

DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORT FOR APRIL 2015

As I write this report, the New Orleans NABC is concluding. The board meetings were productive as many matters were decided. Following are the highlights of the meetings.

Bridge Motions.

The Board passed two items relating to the Convention Chart. First, Transfer Responses were added to the Competitive Bidding section of the ACBL General Convention Chart. Added was the following language, "Transfer Responses (responses after overcalls) where the call shows length or values in the suit of the transfer.

A second change to the General Convention Chart amended Paragraph 7 of the Competitive Bidding Section had added that a "2 diamond bid showing a one-suited hand in hearts or spades is now allowed over natural notrump opening bids or overcalls.

Grand National Teams

The Board passed a motion providing that effective commencing at the 2015 Summer NABC, for the first two days for Flights A, B, and C of the GNT Final, the entry fee is waived an award for winning the District portion of the GNT competition. I supported this motion and also spoke in favor of waiving the entry fee for the Super Flight, but there were not enough votes from the Board to pass this provision.

Masterpoints awards for KO teams, 5-6 person teams.

The following motion requires a second reading that will occur at the Summer NABC in Chicago.

"At non-NABC events, players on KO Teams with more than 4 players who are otherwise eligible for overall awards will be subject to the following participation reductions:

For every segment (half a match) of a match that is won and where a participant sits out, the overall awards for that individual will be reduced by 5%. For example, if a player's team wins a 4-session KO and that participant played only half of each match, that player's masterpoint award will be reduced by 20%.

Screen Surcharge

In Providence, the Board passed a screen surcharge. In New Orleans, a motion for reconsideration was passed by the Board of Governors. Since Providence I have had many discussions with our players regarding this charge. With the costs of entry fees for NABC+ events, it was wrong for the Board to pass this surcharge. In Chicago I will be voting to rescind this charge.

Next month I will discuss the 2015 budget.

And remember, I can always be reached at Pinsky4Bridge@earthlink.net