

## ACBL Competition and Conventions Committee

Location: Honolulu, HI  
Day: November 26, 2018

Members present:  
Tom Carmichael, Chair  
Chris Compton  
Jeff Meckstroth  
Jeff Goldsmith  
Danny Sprung  
Doug Doub  
Linda Trent (BOG)  
Dennis Carman (BOD)  
Mark Aquino (BOD)  
Sol Weinstein, staff

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM HST

Approval of the Minutes from Atlanta NABC Meeting pending (re) emailing the minutes to members.

### 1. Board of Directors Report

- a. Reconsideration of removal of Baze Senior KO failed 8-17-0
- b. Proposal to remove 15-17 1NT opening from announcements failed 5-20-0
- c. Raising Senior minimum age increase was discussed per WBF action. Also discussed whether Senior events should have NABC+ status.
- d. GNT B&C Second Team per District with 8+ entered approved (reconsideration)  
Robb Gordon announced that screens will start in Round of 16 in Open and A.,  
It was also mentioned that there will be a new additional fee for events with screens.
- e. <off topic> Linda Trent mentioned an anomaly in club masterpoint formula with 25 tables.  
Other masterpoint anomalies were reported. There will be a new “masterpoint committee”.
- f. If a player wins an event giving him/her GLM status but masterpoints needed – will get “eligibility” points to make sure they don’t play in 10K events and are ranked higher in masterpoint seeded KO events.

2. Management – Sol Weinstein mentioned discussion of simultaneous play (extra boards, etc). Tom Carmichael brought up the dealing machines being prototyped. They have excellent potential, but the machines are not quite ready in terms of reliability. Cost and scalability were also discussed.

### 3. Old Business

a. Alert Subcommittee – Jeff Ford (absent) No report.

b. Convention Card Subcommittee – Ellen Kent (absent), Linda Trent, Chris Compton – Tom Carmichael raised issue of changing inside of card to make it harder to see your opponents' scores. Chris Compton discussed implications of double-sided card (without scoresheet). It was agreed not to change the size of the card. The subcommittee was divided over how the second side gets implemented. Chris Compton proposed asking Management about feasibility of separate scorecard for NABC+ events with smaller print. Jeff Goldsmith offered to do a "test print". Jeff Goldsmith supplied a prototype of a scorecard and offered to make adjustments. There's a PDF of the prototype at <http://jeff-goldsmith.org/bridge/privatescores/card.pdf>

### 4. New Business

a. New Charts – now in effect

Pre-alerts were simplified. Discussion of general unawareness, the fact that the alert refinement is still in process. Tom Carmichael discussed the following:

1. Open+: Defense submission process refinement – in progress. Suggested – email with autoreply and/or web form.

2. Definitions:

a. Natural. (Item k, same strain at higher level)- need to clarify the "natural" meaning for a forcing bid that shows the strain, or "denomination".

b. General CoC – Under Conventions and Convention Cards, #1 needs updating.

*"1) The ACBL Open Convention Chart will govern bidding and playing methods, unless the Sponsoring*

*Organization has announced or published that the Open+Convention Chart will be permitted.” This is not correct under new charts – needs to be changed.*

c. Alert Procedure Clarification (Adam Wildavsky)

*“A player makes a call that might be natural or artificial - the sequence has not been discussed, but there is some reason to think a convention might apply. Perhaps it would be artificial had RHO passed, or artificial by an UPH. If artificial it would require an alert. Should his partner alert:*

*a) Always*

*b) Never*

*c) Sometimes*

*If c, what are the criteria?”*

Jeff Goldsmith – “If bidder’s partner might take action based on expectation of meaning, it must be alerted.” This was not a consensus. Most of the members who spoke thought “nearly always”.

d. Appeals & Case Books – Jeff Goldsmith

There was a misunderstanding about a LC opinion that suggested that the Appeals Committee rule on the Director ruling and was translated as requiring a heavy likelihood that the ruling was wrong to change it. Tom Carmichael suggested that somebody discuss the issue with Matt Koltnow.

Jeff Meckstroth brought up the polling process – he felt that the respondents receive full information (BIT for example). Jeff Goldsmith felt that TD polling should write down the exact way the questions be asked.

Potential misunderstandings about current ACBL policy and how it should be applied.

e. Score correction period clarification – (Chip Martel)

*Note: This may be a non-issue, perhaps a misunderstanding between staff and what is written. This may be removed from the agenda at the time of the meeting.*

What is the desired score correction period after the first session of a 2+ session game? Generally, the committee felt that the correction period should be extended in this circumstance.

- f. Soloway KO – or Swiss qualifying – is there a need for Bridgemates to prevent collusion in a qualifying round? Not a concern.

Tom Carmichael announced he was retiring as C&C committee chairman. The committee commended him for his diligent service. The committee agreed to make Danny Sprung the new chairman.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34AM HST.