is other elections, elections that involve not outside entities.

14:08:27 But what's the run-off elections what do you do when nobody gets in majority, that sort of thing, The governance committees continues to work hard on that, and that actually has special importance to us because I realized in discussion we

14:08:43 Margo, that we easy to buy. so don't have clear election provisions in place when they've put this together.

14:08:51 My guess is that we should just steal whatever they do and so of course that'll be subject to to Y'all's approval.

14:09:00 But that's my plan so they're working on that stuff. There's 1 one item that unfortunately you did not receive a copy of this because it was a non-agenda item meaning it wasn't something that had been

14:09:15 planned for, and it wasn't planned for because it came up in a very sudden and unfortunate way.

14:09:23 This is the proceed to establish procedures for the replacement of a regional director.

14:09:29 She, that regional director, become unavailable. and, as you know, Mike Kovacch, the regional director from region 6, which used to be District 7, and became unavailable when he passed away on February the 20

14:09:42 fifth of this year, and there were no procedures for replacing him.

14:09:47 And this was all. the plan that if a replacement needed was needed, established procedures and the Board did establish procedures, and they're not going to be made permanent. They apply to the position and we'll

14:10:02 see how it goes, and and then a permanent rules can be established.

14:10:06 The rules for this election. Most of it is simply management will run it, but important dates. They'll be taking nominations for regional director and region 6.

14:10:21 This is basically the southeast will be open on April the first of this year.

14:10:28 It was generally felt that it was inappropriate to be taking nominations.

14:10:32 Yet while we're still remembering Mike, and some nominations will be open from April the first to April, the thirtieth of this year, and anybody wishing to nominate someone including him or herself should get

14:10:47 in touch with the elections. Coordinator. Who is Sabrina?

14:10:50 Golly and after that an election will take place, and the election will take place according to procedures that management will set in place.

14:11:01 What are we consistent with? how we normally do things, and that election will close on June the fifteenth of this year kind of a rush.

14:11:08 But but it's believed that this is the right compromise between giving people enough time to give serious consideration to this, and making sure that a new regional director has been elected in time for the meeting so that will be held in conjunction with the

14:11:26 Nbc. this summer in Providence, so that unsurprisingly, and those are sorry those were all the motions.

14:11:42 There were also several appointments. i'll go through these quickly I wasn't planning on doing these because again this is all available on the website, but the I think it is so important for us to recognize all the people who do so

14:11:54 much work, and so much of our work is now done in committees, that I think these folks deserve as much recognition as they can.

14:12:04 So the following appointments were made. All of these were unanimous.

14:12:09 The Hall of Fame Committee will add David Granger, Adam Grosac, and Joe grew to three-year terms.

14:12:16 I note the that some new young blood and I don't think anybody's disappointed to hear that great selections.

14:12:25 The Competition and Conventions Committee is composed primarily of expert bridge players.

14:12:31 There are also some other members, and this body has 3 non-voting members of that body.

14:12:36 But for the voting members. A 3 year appointed to 3 or terms were Franco Bessgio, Doug, Dub, Jeff Ford, David Granger, and Jeff Max Roth.

14:12:46 Some of those folks are already on the committee and they're merely being reappointed, and I just realized I think I must have skipped over in my in my list.

14:12:56 There was a motion to clarify the term. Oh, I did mention it to clarify the terms of these folks, and to make the language all clear to the ethical Oversight Committee, which is not the online Ethical Oversight

14:13:11 committee just the ethical oversight Committee for things that don't happen on line appointments of Kevin, Bathurst, John Brisman, Bruce Ferguson, Henry Charles and Eddie

14:13:22 Wald again to three-year terms. All of those folks were appointed the disciplinary Committee, Chris Benson, Mark Friedlander, Jan Martel, and Chris Mall all appointed to those the laws