

Minutes of the  
ACBL Board of Governors  
Providence, RI  
November 30, 2014

Richard Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Governors, called the meeting to order on Sunday, November 30, at 10 a.m.

**Opening Remarks**

Chairman Anderson welcomed the new members of the Board of Governors.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Las Vegas, NV meeting held July 20, 2014 are approved.

Carried.

**CEO's Report**

Robert Hartman presented the CEO's report. (See Board Attachments)

**League Counsel's Report**

Peter Rank presented the League Counsel's report. (See Board Attachments)

**Treasurer's Report**

Rand Pinsky, ACBL Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report.

**Educational Foundation Report**

Barbara Heller, President of the Educational Foundation, presented a report on the Educational Foundation.

## Competition and Conventions Committee

Ellen Kent, Board of Governors member of the Competition and Conventions Committee gave a brief report on recent work being done by the Committee.

### Chairman's Report

Chairman Anderson presented his report on the meeting of the Board of Directors. (See Board Minutes)

### Old Business

There was no old business.

### New Business

Moved by Richard Popper (#4) and seconded that the Board of Governors appoint a subcommittee to study ACBL's standards for personal hygiene of players and spectators and to make appropriate recommendation for potential changes at the Spring 2015 NABC New Orleans meeting.

Carried.

Moved by Gary Hann #12, Jay Apfelbaum #4, Ellen Kent #23, Howard Piltch #8, Richard Popper #4 and Howard Weinstein (ex-officio), that the Board of Directors revise certain ACBL spectator matters and improve security protocol for major NABC events.

Section 1 – Terminology: A) The ACBL shall only use the term "Spectator" to include all Non-Officials and Non-Players in the playing area. Caddies are also Spectators.

B) The ACBL shall coordinate its "Tech Files" and its "General Conditions of Contest" with Law 76D, by replacing the word "kibitzer" with the lawful term "Spectator".

Section 2 - Standards: The ACBL shall make it abundantly clear (through publication in the NABC Daily Bulletins, etc.) that anyone within the defined playing area, whether at a table or not, is a Spectator and is subject to the same behavioral standards, obligations and enforcements as Players.

Section 3 – Communications Equipment: Due to the recent proliferation of Google Glasses, Internet watches, and other visible and non-visible wearables, Section 1 of the ACBL Electronics Device Policy shall be amended to prohibit use or visibility in the playing area of "any and all device(s) capable of communicating bridge related information with any other device(s) or with any person".

Section 4 – Hand Displays On Computer Screens: The USBF General Rule (e) shall be revised for ACBL purposes and shall be adopted as: “No one, other than Internet broadcast personnel and Tournament Directors/Officials, may be positioned or walking in such way as to have any possibility whatever, however slight, of seeing any computer screen or any other device or mechanism which is displaying records or hands in play. This applies to both the Open and Closed Rooms.”

Section 5 Reporting To Tournament Director: All Players and Spectators have an affirmative obligation to address only the Tournament Director/Director in Charge regarding any Player-Spectator issues, or issues involving irregularities at the table. Players do not address Spectators about irregularities or bar Spectators, but instead Players inform the Tournament Director if cause exists; Spectators must inform only the TD/DIC if other Spectators are violating any rules or regulations).

Section 6 – Table Talk: Spectators shall not speak to any Player or to any other Spectator at any time any hand is out of the board.

Section 7 – Viewing Restrictions: Spectators shall not be permitted any table being broadcast on VuGraph, or at any table playing the same hands being broadcast on VuGraph.

Section 8 – Security Improvements: Security at Major NABC Team Games Shall Include:

- A) A full VuGraph experience, which shall be well separated from the playing room(s).
- B) Each table in play shall be very well separated from any other table(s) in that match.
- C) Non-playing Captains not watching their team, and any teammates, shall be two full tables removed (at the third table or further) from any table where their team is playing. NPC’s may watch their team, but only with the express permission of the DIC for each session. While watching their team, NPC’s shall be subject to the same security restrictions and to the entire range of disciplinary penalties, including penalties against their entire team, as if they were a Player.
- D) The entrances to the playing room(s) shall be sufficiently secured (cordoned off) so that loud chatter outside the room cannot be heard by the Players.
- E) Escorts shall be officially designated to take and remain adjacent to Players on smoke break or in the lavatory.
- F) The ACBL shall acquire and employ detection equipment to sense electronics concealed on a Player’s person which could be capable of exchanging bridge related information.
- G) The ACBL shall formulate policy(s) to allow inspecting Players and anything they are possessing at any time, including at random. A Player may not refuse such inspection of all

personal possessions, and shall be subject to sanctions ranging from a warning to and including the most severe disciplinary action.

H) Boards shall be duplicated from the Quarterfinals for increased education and enjoyment, and to enhance expert VuGraph commentary.

Carried.

### **Approval of New Life Masters**

Moved by Sandy DeMartino, and seconded by all, that all members who have achieved Life Master Status (#102,568 to #104,057) will be designated as Life Masters.

Carried unanimously.

### **Thanks for Hospitality**

Moved by Sandra DeMartino and seconded by all that the sincere thanks of the Board of Governors is extended to District 25 and its Units, District Director and Tournament Chairs Joe Brouillard and Helen Pawlowski and all of the other chairpersons and numerous volunteers. We also wish to thank the Omni Providence for its fine cooperation.

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There being no further business, the Board of Governors adjourned *sine die* at 11:45 a.m.