



American Contract Bridge League

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DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Spring 2018

Philadelphia-The City of Brotherly (and Bridge) Love

The Spring NABC was held in Philadelphia, a city which has a lot to offer in terms of history, dining and other attractions. It was cool with the temperatures in to 30s-low 50s F range. The hotel is a beautiful 1st class hotel with great playing conditions. The area had lots of nearby restaurants and other attractions. A special treat was nearby Reading Terminal Market, where you could get many types of ethnic and American food at reasonable cost. An interesting choice for registration gift was a gift card for any merchant at Reading Market, something almost anyone could use. The tournament was well run, with excellent hospitality (with lots of food and excellent imaginative entertainment). Attendance was higher than estimated. Table count was 10,318 tables, 3% higher than the 10,000 budgeted. The Board meetings ran from Monday to Thurs, (1 day shorter than San Diego). We continued to work on improving our efficiency and team building. Bridge Committee (of which I am a member) approved the new Bridge Convention Charts, and is looking at a strength of field method of awarding master points equitably.

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

I usually have a bridge article in my report, but don't have one this time. I am still looking for bridge article contributors. All I ask is that it be approximately one page long and that it be done in Word. The next one would be needed for my report after the Atlanta NABC which will be in March.

Highlights of the Philadelphia Board of Directors Meetings

Claire Jones was elected ACBL Treasurer for 2018-19 and I wish him well. Bob Heller (Past President) will visit the CanAt in July 2018, representing President Jay Whipple.

- **Membership** for 2017 is down 1,283 to 166,793. For the first 3 months in 2018 membership is down 476. There were 11,209 new members in 2017 and 3,157 new members in the first 3 months of 2018. For the first quarter membership revenue is 4.3% better than budget and 12.2% better than the prior year.
- **Total tournament tables** for 2017 were down 2.1%. 1st quarter 2018, tournament tables are down 1.1% vs 1st quarter in 2017.
- **Club Table count:** For 2017, total table count for the year was down 4% and On-Line table count was down 2.3%. 1st quarter 2018, total table count is down .5% and online is up .5%.

Actions and Motions approved at the Philadelphia Board of Directors Meetings:

- Claire Jones is ACBL Treasurer for 2018-19.
- Revised ACBL Convention Charts approved effective Nov 22/18, replacing the old charts (which included General, Mid-Chart and SuperChart).

- Regional Tournaments for Non-LMs with less than 750MPs, in Championship event will pay 33% gold/67%Red
- If an open Sectional is held with a NLM Regional, the open Sectional will get Master Point credit for the NLM Regional tables in play at the same time.
- District Stage overall awards in NAP and GNT will go up a little.
- A District may, with permission, hold a regional in a contiguous district.
- ACBL may sponsor up to 8 Regionals at Sea per year. ACBL must obtain approval on schedule from Districts that are departure/port of call, to avoid conflict with land-based regionals.
- Morning games must start before noon, afternoon between noon and 6:00 pm and evening 6:00 or later (all local time).
- Use of designated duplicated hands must be used for all Pair events during a STAC to participate in the Open, limited and Invitational pools for STAC overall awards. Sites not using these hands will be entered in a separate pool with awards of 65% STAC rating.
- Chair of Finance Committee is removed as a non-voting member of the Board's Executive Committee (needs 2nd reading).
- Every ACBL member is subject to compulsory binding arbitration.
- Revised Conflict of Interest policy is approved.
- In Spring, Lebar IMP Pairs moves from 1st Friday-Saturday to 1st Sunday-Monday, and Silver Ribbon Pairs from 1st Sunday-Monday to 1st Friday-Saturday.
- National Final of Flights B+C of the NAP is moved from 1st Sunday-Monday to 2nd Saturday-Sunday, effective Spring 2019.
- Motion to change the starting time of evening sessions at NABCs was defeated.
- 2018 budget was ratified.
- Resolution to obtain a line of credit, only to fund the operating account, was approved.

District News

- **2020 Montreal NABC Chair:** The Montreal Unit is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Jean La Traverse as Chair of the Summer 2020 NABC. I'm sure that he will do an excellent job.
- **Can-Am 2020:** will not be held in Aug 2020 (but will return to Aug starting 2021). The Montreal Unit is looking into holding the 2020 Can-Am in early Nov 2020.
Visit: Bob Heller (Past President) will visit the CanAt in July 2018, representing President Jay Whipple.
- **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. The District Board will announce this year's winner soon, and it will be presented by the year end.
- **George Retek Award:** Presented to an individual who has given a great deal of excellent volunteer service to our District and Units. This will be announced soon, and presented to the winner before the end of the year.
- **The Canadian Bridge Championships:** will be held in downtown Montreal starting May 26th. Please note that there are regionally rated events going on concurrently. Anyone can play in these. For more information please go to www.cbf.ca. Thanks to the Montreal Unit for organizing this.
- **The Longest Day:** Will again be held in late June, as a fundraiser for Alzheimer's research. There is a Canadian version of this event. Please contact your club to see if it is participating.
- **Regional Tournaments:** Please come to our District's tournaments - **Saguenay** (Chicoutimi) in May, **Kingston** in late June (**please note date change**), CanAt in **Halifax** in July, and Can-Am in **Montreal** in August and **Ottawa** in October.
- **Upcoming NABCs:** **Atlanta** (July 2018), **Honolulu** (Nov/Dec 2018), **Memphis** (March 2019) **Montreal** (Summer 2020).
- **NAP National Finals:** Congratulations to the pairs who represented District 1 so well in Philadelphia. It's time to start thinking of playing in the club qualifying games starting in June, for next year's NAP (National Final at the Memphis Spring 2019 NABC)

- **GNT District Finals:** The District Finals for Flights A and C will be held in Laval, QC on April 22nd, and Flights Open and B will be held in Halifax on May 12th. The National Finals will be held at the Atlanta NABC.
- **District Meetings:** The District 1 Annual Meeting will be held during the Can-Am Regional in Laval, QC. A District Board conference call will be held in May.
- **District Director Election:** My term ends at the end of 2018. Deadline for nominations is May 31st 2018. If you are interested in running there is information in the ACBL Bulletin and the website, or you can contact the ACBL Director of Elections, Kelley Trejo. I will be running for 1 more term.

Excellent Performances in Philadelphia

The following is a listing of excellent achievements by District 1 players, with the names of those who have obtained more than 25 master points (24.92).

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------------|----|-------|
| Nicolas | L'Écuyer | Montreal | QC | 87.98 |
| Allan | Graves | Hammonds Plain | NS | 82.26 |
| P, Drew | Cannell | DDO | QC | 77.42 |
| Ranald | Davidson | Montreal | QC | 76.83 |
| Jurek | Czyzowicz | Gatineau | QC | 71.25 |
| Robert | Guérard | Brossard | QC | 59.45 |
| Jean | Bellemarre | Montreal | QC | 56.84 |
| Robert | Tremblay | Quebec | QC | 55.10 |
| Gerard | Turcotte | Quebec | QC | 55.10 |
| Pierre | Gaudreau | Sainte-Sophie | QC | 52.48 |
| Nicole | Tremblay | Sainte-Sophie | QC | 52.48 |
| Pamela | Nisbet | Kanata | ON | 48.40 |
| Xavier | Combey | DDO | QC | 47.14 |
| Marc | Lachapelle | Saint-Laurent | QC | 47.14 |
| Michel | Bertrand | Dorval | QC | 40.94 |
| Maureen | Beyrouiti | Saint-Laurent | QC | 40.94 |
| Gary | Hastings | Dorval | QC | 40.94 |
| Francoise | St Pierre | Beaconsfield | QC | 40.94 |
| Marius | Moldovan | Pointe-Claire | QC | 38.67 |
| Gary | Bernstein | Montreal | QC | 38.64 |
| Fred | Hoffer | Montreal | QC | 37.28 |
| Roy | Perry | St John's | NL | 36.77 |
| Mohamad | Osseyrane | Sainte-Julie | QC | 36.57 |
| Ken | Eisner | Truro | NS | 36.11 |
| Michel | Morin | Montreal | QC | 32.64 |
| Leo | Weniger | Halifax | NS | 32.08 |
| Steve | Caplan | Hampstead | QC | 28.87 |
| Sylvia | Summers | Montreal | QC | 28.63 |
| Ronald | Carriere | Kirkland | QC | 26.21 |
| Zygmunt | Marcinski | Westmount | QC | 26.21 |
| Cindy | Havens | Riverview | NB | 24.92 |

See you in Atlanta,

Leo