

**ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
LOUISVILLE, KY
MARCH 7, 2011 THROUGH MARCH 10, 2011**

**REPORT FROM BILL COOK, JR.
DISTRICT 10 REPRESENTATIVE**

The following actions were taken by the Board:

- Bill Cook was elected ACBL Treasurer for a one year term from May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2012.
- Approved a Bylaw change that states "A person may only serve as president if he is also serving as a member of the Board of Directors.
- Approved a Bylaw change that states "The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past President of the ACBL if he is the elected director from his district. If the immediate past president is not the elected director from his district the most recent past president serving as a director shall be the Chairman."
- Approved a motion that the Board may vote electronically (by email or facsimile) when voting on a motion to be approved by unanimous written consent. Each members vote must contain a fax or e-mail copy of the voter's signature to be valid.
- Defeated a motion that would have eliminated the use of stop cards after the first round of a non-competitive auction.
- Approved the 2011 budget which projects a net income of \$140,880 but was footnoted to reflect an additional projected expense of \$24,000.00 in real estate taxes.
- Approved a 2011 Capital budget projecting expenditures of \$681,000.00, primarily for computer software development.
- Defeated a motion that would require the interim vote totals in elections conducted by the ACBL Board of Directors be announced immediately following the vote count just as they are now following the final vote.
- Approved the transfer of Natahitoches, Winn and Grant parishes in Louisiana from Unit 170 to Unit 221. Both units are in District 10.
- Defeated a motion that would require that ACBL dues for national bridge organizations to the World Bridge Federation be paid from funds raised from International Fund games before any other donations are made from these games.

- Defeated a motion that said “ACBL masterpoints shall not be awarded in any games that includes one or more robots as participants”
- Adopted new regulations for sanctioned online play as follows:
 - A player may not enter more than two ACBL sanctioned online games of any kind in any 60 minute period.
 - All other regulations regarding online bridge remains in effect as is, including the following:
 - * All masterpoints won online continue to count toward a player’s total.
 - * Online masterpoints continue to not count toward master point races such as the McKenney and Mini McKenny.
 - * Online races, as currently established, continue.
 - * Online masterpoints continue to be unpigmented, with no online masterpoints needed for any Rank advancement.
 - * The regulation that no more than 1/3 of the total masterpoints required for Rank advancement can be attributed to online masterpoints continues. For example, to become a Gold LM (2,500 masterpoint required, with certain pigmentation) no more than 833.33 master points can count toward the 2,500 masterpoint requirement.
 - * Online masterpoints continue to count 100% toward strat and flight advancement.
 - * Robot games continue to run as an Individual event.
- Approved a motion that says ACBL-wide special games may not be conducted during any month that is designated as a special fund month. Currently the months of February (Junior), April (Charity) and September (International) are designated as special fund game months. Management will select appropriate dates for the ACBL-wide events.
- Deferred to the Toronto meeting a motion to rescind which states “monies raised from Junior Fund games will be available for all Junior activities. The first \$50,000.00 or the amount collected annually, whichever is less, will be given in July of the following year to the USBF to fund Junior Team activities.”
- Renamed the Platinum Pairs the “Norman Kay Platinum Pairs”.
- Appeals and Charges denied the request of Massimo Lanzarotti and Andrea Buratti to be readmitted to ACBL.

JAY BAUM, ACBL CEO REPORTED THE FOLLOWING:

- Net gain in membership for the first two months of 2011 was 234 with new memberships being more than 1,000/month.
- 2010 preliminary table count for clubs games was 2,965,821 of which 713,135 were from online games.
- Regional table count for 2011 started with a nice increase. The average table count per regional was over 2,000.
- Sectional table counts were also up averaging 216 tables despite six fewer tournaments being held.
- STaC's showed a decrease in tables due to one less event but average tables kept pace with 2010.
- There are 12 cruise sectionals scheduled for 2011 and we will begin to tract and report participation in these events.
- There were 10 nominees for the 2011 Hall of Fame class. No one received the required 50% so there will be no new members to the Hall of Fame this year.
- The Cooperative Advertising Program continues to be popular and productive for clubs and teachers in their effort to reach beginner/newcomer players. In 2010 the program subsidized advertising for 340 beginner/new comer ad campaigns. 42 club/teacher ad campaigns have been subsidized in 2011 (as of Feb. 1, 2011).
- In 2010 Marketing distributed 482 tournament email blasts on behalf of tournament sponsors. As of February 1, 2011 51 tournament blasts have sent out.
- ACBL Smart Phone App – “Find a Club” is schedule to be released and available in the Apple iTunes app store by mid March 2011. This will allow users to find the nearest bridge club on their iphone using GPS technology and/or a manual search using city/state/zip.
- There were a total of 367 School Bridge classes conducted during 2010. Currently there are 82 classes registered for Spring 2011 and spring classes are still registering.
- This year's Youth NABC will be held in Toronto. Numerous mail outs have gone out to youth members and youth bridge teachers to promote the event.

- A survey was sent to ACBL junior/youth membership asking them for insight and feedback concerning junior receptions at NABC's. Based on survey inputs plans are being made to 1) better advertise the event; 2) bring in expert speakers to speak or conduct "mini" workshops; and 3) offer door prizes.
- Financially, the 2010 year end was strong with revenues of approximately \$15.5 million and operating expenses of approximately \$15.6 million. Cash and investments are approximately \$6.8 million after completing and furnishing the new headquarters in Horn Lake, MS.