

ACBL BOARD OF GOVERNORS/ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes: SUMMER SPECIAL MEETING

February 19, 2023

Doug Couchman, Chair of the Advisory Council, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. MST on Sunday, February 19, 2023. A quorum was present.

OPENING REMARKS: Chair Couchman opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.

DISCUSSION OF TIMING OF AC MEETINGS: The AC's next general meeting will occur at the New Orleans NABC at 8 pm Sunday, March 12, by Zoom only. Discussion ensued about what the best plan would be going forward — hybrid or zoom only, what time of day, etc. It was suggested that general meetings could be held after the conclusion of the corresponding NABC. No consensus was reached, but Chair Couchman advised the Council that the summer general meeting, at least, would be hybrid because of its relationship with the annual Members' Meeting.

Chair's Report on Board actions since the fall meetings: Chair Couchman reviewed the actions the Board of Directors had taken since the last Advisory Council Meeting.

Discussion of items on the Board's agenda for the Spring meeting: The Council reviewed the items on the Board of Director's agenda for the upcoming spring meetings. Many items were presented; only those that generated substantial discussion are detailed below.

AI231-BR01, Extend Overall Masterpoints: After discussion, the Council voted 19–16 to disapprove the motion.

AI231-BR02, Online Regional with Face to Face Regional: The council discussed this motion with interest and general approval, but expressed certain specific concerns.

231-BR01, Additional Regional Allocation: Discussion ensued concerning the provision for charity games, but it was established that this provision was not new.

231-BR02, NAP Conditions of Contest: Some Council members objected to the change in security requirements for remote qualifying games; Regional Representative Dennis Carman, Chair of the Bridge Committee, explained that that provision had been removed by the committee.

321-BY01, Bylaws change regarding arbitration: There was extensive discussion of the proposed bylaws change. Because the amendment will come before the Council if, but only if, it is passed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors in each of two separate meetings, no formal recommendation was offered.

231-BY02, Codification, Bylaws Committee: Council members expressed concern that no member of the Council is on the Committee.

231-GV03, GV04 and GV05, Hall of Fame Committee Procedures: After the motions were explained by District Director Stu Goodgold and Regional Director Jonathan Steinberg, the Council discussed the relative merits of making vetting of potential nominees by the Recorder optional or mandatory. The Council voted 23-3 in favor of mandatory vetting.

DI231-BR01, Sectional Surcharge: Several Council members expressed disapproval of the increase.

NEW BUSINESS: Several motions were presented, each recommending that the League take certain actions:

231-ACS-01, ACBL Club Advocate: Withdrawn after it was determined that this position already exists.

231-ACS-02, Silver Linings Week at Clubs: Carried 15-7.

231-ACS-03, Royal STaCs: Motion failed, 13-13.

231-ACS-04, Temporary STaC Fee Reduction: Carried 15-14.

231-ACS-01, Online Portal to Address Unmet Communication Needs: Carried 21-0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 pm MST.