

ACBL BOARD OF GOVERNORS/ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes: SUMMER SPECIAL MEETING

June 30, 2024

Steve Moese, Vice Chair of the ACBL Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Sunday June 30, 2024. A quorum was present.

OPENING REMARKS: Steve welcomed all members of the ACBL Advisory Council and mentioned that Chair Doug Couchmen was unavailable for this meeting. Steve reminded attendees about screen names and meeting etiquette.

NEXT MEETING TIME: The General AC Meeting will take place on Sunday August 4, 2024. Doug Couchman will advise the time.

DISCUSSION ON MATTERS BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUMMER MEETING (TORONTO):

Motion 242-AC01 – Report on Hearings – No Comment

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

Motion 242-BR01 – Redefinition of Limited Regionals – No Comment

Motion 242-BR02 & BR03 – Changes to NAP and GNT Flights. This motion generated lively discussion.

- Make the names of the flights the same between the NAP and the GNT.
- Do not allow Life Masters in the lowest flight.
- Eliminating LMs for the bottom flight gets in the way when one partner is a LM.
- This extra flight will cost the CBL at least \$75K. Symmetry isn't necessary because there is a vast difference between pairs and teams. We do not need to cater to 0-6000 MP players.

Motion BR04 – Masterpoints for concurrent club games. (Masterpoint Committee) – some were opposed to limiting clubs ability to mix table counts across F2F and online games run simultaneously.

Motion BR05 - 75 Mile Radius Restriction on Special Games in Clubs – generated substantial discussion.

- Why is this limited to regionals and sectionals?
- Should we include limited regionals?
- A friendly amendment will change the distance to 45 miles.
- Mileage is different depending on population density.
- Wish for a code of conduct for clubs or some other enforceable way that encourages people to play bridge when they want to play, where they want to play, and how they want to play.
- Why not let the tournament allow clubs to run the games they want?
- Running a club championship will not draw people away from a sectional.
- Sectional players want to play competitively.

The Chair reminded the attendees that the following Governance Committee motions should be reacted to in terms of their impact on the Advisory Council.

Motion 242-GV01 Regional Director Elections When No Declared Candidates – Discussion:

- The term limit ought to take precedence and disallow any extension past that limit.

- The Board doesn't represent the Region, they represent the ACBL. That's why the AC exists we communicate the Why would we want someone who has no interest?
- Since registration closes in May and elections are in November, there is an opportunity for the Election Manager to poll the affected District Presidents for nominees.
- The Unit Boards who should put forward the candidate.

Motion 242 GV02 – Board Oversight Committee Members – No Comments

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

Motion 242 GV04 – Revised Board Meeting Procedures – Members can attend with approval of the chair.
It's to make sure the space can handle the attendance and the agenda can be set ahead of time.

Motion 242 GV06 – Board Social Media Policy – No Comments

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

ADVISORY COUNCIL TEACHER AND CLUB MANAGERS COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

Upgraded Club Championships for the clubs that recruit new members. Need to consider more reward for higher performers to give clubs more incentive to recruit. Put our money where it works well. Discussion surfaced abuse by clubs who run excess special games.

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

425 Mile Rule —

- The rule triggers a discussion. Could be based on the heat map. Can't have no rule – can't have a complete free for all. We need guidelines. Years ago, this number was 500 miles.
- We want the parties involved to bring data to the table (readily available) showing the overlap of attendees who attend either site. If no or little overlap, there should be no right to veto the sanction,
- We choose dates then try to find a space. We cannot in the current environment schedule even 6 months in advance. We need to charge more for our entries. Even 1 year in advance is impossible right now.

Online Bulletin Ads – Create an appendix for the online bulletin only that allows clubs teachers and smaller tournaments to advertise their offerings. Charge a modest fee for the set up and online publishing.

Discussion about online silver point games was tabled by the Chair as Bronia Jenkins is working on the issue for the summer meetings.

The Chair invited all attendees to use the Bridge Winners Advisory Council Forum for discussion and proposals between meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM ET.