



## The District 5 Newsletter

District  
Director's Report  
April 2011

### **General Remarks:**

I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Louisville this year. In spite of the rain, an overflowing Ohio River and gray skies, Louisville is a charming city. It had lots of restaurants near the hotel and volunteers determined to have you enjoy yourself.

The CEO reports that ACBL membership dipped a little but it is expected to rebound. The financial outlook is good. Since the CEO is expected to retire in July 2012, a search committee is in place to review candidates. The qualifications are listed on the website and in the Bulletin. If you know of someone who might be interested, please refer them to that information.

Our website has a new more user-friendly design. More improvements are coming. ACBL is now on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. ACBL Score is going to be completely redone to modernize the program and add features that aren't currently available.

The Platinum Pairs has been renamed the 'Norman Kay Platinum Pairs'. The Platinum Pairs is an elite NABC+ event that requires 10,000 masterpoints to participate or a significant accumulation of Platinum Points that can only be won at NABCs. It was exciting to see a District 5 pair do so well here. Laurie and Ken Kranyak came in second in this prestigious event. Congratulations to them and to all District 5 members who did well in Louisville!

### **ACBL Board President Set for Club Tour Odyssey. Your club could be on the itinerary.**

Craig Robinson, 2011 ACBL Board President, has set a goal to visit 100 bridge clubs in 100 days. Craig states that his theory has always been that new members come to the ACBL through teachers sending them to clubs. "I want to thank the clubs for keeping it going," says Robinson. The club-visiting marathon will be broken into two parts - 50 clubs in 50 days east of the Mississippi, starting in May, then another 50 west of the Mississippi after the Summer NABC in Toronto. Requests for Craig to visit your club may be submitted by e-mail at [president@acbl.org](mailto:president@acbl.org). Because of the planning and time necessary, it will not be possible for him to accept all invitations, but each request will be acknowledged. His trip has already started so I don't know how many additions he can make but it can't hurt to try.

### **Appeals**

Two Italian players who were expelled from ACBL 5 years ago asked to be readmitted. The Appeals and Charges Committee heard the appeal and denied the application. The players may reapply in another 3 years. In another case, an automatic review of the decision of a disciplinary committee, The Committee affirmed both the finding of guilt and the discipline imposed.

### Proposed Bylaw Change

A bylaw change is being proposed and was approved at a first reading. The change needs to pass the Board at a second reading and then it will be presented to the Membership at the Annual Meeting. The proposed change requires that an ACBL President or Chairman of the Board must be serving as a member of the Board of Directors to serve in those positions. Currently, a member of the Board may be elected President or be in line to serve as Chairman while a member and then lose his election to represent his/her District and still serve as President or Chairman of the Board. (This actually has happened, but the person resigned as President before the term started).

### **Other legislation**

In Barometer style events, the Tournament Director shall, before the start of each round advise all players to be seated. No cards shall be removed until the Tournament Director announces that play shall begin. A procedural penalty may be assessed.

A player may not enter more than two ACBL sanctioned online games of any kind in any 60 minute period.

Deferred for later action was an item to change the priority for Junior Fund Monies raised in the clubs. Current legislation requires that the first \$50,000 be given to the USBF to pay expenses of Junior Teams competing in international competition. The rest goes for programs for all Juniors.

The ACBL-wide Senior Pairs was traditionally held on Super Bowl Saturday. Since the Super Bowl has now slid into February, it is in conflict with the rule that says the only special games allowed in the month of February are Junior Fund games. So the ACBL-wide Senior Pairs will be rescheduled to another time.

The board may use signed fax or signed email to vote on a motion to be approved by unanimous consent.

### **Elections and Appointments**

Bill Cook was re-elected as ACBL Treasurer. Bill won election in November 2010 to replace Craig Robinson, 2011 ACBL President.

Mike Passell, Ralph Katz and David Berkowitz were appointed for 3-year terms on the Hall of Fame Committee.

Doug Doub, Bob Hamman, Elaine Said, Howard Weinstein and Mildred Breed were appointed to the Competitions and Conventions Committee.

Denny Clerkin, Eric Rodwell, Arnie Fisher, Sherry Bjerkan and Bob Glasson were appointed to the Ethical Oversight Committee.

Questions, complaints and suggestions are welcome. Just call 440-333-2536 or email me at [shortsuit@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shortsuit@sbcglobal.net). Sharon Fairchild