

**ACBL Competition and Conventions Committee Minutes
Atlanta, GA, July 30, 2018**

Members present:

Tom Carmichael, Chair
Chris Compton
Doug Doub
Jeff Ford
Jeff Meckstroth
Danny Sprung
Jeff Goldsmith (by Skype)
Ellen Kent (BOG Representative)
Linda Trent (BOG Representative)

Board of Directors members present:

Mark Aquino
Dennis Carman
Russ Jones
A.J. Stephani

Staff present:

Robb Gordon
Sol Weinstein

Others present:

Marty Harris

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM

The minutes from the Philadelphia NABC Meeting were approved.

Chair Carmichael announced the addition Mitch Dunitz to the committee as a Board of Governors representative, replacing Fred King.

Board of Directors Report

Board increased MP award for GNT/NAP @ District Level

Women's BAM removed – not enough teams (effective 2019)

Senior KO removed – not enough teams (effective 2019)

Allow substitutes in NAP for additional reasons – decision by DIC of event.

Medical condition

Death

There was some discussion of the Senior KO – BOG moved for reconsideration. Ellen Kent had suggested that the NABC+ designation be removed (no longer qualifies for GLM). Chris Compton suggested move to Spring NABC starting Wednesday before main tournament starts. But most of the committee favored a two-year trial with the event starting on Sunday in the fall.

Board of Governors Report

No quorum for general membership meeting (180 – needs 250).

Management Report

Feedback on New Convention Charts (see new business below)

Board of Directors passed motion to extend ZT to Regionals and Sectionals.

Old Business

- a. **Convention Card Subcommittee** – Ellen Kent, Eric Rodwell, Marty Harris, Linda Trent, Suzi Subeck; Chris Compton

Two cards presented – one for more complex methods (two sided). One for simpler (one sided). Print one sided – two sided would be online only. (Ellen please send me files for final minutes). There was extensive discussion of particulars. The main points:

One sided card is most important.

Simplify with fewer names.

More blank space

Specify singleton honor or A,K,Q for NT openings.

The subcommittee should send updated prototype cards to whole committee periodically.

There was a side discussion about allowing a 1NT opening with a small singleton (which is approved for open+) – Jeff Meckstroth and Chris Compton strongly disagreed with this rule.

- b. **Strength of Field discussion** (request by BoD: Russ Jones / Dennis Carman)

Use strength of field for other events besides KO (on hold)

Uses – for example – stratify by strength of field so sizes are even

Individual vs. pair

Current performance or masterpoints over time

Stratify by masterpoints or SOF

The two issues – how to divide brackets/strata and masterpoint awards.

- c. **Bulletin Articles on new Convention Charts** – Aug/Sep (Oct/Nov TBD) Tom Carmichael is working on articles for *Bulletin* on new convention charts.

2. New Business

- a. **New Convention Charts Feedback** – KO vs Bracketed Swiss, Basic Chart – Russ Jones and the Bridge committee is talking about which charts apply in which events.

0-750 = Basic Chart

0-2500 Basic+

There was real concern about these limits. The committee felt that 3000 was a better limit.

The committee wanted to have mp limit conditions to apply even when the limited event is teams and the open event is pairs. Does not apply to a 99er game etc.

Suggest that “purely destructive” systems or conventions are not allowed in any chart.

C&C wants to set up an online forum.

- b. **GNT behind Screens** (Robb Gordon) – Put Championship and “A” flight behind screens starting with round of 16. Moved. Passed unanimously. There was commentary about inadequate space in top level events causing too much information to be available from nearby tables.
- c. **Goppert Rule** - Russ Jones said the BOD is considering modifying/rescinding “Goppert Rule”. May require player to play one of last 2 (or 3 matches).

- d. **Psyches & Reporting** – Committee didn't feel that it made sense to put a complicated and burdensome system in place.
- e. Meeting adjourned at 11:59.