

MINUTES

ACBL District 18 Board Meeting
Cedars II Room, DoubleTree Salt Lake City Airport
18 May 2023 7:00pm

Attendees

David Johnson, outgoing President and AB representative (via Zoom)
Andy Anderson, SK representative
Ray Fink, Secretary and WY representative
Tom Romine, Treasurer and MT representative (via Zoom)
Irene Monical, UT representative
Don Greenwood, D18 STaC Coordinator (via Zoom)
Tim White, Region 13 Director

1. Welcome to new board members Irene Monical (Utah), Andy Anderson (Saskatchewan), and Patrick Murphy (Alberta).
2. Minutes of the last board meeting (11 May 2022) were approved.

3. Appointment of Officers.

New officers were appointed:

President – Andy Anderson
Disciplinary Chair – Andy Anderson
Electronic Coordinator – Ray Fink
Appellate Chairman – Ray Fink
Webmaster – Jackson Chan (*position filled after the meeting*)

Officers continuing in current positions:

Secretary – Ray Fink
Treasurer – Tom Romine
Recorder – Tom Romine
Charity Coordinator – Tom Romine
NAP Coordinator – Ray Fink
Tournament Coordinator – Doug Rankin
STaC Coordinator – Don Greenwood

Vacant positions:

GNT Coordinator

4. ACBL Representative Report. Tim White (D19/R13) noted the Regina regional in early May was great, a well-organized tournament. Tim has emailed a report on the national board meeting to all District 18 and District 19 members. Noteworthy items from the national meeting include:
 - Membership trend is still poor, however there has been an uptick the last couple months
 - Tournament sponsors may determine their own Covid policies. Pairs may ask opponents to wear masks at their table; if opponents are unwilling, that round is scored Average-plus for masked pair and Average-minus for unwilling opponents. Chicago NABC will still require proof of

vaccination per existing tournament publicity.

5. Tournament Coordinator Report: Doug Rankin was unavailable.
 - Regina regional May 1-7 had a table count of 346.5 tables.
 - Salt Lake City regional, guessing attendance about 350 tables (*NOTE: Final count 406 tables*)

Andy asked if it is possible to have only one ACBL director for a regional, as a cost-saving. Tim advised to have a dialog with the ACBL Area Supervisor: Matt Koltnow for USA District 18, Sol Weinstein for Canada District 18.

At least two units are planning to hold "local sectionals" this year: Idaho Falls (396) and ... ?

6. Election Report. Nothing to report.

7. Financial Status Report.

USA Account Balance 12/31/2022: \$24,560.55 USD net loss for 2022 \$3472.03 USD

CDN Account Balance 12/31/2022: \$58,188.88 CDN net loss for 2022 \$2640.37 CDN

8. GNT and STaC Coordinator Report

2022 GNT District Final

Championship Flight: 4 teams entered (1 USA, 3 CAN).

Flight A: 4 teams entered (1 USA, 3 CAN).

Flight B: 8 teams entered (2.25 USA, 5.75 CAN).

Flight C: 1 team entered; no event was held.

Subsidy from the District was \$2000/team; three teams attended Finals at NABC.

Entry fees received: \$1275 CDN \$625 USD entry fees

2023 GNT District Final

Championship Flight: 2 teams entered

Flight A: 2 teams entered

Flight B: 8 teams entered

STaCs: STaC administration is a little bit confusing with other districts involved. For D18 and D19, each district advertises separately. US and Canadian clubs have separate financials. Don is interested in trying re-invigorate the STaC program. Larger clubs tend to be less enthusiastic about STaCs.

9. NAP Coordinator Report. 2022 District Finals were held in conjunction with the Great Falls regional. Due to limited attendance, all three flights were combined into one event. 4 pairs in Flight A, 7 pairs in Flight B, and one pair in Flight C, for a total of six tables in the finals. The district does not have any financial involvement in the NAPs.
 - Beginning in 2023, the National Conditions of Contest allow for online finals without proctoring.

10. Website status. The website remains out-of-date. We are seeking a new webmaster. Andy Anderson has a candidate in mind. (Post-meeting addendum: Jackson Chan will be the

Webmaster)

DECISION: The board approved a USD \$500 annual honorarium for the webmaster. This is an increase from the previous policy of USD \$400 annually.

11. Upcoming Regionals

- Calgary I/N regional July 28-30
- Edmonton regional Aug 8-13
- Kalispell regional Sep 18-23 is expecting 600 tables
- Lethbridge regional 2024 Apr 8-14
- Calgary regional August 2024 – we have a likely candidate for tournament chair

12. Proposed Change of Summer Regional Rotation The summer Regional rotation in Alberta has been Edmonton Calgary Red Deer repeating on a three-year cycle. Proposed on advice from our Tournament Coordinator: 2023 Edmonton, then Calgary Red Deer Calgary Edmonton Calgary etc. That is, Calgary every other year, with Edmonton and Red Deer each every fourth year. The Edmonton and Red Deer tournaments have typically been barely profitable, whereas Calgary has been consistently so.

DECISION: Tabled pending input from the Alberta representative. The board generally has no objection to this change.

13. Change of signing authority on financial accounts. For the Canadian account, only Tom Romine and Patrick Murphy have signing authority. For the USA account, only Tom Romine and Irene Monical will have signing authority.

ACTION: Tom and Irene will implement this change on the USA account.

14. Location for NAP District Finals Online participation in 2021 was 23 tables, compared to 8 tables in Butte (2019) and 6 tables in Great Falls (2022).

DECISION: The 2023 District NAP Finals will be held at the Kalispell regional 23 September. The board will re-visit this topic in their Fall 2023 meeting. The Fall 2024 regional should not assume to hold NAP Finals pending future board action.

ACTION: Ray will prepare D18 Conditions of Contest and submit to ACBL for publication.

15. Travel Stipend for GNT Finalists Tim White advised that there is a wide variety of how Districts subsidize their GNT Finalists. Our current policy of \$2000/team is fairly typical; some districts adjust every year.

DECISION: The District will provide a travel stipend of \$2000 for the first place team. If there are enough entries for a second-place team to qualify, the District will provide a travel stipend of \$1000. These travel stipends will NOT cascade to teams third-place or lower who become eligible for the GNT National finals if higher-ranking teams drop out.

16. Waived entry fees for regional tournament chairperson The board affirmed what they think is existing policy:

- The tournament chair receives one free play per session, for their own use or assignment to other tournament volunteers.

- Board members receive free play.

17. Other Business

- The board thanked David Johnson for his multiple years of leadership as Board President.
- The next board meeting will be held in November via Zoom, date TBD.

ACTION: Ray to schedule November meeting and do necessary Zoom setup.