

DISTRICT 10
MID SOUTH BRIDGE CONFERENCE
BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING
April 11, 2022

The Mid-South Conference Board of Delegates met on April 11, 2022, in a virtual Zoom meeting hosted by Larry Sealy, District 10 President.

District 10 Units were represented by the following Voting Delegates

Unit 134 Louisiana	Vicki Willis
Unit 138 Mississippi	Chuck Wilkinson
Unit 144 Tennessee	Ed Davis
Unit 157 Alabama	Robert Whiting
Unit 161 Arkansas	Dan Graham
Unit 170 Shreveport	Debbie Grand
Unit 179 Central TN	Bob Dietrick
Unit 180 MSGulf Coast	Gary Meece
Unit 182 Baton Rouge	Michael Cresap
Unit 211 N.E. Louisiana	Linda Dorries
Unit 214 Hattiesburg	Sandra Baggett
Unit 215 S. Alabama	*Lynn Parker
Unit 221 S.W. Louisiana	Adrian Hunt
Unit 232 N. Alabama	Larry Sealy

*Did not attend and did not send a replacement

District 10 and Unit officials Who Attended

District 10 President – Larry Sealy
Vice President – Robert Whiting
Treasurer – Pat Williams
Secretary- Judy Knox
Charles MacCracken, TC
Greg Frank, D10 Webmaster
Karen Jennings – Education Liaison
Charles Durrin- unit 232
Bob Black – President Unit 232

President's Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Larry Sealy, President of District 10 at 6:30pm CST. All attendees were asked to introduce themselves and state the Unit and/or office that they hold.

Approval of The Minutes

A motion was made by Vicki Willis to approve the minutes for the last District 10 meeting. The minutes from September 27, 2021, were approved.

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Pat Williams - Treasurer

Pat Williams, District 10 Treasurer presented the Financial Statements for January – December 31, 2021. (See Exhibit A which is attached for a copy of Pat's report.)

Larry Sealy – D10 President/ACBL BOD

ACBL BOD Update

Oct 2021-Mar 2022

Larry Sealy (District10Director@acbl.org, cigar13@comcast.net)

Full Meeting Minutes can be found here: <https://www.acbl.org/administration/#bod>

November 2021 Board Meeting (Austin) Highlights

- **Budget:** Approved the 2022 Capital and Operating budget by a vote of 24/1/0. Budgeted revenues for 2022 ~\$15.8M, estimated operating/administrative expenses ~\$16.7M; loss of ~\$900K. This loss reflects a commitment by ACBL Management and the Board to invest in Information Technology to replace outdated systems and to accomplish prioritized projects. (I voted in favor)
- **Reimbursement of Losses:** The Finance Committee proposed a process for Districts and/or Units to request, and the Board to review and consider for approval, reimbursement of significant losses incurred due to the ACBL's decision not to staff a tournament on short notice after having previously approved it to be held under COVID restrictions. This would apply to tournament(s) scheduled to be held on or after August 1, 2021. Motion carried: 24/0/1. (I voted in favor. To date, only D7's Atlanta Labor Day Regional received any funds, ~50% of the loss.)
- **IT:** In 2022, the ACBL will invest heavily in Information Technology. The IT team will rely on third-party vendors and staff to accomplish the following:
 - Make architectural changes to the website.
 - Complete migration of the AS/400 computer system.
 - Update and finalize masterpoint calculation engine.
 - Complete tournament event pre-registration system.
 - Move Trax application to cloud-based application.
 - Move ACBLScore to a web-based application.
- **Membership:** While ACBL membership continues to decline slightly each month, the pace has begun to slow. As of November 1, 2021, the ACBL has approximately 144,306 total members (down 9.4% in last 12 months).
- **Discipline:** The National Recorder reported on disciplinary cases. A summary of hearing reports, negotiated resolutions, and players under discipline can be found at: <https://www.acbl.org/ethics/>

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Intro to Bridge: Over 880 students have attended Intro to Bridge classes. This interactive online course is comprised of 10 weekly lessons for a cost of \$50. After the course ends, students may practice on the Shark Bridge App free for 90 days and should feel ready to play in a restricted masterpoint game. Classes will continue monthly. Instructors guide students to the Find a Teacher search tool located on the ACBL website to encourage students to seek local F2F or online instruction.

- **The Guest Membership Program:** has produced more than 2,500 guest members since its inception in February 2021. Over 857 have been converted to full memberships, an approximate 34 percent conversion rate.
- **Recruiter Incentives:** ACBL's Recruiter Incentives Program rewards teachers and club managers for bringing in new members. Teacher incentives through the third quarter of 2021 produced 1,830 members. Recruiters receive \$10 when someone joins and \$10 each year when they renew their membership during years two and three.
- **Moving to a Smaller Board:** As the Board reduces in size from 25 to 13 members (we are at 20 as of Jan 1, 2022), non-core related functions of the Board will continue to transition to Management and outside committees, ensuring a smaller Board can maximize its ability to focus on core strategic and financial objectives. As part of this transition, The Competitions and Conventions (C&C) Committee will be able to make small changes to alert procedures, conditions of contest, convention charts, etc. without formal Board approval. Motion carried: 25/0/0. (I voted in favor.)
- **Convention Card:** A new one will debut in mid-2022.
- **Experimental STaC:** A week-long "Royal" STaC for F2F clubs, has been approved by Management on an experimental basis. The Royal STaC will award 25 percent gold, silver, red and black points. (D10 held ours March 28-April 3, with good attendance). Look for this event to continue on a yearly basis.
- **Canceled/Upcoming NABCs:** ACBL Management reduced, by over \$5.4M, financial exposure from hotel contracts for canceled 2020-21 NABCs. The result (for Spring 2020-Summer 2021 was very minimal losses). Terms and conditions of hotel and convention center contracts for future NABCs have been renegotiated, resulting in approximately \$1.7M reduction in financial risk.
- **Future NABCs:** The Board authorized Management to move forward with contract negotiations for the **2025 Spring NABC** in **Memphis** and the 2026 Fall NABC in San Diego. (I am a member of the Future NABC Site Selection Committee.)
- Joann Glasson (D4, New Jersey) was elected 2022 ACBL President.

January Special Board Meeting Highlights

- **NABC Starting Times:** C&C will now schedule start times for NABC events. Due to player demand, they will normally/nominally be 10:00 and 3:00. The local committee may request use of the previous start times (1:00 and 7:30). This begins with Providence (Summer 2022). (I voted in favor).
- **Institute for Bridge Arbitration (IBA):** This body has been created to hear cases of unethical behavior/cheating. It will be used for cases where ACBL proposes suspension of 6 months or more. Decisions will be final. This will remove much of the work from the National Recorder's office and (hopefully) reduce the backlog of cases.

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March 2022 Board Meeting (Reno) Highlights

- **Finance:** As of year-end 2021, net assets totaled \$9.9M. The increase in net assets for the year was \$2.65M. This included COVID relief (PPP) from the federal government of \$1.5M and \$450,000 of non-operating items (overfunded pension plan). Therefore, the actual gain from operations was approximately \$700,000. The budgeted loss for 2022 is \$858,000 which includes depreciation of \$302,000. The Reno NABC loss is still TBD - but will be a significant part of the total.
 - **Membership:** The decline continues. As of 3/31/22, ACBL membership totals 139,108; down 3.6% from 10/31/2021.
 - **Marketing:** ACBL website and Bulletin have been “refreshed.” Intro to Bridge and Guest Membership programs continue. Long term, Marketing will embark on a research program that will help the ACBL better understand and meet the needs of prospective and current members.
 - **Supporting Ukraine:** The United Nations World Food Program will receive net proceeds from the Hollywood Magic Online Regional held March 24-27, and additional proceeds from games held F2F and virtually March 28-31. BBO will donate \$10,000. The ACBL Charity Foundation will donate up to \$25,000 of funds raised in virtual clubs, April 4-10, to UNICEF - Help Children in Ukraine.

 - **Appeals and Charges (A&C):** The ACBL Board heard a confidential presentation concerning exciting new developments in detecting online cheating. A description of **EDGAR** was posted on Bridge Winners April 9: <http://bridgewinners.com/article/view/introducing-edgar/> (I am a member of the A&C Committee.)
 - **Mike Kovacich:** Mike, the Region 6 Director (District 7, GA, NC, SC, part of TN) had begun his second term on the Board when he suddenly passed away just before Reno. Mike was a dedicated volunteer of many years and will be sorely missed. There will be a special election in May/June to replace him.
 - **Limited MP Event Eligibility:** This motion adds to the eligibility restrictions implemented in 2020 for “National” events (e.g., 0-10K, 0-6000). The 2020 modification restricted players who had won a NABC+ event from playing in restricted MP events. This motion would also exclude players who have represented their country (generally, foreigners who have not won many ACBL masterpoints) from playing. (I proposed this motion after a person who had represented Mexico many times won a 0-10K event in Austin. It was decided that it would be more appropriate for C&C to handle, so it was referred to them.)
 - **Updated Electronic Device Policy:** Players rely on their electronic devices to check scores and to pre-register for events. A motion that electronic devices (phones, tablets and watches) be allowed to be visible in and out of the playing area was proposed by Management. Devices must be turned off during the play of the hand but can be used between rounds. Penalties will continue to be assessed for disruptions due to devices that “ring” during play. Motion carried: 17/2/0. (I voted in favor)
- Hybrid Online and F2F Bridge:** Discussion of expanding hybrid online and F2F bridge was deferred to the Strategic Committee. Current technical constraints are impeding immediate developmental activities. The longer-term vision is to optimize the combined features and benefits of both online and F2F bridge capabilities.

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- **Pre-registration Platform:** IT has made significant progress toward completing the tournament registration platform. In Reno, members had the option of pre-paying and pre-registering for various events through the ACBL Express Entry application. In the future, data analytics and reporting information will be provided to help tournament sponsors refine tournament schedules and reduce hospitality and director costs. A partnership “desk” component for those seeking partners for pair and team games will be provided.
- **District NABC Fundraising Weeks:** *Background – Districts are allowed to hold one week of fundraising games per year for the three years prior to a District NABC. While not directly specified (since regulation was written pre-pandemic), it has been assumed these games apply to F2F games, only. They are similar to Charity Games, i.e., run at club-level and providing extra masterpoints. The District charges a nominal extra fee (~\$4 per table) which is used to support hospitality at the NABC. Districts with upcoming NABCs were unable to hold some of their Fundraising Weeks in 2020 and 2021. I proposed this motion with three parts:*
 - Clarify that existing codification applies to F2F games only.
 - Allow Fundraising to weeks that were missed in 2020/2021 to be held in 2022.
 - Add one week per year (for three years) of Virtual Club Fundraising Weeks (for games within the District only)

The third part requires a software mod to implement. After discussion with Management and the Treasurer, we developed a compromise: I removed the Virtual Fundraising Weeks from the motion. **Management agreed to:** a) take an action to report back to the Board in Providence on requirements to implement them at the VACB level and b) **fund the difference between what the 2023 New Orleans NABC committee has requested from D10 and what we will be able to raise with the F2F games.** [Modified Motion passed unanimously.](#)

Tournament Coordinator Report - Charles MacCracken

Charlie stated that we are in serious trouble in Regionals. Tunica will not be held this year and Unit 144 is not interested in having any Tunica Tournament in the future. There are no Regionals scheduled for 2024. We are in desperate need of Regionals. Sectionals have been canceled to a great extent and those that were held have not been very successful.

Chuck Wilkinson – TOC Chair

Chuck stated that he is not sure about how many tournaments we will have. We will have to play it by ear for a while until the Units get back on track with their face-to-face games. Chuck wants to send out a questionnaire to all the Units to get an idea of when they might be having their next regional. Chuck also stated that there won't be a problem in waiving the requirements for dates on submitting budgets. We can work with the Units on that. These dates can be adjusted. So, if any Unit is planning on having a regional and/or having trouble holding Regionals let Chuck know.

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Tournament Oversight Committee Report

Start Dates	Site	Events	Budget	P&L Report	Notified	Comments
	Orange					
01/17/22	Beach	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	Yes	Cancelled
TBA 2022	Birmingham	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	Yes	Cancelled
TBA 2022	Nashville	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	Yes	
09/12/22	Tunica	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	Yes	Cancelled
TBA 2023	Hot Springs	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	Cancelled
TBA 2023	Nashville	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	
TBA 2023	Baton Rouge	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	
TBA 2023	Tunica	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	Cancelled
TBA 2024	So. Alabama	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	
TBA 2024	Birmingham	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	
TBA 2024	Jackson	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	
TBA 2024	Tunica	Not Received	Not Received	Not Received	No	Cancelled

District 10 Tournament Oversight Committee

Chuck Wilkinson, Jackson MS (Chairman)
 Jan Galey, Baton Rouge
 Ed Davis, Nashville TN (Ed Davis resigned from D10 TOC)
 Terry VanDyke, Nashville TN
 Charlie MacCracken, Memphis TN (Advisor)

Hot Springs Regional – Dan Graham Unit161

The 2023 Tournament has been cancelled. But Unit 161 is working with Unit 144 to potentially have a Regional in West Memphis, Arkansas at the new Southland Casino and Hotel in 2023. Negotiations are still ongoing. The Hotel has not been completed yet. But this would be a great venue and 2 Units working together will also be another great idea.

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Jerry Burford, GNT/NAP/Stac Coordinator

Jerry did not attend the meeting or submit a report. However, ACBL put out information in an email. The entire District competition in the Grand National Teams will be held on BBO. The top 4 teams in each flight will face off in a knockout event on May 7, 2022. Flights A & C, April 16, 2022. Flight B and Open Championship, April 23, 2022. Contact Jerry Burford or Patrick Williams for more information. The winning team in each flight will receive \$2800 to offset travel expenses. For flights B & C, if at least 9 teams register in either flight, the top 2 finishers will qualify to play in the national final event. Any second-place team will receive \$1400. Overall winners in each flight receive a mix of gold and red points.

Education Liaison, Karen Jennings

Karen is from Unit 221 which is SW Louisiana. Her email jdjennings2@gmail.com.

Karen stated that she has not had any reimbursement requests since the last Board meeting in September 2021. If anyone needs information about Education Expense reimbursement please contact Karen.

New/Old Business

D10 Contributions to 2023 NOLA NBC

An agreement was made at the last D10 Executive meeting to approve the funding request of the New Orleans NABC. The agreement included a written agreement to be signed by the New Orleans Unit that if any money is left from the \$20,000 it will be returned to District 10. ACBL has also agreed to pay the difference between the amount we can raise from fund raising games and the \$20,000. So if we can't raise anything, the ACBL will pay the whole \$20,000. A motion was made by Robert Whiting and seconded by Ed Davis to accept the offer by ACBL and provide \$20,000 to New Orleans for the upcoming NABC. The motion was approved.

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D10 Newsletter

There was a Mid-South Forum Newsletter that was published every 2 months 10-15 years ago. There has been a desire to resume the Newsletter to better communicate with members. Charles Durrin has agreed to lead the effort if there is enough interest. His email address is csd35758@gmail.com He would like to have input from all the units. The idea is to have 4 – 6 per year. We can post it on the D10 web page and email it out to the D10 members.

JUMP START BRIDGE

Patty Tucker emailed all District Presidents in December to announce a new program for Teaching school age children. Her time would not be charged (it is a not-for-profit program) There would be costs involved, however some funds could be available from ACBL. If anyone is interested in starting a local youth Program, please let Larry know. He can send the packet out to any Unit who wants it.

Region 7 Director Election

As part of the reorganization of the ACBL, D10 has been combined with District 8 (most of Illinois, Western Mo and District 11 (IN, KY, part of OH). Election will take place for region 7 director this summer. Candidates must declare by May 31, 2022.

New District 10 Officers

Larry Sealy, Pat Williams, and Judy Knox were all re-elected by acclamation. The new Vice President, also elected by acclamation is Charles Durrin. Robert Whiting declined to run for Vice president again.

Ed Davis submitted his resignation from the district 10 Board of Directors, effective as soon as he gets these minutes. Larry thanked Ed for his many years of service on the board and wished him well. We will certainly miss Ed. He was one of our staunchest leaders and was always willing and able to take on any assignments that were given.

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A motion was made by Ed Davis for District 10 to purchase Pianola for purposes of sending out emails to District 10 members. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be on October 3, 2022, at 6:30pm on Zoom. Please let me know if you plan to attend as soon as possible and if you cannot attend, please make sure you have someone designated to take your place so your unit will be represented at the next Board Meeting. Please notify me regarding your replacement. There being no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Vicki Willis to adjourn seconded by Robert Whiting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Knox,
Judy Knox
District 10 Secretary

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EXHIBIT A

**Mid South Bridge Conference - District 10
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
January through December 2021**

SUBJECT TO MINOR CHANGE

	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Dues	3,000.00	1,800.00	1,200.00	66.7%
GNT/NAOP	3,070.86	4,517.09	-1,446.23	-32.0%
Interest Income	6.06	34.03	-27.97	-82.2%
Misc.	0.00	10.00	-10.00	-100.0%
Regionals				
Birmingham	0.00	7,329.00	-7,329.00	-100.0%
Orange Beach	6,238.00	0.00	6,238.00	100.0%
Tunica	2,129.10	0.00	2,129.10	100.0%
Regionals - Other	0.00	45.00	-45.00	-100.0%
Total Regionals	8,367.10	7,374.00	993.10	13.5%
STaCs/Natonals	808.00	24,409.00	-23,601.00	-96.7%
Total Income	15,252.02	38,144.12	-22,892.10	-60.0%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Education	0.00	818.46	-818.46	-100.0%
GNT/NAOP Expense	490.00	0.00	490.00	100.0%
Regional Revenue Sharing	8,197.90	7,091.68	1,106.22	15.6%
STaC Expense	0.00	16,091.64	-16,091.64	-100.0%
Web Site	1,884.05	978.67	905.38	92.5%
Total COGS	10,571.95	24,980.45	-14,408.50	-57.7%
Gross Profit	4,680.07	13,163.67	-8,483.60	-64.5%
Expense				
Bank Charges	0.00	10.00	-10.00	-100.0%
Lodging	-10.00	367.08	-377.08	-102.7%
Miscellaneous	26.25	200.00	-173.75	-86.9%
Per Diem/Meals	0.00	200.00	-200.00	-100.0%
Professional Fees				
GNT/NAOP	750.00	600.00	150.00	25.0%
Secretary	1,300.00	1,000.00	300.00	30.0%
Tournament	750.00	600.00	150.00	25.0%
Treasurer	1,250.00	1,000.00	250.00	25.0%
Total Professional Fees	4,050.00	3,200.00	850.00	26.6%
Total Expense	4,066.25	3,977.08	89.17	2.2%
Net Ordinary Income	613.82	9,186.59	-8,572.77	-93.3%
Net Income	613.82	9,186.59	-8,572.77	-93.3%

1:30 AM

04/11/22

Annual Basis **CASH**

Mid South Bridge Conference - District 10
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
 As of December 31, 2021

SUBJECT TO MINOR CHANGE

	<u>Dec 31, 21</u>	<u>Dec 31, 20</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
General Checking	-66.00	0.00	-66.00	-100.0%
Regions Checking	5,318.50	4,644.74	673.76	14.5%
Regions Money Market	90,697.73	90,691.67	6.06	0.0%
Total Checking/Savings	<u>95,950.23</u>	<u>95,336.41</u>	<u>613.82</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>95,950.23</u>	<u>95,336.41</u>	<u>613.82</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>95,950.23</u></u>	<u><u>95,336.41</u></u>	<u><u>613.82</u></u>	<u><u>0.6%</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
Fund Balance	32,068.54	32,068.54	0.00	0.0%
Retained Earnings	63,267.87	54,081.28	9,186.59	17.0%
Net Income	613.82	9,186.59	-8,572.77	-93.3%
Total Equity	<u>95,950.23</u>	<u>95,336.41</u>	<u>613.82</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>95,950.23</u></u>	<u><u>95,336.41</u></u>	<u><u>613.82</u></u>	<u><u>0.6%</u></u>