

District Director's Report – August 2013

Atlanta NABC

The Summer NABC was held at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta. Attendance was 12,364 tables, a bit higher than the pretournament estimate of 12,000 tables but lower than the 13,463 tables in Atlanta in 2005. The playing space was excellent. Hospitality was very good and on numerous occasions hospitality was provided more than once each day. The evening entertainment was also good though generally not well attended. Finally, there were numerous very good restaurants within walking distance as well as a large food court adjacent to the hotel. The starting times were 10 and 3 (3:30 for National events) because these times are strongly preferred by the host district. For at least the next two years, all NABCs will start at the traditional times.

The Mid-Atlantic Conference is generally well known for its many volunteers and this tournament was no exception. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the NABC a success.

TOP 10 FINISHERS IN NABC EVENTS – DISTRICT 25

0 - 5000 LIFE MASTER PAIRS

Doug Anderson, Quincy MA	
Stephen McDevitt, Medford MA	9
Jayendu Patel, Newton MA	10

0 - 1500 LIFE MASTER PAIRS

Jeffery Scott, Bedford MA	7
Jan Popiel, Lexington MA	8

SENIOR SWISS TEAMS

Alan Applebaum, Brookline, MA	
Geoffrey Brod, Avon CT	
Rich DeMartino, Riverside CT	
Sheila Gabay, Newton MA	
Victor King, Hartford CT	
Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA	3

OPEN PAIRS

Jay Borker, Greenwich CT	10
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FAST PAIRS

Doug Doub, West Hartford CT	5
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MIXED BAM TEAMS

Richard Zeckhauser, Cambridge MA	5
Karen McCallum, Exeter NH	
Cenk Tuncock, Amesbury MA	8
Walter Lee, Sudbury MA	
Pamela Miller, Cambridge MA	
Jim Rasmussen, Cambridge MA	
Yiji Starr, Wayland MA	10

WOMEN'S KO

Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	2
Karen McCallum, Exeter NH	3/4

MINI SPINGOLD I (0 – 5000)

Alex Dezieck, Wilbraham MA	1
Doug Anderson, Quincy MA	2

OPEN SWISS

Paul Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	8
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SPINGOLD

Allan Graves, Saint Johnsbury VT	3/4
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Highlights of ACBL Board Meeting

CEO Report

CEO Robert Hartman reported that overall membership has grown by 824 members through June, bringing the total number of members to 167,232. One encouraging statistic is that Junior/Youth membership continues to grow, albeit nowhere as quickly as we would like, but Robert promises we will continue to develop additional opportunities for our younger players.

Total Junior/Youth Members 2011: 1,154 2012: 1,240 2013: 1,275

The CEO also reported that through the end of June, average Regional table count increased by 4% (though there were 6 fewer Regional through June), Sectional average table count remained flat (178 tables) and STAC table average table count increased by 1%.

Work on the new ACBL Score+ project remains on time and within budget.

Financial Results

Management and the Finance Committee reported the following results through June 30:

<u>Actual 6 months</u>	<u>Projected 2013 Actual</u>
\$ 393, 000	\$ 418,000

Both of these figures are significantly more favorable than the original budgeted figures. The main reasons for the favorable variances are that several positions in Horn Lake were not filled as quickly as anticipated coupled with the fact that investment results for the first 6 months are more favorable than anticipated.

New 0 -10,000 Events

Because of the enormous success of the 0 – 10,000 Swiss in St. Louis (81 tables), four new 0 – 10,000 events have been added to the NABC Schedule: a KO in the Spring, starting on the same day as the Vanderbilt; an Open Pairs starting on the first Saturday in the Summer (enables those eliminated from the LM events to enter as well as those who may not be able to play on Friday); a Mixed Swiss on the last weekend of the Summer (following the 2 day Mixed BAM); and an Open Swiss starting on the second Saturday of the Fall NABC (enables those who do not qualify in the six-session North American Swiss to enter). Time will tell how successful these events will be and I would appreciate any input those who play in the events may have.

NAP/GNT Limits

For the NAPs, effective June 1, 2014 (the 2015 cycle), the masterpoint limit for the NAP Flight B is changed from 2,000 to 2,500 masterpoints. Flight C limit remains unchanged (0 – 500 NLM).

For the GNTs, effective September 2013 (the start of the next GNT), the Flight B limit is changed from 2,000 to 2,500 masterpoints and the Flight A limit is changed from 5,000 to 6,000 masterpoints. Flight C remains unchanged.

Reclassifying the Machlin Women's Swiss and the Wagar Women's KO

These two events have dropped well below the minimum limits (32 tables) for NABC+ events for several years now and consequently had to be reviewed in accordance with our regulations (this review was long overdue). As a result of this review, a motion was passed almost unanimously to keep the events as NABC events (rather than eliminating them from the schedule) but winning these events will no longer count as a qualification for Grand Life Master status. Masterpoint awards are also reduced. If the women can find a way to make these events more attractive and increase attendance, I'm almost certain these regulations can be reconsidered. If not, the possibility exists that both events will be removed from the NABC Schedule. Table counts for the past two Wagar Women's KOs were 11 tables in 2012 and 13 tables in 2013.

As usual, the complete minutes of the BOD meeting will be published on the ACBL website within the next two weeks. Please let me know if you have questions or other feedback on actions taken by the BOD.

Top 25 Masterpoint Winners – Atlanta NABC

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>Points Won In NABC+ Events</u>
1	Allan Graves, Saint Johnsbury VT	201.29	125.00
2	Geoffrey Brod, Avon CT	115.51	59.31
3	Walter Lee, Sudbury MA	105.94	100.25
4	Rich DeMartino, Riverside CT	104.43	74.05
5	Alex Dezieck, Wilbraham MA	101.34	2.12
6	Lewis Gamerman, Westwood MA	96.82	21.04
7	Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA	96.14	60.68
8	Doug Anderson, Quincy MA	95.18	
9	Paul Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	80.67	79.17
10	Karen McCallum, Exeter NH	80.04	68.93
11	Richard Zeckhauser, Cambridge MA	74.63	74.63
12	Zachary Grossack, Newton MA	73.63	
13	Jay Borker, Greenwich CT	73.24	67.29
14	Alan Applebaum, Brookline MA	72.31	72.31
	Victor King, Hartford CT	72.31	72.31
16	Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	71.59	67.73
17	Sheila Gabay, Newton MA	70.90	59.26
18	Douglas Doub, W Hartford CT	69.16	67.66
19	Adam Parrish, Sandwich MA	63.72	7.87
20	James Rasmussen, Cambridge MA	63.32	30.92
	Pamela Miller, Cambridge MA	63.32	30.92
22	Lloyd Arvedon, Woburn MA	52.13	41.99
23	Christina Parker, Newton Centre MA	51.87	
24	Stewart Rubenstein, Newton MA	49.40	1.14
25	John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT	49.23	44.70

The Fall NABC will be held from November 28 through December 8 in Phoenix, Arizona. The host hotels are the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown and the Hyatt Regency in Phoenix. The current plan is for most NABC+ events to be held at the Sheraton; I/N and Daylight (10 & 3PM) will be played at the Hyatt. Please note that this NABC has a normal 1:00 and 7:30 schedule. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Rich DeMartino
District Director