

February 23, 2012

Pre-Meeting Report – Memphis Board Meeting, March 12-15, 2012

It's hard to believe that this is my 3rd year representing you on the District 18 Board of Directors. One thing I am proud of is the institution of On Line play-downs for our Grand National Teams. Last year was very successful and we are looking forward to the event being even better this year. This year's District finals are set for May 11 and 12. The registration deadline is Friday April 20. Be sure to contact your local State or Provincial representative before that time with all your team information. For complete details check the District 18 Wasumi web site.

www.wasumi.org

The agenda for Memphis is relatively light but there are a few motions I feel should be pointed out. You can go to the ACBL web page for a complete list of the motions. Scroll to the bottom of this page for the complete Memphis agenda.

<http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/about/MemphisMotions.pdf>

Item 121-02 Cheating

This motion proposes the removal of Master Points for players found guilty of severe conduct violations and/or ethical violations. Although they would not be reduced in status for stratification purposes at tournaments their official status for rank advancement and privilege would be removed.

These offenses are of the worst nature and I will be supporting the motion.

Item 121-40 Grand National Teams/North American Pairs Conditions of Contest

This motion is has a more detailed definition of which District players are eligible to play in when they have more than one permanent residence. For our Snow Bird players this will help them when deciding which Districts they are eligible to participate in.

Item 121-50 Strength of Field

This motion is by far the most controversial. This motion attempts to correct weaknesses in our current Master Point award system. The current System uses table count as the primary method of determining what the Master Point awards should be for any particular event. The proposed changes would use the master point holdings of the players entered into the event as the primary determining factor for determining awards. Both methods have weaknesses and at this time I believe a complete study of the problem and proposed solutions needs to be done before any action is taken. It is for this reason that I am opposing this motion in its present form.

As always I solicit any thoughts you have on these or any motions on the agenda. Please be sure to share your thoughts with me.

May all your finesses be successful,

Claire Jones

District 18 Board of Directors