

Conference Call

**Zoom Video Conference.**

**Attendance:** Steve Moese, Jeff Bayone, Steve Gaynor, Rich Carle, Betty Starzec, Kathie Macnab, Greg Coles (ACBL Director of Operations), Henry Meguid, Ellis Feigenbaum, Susan Miguel

**Key Links:**

Committee Documents: <http://www.district11bridge.com/BoG/2017BoGTCODocs.html>

BoG Reports: [http://www.district11bridge.com/ACBL\\_board\\_reports.html](http://www.district11bridge.com/ACBL_board_reports.html)

BridgeWinners Clubs & Teachers Forum: <http://bridgewinners.com/forums/browse/clubs-and-teachers/>

**Priorities** - Emerge from Covid19 Impacts ~~Grow Membership, Grow Tables, Grow Classes~~

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday June 21, 2022 - 8 PM EDT, 5 PM PDT**

**AGENDA**

- Reopening In-person clubs and classes
- Data needs

**Discussion**

General consensus that clubs and teachers don't need more "data".

However, clubs do need access to contacting people in the perimeter of the club. Greg mentioned that the ACBL might be able to send emails coordinated with club offerings so that players know what's available to them. Susan Miguel suggested letting the club managers compose the emails that the ACBL then sends to the clubs members-in-area.

GC: All tournaments beginning Monday May 30, 2022 All Masterpoint awards are increased 20%.

The Board and Management will announce changes to help clubs shortly. Waiting for official announcement language.

JB: Discussed the cost of running a Sectional Tournament because we are required to have an ACBL TD. Cost of housing, per diem, and fees per session are punishing.

GC: \$180 to get a director to the site regardless of distance.

JB: Per diem is \$400/day. Hotel \$250/day/

GC: Can run a non-championship sectional. 65% of championship sectional with club director.

SuMi: - First Regional in-person 62% of pre covid attendance. Many people commented that they wished their club was open. Can running clubs partner with clubs trying to start up? Western MA, Central MA.

GC: Could this be a Unit initiative? District Initiative?

HM: What percent of the clubs are brick & mortar clubs?

GC: We do not have that number. There are 1671 total clubs running now.

HM: The barrier is having to sign a lease without knowing what business they can sustain.

JB: Average table count pre-pandemic vs now. The two big problems are Covid and that we have taught people to play online. Adam Parrish and Aaron Silverstein are talking about SWAN Bridge. Will rival BBO. This could be an interesting development. Very opposed to the award schedule online compared to in-person.

GC: Changes are coming.

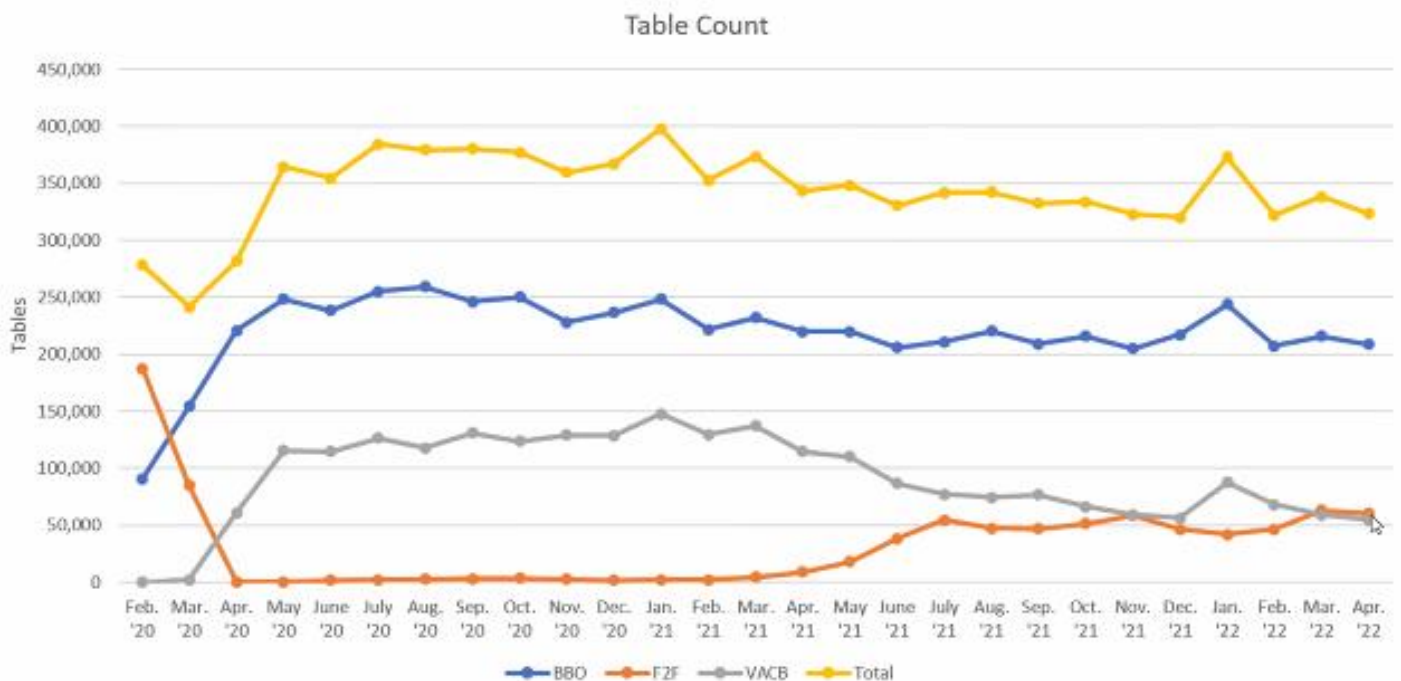
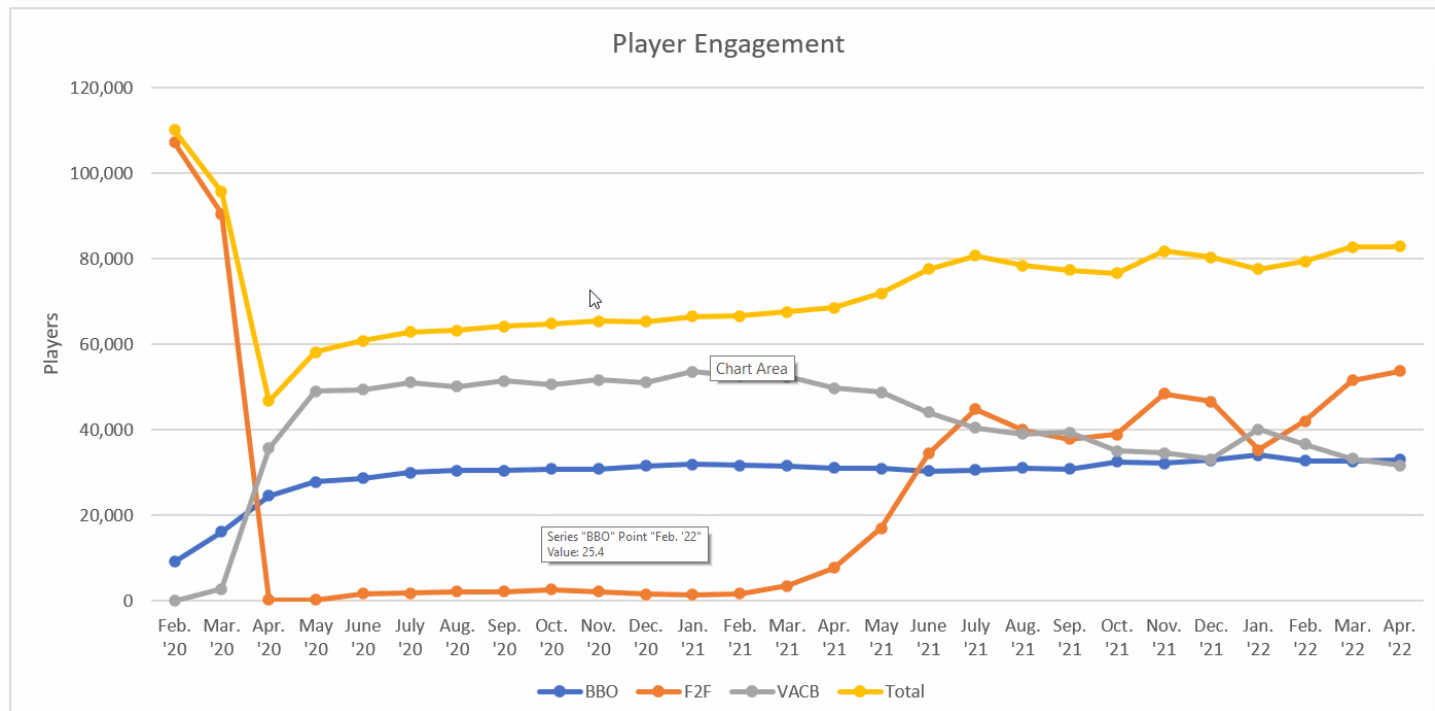
SuMi: - Never have an everyday club again. At some point we have to stop making it 2020 again. We have to accept 2022. Maybe people have to become renters in a community center. I wish everybody could make it fabulous for 2022. Fixed rent. Wine & Cheese, Bagel Buffet, cost supported by online bridge.

SM: Asked for online table count.

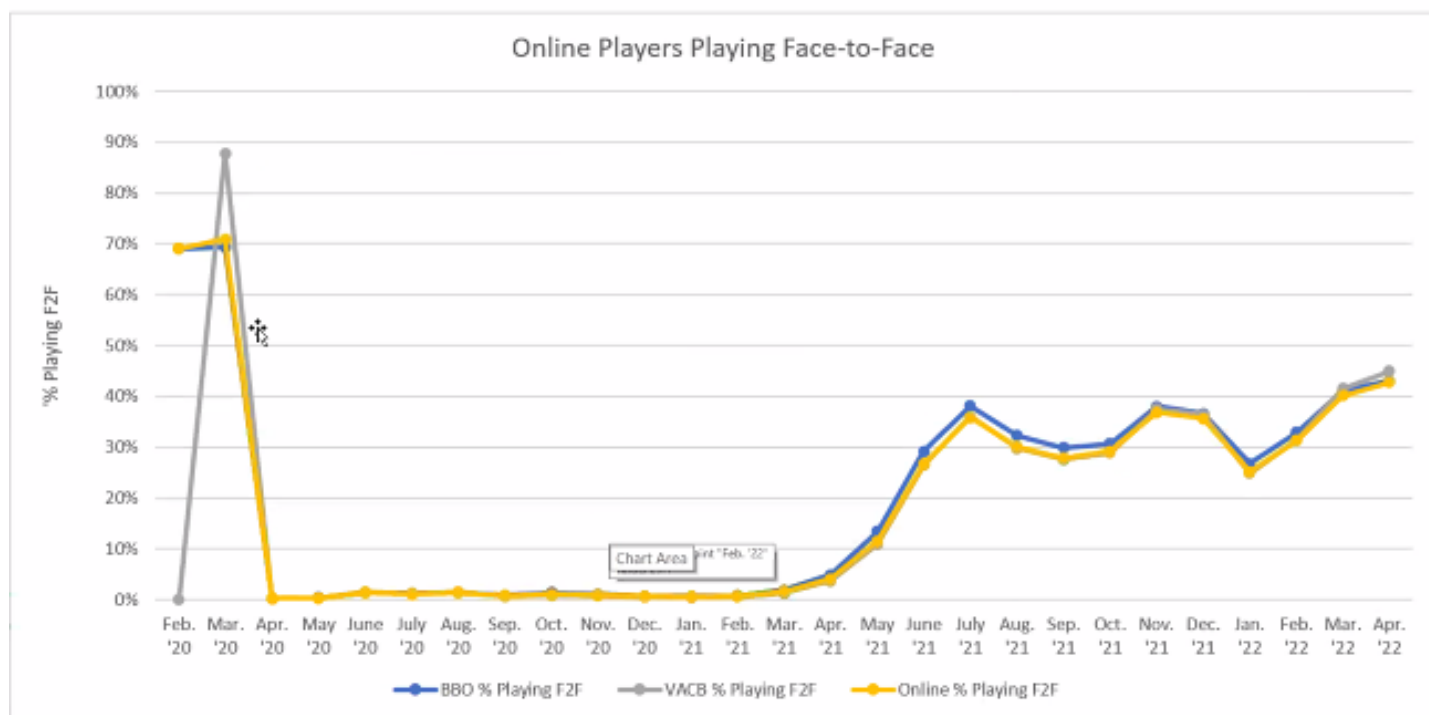
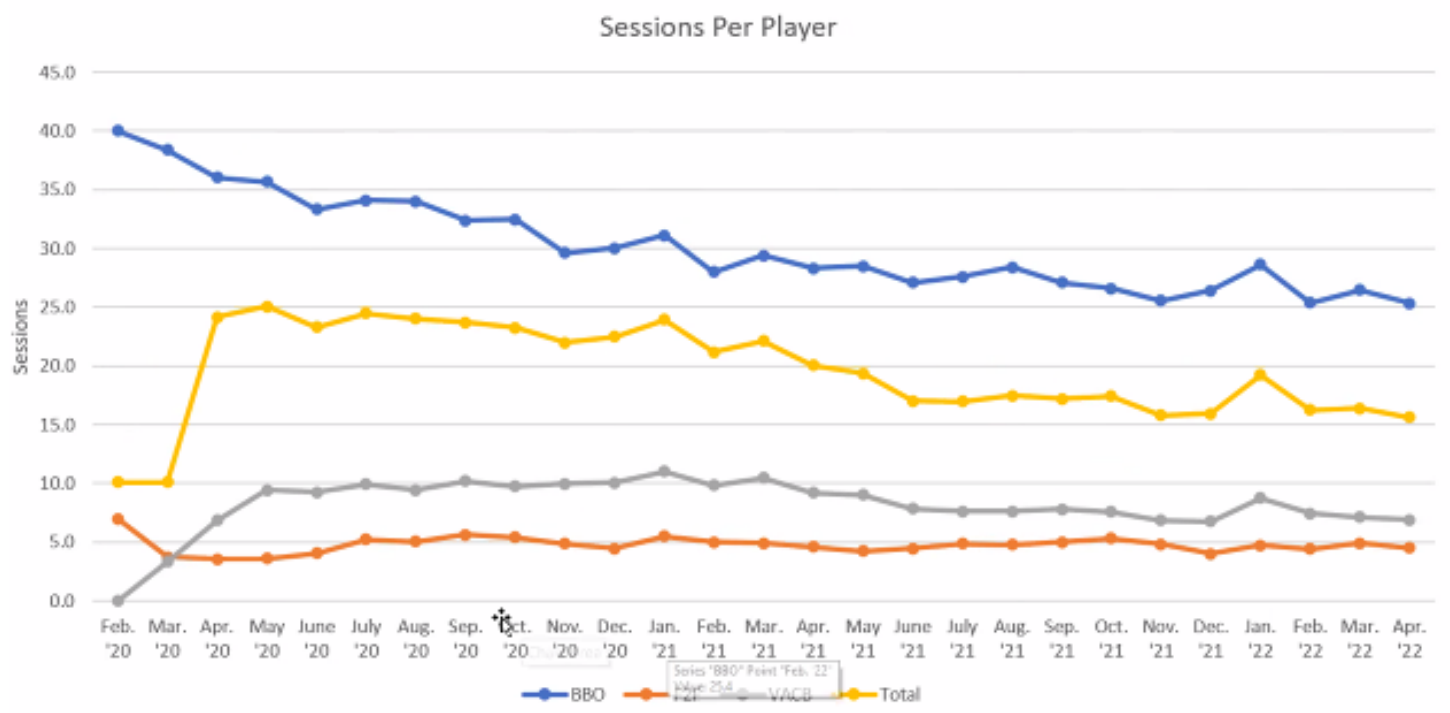
GC: Page not designed for online VACB games.

SM: Asked for VACB and F2F Tables by Unit. Also people who play in the various venues.

GC: Shared the following data:



**NOTE: STaCs are not counted as club tables – they count as tournament tables.**



SuMi: Do we have data about players who play in-person and haven't played yet? No data.

GC: Only 60% of the people with no BBO stayed as members compared to 90%+ for those with BBO handles at all.

SM: Beware – the 40% loss is likely by members wanting in-person play.

JB: SWAN will reward people for bringing people to the SWAN site.

GC: BBO games around since 2004. BBO didn't kill clubs then.

SM: Mentioned last month's membership decline was the largest decline in a year. The loss of these people matches the lack of in-person bridge opportunities,

## Royal STaC Data

| Royal STaC Week Analysis |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
|--------------------------|----|---|--|---|----------------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|--------|---------|----------|
|                          |    |   |  |   |                                  | Tables   |         |                 |        |         |          |
| District                 |    | STaC Week Gain<br>over Previous<br>Week | STaC Week Gain<br>over Previous 2<br>Week Avg. | 2 Weeks Following<br>STaC Compared to<br>2 Weeks Before | STaC Tables % of<br>Total Tables | -2 weeks | -1 week | Royal STaC Week |        | +1 week | +2 weeks |
|                          |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         | Regular         | STaC   |         |          |
| #1                       | 3  | 58.5%                                   | 39.7%  | 18.8%   | 89.3%                            | 179      | 141     | 24              | 199.5  | 179     | 201      |
| Jan. 24-30               | 4  | 100.9%                                  | 80.6%  | -2.4%   | 89.3%                            | 278      | 227     | 49              | 407    | 343     | 150      |
|                          | 24 | 32.3%                                   | 36.7%  | 43.8%   | 96.3%                            | 116      | 124     | 8               | 158    | 159     | 186      |
| Total                    |    | 71.4%                                   | 58.4%  | 14.4%   | 90.6%                            | 573      | 492     | 79              | 764.5  | 681     | 537      |
| #2                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Feb. 21-27               | 15 | 3.2%                                    | -3.5%  | 20.2%   | 78.1%                            | 447      | 393     | 89              | 316.5  | 546     | 464      |
| #3                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Mar. 21-27               | 7  | 19.9%                                   | 19.0%  | -4.4%   | 88.6%                            | 1435     | 1413    | 193             | 1501.5 | 1404    | 1319     |
| #4                       | 21 | 60.2%                                   | 54.7%  | 10.9%   | 87.4%                            | 481      | 449     | 91              | 628.5  | 542     | 489      |
| Mar. 21-27               | 22 | 19.7%                                   | 19.7%  | -4.0%   | 84.5%                            | 701      | 701     | 130             | 709    | 687     | 659      |
|                          | 23 | 11.2%                                   | 9.4%   | -4.7%   | 66.1%                            | 282      | 273     | 103             | 200.5  | 241     | 288      |
| Total                    |    | 30.9%                                   | 29.0%  | 0.7%  | 82.6%                            | 1464     | 1423    | 324             | 1538   | 1470    | 1436     |
| #5                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Mar. 28-Apr. 3           | 9  | 11.0%                                   | 11.9%  | -7.1%   | 80.0%                            | 3210     | 3259    | 725             | 2893.5 | 3174    | 2836     |
| #6                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Mar. 28-Apr. 3           | 17 | 17.5%                                   | 21.3%  | 0.2%  | 79.8%                            | 1175     | 1253    | 298             | 1174   | 1243    | 1190     |
| #7                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Mar. 28-Apr. 3           | 10 | 33.5%                                   | 31.2%  | -2.8%   | 83.3%                            | 819      | 792     | 176             | 881    | 826     | 740      |
| #8                       |    |   |  |   |                                  |          |         |                 |        |         |          |
| Apr. 4-10                | 25 | 76.0%                                   | 61.8%  | 20.8%   | 88.8%                            | 441      | 375     | 74              | 586    | 464     | 522      |
| #9                       | 6  | 0.3%                                    | 10.3%  | -2.4%   | 78.1%                            | 361      | 441     | 97              | 345.5  | 398     | 385      |
| Apr. 11-17               | 12 | 11.1%                                   | 16.8%  | 6.5%  | 76.9%                            | 351      | 389     | 100             | 332    | 376     | 412      |
|                          | 13 | 6.6%                                    | 11.8%  | 14.8%   | 74.5%                            | 273      | 301     | 82              | 239    | 325     | 334      |
|                          | 14 | 4.1%                                    | 12.5%  | 4.9%  | 60.1%                            | 393      | 462     | 192             | 289    | 440     | 457      |
| Total                    |    | 5.2%                                    | 12.9%  | 5.3%  | 71.9%                            | 1378     | 1593    | 471             | 1205.5 | 1539    | 1588     |
| #10                      | 19 | 5.0%                                    | 7.5%   | 4.4%  | 25.8%                            | 499      | 524     | 408             | 142    | 534     | 534      |
| Apr. 11-17               | 20 | 40.6%                                   | 34.1%  | 9.9%  | 85.3%                            | 350      | 319     | 66              | 382.5  | 384     | 351      |
| Total                    |    | 18.4%                                   | 18.0%  | 6.6%  | 52.5%                            | 849      | 843     | 474             | 524.5  | 918     | 885      |

## Royal STaC Week Analysis

| Tables                              |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|--|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| District                            |    | STaC Week Gain<br>over Previous<br>Week | STaC Week Gain<br>over Previous 2<br>Week Avg. | 2 Weeks Following<br>STaC Compared to<br>2 Weeks Before | STaC Tables % of<br>Total Tables | Royal STaC Week |         |         |         |         |          |
|                                     |    |   |  |   |                                  | -2 weeks        | -1 week | Regular | STaC    | +1 week | +2 weeks |
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| Apr. 11-17                          | 20 | 40.6%                                   | 34.1%  | 9.9%  | 85.3%                            | 350             | 319     | 66      | 382.5   | 384     | 351      |
| Total                               |    | 18.4%                                   | 18.0%  | 6.6%  | 52.5%                            | 849             | 843     | 474     | 524.5   | 918     | 885      |
| #11                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 11-17                          | 16 | 8.1%                                    | 2.5%   | -7.2%   | 86.9%                            | 997             | 898     | 127     | 844     | 906     | 852      |
| #12                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 13-19                          | 1  | -8.6%                                   | -9.3%  | 8.4%  | 71.2%                            | 688             | 677     | 178     | 441     | 688     | 791      |
| #13                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 18-24                          | 8  | 23.1%                                   | 17.0%  | 0.7%  | 72.7%                            | 306             | 277     | 93      | 248     | 298     | 289      |
| #14                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 25-May 1                       | 11 | 44.0%                                   | 33.5%  | 7.5%  | 87.8%                            | 456             | 394     | 69      | 498.5   | 457     | 457      |
| #15                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 25-May 1                       | 2  | 23.4%                                   | 30.8%  | 21.6%   | 77.9%                            | 368             | 415     | 113     | 399     | 476     | 476      |
| #16                                 |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Apr. 25-May 1                       | 18 | 29.0%                                   | 29.8%  | -8.5%   | 63.5%                            | 392             | 397     | 187     | 325     | 361     | 361      |
| * Two week number not available yet |    |   |  |   |                                  |                 |         |         |         |         |          |
| Grand Totals                        |    | 19.6%                                   | 19.2%  | 1.0%  | 79.4%                            | 14998           | 14894   | 3670    | 14140.5 | 15451   | 14743    |

## Stardust Week Analysis

| Including F2F STaC Tables |  |         |          |         |
|---------------------------|--|---------|----------|---------|
|                           | Stardust Week<br>Gain/Loss Compared<br>Previous Week | Tables  |          |         |
|                           |  | -1 week | Stardust | +1 week |
| Virtual Clubs             | 55.5%  | 11386   | 17710    | 11090   |
| Face-to-face              | 6.0%   | 15136   | 16051    | 14125   |
| Total                     | 27.3%  | 26522   | 33761    | 25215   |
| Excluding F2F STaC Tables |  |         |          |         |
|                           | Stardust Week<br>Gain/Loss Compared<br>Previous Week | Tables  |          |         |
|                           |  | -1 week | Stardust | +1 week |
| Virtual Clubs             | 55.5%  | 11386   | 17710    | 11090   |
| Face-to-face              | -0.4%  | 14888   | 14829    | 14125   |
| Total                     | 23.8%  | 26274   | 32539    | 25215   |

Silver Linings Week: VACB up 49%, F2F down 2%

SuMi: How Many VACB that week were newly opened clubs?

GC: three weeks data in a row.

JB: NY no losing people when there is an online special event.

HM: Do we believe GC believes BBO is hurting face to face games?

SuMi: A lot of clubs will be some hybrid model – in-person and VACB. Giant alliances are sucking clubs away from the smaller clubs.

SM: The elephant in the room is that prior to covid, clubs enjoyed about a 67% share of club tables, compared to under 12% today. Something needs done if small clubs are to restart.

JB: Had a small alliance that got smaller and smaller – had to join Alliance to survive. Chump change. \$4K in one month. Giant alliances are not throwing off a lot of profit. 30-40% go to fees for the game. By the time it goes to clubs, we see very little.

HM: in about 2 weeks I have been open for a year. 13 tables biggest game 8-10 average. Glad I merged with my competitor to pay \$7K/month rent. Used to have 20-25.

JB: When is this going to change?

HM: Let's do supervised play face to face – people expressed concern about covid. People asked non-masked people to have a separate room.

JB: Doctors wear mask but patients don't.

SuMi: RI is worst place to be right now. Beginning lessons in June. Let's see how they respond.

JB: What happens when a player loses a partner? What happens when you lose a partner online? Not so clear.

HM: Bridge Mates and Pianola can merge online and in-person sections. ACBL doesn't want to approve it.

KMcN: 6 tables, 5 pairs with robots. Banned robots from limited games. Robots support weaker players. We need to ban robots from ACBL sanctioned games.

HM: SE Consortium banned robots for 99er games.

SuMi: Allow just 1 robot.

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday June 21, 2022 - 8 PM EDT, 5 PM PDT**

Submitted Respectfully,

Steve Moese

D11 Advisory Council Representative