

# Chicago Report, August 2015

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Chicago was a much prettier city than I remembered from 2006. The weather was great, 80 in the daytime and 65 in the evening. The hotel was right on Michigan avenue with a great view of the Lake and Grant Park. The turnout was good with 13,685 tables, 685 more than was expected. The tournament chair and President (Suzie Subeck) did a great job and even found time to play.

## Items of Interest

- Great news! Austin was awarded the fall national in 2021. It will be at the new JW Marriott 10/25-12/5 in down town Austin. This will be the first National for Austin.
- Bob Hamman and Paul Street made a presentation to the Board about how our membership was ageing with suggestions to improve our League. This was well received by the Board.
- At the end of July membership was 168,208 which is the highest since 1997. The league has embarked on a telephone campaign to win back lapsed members and better understand the reasons for not renewing.
- The Longest day Alzheimer's association event was the most successful ever raising \$700,000.
- The motion to reduce master points in KO's with 5 or 6 members who do not play 100% of the time was defeated on second reading. I expect to see a motion in the fall that would make all members of a team that received full master points to pay an entry fee.
- The ACBL strongly recommends Units and Districts make student discounts available at Sectionals and Regional's.
- If an appeals committee finds the same facts and bridge judgment as the tournament director, it must make the same ruling, subject to attempting to persuade the Director that another law, or a more correct interpretation of Law, requires a different result.
- It was reaffirmed that individuals that abuse their position of trust in the handling of hand records will be expelled from the league.
- The ACBL revokes it's election of 12C1(e) in the laws of Duplocate Bridge.
- The online clubs received permission to offer an exciting new form of Bridge, On line instant tournaments where one person plays with 3 robots.
- In addition to the open Regional's allowed a district may now hold up to three limited Regional's which may be any of the following: Junior Regional, Youth Regional, or Non Life Master Regional with an upper limit of no more than 750 points.
- Two strats are now allowed in Regional pair games flight A, B, & C
- A Distinguished Employee Award was created to be called the Jeff Johnson Award. (Jeff was in charge of directors and NABC's for years).

- The Technology Committee continues there evaluation of options for the next generation of ACBLSCORE and will have a recommendation in the fall.

If anyone has any questions you can call me at 713-599-0047 for email me at [danmorse@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danmorse@sbcglobal.net).

A complete set of Board of Directors minutes will be on the web site.

Looking forward to seeing you at the tables.

Dan