

**APPEALS & CHARGES COMMITTEE**

**Item 092-02: ACBL Disciplinary Sanction Guidelines – Appendix B**  
**(Deferred from Houston)**

**APPENDIX B**  
**ACBL DISCIPLINARY SANCTION GUIDELINES**  
**With Comments Inserted Regarding Changes Under Consideration**

The following range of discipline for conduct and ethics violations is provided as a guide to a disciplinary committee not a mandate. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all possible infractions but rather to set forth examples. The committee is free to impose on a guilty defendant whatever punishment it deems is appropriate from options described in the CDR. However, a disciplinary committee, which imposes a sanction which is outside the range recommended by these guidelines, must explain why it chose the sanction imposed. **Part A** of these guidelines is intended to apply to the typical case involving a single incident and a defendant who has no previous disciplinary record. If this is not the case, the committee must read **Part B** of these guidelines before deciding on an appropriate discipline.

**Part A**

<b>CONDUCT</b>	
<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE</b>
C1 Poor personal hygiene or dress (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand <u>and or up to 30 days Probation</u>
<b>Comment C1: While it is doubtful that a charge would be made on a single instance, the range is okay.</b>	
C2 Rudeness in conversation, gesture, or general behavior (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand <u>and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension.</u>
C3 Publicly belittle partner or opponent on bid or play (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand <u>and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension.</u>
C4 Influence or attempt to influence an entrant to withdraw from an event to improve one's likelihood of winning more masterpoints CDR <u>3.7 and 3.12</u> )	Reprimand <u>and or up to 30 days Probation and or up to 90 days Suspension.</u>
C5 <u>Intimidate or harass another player. Harass a tournament director or tournament official.</u> (CDR <u>3.7 and 3.11</u> )	Reprimand <u>or up to 90 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension</u>
C6 Deliberately fail to follow instructions given by a tournament director or official including leaving a session without permission of the tournament director or game director. (CDR <u>3.1, 3.2 and 3.7</u> )	90 days Probation <u>and or up to 30 days Suspension</u>

C7	Fail to report <u>in a timely manner a score that one knows is incorrect</u> <del>a known incorrect score</del> (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	90 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension
<b>Comment C7:</b> <i>This offense is quite serious and difficult to prove. Therefore the discipline suggested should be wider on the severe end.</i>		
C8	<u>Inappropriate comments (including but not limited to obscene comments) made publicly at an ACBL sanctioned event or activity.</u> <del>Publicly made obscene comments</del> (CDR 3.7)	Reprimand and or up to 120 days Probation
<del>C9</del>	<del>Intimidate or harass another player or ACBL official</del> <u>Harass or intimidate a tournament director, tournament official or an ACBL official.</u> (CDR <u>3.7</u> and 3.11)	<del>90</del> <u>180</u> days Probation and or up to <del>390</del> days Suspension
<b>Comment C9:</b> <i>C5 moved here</i>		
C10	Publicly accuse another player of unethical behavior (CDR 3.4 and 3.7)	<del>90</del> <u>180</u> days Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
<b>Comment C10:</b> <i>Add CDR 3.7. The term of probation suggested and imposed should always be as long as or longer than the term of suspension.</i>		
C11	Threat of abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7)	<del>90 days</del> <u>1 year</u> Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension
<b>Comment C11:</b> <i>The term of probation suggested and imposed should always be as long as or longer than the term of suspension.</i>		
C12	Abusive or violent contact with another person (CDR 3.7)	<del>90 days</del> <u>1 year</u> Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
<b>Comment C12:</b> <i>The term of probation suggested and imposed should always be as long as or longer than the term of suspension.</i>		
C13	Knowingly submit false information or deliberately distort facts to an ACBL official or committee (CDR 3.13)	<del>90 days</del> <u>1 year</u> Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension
<b>Comment C13:</b> <i>The term of probation suggested and imposed should always be as long as or longer than the term of suspension.</i>		
C14	Failure of Complainant to appear at hearing without cause. (CDR 3.14)	<u>90</u> days Probation and or up to <del>3</del> <u>90</u> days Suspension
C15	Appeal a decision from a disciplinary body with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15)	<del>Reprimand</del> <u>90 days Probation to 90 days Suspension</u> <del>1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension</del>
<b>Comment C15:</b> <i>An appeal that had no reasonable basis would appear to include a deliberate distortion of the facts or false information so that the discipline suggested should be the same as C13. At least this point should be considered.</i>		

C16 Initiate disciplinary action against another player with no reasonable basis (CDR 3.15)	<del>30 days Suspension to 90 days Suspension</del> <u>1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension</u>
<b>Comment C16:</b> <i>Consideration should be given to making the guideline for C16 and C15 the same as the violation is similar. In fact the suggested disciplines for C15 and C16 should be the same as for C13.</i>	
C17 Initiate and maintain legal action against the ACBL (including a District or Unit) without first exhausting administrative remedies (CDR 3.10)	1 year Suspension <u>up to indefinite suspension pending reimbursement to ACBL of costs to ACBL to defend if the suit was unsuccessful.</u>
C18 <del>Misappropriate ACBL, Unit or District Funds</del> <u>Non-payment of sums owed ACBL, a unit or a district.</u> (CDR 3.9)	Indefinite Suspension <del>pending return of funds</del> <u>The body imposing the indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted.</u>
C19 <u>Misappropriate ACBL, Unit or District Funds</u> (CDR 3.18)	<u>Indefinite suspension up to expulsion. The body imposing an indefinite suspension will determine when, after return of the funds, the indefinite suspension will be lifted.</u>

<b>ETHICS</b>	
<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED DISCIPLINE</b>
E1 Deliberately ask for or give information about a board in play after both parties played it (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	Reprimand <u>and or up to 60 days Probation.</u>
E2 <del>Deliberately ask for or</del> Give information about a board in play <u>to a player who has not yet played the board. prior to one or both parties playing the board</u> (CDR 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	30 days Suspension to 1 year Suspension *
<b>Comment E2:</b> <i>Because asking is covered by E11 below, change wording.</i>	
3 Unsportsmanlike and frivolous psyching (CDR 3.2 and 3.7)	<del>Reprimand</del> <u>60 days Probation and or up to 30 days Suspension</u>
E4 Play a convention, system, or treatment knowing it is illegal; Purposefully fail to disclose partnership agreements with intent to deceive. (CDR 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	<del>Reprimand to 3</del> <u>90 days probation and or up to 60 days Suspension *</u>
E5 Bid or play with the specific intent to achieve a poor result on that hand (CDR 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	90 days Probation to 90 days Suspension *
E6 Intentionally change a score or any information that could result in awarding incorrect masterpoints (CDR 3.1 <u>and 3.7</u> )	<del>180 days</del> <u>1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension *</u>
E7 Accidentally gain access to information and then act on it (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	<del>90 days</del> <u>1 year Probation and or up to 180 days Suspension *</u>
E8 Hesitate with an intent to deceive; use intonations and mannerisms that may deceive opponents or help partner (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	1 year Probation <u>and or up to 180 days Suspension *</u>
E9 Deliberately try to see from where an opponent plays his cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	90 days Probation <u>and or up to 90 days Suspension *</u>
E10 Actively and deliberately try to see an opponent's cards (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	<del>90 days</del> <u>1 year Probation and or up to 1 year Suspension *</u>
E11 Actively seek advance information about a board in play (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	2-year Suspension to Expulsion *
E12 Prearrange a deal or part thereof including one card (CDR 3.1, 3.2 <u>and 3.7</u> )	2-year Suspension to Expulsion *

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\* If a committee imposes a suspension, then it should also disqualify the pair or team from the event. This will mean the pair or team will lose its place in the event, any masterpoints earned in the event and any other benefits it may have earned from playing in the event. Should this disqualification take place after the correction period for the event has expired, other pairs and teams do not move up - the place formerly held by the disqualified contestant (pair or team) remains vacant.

E13	<u>Intentionally gain access to hand records for an event prior to the event and enter and play in the event and or give the hand records or copies to another person prior to that person entering and playing in the event. (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)</u>	<del>2-year Suspension to</del> Expulsion *
E14	Prearranged partnership collusion by means of signaling to exchange information (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	Expulsion *

### **Part B**

There are three major reasons why the suggested guidelines in Part A might not be appropriate. First, the single violation might be either so slight or severe as to make the suggested sanction inappropriate. Second, the defendant might be convicted for several violations (such as a pattern of behavior). Third, the defendant might have a previous record.

1. When the defendant's single violation is either extremely slight or severe, the committee should apply its sound, unemotional judgment. For example, either the experience or mental intentions of the defendant might be a consideration. Please explain on the Hearing Report Form why the violation was considered atypical.
2. When the defendant is convicted of several violations, such as a pattern of behavior, the committee should impose a sanction as if each violation was a separate offense. The Committee should note the separate violations and/or explain the pattern.
3. When the defendant has a prior record, the ~~nature of~~ sanction imposed for the previous offense is not particularly important. The number of prior convictions is important. The reason is that the defendant was already sanctioned for the specific prior violation(s). The committee should pay close attention to how the prior conviction(s) reflects on the defendant's ability to behave according to ACBL standards and explain on the Hearing Report Form the reasons for its decision relative to the offense or offenses for which the committee has to consider another sanction.

#### Examples:

1. A person convicted of accidentally gaining access to information and acting on it has one conviction for bad hygiene for which he or she receive 30 days probation. Here the committee would probably disregard the prior conviction in making a decision to issue a sanction.

2. A person convicted of accidentally gaining access to information and acting on it has received 30 days probation for bad hygiene, 30 days probation for rude behavior, and 30 days suspension for a threat of violent behavior. In this case, the record indicates that this person has a history of violating ACBL regulations and the committee should increase the discipline above the maximum for the offense for which the player was convicted.

All of Appendix B deferred to the Summer NABC meeting in 2009 Washington, DC.

**Item 092-04: Amendments to Recorder Regulations**

The Recorder Regulations are amended as follows:

- 7.4 A recorder ~~should not but~~ may be a member of any bridge appeals committee: however, this may create a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- 9.1 The recorder must make his or her best efforts to maintain the confidentiality of the process in speaking to people about player memos. Such information may be revealed and revealing information only when necessary to the investigation and in maintaining files and records. This responsibility is of the highest priority and must continue even after his or her duties have ended. Violating the confidentiality of the process is a basis for removal from office.
- 9.4 Upon receipt of a player memo, a recorder should make an initial assessment as to whether the subject matter could form the basis for a complaint even in conjunction with other reports or require counseling or education. If not, the recorder should discuss the matter with the reporter prior to placing the memo in an administrative file. (An administrative file is a collection of reports, which, in the recorder's opinion, do not merit being recorded. This file may contain reports where the subject matter required education or counseling. This file may contain reports where the subject matter required education or counseling. The file is kept as evidence that the recorder did address the report and for the recorder's information.)
- 9.7 In general, a recorder should communicate with the reporter regarding the status of a player memo. However, given the circumstances of any case and the need to preserve the subject's right of confidentiality, the recorder has discretion to limit the amount of information given to the reporter. This includes the discretion to tell the reporter only that (1) the player memo was received and is being ~~investigated~~ addressed or (2) the player memo was received and the recorder has concluded the investigation with no further details.
- 10.2 At least twice every calendar year, a recorder should review all files in his or her possession. If the most recent player memo in the file is at least ten years old

subject of a ten year old file is not also the subject of a more recent player memo, the file ~~should~~ shall be discarded - except that memos which note major ethical breaches should be retained indefinitely. During each semiannual review, a recorder should note if more than one player memo involves the same subject. If so, he or she should reevaluate the memos for possible action based on a possible pattern.

### **Item 092-05: Amendments to Code of Disciplinary Regulations**

The Code of Disciplinary Regulations is amended as follows:

#### DEFINITIONS

##### **Prima Facie**

Evidence that is sufficient to establish a fact in question until rebutted.

2.1.1 A Unit has jurisdiction over:

- (a) Members of the Unit when such a member is participating in a sanctioned event or other activity sponsored by a Unit, District or ACBL. (See 2.1.1 (b) below)
- (b) Persons participating in a sanctioned event or other activity sponsored by a Unit, District or ACBL held within the Unit's geographical boundaries and persons participating in club sponsored sanctioned events relating to a pattern of conduct complaint involving misbehavior at two or more ACBL sanctioned club games with different sanction numbers and different club managers.

3.19 Partnering or playing on a team with a person who is presently serving a suspension from ACBL or who is presently expelled from ACBL.

4.1.8 *Forfeiture of Masterpoints/Titles for Unethical Behavior.*

- (a) Any participant(s) in an ACBL sanctioned event convicted of premeditated or collusive cheating or any participant who admits to such action or actions shall forfeit all masterpoints, ~~and~~ titles and ACBL status ranks or other ACBL related awards theretofore earned by said participants through participation in all ACBL events.
- (b) Any participant(s) in an ACBL sanctioned event suspended as a result of ethical transgressions, other than those set forth in this CDR 4.1.8 (a), shall forfeit any masterpoints and titles won in the event in which the offense(s) occurred.

Further:

- (1) When a suspension of less than one year has been imposed, the committee may remove the masterpoints, titles and/or awards won within the twelve (12) calendar months preceding the date of the offense(s).
- (2) When the discipline imposed is a suspension of one year or longer, the committee shall remove as a minimum, all masterpoints, titles and awards won within the twelve (12) calendar months preceding the date of the offense(s). The committee may remove additional masterpoints, titles and or ACBL status ranks or other ACBL related awards previously earned by said participants through participation in all ACBL events as it deems appropriate.

4.5 For the effective date of a discipline see CDR 5.1.15. ~~imposed shall be that date named by the committee in its determination, or failing that, five (5) days after the written notification to the disciplined person has been mailed.~~

5.1.14 All formal written notifications of an ACBL disciplinary body's decision shall be made by ACBL Management upon receipt of the written decision of the disciplinary body. The effective date for the purpose of appeal of the decision shall be the date on which ACBL management mails such decision to the parties to the hearing.

5.1.15 The effective date of imposition of discipline, if any, of an ACBL disciplinary body's decision shall be the date noted in the disciplinary body's written decision. If the discipline is to take effect immediately, the disciplinary body shall immediately notify the disciplined party in writing, provided that the formal written notice to the parties set forth in Section 5.1.14, including the date for appeal, shall also be made. If no effective date is so specified, the effective date of imposition of discipline shall be five (5) days from the date of the mailing of the decision by ACBL Management.

6.2.3 The Director-in-Charge of a Sectional or higher-rated tournament, the hearing must commence no later than 60 minutes after the conclusion of the final session the day after the suspension was imposed ~~within 24 hours~~ or no later than 60 minutes immediately after the conclusion of the final session of the tournament whichever is earlier unless the person charged causes a delay. If

the matter is not heard at the tournament, the suspension is lifted and the matter is referred to the appropriate Unit or District to be heard.

## 7.0 Appeals to the Unit

7.0.1 An ACBL member barred from an ACBL sanctioned club game in accordance with the regulations in Chapter 4, Section Three, IV, G. of the ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations (discriminatory or extended barring) may file a written appeal with the disciplinary committee chairperson of the unit of the geographical territory in which the game is operated.

7.0.2 Written notice of appeal must be made within thirty (30) days following the notice of the barring being appealed. In order for an appeal to be granted by the Unit Disciplinary Chairperson and considered by the Unit Disciplinary Committee, a written statement must accompany the appeal, which shall provide an allegation that at least one (1) of the following exists:

(a) For an appeal of an extended barring, the appellant must allege that the reason for the barring has no basis in fact.

(b) The barring was due to one or more of the discriminatory reasons listed in the ACBL Handbook of Rules and Regulations, Chapter 4, Section Three, IV, G.

7.0.3 This appeal shall be conducted as an original hearing in that the appellant may present evidence to support the allegations noted in the appeal. In order to be successful, the appellant's allegations must be considered to be proven by a preponderance of the evidence.

9.1 When it is alleged that a Unit has violated ACBL, District, or its own bylaws or regulations, has acted in an illegal or improper manner, or has improperly failed to act upon a disciplinary complaint, a member, or group of members, or Unit or District may bring the matter directly to the District Disciplinary Committee to request a hearing. The District Disciplinary Committee may decide not to conduct a hearing if it finds that: the case does not warrant any action; or the matter was dealt with in a reasonable manner at the Unit level; or the matter lacks significance to warrant a hearing.

9.1.1 The disciplinary body takes the following actions or a combination of the actions in its resolution of the matter:

(a) Issue a warning to cure a deficiency and notify the ACBL Board of Directors that unless the deficiency is cured by a certain date that it should take action against the unit's charter..

- (b) Recommend that the ACBL Board of Directors take against the charter of the unit.
  - (c) Decide the complaint upon which the unit failed to act.
- 9.1.2 An appeal of a decision of the District Disciplinary Committee against or for a unit as above shall be submitted to the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee as a CDR 9.2 action. A decision against or for an individual or individuals shall be submitted to the District Appellate Committee as required in CDR 7.1.

### **Item 092-06: Amendment to Club Discipline**

Section G. Club Discipline is amended as follows:

#### **G. CLUB DISCIPLINE**

Club management should deal promptly and fairly with all cases of improper conduct that occur during an ACBL-sanctioned masterpoint game in the club, including cases of unethical practices. The club manager should either handle these situations personally or establish a standing committee to review all disciplinary problems. Clubs holding non-sanctioned games may deal with problems arising in these games as they see fit.

The club manager can handle many behavior problems by discussing them with the offenders, by issuing a warning, or declaring a period of probation. In extreme cases or cases of repeat offenses, the manager can bar ~~an the player~~ ACBL member from the club game for a stipulated period of time, or permanently. No open club may bar ~~a player or players~~ an ACBL member or members as a class, based upon the player's race, creed, religion, political affiliation, sexual orientation, national origin, and physical handicap or on his proficiency at bridge.

Unless a non ACBL member is currently suspended or expelled from participation in ACBL sanctioned events, permission to play in an ACBL sanctioned event at that club is at the sole discretion of the club management and ACBL has no jurisdiction. Therefore, except for a barring alleged to be for the above discriminatory reasons, these regulations do not apply (i.e. the ACBL requirements and rights enumerated in this section do not extend to non ACBL members).

Except as detailed in the previous paragraph, a club may bar ~~an player~~ ACBL member for whatever reason it deems proper and consistent with ACBL Rules and Regulations and the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge. An obnoxious or incompatible partnership may be barred as a pair, but each may be permitted to play with other partners.

To bar ~~an player~~ ACBL member, club management must notify the ~~player~~ member in writing and send a copy of the notification to the ACBL Club Membership Department. The notification must include the ~~players~~ member's name and player number and the reason for the barring. An open club can bar ~~players~~ members from its regularly scheduled club masterpoint games, membership games, ACBL-wide games, club championships, charity and international fund club championships, and other special events specifically allocated to clubs as outlined above.

These regulations also apply to a club with an invitational sanction except that the club has the additional authority to refuse admittance to an invitational game to someone who

does not meet the criteria upon which the invitational sanction is based (e.g. a ~~player~~ member who has 500 masterpoints is denied admittance to an invitational game that is limited to ~~players~~ members with less than 300 masterpoints).

If the ~~players~~ member feels that his or her barring does not comply with these regulations prohibiting barring players as a class, religious or political affiliations, race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, physical disability or proficiency at bridge, he or she may appeal the barring to the unit disciplinary committee. Appeals from the unit disciplinary committee may be filed in accordance with and under the authority of the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations. Until the appeal is lodged and heard, the player remains barred unless reinstated by the club unless a stay is granted by the Unit Disciplinary Chairperson.

A club may extend the barring of an ~~player~~ ACBL member from Grand National teams, North American Pair events, STaCs, qualifying sessions of a progressive sectional, unit or district competitions, and/or unit-wide or district-wide championships held at the club. A ~~players~~ member so barred may appeal the extension of the barring under the process described in the previous paragraph. In such cases, the written notice to the ~~person~~ member barred must include the ~~person's~~ member's right to appeal the action to the Unit Disciplinary Committee in which the club is located within thirty days of the action taken by the club. Such written notice is required, otherwise the barring shall not be effective.

#### **Item 092-07: Application for ACBL Membership**

Board resolution 052-28 is amended as follows:

Any person may apply for ACBL membership or renewal or reinstatement of ACBL membership in accordance with administrative procedures established by Management. ACBL Management may grant such an application unless there is cause to refer the application to the ACBL Board of Directors Appeals and Charges Committee to conduct a hearing (the "Hearing") and render a decision on the application.

Causes for referral by Management include, but are not limited to, previous expulsion from ACBL or previous expulsion or suspension from another bridge organization or a non-ACBL bridge event.

The Hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations for disciplinary hearings. The decision of the Appeals and Charges Committee shall be final and shall be reported promptly to the Board of Directors.

The Appeals and Charges Committee shall make one of the following decisions:

1. Accept the person's membership application.
2. Deny the person's membership application with instructions that this person shall not be permitted by Management to join ACBL for a specified period of time or indefinitely. The committee may also prohibit the person from playing as

a non-member in any ACBL sanctioned event that has a sectional or higher ranking.

3. Deny the application with permission to reapply after a specified time. The Committee may instruct Management upon such reapplication, if any, to: (a) accept the application without referral if there has been no new cause for referral; or (b) refer the reapplication to the Appeals and Charges Committee for a second hearing. The Committee may also prohibit the person, upon reapplication, from playing as a non-member in any ACBL sanctioned event which has a sectional or higher ranking.

The membership application shall include a provision requiring disclosure of any prior discipline by any other bridge organization for a new member, and of any since the last renewal for renewing members. Failure to disclose such discipline shall be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the ACBL. Management shall establish and maintain a list of names of people who it will refer as above should a person placed on the list submit an application as above..

## **BRIDGE COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-30: Preempt Pre-alert Elimination**

Eliminate the requirement to pre-alert short (5 card weak 2's and 6 card 3 level pre-mpts) and undisciplined (less than Q high) pre-empts. Replace the pre-alert with an alert upon occurrence.

### **Item 092-31: Events and Restrictions for ACBL Sanctioned Tournaments**

**Amend Item 942-78**

#### **V SCORING METHODS:**

**INDIVIDUAL:** Matchpoint, IMP

**PAIR:** Matchpoint, IMP

**TEAM:** Win-loss, victory point, total points, board-a-match

**PAIR/TEAM:** Matchpoints + one from "Team" above (must be a one-session event only)

Change PAIR/TEAM to reflect Matchpoints/board-a-match (one-session event only)

### **Item 092-32: Special Games at Clubs**

The masterpoint rating of the following Special Games at Clubs be changed from 100% sectional-rated black points to 90% sectional-rated black points: Club Charity Games, Club Junior Fund Games, Club International Fund Games, Club Educational Foundation Games, and Club GNT Fund Raiser Games.

**Item 092-33: Trophy Assignments**

The following trophy assignments are suggested:

<u>SUMMER Bridge Events</u>	<u>Proposed Trophy Name</u>	<u>Original Trophy Name</u>
*GNT – Championship Flt	Morehead	Morehead
GNT – Open Flight A	Goldman (Bobby)	Coffin
Fast Open Pairs		
Open Swiss	Roth	Rothschild
 <u>FALL Events</u>		
Senior KO Teams	Baze	Baze (to be donated)
Mini Blue Ribbon	Kay	Howard
Non-LM Pairs	Manfield	Miles

<u>Names assigned, need trophies</u>	<u>Trophy Name</u>	<u>Trophy Reassignment</u>
Mini LM Pairs(LM-5000)	Bruce	Marcus
Mini LM Pairs (LM-1500)	Young	Kem Card

\*This trophy was given to the Grand National Teams winner and then when the Flight B was added it was given to the Flight A or top-flight winner. When the 0-5000 flight was added and given the name flight A, the trophy should have gone with the championship or top flight. This should be corrected now.

Item 003-53 be amended:

- ~~All trophies must be engraved with the yearly winner. Should there be no more room on the trophy itself, a permanent plaque should be created for the additional names.~~
- ~~If trophy space is used up and the trophy has maintained its name or event, a separate plaque should be kept.~~
- ~~If trophy is renamed and is given for a new event, the old should be taken off and kept on a separate plaque.~~

**Item 092-34: Grand Life Master Qualifications**

The Canadian Open Pairs Championship and the Canadian Senior Teams Championship shall serve as an equivalent to an NABC event win for fulfillment of requirements for the title of Grand Life Master. Both past and future winners of these events shall be deemed to have met the Grand Life Master requirement for a championship win.

## **CONDITIONS OF CONTEST COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-55: 2010 Conditions of Contest**

The 2010 Conditions of Contest are approved.

## **FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-65: ACBL Financial Information Availability**

In addition to the ACBL financial report annually published in the *ACBL Bulletin* in September or October, a) the ACBL financial report presented by the ACBL Treasurer at each Board of Governors meeting be published on the ACBL web site no later than one week following the Board of Governors meeting with appropriate commentary describing what the data represents, and b) that the annual audited ACBL financial statement be published on the ACBL website no later than one week after the Spring meeting of the ACBL Board of Directors, also with appropriate commentary.

## **GNT COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-10: GNT Credentials Report**

The report of the Grand Nationals Credentials Committee is received.

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-75: Internet Bridge**

(A) Ace of e-Clubs races are established.

(B) The ACBL consider a page in the Bridge Bulletin devoted to Internet activities, including sanctioned online bridge, non-sanctioned online bridge, instructional websites, informative websites, online teaching and International websites.

(C) The ACBL consider an Internet webpage devoted to the activities mentioned in (B), namely, sanctioned online bridge, non-sanctioned online bridge, instructional websites, informative websites, online teaching and International websites.

### **Item 092-76: NABC Dress-up Night**

Item 991-151 be rescinded.

The first Saturday night of each NABC shall be declared a dress-up night. This will apply to all events. Players are encouraged to participate by dressing up for the evening.

**Item 092-77: Non Member Masterpoints (973-46) (091-30)**

A former member who has not paid dues for over 90 days, and has become a non-member, is entitled to pay dues that were due and owing for whatever period of time he had non-member status (this payment may be for only those years in which the non-member won points and for which the non-member wishes to pay). Any former member who reinstates for three years will have all unrecorded masterpoints credited at no charge. All masterpoints earned during the non-member period for which payment is received will be recorded to the extent possible.

Any member who pays his dues within 90 days after his membership paid-through date shall have his masterpoints recorded free of charge, such dues payment credited from the original paid-through date, and no break in membership recorded.

**Item 092-78: Club Review**

A committee be jointly formed with management to examine and suggest changes to the relationship of clubs and management:

- Regarding members complaints about actions of the club directors and angers.
- Regarding payment of monies due the League from Clubs.
- Regarding recognizing club directors who have directed X number of games much like our recognition of players.
- Regarding club managers and directors who attend classes to brush up on skills or learn new skills.

An interim report will be due at the Fall meeting of 2009 and a final report due with the Spring meeting of 2010.

This committee should include non board members as well as board and management members.

**Item 092-79: Transfer of Currituck and Dare counties in NC**

Currituck and Dare counties in North Carolina are transferred to Unit 146 in District 6 counties from Unit 119 in District 7.

**INTERNATIONAL / FEDERATIONS**

**Item 092-100: WBF Report**

The report of the WBF representatives is received.

## **STaC COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-150: STaC Week Designations (Deferred from Houston)**

Districts or units may designate one or two weeks per year as STaC weeks. During those one or two weeks clubs may run regular club games or STaC games but not any upgraded games. These weeks may not occur during the months pre-designated for Junior (February), International (September) or Charity (April) funds.

### **Item 092-151: I/N STaC**

- 1) Management shall implement regulations to permit I/N STaCs for players under 300 masterpoints. Sanction fees shall be the same as regular open STaCs.
- 2) Masterpoint awards for these events shall be reviewed and approved by the masterpoint committee prior to the implementation of these events. A cap on the overall masterpoint awards may be imposed on these events for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of the masterpoint structure.
- 3) All masterpoint awards shall be silver points.

## **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Item 092-160: Stratiflighted Pair and Team Event**

In stratiflighted pair and team events, once the flight of the pair or team is determined, stratification within each flight can be by average masterpoints, at sponsor option.

### **Item 092-161: Masterpoint Averaging**

The following three rules allowing for masterpoint averaging in Board-a-Match, Swiss teams and Stratified Pairs are, FIRST, revoked;

#### Swiss Team Stratification (041-120)

At sponsor option, the stratification level of a team in a Stratified Swiss Event may be determined by the average masterpoint holding of all team members.

#### Stratified Board-a-Match Team (083-121)

The strat levels for teams in a Stratified Board-a-Match team event can optionally be determined by the average masterpoint holding of all of the team members.

#### Stratified Pair Events (091-160)

Stratified pair events event at local, sectional and regional tournaments, may be based, at sponsor option, on average masterpoints of the pair.

AND, SECOND, consolidated and revised as follows:

## STRATIFICATION BY AVERAGE MASTERPOINT HOLDING OF TEAM AND PAIR EVENTS

The stratification level of a team or pair may be based, at sponsor option, on the average masterpoint holding of the team or pair. This option may be exercised in both club or unit games and tournaments but not in qualifying events.

### **Item 092-162: Ex Quota Regional District 22**

District 22 request for an ex quota regional or a permanent regional status.

### **Item 092-163: Bracketed Knockouts**

The instruction given by directors in bracketed knockouts for the movement of boards in three-way matches shall be: North-South move the boards to the home table of the team which you have just played. This will replace the instruction that teams will take the boards to their home table.

### **Item 092-164: ACBL Policy – Drop-ins**

The ACBL policy is that "drop-ins" are not to be permitted in events that are on going by pairs or teams that have finished the event that they were playing. This includes "drop-ins" that can only play for session awards.