

**MOTION**  
**251-BD01: Approval of BOD Meeting Minutes**

**Moved that:**

The following BOD meeting minutes be approved:

November 24–26, 2024, Las Vegas Fall Meeting  
December 18, 2024, Online Special Meeting  
December 23, 2024, Email Vote to Change Date/Location of 2025 Goodwill Reception

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:**

N/A

Passed with 10 Ayes; note that all motions passed unanimously unless otherwise indicated in this report.

**MOTION**

**Item 251-BD02: Approval of Board Committee Member and Task Force Appointments**

**Item 251-BD02: Approval of Board Member Committee and Task Force Appointments**

**Moved that:**

The following Board Member Committee and Task Force Lead appointments be approved:

**Appeals & Charges**—Sealy (C), White, Carman

**Audit**—Overby (C), Scott, White

**Board Oversight**—Shoemaker (C), Glasson, Hennings

**Bridge/Executive Director Initiatives**—Aquino (C), Carman, Heller, Scott

**Bylaws** (*Subcommittee under Governance*)—Overby (L), Brown, Popper

**Communications** (*Subcommittee under Governance*)—Shoemaker (L), Scott

**Competition & Conventions**—Aquino, Sealy

**EDR**—Glasson (C), Aquino, Carman

**Executive Committee**—Hennings (P), Shoemaker (VP), Sealy (C), Lodge (W), Glasson (E)

**Finance**—Lodge (C), Glasson, White

**Governance [Bylaws and Communications]**—Shoemaker (C), Brown, Overby, Zayac

**Hall of Fame Liaison**—Glasson

**Masterpoints**—Carman, Overby

**NABC Site Selection/Oversight**—Aquino, Sealy

**Task Force: Rewarding Membership through Ranks** (*Task Force under Bridge*)—Heller (L), Popper, Zayac

**Strategic**—Hennings (L), Full Board

**Task Force: Online Provider (Negotiations)** (*thru June '25*)—Hennings (L), Lodge

**Task Force: Tournaments**—Full Board

- Schedules:** Heller (L), All
- Scheduling:** Glasson (L), All
- Staffing:** Lodge (L), All

**Task Force: Stakeholders** (*after March '25*)—Full Board

- Advisory Council (Including AC Committees)**—Popper (L), TBD
- External (Expert Committees, Other)**—Aquino (L), TBD
- International**—White (L), TBD

**Effective:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

## MOTION

**251-BD03: Replacement of Central National Goodwill Committee Co-chai**

**Item 251-BD03: Replacement of Central National Goodwill Committee Co-chair**

**Moved that:**

Betty Starzec be appointed as the Central National Goodwill Committee Member

**Effective date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated cost/savings:** N/A

**Discussion:** By regulation, the Goodwill Chair will appoint three Co-chairs on the Goodwill Committee from different parts of the ACBL. In March of 2024, Lamy Agelidis was approved by the Board to be Goodwill Chair for a three-year term. At that time, Lamy chose, and the Board approved, Richard Brown (E), Rebecca Brown (C), and Liz Hamilton (W) as her three Co-chairs. When Rebecca Brown was elected to the position of Regional Director for Region 9 last fall, she resigned her position as Goodwill Co-Chair, effective January 1. Lamy has selected Betty Starzec to replace Rebecca. Betty will serve the remainder of Rebecca's term (through March 2027).

**MOTION**

**ITEM 251-BD04: COMPETITION AND CONVENTIONS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Item 251-BD04: Competition and Conventions Committee Appointments**

**Moved that:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2025 NABC through the end of the Spring 2028 NABC.

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:**

Term ending 2025: Franco Baseggio, Doug Doub, Jeff Ford, David Grainger, Jeff Meckstroth  
Term ending 2026: Sabine Auken, Owen Lien

Term ending 2027: Danny Sprung

Board Members: Mark Aquino, Larry Sealy

ACBL Management: Sol Weinstein

## **MOTION**

### **ITEM 251-BD05: HALL OF FAME APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Item 251-BD05: Hall of Fame Appointments**

##### **Moved that:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2025 NABC through the end of the Spring 2028 NABC.

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

##### **Discussion:**

Term ending 2025: David Grainger, Adam Grossack, Joe Grue

Term ending 2026: Iftikhar Baqai, John Carruthers, Eddie Wold

Term ending 2027: Lynn Baker, Josh Donn, Sheri Winestock

## **MOTION**

### **ITEM 251-BD06: ETHICAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Item 251-BD06: Ethical Oversight Committee Appointments**

##### **Moved that:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2025 NABC through the end of the Spring 2028 NABC.

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:**

Term ending 2025: Kevin Bathurst, Jon Brissman, Bruce Ferguson, Hendrik Sharples, Eddie Wold

Term ending 2026: Cheri Bjerkan, Marty Fleischer, John Fout, Rick Roeder, Kevin Wilson

Term ending 2027: Bart Bramley, Alex Kolesnik, Lesley Davis, Craig Kavin, Karen Walker

**MOTION**

**ITEM 251-BD07: ACBL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Item 251-BD07: ACBL Disciplinary Committee Appointments**

**Moved that:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are appointed for a three-year term from the end of the Spring 2025 NABC through the end of the Spring 2028 NABC.

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:**

Term ending 2025: Iftikhar Baqai, Chris Benson, Jan Martel, Chris Moll

Term ending 2026: Lisa Berkowitz, Christal Henner, Nagy Kamel, Tom Peters

Term ending 2027: Craig Allen, Dana Berkowitz, Howard Engle, Mitch Dunitz

## MOTION

### ITEM 251-BD08: LAWS COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

#### Item 251-BD08: Laws Commission Appointments

##### Moved that:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ are appointed for a five-year term from the end of the Spring 2025 NABC through the end of the Spring 2030 NABC.

**Effective Date:** March 25, 2024

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

##### Discussion:

Term ending 2025: Adam Wildavsky, Chris Compton, Ron Gerard

Term ending 2026: Peter Boyd, Doug Couchman, Howard Weinstein

Term ending 2027: Bart Bramley, Allan Falk, Aaron Silverstein, Rui Marques

Term ending 2028: Lynne Feldman, Matt Koltnow

Term ending 2029: Robb Gordon, Eric Rodwell, Oren Kriegel

Note: There was one abstention in the approval of the laws commission appointments.

## MOTION

### ITEM 251-BD09: MASTERPOINT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

#### Item 251-BD09: Masterpoint Committee Appointments

##### Moved that:

President appointments: Dennis Carman, Bridge Committee Representative; and Jeff Overby appointed with terms ending March 2026.

Management appointments: Rob Maier, David Metcalf; Sol Weinstein (NV Advisor) appointed with terms ending March 2026.

Additional At-Large appointments: Doug Couchman, Lee Lin, and Russ Jones appointed by President with terms ending March 2026.

**Effective Date:** March 3, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:**

Per the Codification, this committee shall have at least seven voting members. It has been functioning well with nine since March 2024—the above-named members as well as Alex Hudson and Bob Heller; these same nine will comprise the MP Committee through March 2026.

President appointed term ending in 2025: Dennis Carman as Chair of Bridge, Jeff Overby appointed.

Management appointed terms ending 2025: Rob Maier, David Metcalf; Sol Weinstein (NV Advisor).

At-Large appointed: Alex Hudson appointed with term ending March 2027. Bob Heller appointed with term ending March 2026.

Additional At-Large appointed: Doug Couchman, Lee Lin appointed by President with terms ending March 2025.

**MOTION**

**251-FN01: Fall Meeting Hotel and Per Diem Reimbursement**

**Moved that:**

The following section of the Codification be revised:

**Chapter IV – Board Procedures**

**B. Expenses**

**Section 2 – Board of Directors Expenses**

## 2.3 Hotel

2.3.1 Board members will be reimbursed at the ACBL host hotel room rate incurred, beginning with the night before their first officially scheduled meeting and continuing through the night the Board meetings conclude.

**2.3.2 When the fall board meetings end on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Board members who chose not to travel home for the Thanksgiving holiday will receive an additional night for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.**

2.3.3 **2** In order to qualify for reimbursement, the attendees must have paid the ACBL host hotel for the appropriate number of room nights.

2.3.4 **3** Board members who share a room with another Board member will only receive reimbursement at the ACBL host hotel negotiated room rate for one room, not two.

2.3.5 **4** Board members may not charge a fee for use (or sharing) of their room for which they are receiving ACBL reimbursement.

## 2.4 Per Diem Meals

2.4.1 Per diem for meals will be paid at the applicable IRS meals only per diem rate for travel within the 48 continental United States (including the District of Columbia) (“CONUS”). For travel outside CONUS, meals-only per diem will be paid at the applicable IRS per diem meals-only rate for the highest cost CONUS city.

2.4.2 Per diem will be paid beginning the day before the first officially scheduled meeting through the day after the last reimbursable hotel night

**2.4.3 When the fall board meetings end on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Board members choosing not to travel home for the Thanksgiving holiday will receive an additional day of per diem for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.**

2.4.4 **3** Board member per diem may be reduced by up to 25% by the ACBL Treasurer based on the availability of concierge privileges for breakfast.

2.4.5 **4** Board member per diem will be reduced for meals provided by the ACBL and for meals received that are directly related to a Board member's position on the ACBL Board of Directors.

**Effective Date:** 4/1/2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** \$2,000

**Discussion:**

At our Spring meeting in Louisville last year, we passed a motion to start our Fall meetings on Sunday and run them through Tuesday. This was done to allow management, staff and Board members who wanted to, to travel home to spend Thanksgiving with their families.

The Wednesday before Thanksgiving would be considered a travel day for those who choose to return home. Those board members who choose to remain at the NABC are therefore obligated to spend an additional day at the NABC site and should not be financially penalized. This motion will provide reimbursement for per diem and hotel room for that additional day.

Note: This motion was approved by a vote of 10-3.

**MOTION**

**251-GV01: Revised Board Social Media Policy**

**Moved that:**

The revised Board Social Media Policy be approved by the Board.

**Proposed Board Social Media Policy**

This Policy outlines the appropriate use of social media activity for members of the ACBL Board of Directors and for the Chair of the Advisory Council (AC). Its purpose is to foster consistent and accurate messaging, and reducing risk to the ACBL.

ACBL Board members and the Chair of the Advisory Council will limit social media activity to non-Board related business, such as the analysis of a bridge hand. Non-public and/or confidential communications should not be posted.

The ACBL Executive Director, the ACBL President or a designee will respond to social media postings that relate to Board and/or ACBL business.

As a matter of courtesy, Board members should not take and/or post or disseminate videos, photographs, and/or audio of other Board members without their permission.

Board members seeking re-election may engage in social media activity to campaign within the District(s) that comprise their Regions, e.g., Facebook or Bridgewinners forums established for this purpose.

Policy violations may result in referral to the Board Oversight Committee as outlined in the Codification.

Policies will be reviewed and updated periodically by the Board of Directors to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**Effective Date: March 13, 2025**

**Estimated Cost/Savings: None**

**Discussion:**

This revised Board Social Media Policy replaces the current Policy (current Policy shown at conclusion of this Discussion) last updated in 2022. A revision was tabled by the Board in 2024.

The primary aim of this policy is to protect the integrity and reputation of the ACBL while ensuring consistent and accurate communication.

**Key Provisions:**

- **Board Business:** Board members and the Advisory Council Chair should limit social media to non-board related business.
- **Confidentiality:** Non-public and confidential information must not be shared on social media.
- **Official Spokesperson:** The ACBL Executive Director, President, or a designee will be the primary voice for official ACBL communications on social media.

- Respect for Privacy: Board members must obtain consent before posting images, videos, or audio recordings of other Board members.
- Election Campaigns: Board members seeking re-election may utilize appropriate social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Bridgewinners forums) to campaign within their respective Regions.
- Consequences: Violations of this Policy may result in referral to the Board Oversight Committee as outlined in the Codification per a motion passed by the Board in July of 2024.

The Policy will “live” on the Board Resources page of the OneDrive and in the Board Resource Manual.

### **Current Board Social Media Policy**

ACBL Board members will limit postings to BridgeWinners and/or other social media platforms to non-board related business such as the analysis of a bridge hand. To ensure consistent and accurate messaging, public postings will be made by the ACBL President, the National Recorder (with ACBL Executive Director approval), or a designated representative of ACBL Management when deemed appropriate.

Postings in connection with an election for an ACBL Board candidate should conform to 1) the provisions in the Codification, Chapter III — Administration, D. Elections, where it is stated that candidates or current Board members may not campaign for anyone other than themselves outside the District(s) comprising their Region; and 2) the provisions in the Codification, Chapter IV – Board Procedures, A: Administration, where one of the prohibitions under the ACBL Board of Directors Behavioral Code is that no member of the Board of Directors may actively engage in a campaign for a Unit, District or ACBL elected position in Districts other than his own, although a candidate for Regional Director may campaign in all Districts within that Region.

Violations of this policy by Board members fall under the purview of the Board Oversight Committee.

Updated: November 2022

## **MOTION**

### **251-GV02: Revised Board Email Policy**

**Moved that:**

The revised Board Email Policy be approved by the Board.

### **Proposed Board Email Policy**

This Policy outlines the appropriate use of the corporate email addresses provided to members of the ACBL Board of Directors and to the Chair of the Advisory Council (AC). Its purpose is to foster professional, secure and compliant communication.

Corporate email addresses should be used exclusively for Board-related business and for bridge-related communication with membership. Personal email, text and phone should be used for all other communication.\*

The dissemination of confidential and sensitive information increases risk and legal liabilities. It is best not to share such information outside of corporate email communications.

To protect the Board's time, and to ensure accurate and consistent messaging, the ACBL Board President or designee will respond to external complaints and concerns sent to the entire Board via corporate email. The President or designee will ensure Board members receive the responses.

All email communications should be professional, courteous and respectful. Violations to email protocols may result in referral to the Board Oversight Committee as outlined in the Codification.

Policies will be reviewed and updated periodically by the Board of Directors to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness.

\*Reference the Board Social Media Policy for mindful social media decorum.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**Effective Date:** March 13, 2025

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** None

#### **Discussion:**

This revised Board Email Policy replaces the current Protocol (current Protocol shown at conclusion of this Discussion) last updated in 2021. A revision was tabled by the Board in 2024.

The Policy aims to ensure the professional, secure and compliant use of corporate email addresses by Board members and the Advisory Council Chair.

Key updates:

- Eliminates the requirement for prior approval from the President to send Board-wide emails.
- Stresses the importance of confidentiality and minimizing risks associated with email communication.
- Establishes the Board President or designee as the primary point of contact for external communications addressed to the entire Board.
- Clarifies that disrespectful communication may result in disciplinary action as outlined in the Codification.

The following are under the purview of management as requested by the Board in Q1 of 2024, and are removed from the Policy and will be referenced in the Board Resource Manual.

- Board email accounts are cleared of previous communications upon transfer.
- Limited access to email history is maintained by management for legal and compliance purposes. These actions are now ACBL Policy as requested by the Board in Q1 of 2024 and will be referenced in the Board Resource Manual.

Procedural or how to information such as email subject line recommendations - “Response Requested” or “For Information Only” - are removed from the Policy and will be referenced in the Board Resource Manual.

The Policy will “live” on the Board Resources page of the OneDrive and in the Board Resource Manual.

### **Current Board Email Protocol**

ACBL headquarters provides Board members with a corporate email address; i.e., [districtXdirector@acbl.org](mailto:districtXdirector@acbl.org) or [regionXdirector@acbl.org](mailto:regionXdirector@acbl.org). The assigned email address should be used for Board-related communication only. Personal email, text or phone should be used for all other communication.

When a new Board member assumes the email address of his or her predecessor, the account contents are archived and deleted from the email history. This gives Board members an expectation of privacy while providing Management with the ability to “see” email history mainly accessed for litigation purposes only.

To streamline the email process, it is strongly encouraged that Board members seek the approval of the ACBL President or the appropriate Committee Chair before sending an “All Board” email. Adding “For Information Only” to the subject line and using bcc reduces or prohibits response.

Bcc can include members of Management, the Advisory Council Chair and all Board members. It is important to be cognizant of who receives emails.

Board members should be respectful of staff time and direct questions to a Committee Chair, the appropriate Executive Team member or the Administrative Coordinator.

Updated: December 2021

## MOTION

### Item 251-BY01: Second Reading of Bylaws Changes for RD-DD

#### Moved that:

The ACBL By-Laws be revised as follows upon a second reading and approval of 243-BY01:

#### ARTICLE V ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.2 **Composition.** The Board of Directors shall be composed of one (1) member from each Region of the ACBL (a “Regional Director”) ~~or “Director” and such other members as provided by these Bylaws.~~ The “entire board” consists of the total number of members entitled to vote ~~if there are no vacancies,~~ regardless of the number of members ~~actually~~ present at a meeting or vote. No proxy delegate voting is permitted. A member of the Board of Directors shall be a member of a Unit located within the Region ~~(or District, prior to 2021)~~ from which he was elected and must remain a member of a Unit located within the Region ~~(or District, prior to 2021)~~ during his term. If the person’s membership is transferred to a Unit not located within the Region ~~(or District, prior to 2021)~~ from which he was elected, he will be deemed to have resigned and his position will be filled according to the provisions of these Bylaws.

5.3 **Election.** A Regional Director ~~(or District Director, prior to 2021)~~ shall be elected for a term of three (3) years, until a successor is elected, or if elected as replacement Regional Director as set out below, for as long as provided by Board of Directors resolution.

5.3.3 Members of the Board of Directors are limited to four consecutive terms ~~(three-year terms, in most cases, but including the four-year initial terms for some Regional Directors due to the Board restructuring in 2020).~~ Terms on the Board of Directors in any capacity served or started prior to January 1, 2019, shall not be counted towards the four consecutive term limit.

~~5.3.4 — The office of District Director shall be replaced with the office of Regional Director when an election for that office occurs during that member’s term.~~

~~If the former District Director is not elected as Regional Director, that member may choose to remain a member of the Board for the remainder of his original term in a non-representative office or capacity and will have full voting and other privileges held by other Board members.~~

5.4 **Vacancy.** ~~A member of the Board of Directors who does not complete his term shall be subject to the following provisions:~~ **A vacancy on the Board of Directors shall be handled according to the following provisions:**

5.4.1. ~~If a Regional Director does not complete his term of office, or a Regional Director position becomes vacant for any other reason, the Board of Directors shall proceed as per their established procedures for addressing vacancies, which may include the option to leave the position temporarily unfilled. the position will remain vacant until a replacement can be elected. The Board of Directors shall establish special election conditions to elect a new permanent Regional Director using a shortened 2.5-month election cycle to begin no later than 30 days after the vacancy occurs. The term of the replacement Regional Director begins when that person is declared elected and certified by the Board of Directors and shall last as long as the Board of Directors indicates in the special election conditions.~~

5.4.2 ~~If a District Director does not complete his term of office prior to December 31, 2021, that position shall be filled with the person elected as First or Second Alternate Director according to the July 2018 version of these Bylaws.~~

5.6 **Removal.** A member of the Board of Directors may be recalled at any time. The call for removal can be made by: (i) a majority vote of a majority of the Unit boards that elected the member; or (ii) twenty percent (20%) of the Region's ~~(or District, prior to 2021)~~ members by petition. Removal of a Regional ~~(or District, prior to 2021)~~ Director shall be voted on by the members of the Unit boards who elected that Director. Removal requires a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Unit board members voting as specified in Article VIII.

5.7 **Board of Director Meetings.**

5.7.1 The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings each year ~~in accordance with~~ **as per** rules and regulations established by the Board of Directors.

Notice of regular meetings shall be given by ~~the~~ ACBL ~~management~~ **President** to members of the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

## ARTICLE VI OFFICERS OF THE ACBL

### 6.1 ACBL Officers.

6.1.5 **Vacancy.** A vacancy in the office of President, **Vice-President,** or Treasurer, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of such officer's term from among the members of the Board of Directors ~~in accordance with~~ **as per** regulations of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VIII ELECTION PROCEDURES

### 8.1 Electors.

**8.1.1** Regional Directors ~~and Representatives to the Advisory Council~~ shall be elected by the Unit boards located within each Region under the authority of the Director of Elections of the ACBL.

**8.1.2** **Representatives to the Advisory Council shall be elected by Unit boards located within each District under the authority of the Director of Elections of the ACBL.**

8.2 **Elections.** Candidates for Regional Director and Representatives to the Advisory Council shall submit a written declaration of candidacy to the Director of Elections and shall be elected in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Board of Directors consistent with the following procedures:

8.2.1 Each Unit Board of Directors ~~in a Region or District shall be allocated votes as follows:~~ **member who has been determined to be a valid elector shall have Unit Board Member Voting Power based on the following formula:**

8.2.1.1 The membership of each Unit in the Region or District shall be divided by one hundred (100) to determine the number of votes allocated to each Unit board ("Unit Voting Power"). The Unit membership shall be the number of Unit members recorded by the ACBL as enrolled in each Unit on a date to be determined ~~in~~

~~accordance with~~ **as per** election regulations established by the ACBL Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IX ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 9.3 **Membership.** The following shall make up the membership of the Advisory Council.
- 9.3.1 There shall be three Representatives from each District who shall be elected for terms of three (3) years. If a Representative's position becomes vacant (including as a result of the application of subsection 9.7.3), the District ~~shall~~ **may** appoint a replacement for the duration of the Representative's term. **Each Representative must remain a member of a Unit located within the District that he or she represents during the Representative's term.**
- ~~9.3.2 All persons who were members of the Advisory Council as of January 1, 2021 by virtue of their former status as First or Second Alternate Director to the Board of Directors shall remain members of the Advisory Council until one year following the date on which their terms would otherwise expire or until they resign or are deemed to have resigned or the position otherwise becomes vacant. If a member referred to in this provision resigns or is deemed to have resigned before January 1, 2024, he or she will not be replaced on the Advisory Council. No further elections shall take place for these positions.~~
- 9.3.~~2~~**3** All persons who were members of the Advisory Council as of January 1, 2021, by virtue of their former position of President of the Board of Directors shall maintain their membership (subject to subsections **9.3.4 and** 9.7.3). ~~If, by virtue of subsection 9.7.3 such member is deemed to have resigned or the position otherwise becomes vacant, he or she will not be replaced on the Advisory Council.~~
- 9.3.~~4~~**3** **The current and** all past chairs of the Advisory Council shall also be members (subject to subsections **9.3.4 and** 9.7.3). ~~If by virtue of subsection 9.7.3, such member is deemed to have resigned, or the position otherwise becomes vacant, he or she will not be replaced on the Advisory Council.~~
- 9.3.~~5~~**4** Each ~~Representative~~ **member of the Advisory Council** must be **and remain** a member in good standing of the ACBL, ~~and be and~~ **Each Representative must be and** remain a member of a Unit located within the District ~~which~~ **that** he or she represents during the term.

9.3.65 No member of the Board of Directors shall have a voice or vote on the Advisory Council.

9.4 **Officers.** The following shall be the officers to be selected from the membership of the Advisory Council:

9.4.1 Chair, who shall be responsible to chair all meetings, make appointments to committees, attend all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors with voice but without vote and with the same compensation and reimbursement of expenses as a member of the Board of Directors, and perform such other duties as the position requires.

9.4.2 Vice-Chair, who shall be responsible to assist the Chair of the Advisory Council in the execution of duties, to perform the duties of Chair should the Chair of the Advisory Council be unable for any reason, **to succeed the Chair if the Chair position becomes vacant,** and to perform such other duties as the Chair requires.

9.4.3 ~~Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Chair of the Advisory Council and approved by the Advisory Council. The Secretary shall be responsible to give timely notice of all meetings, take minutes of all meetings, monitor attendance at all meetings, distribute all correspondence to the membership of the Advisory Council and to perform such other duties as the Chair of the Advisory Council requires.~~ **Any additional officers that the Chair chooses to appoint with such responsibilities as the Chair chooses to specify, subject to approval by the Advisory Council.**

9.5 **Officer Elections and Term of Office.** At its ~~Fall meeting~~ **final regular meeting** in even numbered years, the Advisory Council shall elect one of its members as its Chair and one as its Vice-Chair. The term of office shall be two years commencing on January 1 of the year following the election. The Chair of the Advisory Council may be elected to no more than two consecutive terms.

**A vacancy in the office of Chair shall be filled by the Vice-Chair. All other officer vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the procedures established by the Advisory Council.**

9.7 **Meetings.**

9.7.1 The Advisory Council shall hold ~~three~~ **a** regular meetings ~~annually in conjunction with~~ **during or within two weeks of each** the North American Bridge Championships. Regular meetings may be held in person, ~~as well as~~ **as** or electronically. A member will also be deemed to have attended a

meeting if that person participates in the meeting in a manner that allows for contemporaneous communication. Notice of each regular meetings shall be given ~~by the Secretary~~ at least-thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

~~Special meetings may be called by the Chair of the Advisory Council. The Chair of the Advisory Council may call special meetings.~~ Notice of the date, time, method, and agenda of special meetings shall be given to each member of the Advisory Council at least ~~thirty (30)~~ seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Business transacted at special meetings shall be noted on the agenda furnished with the meeting notice. Special meetings may be held in person or electronically. ~~but meetings held in person may also be attended electronically.~~

- 9.7.2 A quorum at a meeting of the Advisory Council shall consist of thirty (30) members of the Advisory Council representing a majority of ACBL Districts
- 9.7.3 Any member of the Advisory Council may be removed by a two thirds vote of the Advisory Council. ~~who fails to attend two-thirds of all meetings available electronically in a calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned, and shall not be eligible to serve as a member of the Advisory Council until the next regularly scheduled election. Absence due to membership on the Board of Directors shall be excepted from this provision and the Chair of the Advisory Council may grant other exceptions in the event of extenuating circumstances.~~

## ARTICLE X AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

10.2 If Initiated by a Member of the Advisory Council. Any member of the Advisory Council may initiate a proposed Bylaw amendment.

- 10.2.1 The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at any regular meeting of the Advisory Council.

**Reference:** <https://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/about/Bylaws.pdf>

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon ratification by the Advisory Council, per ACBL regulations to amend By-Laws

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:** Removes multiple items that are no longer relevant. A few improved wording changes for clarity. A few changes to simplify procedures and not be tied down to detailed instructions.

The changes included in this amendment were noticed in the January ACBL Bulletin on page 22. This notice included a link to the current text of the changes from the Fall 2024 Meeting shown above *and* the changes from the Special Meeting held on December 18, 2024 (see 24S5-02 and 251-BY02) to formally allow links to such changes. The text of this amendment was published in the February 2025 ACBL Bulletin on page 76.

## MOTION

### **Item 251-BY02: Second Reading of Bylaws—Publishing Amendments (Clean-up to accompany changes made in November 2024—First Reading)**

**Moved that:**

The ACBL By-Laws be revised as follows upon a second reading and approval of 24S5-01:

#### **ARTICLE X AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS**

- 10.1 **If Initiated by a Member of the Board of Directors.** Any member of the Board of Directors may initiate a proposed Bylaw amendment.
- 10.1.1 The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 10.1.2 If it is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting, ~~it~~ **notice of an amendment** shall be ~~published~~ **provided to the membership by including the full text of the change or through a link to the text of such change** in the official publication of the ACBL at least thirty (30) days prior to the second vote by the Board of Directors.
- 10.2 **If Initiated by a Member of the Advisory Council.** Any member of the Advisory Council may initiate a proposed Bylaw amendment.
- 10.2.1 The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at any ~~regular~~ meeting of the Advisory Council. *[Note: Change made in November 2024]*
- 10.2.2 If it is approved by two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting, ~~it~~ **notice of an amendment** shall be ~~published~~ **provided to the membership by including the full text of the change or through a link to the text of such change** in the official publication of the ACBL at least thirty (30) days prior to the second vote by the Advisory Council.

**Reference:** <https://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/about/Bylaws.pdf>

**Effective Date:** Immediately upon ratification by the Advisory Council, per ACBL regulations to amend By-Laws

**Estimated Cost/Savings:** N/A

**Discussion:** The above changes were unanimously approved at a Special Meeting of the Board held on December 18, 2024 (see 24S5-02) to allow publication of a link to the full text of changes to the Bylaws in the ACBL Bulletin, on the website, or in any other official “publication” in lieu of publishing the entire set of changes in the official publication. Not requiring the entire set of changes to be printed will facilitate a thirty-day notice to the membership to be accomplished in the earliest available “publication,” without the need for a great deal of space to be dedicated to this.

A notice on page 22 in the January ACBL Bulletin included a link to the full text of the Bylaws changes unanimously approved upon a First Reading at the Fall 2024 Meeting of the ACBL Board of Directors (see 243-BY01 and 251-BY01) *and* the changes shown above.

## **APPROVAL OF NABC SITES**

The board approved Orlando as the site of the summer NABC for 2028 unanimously.

The board approved Atlanta as the site of the summer NABC for 2029 by a vote of 7 to 6.

## **TABLED MOTION**

The following motion was tabled. It was a non agenda item which needed further study.

## **MOTION**

### **NA251-03: Bridge GLM Events**

(the motion below was a non agenda item and was tabled)

#### **Moved that:**

Codification Chapter XIII: General Tournament Information, F. Events, Section 1 - Tournament Events and Restrictions be amended as follows:

1.2.4 Event

....

b. Flighted (by masterpoints only): Three flights event. Each flight may have two strats. Players who win, or at any time in the past won, an ACBL or WBF event which qualifies them to achieve Grand Life Master (GLM) status upon meeting all other GLM requirements, may not enter a masterpoint-restricted event, may play only in the top stratum of the top flight in non-bracketed events, and will be assigned eligibility points (if and as necessary) to bring them to 10,000 masterpoints for bracketing purposes in bracketed events. (Passed June 17, 2020; Effective January 1, 2020) Note: Flighted KO events at Regionals may be bracketed (but may not be randomly grouped) to finish in four sessions. **Moving forward, this restriction against entering a Masterpoint-restricted event will apply immediately after the end of the ACBL or WBF tournament at which a GLM eligibility qualification is earned.**

c. Stratified (by masterpoints only): Two or three strats. Up to five strats are permitted in a one-session event which has an upper limit of 300 or fewer masterpoints – specifically an I/N event. Players who win, or at any time in the past won, an ACBL or WBF event which qualifies them to achieve GLM status upon meeting all other GLM requirements, may not enter a masterpoint-restricted event, may play only in the top stratum of the top flight in non-bracketed events, and will be assigned eligibility points (if and as necessary) to bring them to 10,000 masterpoints for bracketing purposes in bracketed events. (Passed June 17, 2020; Effective January 1, 2020). Note: At sponsor option, the stratification of a team in an Open Stratified Swiss event may be determined by the average masterpoint holding of all team members. **Moving forward, this restriction against entering a Masterpoint-restricted event will apply immediately after the end of the ACBL or WBF tournament at which a GLM eligibility qualification is earned.**

Effective March 13, 2025

