

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
SPECIAL REPORT, PART 2  
RESTRUCTURING  
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I will begin with a hypothesis that the board does not have a sufficient vote in the second round in favor of this restructuring. In this case, the various committees can be formed which will not be “board committees”. Once these committees are in operation for a while, we can then determine an appropriate size for the new board.

Just guessing, I will pick 11 as the proposed board. There are any number of issues to work upon, and these are all far more important than the size of the board, an issue which has consumed far too much time and energy of this board. Here are just a few of these issues, and in no particular order of importance.

1. The financial health of ACBL.  
The 2018 results had a number of fiascos. The 2019 results were expected to be positive and this was the case, although not as good as projected. The NABC's included Las Vegas and San Francisco, two very favorable locations. There has been little

or no discussion of long-term prospects. Especially with the corona virus, this is a truly vital issue for the board and management to have possible solutions.

The furloughs which were reported for the April 29 meeting are a necessary short term solution. The long-term issues are more complex. A number of members will not return to live bridge at all. There is no way to assess this matter. Management and the board need to work up various projections based upon the membership decreases at various levels. When the time comes, we should not have to make a set of last minute decisions.

2. The “aging” of the bridge population.

Our membership is decreasing by about 1,000 per year. If we cannot halt or reverse this trend, then some type of Plan B will be necessary. Something should be in place long before we reach a critical point of membership.

3. Declining tournament attendance.

Some sectionals now are quite small. Some regionals are also shrinking. Are there factors which can help to promote attendance?

#### 4. Attendance at NABC's.

There are problems here beyond those of sectional and regional tournaments. Attending an NABC is quite an expensive proposition. For a couple to attend can easily be a decision of \$5,000 to \$8,000, and perhaps even more. The flying experience is also a factor for some people. And now there is the additional factor of the pandemic limiting tourist type travel.

#### Conclusions:

1. The size of the board is truly not a significant issue when compared to other issues.
2. Those who complain about inefficiency ought to cite some examples. Perhaps the real complaint is about the dollars being spent on the board.
3. Part 3 will be coming soon with some thoughts about board size and spending.