



## American Contract Bridge League

6575 Windchase Blvd. ♠ Horn Lake MS 38637-1523 ♠ [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org)

### Leo Weniger

Director – District # 1  
504-1333 South Park Street  
Halifax NS B3J 2K9 Canada

902-425-3392

[leowen@hotmail.ca](mailto:leowen@hotmail.ca)

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Summer 2017

### “Toronto the Good” Tournament

The Summer NABC was held in a beautiful convention centre in great playing conditions (lots of space and great lighting). The host hotels were 1<sup>st</sup> class and the area had lots of nearby restaurants and other attractions, and public transportation was excellent. The tournament was well run, with excellent hospitality (with especially generous food). Attendance was higher than estimated. Table count was 13,289 tables, higher than the 12,500 budgeted.

The Board meetings ran from Tues-Sat, (with some days running as late as 7 pm). We continued to work on improving our efficiency and looking for Board priorities and improvements for the future. Our Task Force on Clubs, and the one on Tournaments continued their work and will report in San Diego. We are also concentrating on volunteers and membership recruitment and retention. The big item was the presence of new CEO Bahar Gidwani, who has already begun to work on how to improve ACBL in the future. For continuity, we also had outgoing CEO Robert Hartman. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking him for his efforts, and wish him well in the future.

At the end of this report, I am listing the top 100 Master point winners of District 1 players at the NABC.

For the 1<sup>st</sup> time during my times as District 1 Director, I do not have a bridge article. I am still looking for bridge article contributors, to restart my tradition of an article in each Report. All I ask is that it be approximately one page long and that it be done in Word. Next one would be needed for my report after the San Diego NABC which will be in Nov/Dec.

### Highlights of the Toronto Board of Directors Meetings

- **Bahar Gidwani** has been CEO since July 1. We are impressed with how fast he is coming up to speed. I wish him the best, and look forward to working with him and the Board in the future. **Robert Hartman** has finished his time with ACBL effective July 31st.
- **Gary Blevins** was appointed Director of Operations.
- **Membership** is up 95 from the Dec 2016 total. There were 6,000 new members in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2017.
- **Revenue** was up 2% from the fees increase. 30% of renewals were at the new 3-year rate.
- **Kansas City**: table count was 13% lower than the 9,000 forecasted.
- **Total tournament tables** decreased 4%.
- **Club Table count**: Table count for the year to date is down 3%. On-Line table count is up 6%
- **Information Technology**: Significant progress was made on replacing ACBLscore with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party scoring engine. Alpha testing was completed and it is hoped to be finished by next spring. ACBL Live, Tourneytrax, FinancialTrax and NABC seeding have been improved.

- **Finance:** Expenses were \$299K below budget and Revenue was down \$102K. Membership Revenue was up due to increase in fees, but down vs budget. There is a good chance that ACBL expenses will be able to be paid in \$ Can. More details will follow, when they are known.
- **The Longest Day:** This was held on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and raised \$700K. Day of Bridge-Benefiting Alzheimer Societies of Canada, was successfully held in our District. For example, The Bridge Studio, Halifax had over 130 tables of 12 board games that day, and a good time was had by all!

### **Actions and Motions approved at the Toronto Board of Directors Meetings:**

- Fall 2022 NABC will be in Phoenix instead of Orlando. Summer 2023 NABC will be in Chicago.
- The Workplace Harassment policy will now include Unit and District volunteers.
- The Code of Disciplinary Regulations has been revised and replaced.
- A line of credit of \$2 million was approved at no cost to ACBL.
- Motion to have teams at NABCs pay on a per team basis, instead of as happens now, on a per player basis was again defeated.
- A motion to eliminate the use of the "Stop" card was approved effective Jan. 1/18.
- If an NABC table count is projected to be greater than 10K, the money allocated to the NABC for hospitality will be the number of tables times \$11.50 per table. If the count is greater than the estimate an additional \$11.50 per extra table will be allocated.
- Remedies for cases where a kibitzer brings infractions (eg revokes) to the attention of players at the table are being looked into. This used to be in The Laws of Duplicate Bridge, but was removed in the last 2 revisions. I brought this to the Board's Bridge Committee.
- Club games for player with less than 20 MPs are allowed to use prepared lesson hands. Games must be 6 or 12 boards with at least 8 players, and a small amount of MPs will be awarded.
- New convention charts (to replace the current General Chart, Mid Chart etc,) are being worked on and will be reviewed in San Diego.
- A motion to have the USBF, CBF and Mexican Bridge Federations pay any membership dues to the WBF was approved, with implementation on a sliding scale over a number of years. ACBL will help these NBOs raise additional funds.
- When written defences to conventions are required or permitted they may be referred to by either pair.
- 2 daylight on-line robot games may be held daily (1 IMPs and 1 MPs). Up to 15 hours are allowed for play and they must be either 12 or 18 boards. There will be overall awards for 10+ participants (2.5 MPs for 1<sup>st</sup> in a 18 boards and 1.5 for 1<sup>st</sup> place in a 12 board game).

### **District News**

- **The late Peter Nagy**, who started his bridge career in Montreal, was inducted into to the ACBL Hall of Fame. A well deserved award.
- **Cukoff-Latraverse-Wiser (CLW) Award:** Named after outstanding deceased National Tournament Directors from District 1, this award recognizes excellent life time service to directors and promoters of ethics in bridge. Nominees from the Units are still encouraged. The District Board will announce this year's winner at the District Board Meeting in August.
- **George Retek Award:** Presented to an individual who has given a great deal of excellent volunteer service to our District and Units. This award winner will be announced at the District Meeting in August.
- **Sandra MacPherson, Peter Clark and Ronald Carriere** were elected to the Board of Governors for a 3-year term starting Jan 1, 2018.
- **Regional Tournaments:** Please come to our District's tournaments - Ottawa in October, Kingston and Chicoutimi in May, CanAt in Halifax in June/July, and Can-Am in Montreal in Aug. Congratulations to the organizers of the successful and enjoyable CanAt in Moncton (the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 30+ years).
- **Upcoming NABCs:** San Diego (Nov/Dec 2017), Philadelphia (March 2018), Atlanta (July 2018) Montreal (Summer 2020).

- **The Canadian Bridge Championships** will be held in downtown Montreal May/June 2018. Thanks to the Montreal Unit for “stepping up to the plate”.
- **NAP District Finals:** will be held in Oct/Nov. Please look at your unit’s publication or the District website to find about dates and locations of the finals for all flights. <http://district1acbl.org/races-tournaments/nap/>. The National Finals for all flights will be held at the Spring NABC in Philadelphia.
- **GNT National Finals:** The National Finals were held at the Toronto NABC, and. For the 1<sup>st</sup> time District 1 representative in all 4 flights made it to the final 16. Well done by all!
- **District Meetings:** The District 1 Annual Meeting will be held at the Can-Am on Saturday of the Can-Am Regional in Laval, QC. There are also 3-4 District Board conference calls held during the year.

## Performances in Toronto

The following is a listing of excellent achievements by District 1 players. I am trying something different and listing the top 100 District 1 master point winners in Toronto. Please let me know if you like this information better than the previous way (listing some actual achievements).

<u>MPS</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>
137.90	Fred	Hoffer	Montréal
125.88	Kamel	Fergani	Montréal
125.88	Frédéric	Pollack	Laval
120.56	P Drew	Cannell	Dol-Des-Ormeaux
86.92	Nicolas	L'Écuyer	Montréal
79.83	Jurek	Czyzowicz	Gatineau
65.11	Pierre	Daigneault	Montréal
64.38	J	Boucher	Chicoutimi
64.38	Serge	Chevalier	Laval
64.23	Francine	Cimon	Montréal
59.52	Ranald	Davidson	Montréal
56.97	Marc-André	Fourcaudot	Montréal
52.31	Robert	Guerard	Brossard
51.81	André	Houde	Montréal
51.62	Ronald	Carriere	Kirkland
48.59	Greg	McKellar	Kingston
48.10	Yves	Decelles	Baie-Comeau
48.10	Luc	Gagnon	Baie-Comeau
48.10	Denise	Leclerc	Baie-Comeau
48.10	Sylvie	Levesque	Baie-Comeau
47.13	Cindy	Havens	Riverview
46.97	Richard	Lash	St John's
46.45	Gerardo	Malazdrewicz	Amherst
46.02	Boris	Baran	Cote Saint-Luc
45.21	Normand	Boulay	Laval
45.21	Christine	Bourbeau	Laval
43.41	Yongjun	Lu	Nepean
42.62	Michel	Morin	Montréal
41.76	Connor	Havens	Riverview
41.54	Ala	Sobol	Nepean
41.47	Debbie	Bennett	Brighton
40.60	Dyane	Maurice	Montréal
40.37	Bing	Le	Pembroke
40.23	Daniel	Demuy	Boucherville
40.23	Johanne	Piecken	Boucherville
38.75	F Winston	Samuel	Dartmouth

38.63	Natalie	Tremblay	Laval
38.45	Roy	Perry	St John's
37.68	Robert	Tremblay	Quebec
37.68	Gérard	Turcotte	Quebec
37.07	Zygmunt	Marcinski	Westmount
34.94	David	Sabourin	Ottawa
33.98	Alain	Dufour	Quebec
33.98	Denis	Lafrance	Shannon
31.89	Thomas	Dale	St John's
30.71	Joseph	Silver	Hampstead
30.07	Daniel	Labrie	Halifax
30.07	Michael	Ross	Bedford
29.66	Elianor	Kennie	Kentville
29.23	Cecily	Ryan	St John's
29.23	Gloria	Stone	St John's
28.50	Ghassan	Menachi	Fabreville
28.38	Mike	Tanner	Halifax
27.73	Pamela	Nisbet	Kanata
27.59	André	Chartrand	Montréal
27.59	Charles	Martineau	Saint-Lambert
27.20	Alan	McLellan	Ottawa
26.11	B	Whelton	Fredericton
25.97	George	Mitchell	Douglas
25.74	Irene	Churchill	Eganville
25.74	Sheila	Perras	Pembroke
25.69	Rose	Baker	Halifax
25.67	Jean	Bellemarre	Montréal
25.60	André	Blanchet	Montréal
25.42	Leo	Weniger	Halifax
24.91	Kevin	Loughlin	Kingston
24.54	Julie	Williams	Halifax
24.34	Jean	La Traverse	Montréal
24.15	L. Anne	Posch	Sackville
24.15	Jonathan	Shute	Sackville
24.01	Tim	Edwards-Davies	Ottawa
23.88	Jeffrey	Smith	Ottawa
23.88	John	Zaluski	Ottawa
23.56	Robert	Bambrick	Ottawa
23.47	Donald	Kersey	Kingston
23.40	Irene	Macarthur	Charlottetown
23.13	Alain	Chamsi	Ottawa
23.12	Heather	Gillis	Halifax
23.00	Shane	Savage	Moncton
22.79	Zoltan	Lazar	Dol-Des-Ormeaux
22.68	Bruce	Tennant	Pembroke
22.68	Amanda	Walley	Pembroke
22.56	Evette	Mashaal	Westmount
21.37	Cheryl	Macintosh	Orleans
21.20	Denis	Murphy	Coldbrook
21.00	John	Burgoin	Mountain
20.66	Deborah	Harper	Nepean
20.39	Bob	Edmundson	Beaver Bank
20.09	Sandra	Macpherson	Halifax

20.01	Chantal	Dubé	Montréal
20.01	Lisa	Hebert	Ottawa
20.01	Josette	Lévesque	Montréal
19.93	Craig	Symington	Ottawa
19.90	Shona	Donovan	Kingston
19.83	Yvon	Gravel	Mascouche
19.81	Maureen	Murphy	Ottawa
19.43	Douglas	Rotchell	Levis
19.10	Waldemar	Frukacz	Gloucester
19.00	Marc	Lachapelle	Saint-Laurent

See you in San Diego,

Leo