



AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

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Summer NABC report from Las Vegas, NV

- (A) Hopes for a record number of tables did not materialize, but a very respectable 19,720 tables in play made this the 5th largest NABC. Thanks go to the Co-Chairs Ken Monzingo and Bonnie Bagley for a job well done!!
- (B) As I reported previously, the ACBL sold its Memphis property. The Real-estate committee weighed the pros and cons of moving to either Atlanta or Dallas or remaining in the Memphis area. After a lot of consideration, the board voted in favour of remaining in the Memphis area.
- © The motion to allow TD's to hear and rule on all bridge appeals filed in NABC+ events was narrowly defeated 12 - 13.
- (D) One of the main motions that the Board dealt with changed the requirements for Life Master. It was felt that 300 points are much easier to earn now than when the previous requirements were established. Please note that the requirements shown below become effective JANUARY 1, 2010. Also note that current members or new members who join before January 1, 2010, will operate on our current rules for becoming Life Masters.

Effective January 1, 2010, the requirements for Life Master are modified as follows:

CURRENT	JANUARY 1, 2010
300 points (150 pigmented)	500 points (250 pigmented)
25 must be gold	50 must be gold or platinum
25 must be red or gold	50 must be red, gold or platinum
50 must be silver	75 must be silver
50 must be black	75 must be black

The new requirements will not apply to people who are ACBL members as of December 31, 2009 and maintain continuous membership in the ACBL until they achieve Life Master status.

For members achieving Life Master under the new rules, the rank of Bronze Life Master (500 points) is abolished. The new rank of Advanced NABC Master (the old requirements for becoming a life Master) is created. Carried unanimously.

Note that there were no changes made regarding points won online, which is a separate issue. Current regulations state that online points have no pigmentation, but may count for up to one third of the total points required for achieving the rank of Life Master.

At the Board of Governors meeting, there was quite a bit of discussion pertaining to adding the requirement that “x” number of points need to be won in pair games. A motion to that effect was approved by a narrow 34-31 margin, so it will appear on the ACBL Board of Directors agenda this fall.

- (E) Congratulations to Jerry Flaming who was elected (by acclamation) as ACBL President for 2009. Jerry started playing while working in Anaconda, MT and served on the District 18 Board at one time. Jerry still feels an affinity to District 18 and is looking forward to attending the Helena Regional, July 13 - 19, 2009.
- (F) The ACBL Handbook has had several changes made to it pertaining to the ACBL Unit requirements. The new regulations will soon be available on the ACBL Website. (www.acbl.org) Unit Presidents and Secretaries may want to have a look at these changes.
- (G) Other actions were taken, but I believe I have covered those which may interest District 18 members.

All the best for the remainder of the summer. I look forward to seeing you all in Idaho Falls, September 22 - 28, 2008.

Dick