

District Director Report

By Bob Bertoni

Memphis Spring 2019



Elvis loved Memphis and after a full 2 weeks there I can say I see why. The city is a throwback in time to an era long gone.

A mix of modern with the fifties making its own jambalaya of time.

9944 Tables of players descended on the city for 10 days of play and sightseeing.

Attendance was good, the playing space was ideal, and the city welcoming.

Next up : July 18-28, 2019 Las Vegas at the Cosmopolitan. The room block is expanding next week so if you have any reservation issue try again after the 12th. The Cosmopolitan is a 5 star hotel and one of the nicest venues we will attend so do not miss it.

Entry fees are going up for the first time in 9 years starting in Las Vegas. NABC \$30, NABC \$22, Regional Games \$20 (including single session games) and no changes to the I/N Games (\$15).

Board meetings Highlights:

(Motion numbers first 2 digits are the year so 19=2019, 1, 2 or 3 are the NABC number in the year Memphis was first so its 191 and the -xx is the actual motion number)

191-50 Child Care to be at every NABC. Motion Failed. We have several venues including the upcoming Cosmopolitan in Las Vegas that will not allow children in rooms unless with parent. In fact it took some quick work on the part of the NABC staff to get alternate venue for the Youth Bridge players at Las Vegas to have a place to stay.

The ACBL is working on third party vendors to be available whenever possible and this was approved.

191-51 Goodwill Reception cutback to once per year. As you know our own Sandy DeMartino is the Goodwill Chair at the NABC and she asked us to try to save this event. I was in the committee and was able to modify the original motion to eliminate the "Open Bar" at all GW Receptions in lieu of a cash bar, a move that would save \$7,500 of the target \$20,000 without losing any meetings. This was a close vote the motion to keep the meetings with the cost cutting measure passed 13-12.

191-10 A motion by AJ Stephani to increase the awards for 4 session regional pair games. The original motion was to include tables below in the calculation plus keep the 40% increase already in place. However, there are no actual tables below a 4-session event, so I worked with AJ, Peter Marcus and David Metcalf to arrive at a solution that works, the award will increase by 60% over a 2 session game and be capped at 50MP. This motion as modified passed.

191-02 Banning Collusive Cheaters for life. This motion took a lot of time and work. No one wants to be seen supporting cheaters, however we all believe in rehabilitation to some extent so we had issues with the BOG motion as presented. The motion was about to fail when a few of us asked for a friendly amendment to the motion to modify it to say " Premeditated or Collusive cheating, in a NABC+ or equivalent event (Basically any event that carries the Grand Life Master Qualification with it) will be banned for life. This motion as modified passed 16-9.

191-05, 191-06 Deal with vacating titles won from known cheaters. These two motions were supported in passionate testimony from Steve Weinstein and Brad Moss, they were credible and powerful. We also heard from Legal about Ex Post Facto law and the possible consequences. A motion to set these motions aside until Las Vegas was passed until we know more.

191-07 Voluntary Relinquishment of titles won with known cheaters was passed easily. Complete meeting Notes at district25director.org/nabc-reports.html

Governance Committee presented their plan in progress to restructure the ACBL administration. The new plan is to change from 25 Directors from each district with a vote, to 9 directors from any location(s) with a vote and change the BOG from 125 to 50 (2 from each district) and rename it the "Senate". The Senate is the pool they plan to have make up the committees now in place by board members, however Senate will not get a vote on the board and apparently not have any check and balance on the board as the BOG has now. Effectively each district would lose their voting power in favor of 9 selected by a nominating committee in the spirit of "more efficiency" at decision making. If you have an opinion on this I would love to hear it.

Management Reports

Joe Jones Executive Director presented us with a management report, that was well planned and executed.

[Download the Report Here](#)

Financial Report showed 1.9MM in losses, in entirety due to losses in Hawaii, a failed technology project started under the former CEO, and Lawsuits.

All NABC Future contracts are under review so this will not likely repeat. We have a new Chief Technology Officer Susie Cordell, who brings experience and common sense to the team. I expect the situation to improve dramatically. We have one significant lawsuit remaining dealing with FLSA violations, it is being handled by outside counsel at this time.

D25 At The Tables Memphis

NABC+ EVENTS

Vanderbilt 9-16 Doug Doub and Frank Merblum

PLATINUM PAIRS 10th Bernard Yomtov

FAST PAIRS 4th Doug Doub and Yigi Starr

FAST PAIRS 10th Lew Gammernan and Harrison Luba

SILODOR PAIRS 2nd Adam Grossack

LEBHAR IMP PAIRS 2nd Ron Mak

NABC EVENTS

FLIGHT B NAP WINNERS Yin Yichen and Chang Liu 60 MP Congrats!

District 25 Top 25 MP Winners

- 188.24 Adam Grossack, Newton MA
- 136.24 Douglas Doub, West Hartford CT
- 122.21 Victor King, Hartford CT
- 109.91 Ronald Mak, Manchester NH
- 98.51 Lew Gammernan, Randolph MA
- 95.68 Franklin Merblum, Bloomfield CT
- 74.78 Zachary Grossack, Newton MA
- 68.35 Laurence Lebowitz, Boston MA
- 66.77 Geoffrey Brod, Avon CT
- 65.24 Bernard Yomtov, Cambridge MA
- 62.24 Walter Lee, Sudbury MA
- 61.75 Allan Graves, Saint Johnsbury VT
- 61.12 Lloyd Arvedon, Hudson NH
- 60.00 Yin Yichen, Boston MA
- 60.00 Chang Liu, Cambridge MA
- 54.71 Harold Nordstrom, Reading MA

- 17 49.51 Robert Lavin, East Longmeadow MA
- 18 49.18 Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA
- 19 47.30 Ann Hudson, Suffield CT
- 20 46.31 Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea MA
- 21 44.44 Yiji Starr, Wayland MA
- 22 44.04 Bart Bussink, Cambridge MA
- 23 43.66 Susan Lincoln, Boxford MA
- 24 43.46 Mark Aquino, Jamaica Plain MA
- 25 42.64 Alan Godes, Needham MA

[Full Winners List](#)

[Complete MP Winners in Memphis](#)

Elvis Pink Cadillac



For more Information go to www.district25director.org