

Board of Governors Motion Issue Sheet

Subject	203-BG012: Online Regionals After Face to Face Clubs Reopen
Issue	Online Regionals remove a sizable fraction of playing members. They must not compete nationally with clubs when face to face clubs have reopened.
Motion	<p>We move that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online tournaments be organized with the cooperation of specific Districts with competitors limited to their own Districts. • Up to 3 contiguous districts may band together to form a larger member base for the Online Regional. If more than 1/8th of the face to face clubs are affected by such joining, then such joining shall not be allowed. • Once more than 75% of the 2019 sanctions have reopened their face to face games, no online zone wide regionals shall be run. • The % for ceasing zone wide regionals can be negotiated by the BoG Chair.
Material impacts	Online regionals run across the entire zone take many seats away from face to face club play unnecessarily. They also fail to compensate Districts who have material commitments to space for their tournaments.
Reasons	<p>One-wide regionals are an intrusion into the customary regional tournament schedule. While appropriate during the covid-19 crisis, they are abusive when face to face bridge is trying to regain its attendance.</p> <p>Once face to face play resumes, we want online zone wide regional events to stop. However, Districts should be allowed to sponsor online regionals limited to their members, those would be acceptable subject to the same limitations given to face to face regionals. In this way we can have the benefits of online play with no additional losses to clubs caused by zone-wide tournaments for gold points.</p> <p>This allows the ACBL and Districts to test the feasibility of District limited online regionals. We believe it appropriate for regionals to allow up to 3 contiguous districts to join together for the event.</p>
Risks	None.

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