

DISTRICT DIRECTOR 'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

CHICAGO NABC RECAP

I do not have all the stats from the Chicago NABC, but I am advised that our attendance exceeded our predicted table count of 13,000 tables by 685 tables. This is the second NABC in a row that our attendance has exceeded our expectations.

ACBL Technology Our new CIO has reported that his analysis of our technology intra-structure needs updating. Based upon his report, the Board voted to increase the 2015 Capital Budget by \$100,000 to address this issue. Overall to date, Management has used only \$34,627 of its allocated budget of \$133,500 for Technology.

Motions passed in Chicago

Electronic Devise Policy. The Board has modified the Electronic Devise Policy as follows:

Electronic devices are allowable in the playing area at NABCs but such devices must be turned off and inoperable. Health related equipment or by permission of the Director-In-Charge are the exceptions. This policy applies to all pairs, team members, captains, play recorders and kibitzers. Finally, a violation of this rule will result in a penalty pursuant to Law 91 of one full board at matchpoints/Board-a-Match, 12 IMPs at IMP pairs or Knockouts or 20% maximum of Victory Points available per match. A second offense will result in disqualification.

If you wish me to read the complete regulation, send me an email and I will send it to you.

Automatic Membership Renewal Policy. This was not a motion before the Board, but management is developing a policy where membership will be renewed automatically for a term of equal length to the previous membership term. There will be more information on this policy posted on the ACBL website.

North American Pairs. This motion allows for a replacement player at the National level only if a member of the pair becomes deceased before the National Finals. The replacement player however must meet the eligibility requirements of the Conditions of Contest.

StaC Non-Member Surcharge. This motion failed, one which I voted against, would have required the sponsoring organization to charge an extra \$3.00 per person per session for non-members and non-service fee paying life masters. Besides hurting club attendance, the process for verifying a non-member at the time of the game and subsequently trying to collect the extra fee at a later date made this motion hard to support.

KO Awards for 5 -6 person teams. This motion failed, and I again voted to defeat it. The motion would have reduced the masterpoint awards for not playing all of the matches. The maximum reduction was 20%. I had received comments from many people on our District 23 Tournament committee who thought this reduction would discourage many of the sponsored teams from attending our Regionals. As I believe that we need these teams to attend our tournaments which help us reach our hotel room rental guarantee, I did not think this motion was in the best interest of our district.

Next month, I will report on the CEO Report presented to the Board in Chicago.

As always I welcome your comments. You can reach me at
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