

## **District Director's Report – December 2011**

### **Seattle NABC**

The 2011 Fall NABC was held at the Washington State Convention Center in downtown Seattle. Seattle was an ideal host city for the tournament. The playing conditions at the Convention Center were first rate. Excellent restaurants, various hotels, and tourist attractions were all within walking distance of the playing site. Attendance was 11,429, a bit below the pre-tournament estimate of 12,000 tables.

I extend a great big thanks to tournament co-chairs, Barbara Nist and Ole Godefroy, and their entire committee for all the hard work they did to make this NABC so enjoyable for all who attended. The entertainment, daily give aways, and evening hospitality were all outstanding.

### **Top 10 Finishers in NABC Events – District 25**

#### **LM PAIRS**

Doug Doub, W Hartford, CT 2

Lloyd Arvedon, Natick, MA 6

#### **WOMENS' BAM TEAMS**

Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill, MA 8

Karen McCallum, Exeter, NH 9

#### **SENIOR KO TEAMS**

Geoffrey Brod, Avon, CT  
Rich DeMartino, Riverside, CT  
Pat McDevitt, Brookline, MA  
John Stiefel, Wethersfield, CT 5/8

#### **MINI BLUE RIBBON PAIRS**

Dean Panagopoulos, Lynn, MA  
Yiji Starr, Wayland, MA 7

#### **NORTH AMERICAN SWISS TEAMS**

Paul Fireman, Chestnut Hill, MA 6

Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill, MA 7

#### **REISINGER BAM TEAMS**

Doug Doub, W Hartford, CT 10

## **Highlights of ACBL Board Meeting**

### CEO Report

CEO Robert Hartman reported that membership for 2011 remained fairly stable. Through October, 9,900 new members joined the ACBL resulting in a modest net increase of about 300 members and bringing total membership to 165,300 members.

Average table count year-to-date for Regionals is 1477 and for Sectionals 170. These numbers are almost identical to 2010. STAC attendance through October is up about 4300 tables nationwide, an increase of 6% over 2010.

The new edition of the Encyclopedia of Bridge is now available.

### 2012 ACBL President

Sharon Anderson from District 14 was elected 2012 ACBL P resident.

### Financial Results

The current forecast of 2011 results based on actual results through September is for a gain of \$399,000. This result is \$282,000 more favorable than the budgeted gain of \$117,000. For 2012, the Finance Committee and BOD are budgeting a modest loss of \$118,000. Two one-time expenses explain much of this deficit: \$30,000 for added expenses for the 75th Anniversary of the ACBL in 2012 and \$55,000 as a result of paying the salary of the new CEO in addition to amounts still due Jay Baum in 2012.

There are two proposed fee increases for 2012: a 4% increase in TD session fees and \$.04 increase in tournament per table sanction fees, both effective April 1. Club sanction fees and NABC entry fees are unchanged for 2012.

Overall, the ACBL continues to be in outstanding financial condition.

### Changes in Masterpoint Awards

There are some minor changes to masterpoint awards for NABC events, which are documented in the BOD minutes on the ACBL website. The first overall award for the new Senior Mixed Pairs is 80 masterpoints. For club and online games of 12-17 boards, the awards are being reduced from 80% of the full award to 60%.

After a lengthy discussion in committee and on the floor of the board, a decision to implement a strength-of-field component for pairs and non-KO team games was deferred until the 2012 meeting in Memphis.

### Online Masterpoints for Rank Advancement

For rank advancement requirements there are presently certain restrictions for the number of online points that count toward advancement (e.g., no more than one third of the points required may come from online play). These restrictions are being removed from the requirements as of January 1, 2012. For further details, please refer to the BOD minutes.

## [Grand Life Master Qualifications](#)

Any player who has been expelled or suspended for a total 120 days or more for Ethics Violations will be considered ineligible to attain the rank of Grand Life Master.

## [NABC Site Selection](#)

Sites were approved for the following future NABCs:

.

Kansas City Crown Center Complex - Spring 2017

Toronto Convention Center - Summer 2017

Hilton Hawaiian Village Inn - Fall 2018

Tampa Convention Center - Fall 2020

## [New CEO](#)

As previously reported, Robert Hartman is the new ACBL CEO effective November 7. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to outgoing CEO, Jay Baum, and his lovely wife, Kathy, for their years of service to the ACBL. I also welcome Robert to his new position. Both I and the other Board members are enthusiastic about Robert's selection as CEO and anticipate he will be an outstanding CEO.

Further details on actions taken at the BOD Meeting are documented in the BOD Minutes, which will be available on the ACBL website within a few days. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

## **[ACBL Goodwill Committee & Charity Committee Appointments](#)**

It gives me great pleasure to announce the following appointments to the ACBL National Goodwill Committee and the National Charity Committee. These are lifetime appointments honoring players who have contributed substantially to bridge.

### [National Goodwill Committee:](#)

Pat McDevitt, EMBA

Dean Panagopoulos, EMBA

Both Pat and Dean are most deserving of this appointment because of their exemplary behavior at the bridge table.

### [National Charity Committee:](#)

David Metcalf, EMBA

Don Stiegler, CBA

Both David and Don are heavily involved in activities which result in increased membership in the District 25 and the ACBL.

## **Top 25 Masterpoint Winners – Seattle**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Total Points</u></b>	<b><u>Points Won In NABC+ Events</u></b>
1 Doug Doub, W Hartford CT	185.52	185.52
2 Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	105.21	93.85
3 Lloyd Arvedon, Natick MA	103.11	93.02
4 Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA	100.53	87.22
5 Paul Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	95.44	94.30
6 Geoffrey Brod, Avon CT	87.22	87.22
7 Rich DeMartino, Riverside CT	79.12	47.12
8 John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT	78.92	47.12
9 Karen McCallum, Exeter NH	78.12	35.67
10 Cenk Tuncok, Amesbury MA	70.69	8.72
11 Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA	64.84	25.47
12 Buddhadeb Biswas, Lexington MA	62.49	25.47
13 Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea MA	60.06	51.30
14 Yiji Starr, Wayland MA	52.29	14.36
15 Brett Adler, Westport CT	48.83	18.92
16 Walter Lee, Framingham MA	42.98	19.59
17 Lewis Gamerman, Westwood MA	38.26	38.26
Robert McCaw, Sudbury MA	38.26	38.26
19 Monika Weber, New Haven CT	35.87	19.31
20 Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA	34.58	29.83
21 Dean Panagopoulos, Lynn MA	33.67	2.39
22 Ruth Twombly, East Orleans MA	33.28	5.57
23 Vincent Koon Kam King, Arlington MA	31.99	
24 Emily Shen, Cambridge MA	30.86	
25 Simon Kantor, Agawam MA	30.13	20.43

## **Top Platinum Masterpoint Winner – 2011 NABCs**

Congratulations to Doug Doub who won 379.32 platinum masterpoints in 2011, more than any other District 25 player. Lloyd Arvedon was second with 260.62 platinum points followed by Rich DeMartino with 256.42 platinum points. Platinum points are awarded for NABC+ events which are nationally-rated events with no upper masterpoint limit.

### **2012 NABCs**

For 2012, the NABCs will be held at the sites listed below. We hope to see many of you there.

Spring – Memphis, TN, Memphis Marriott Downtown - March 15 - 25

Summer – Philadelphia, PA, Marriott - July 12 - 22

Fall - San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Marriott - Nov 22 - Dec 2

Rich DeMartino  
District Director