

**ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
JULY 29 THROUGH AUGUST 4, 2013**

**REPORT FROM BILL COOK, JR.
DISTRICT 10 REPRESENTATIVE**

The following actions were taken by the Board:

- I was elected ACBL President, effective August 13, 2013, to fill the unexpired term of Don Mamula, who resigned.
- I was also elected to fill the unexpired term of Joan Gerard on the World Bridge Federation (WBF) Council and will attend the WBF meeting in Bali, Indonesia September 13-27, 2013.
- Deferred to the 2013 Fall meeting in Phoenix, a decision to approve the formation of a new unit in south Florida, along the Gulf Coast from Venice to Marco Island.
- Defeated a by-law amendment to establish four three-year terms as the limit a District Director could serve.
- Established procedures for conducting NAP District Finals outline as a District option.
- Approved the use of screens in GNT Spingold/Vanderbilt as follows:
 - GNT Championship Flight & Flight A – Beginning round of 8
 - GNT Flight B & C -- Beginning round of 4
 - Spingold/Vanderbilt -- Beginning round of 16
 - 0-5,000 Mini Spingold -- Beginning round of 8
 - 0-1,500 Mini Spingold -- Beginning round of 4
- Adopted the new NABC & Victory Point scale for use in NABC & Swiss Team events.
- Adopted changes in the conditions of contest related to score corrections in Pair, Swiss teams and Board A – Match team events.
- Deferred to 2014 summer meeting in Las Vegas, a motion that would require the purchase of a seeded entry for NABC + event, 15 minutes prior to the events stated start time in order to be permitted to play in the event.
- Removed a win in Machlin Women's Swiss and the Wagar Women's KO from the list of events that would meet Grand Life Master qualification, effective January 1, 2014.
- Approved new 0-10,000 National events as follows:
 1. A 0-10,000 Swiss to be held the second Saturday and Sunday of the Fall NABC. This will be a four-session event with two qualifying and two final rounds.

2. A 0-10,000 KO to be held starting on Monday of the Spring NABC. Two-way, three-way and four-way matches will be divided into 14 board segments. 28 board matches will consist of one pair of segments and 56 board matches of two pairs of segments. In three-way matches, seven boards will be played each of the other two teams in each segment.
- Changed the master point limit for the NAP Flight B to 2,500, starting with the 2014-2015 event.
 - Changed the master point limits for the GNT competition, effective September 1, 2013 as follows:
 - Flight C: Non-LM up to 500 MP.
 - Flight B: 0-2,500 MP.
 - Flight A: 0-6,000 MP.
 - Championship Flight: 0-unlimited.
 - Approved changing the Grass Roots Fund month from December to January starting in January, 2014. There will not be a Grass Roots Fund month in 2013. In 2013 the Grass Roots annual collection year shall begin January 1, 2013 and end January 31, 2014. Thereafter annual years will begin on February 1st and end January 31st of the following calendar year.
 - Approved a new 0-10,000 mixed Swiss Team event on the final two days of the Summer NABC, beginning with the 2014 Summer NABC in Las Vegas.
 - Approved a new 0-10,000 Pains event to be played on the first Saturday and Sunday of the Summer NABC. This will be a four session event, with qualification to the finals determined by the same guidelines as for other NABC events.
 - The following events are removed from the NABC nationally rated event schedule, effective January 22, 2014:
 - National 199er (Summer NABC)
 - National 99er (Fall NABC)
 - Non-Life Master Pairs (Fall NABC)
 - Approved awarding 10% gold for overall and section tops in the top bracket flights or strata of two sessions or longer events in Non-Life Master Regional with an upper limit of 70 MPS. All other master point awards shall be red points.
 - Approved budget request from USBF and CBF to send teams to the 2014 World Youth Championships, as follows:
 - USBF - \$90,000.
 - CBF - \$36,000.
 - Adopted a recommendation from management to limit the liability on post-retirement health care coverage for employees hired on or after January 1, 2014.

ROBERT HARTMAN, ACBL CEO REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

- Continue to strengthen our HR policies and procedures with the following being achieved this year:
 1. Employee Drug & Alcohol Policy Draft.
 2. Planned expansion of Employee Assistance Program to include TD's.
 3. New youth Protection & Abuse Prevention Policy Draft.
 4. Rollout of Single Employee Handbook (TDs and HQ).
 5. Headquarters Compensation Plan (includes benchmarks to market grading/classification of positions and employee development planning).
 6. Online harassment prevention training (rollout by year end).
- Payroll procedures have been streamlined with U.S. and Canadian employees now, using a portal based time and attendance system. Hours are tracked for all employees, including field staff. Paper time sheets will be completely eliminated after the Summer NABC.
- Benefit enrollment for 2014 will be processed via the payroll portal – all online and paperless with direct feed to payroll – no manual data entry and full report writing capability.
- Hired a new programmer (Ian Drake) to work on Tourney TRAX programming and other needs of the IT Department.
- Kelley McGuire named Director of Elections.
- Jim Miller retiring at end of August. Sam Whitten has been trained to take on Recorder function. Jim will continue to be available on hourly basis as needed.
- Tourney TRAX database continues to be a challenge for the organization. ACBL staff now has 100% responsibility to enter data which quelled the vast majority of the complaints. An update to the system was rolled out on July 25, which will continue to improve the system and allow all of the tournament financials to be processed through the system.
- Credit card processors have been contacted to discuss the opportunity of accepting credit cards for NABC events. This could be expanded to other tournaments in the future, if proved successful.
- Atlanta NABC:
 - a) One hundred new folding tables have been purchased to replace broken and marred ones.
 - b) New budding screens were also purchased which allows the ACBL to expand the use of screens in NABC + events.
 - c) An armored car service will be used to transport cash to and from the NABC playing site. NABC cash handling procedures were cited in recent audit findings.

- Weekly Field Supervisor Conference calls have allowed us to strengthen our relationship with them. This has been identified as the first priority for the TD strategic project.
- The Strategic Project update presentation at HQ was recorded, allowing for future viewing by field staff.
- Face-to-Face club table count has seen a year over year decline. This trend is of concern as clubs are the “pulse” of the League.