

Reno Report

It was interesting playing bridge at three Casino's, there were 4 different sites and lots of walking (all right past slot machines and blackjack tables). Lots of temptation but most stuck to playing bridge. The ACBL estimated there would be 12,000 tables but came up about 340 short. It was still successful because expenses were less than most sites. The playing area and the hotels were nice; the only drawback was the smoking that was allowed on the carpet at the three casino's. ACBL Membership on February 1 was 168,403, 717 more than one year ago.

CLUB NEWS

- The 2015 club table count was 3,146,410 of which 1,014,501 are from online games.
- There are approximately 3,100 clubs we renew game sanctions for each year. More than 2,200 are using the online sanction renewal game sanctions. I hope the rest of the clubs will consider using this also as it is better for the clubs and the ACBL.
- Clubs that have a sanctioned masterpoint limited game, may not declare such game as open when there is a STAC.

TOURNAMENTS

2014 Tournament tables are down slightly at Regional's, Sectionals, and Stacks. I predict they will be back up next year.

THE ACBL ADOPTED A VISION STATEMENT

BRIDGE IS REGARDED AS THE WORLD'S MOST REWARDING AND ENJOYABLE CARD GAME.

OTHER NEWS

- Congratulations to Eddie Wold for his appointment to the Ethical oversight committee and for being elected to the ACBL Hall of Fame.
- Congratulations to Chris Compton for winning the Barry Crane award for most masterpoints in 2015.
- Congratulations to Janise Saul for her appointment as Co-Chair of the Goodwill committee.
- Grass roots Funds will now be dispersed to the Districts no more than 90 days after Grass Roots month. Thanks to Paul Cuneo for this suggestion.
- The cooperative advertising program will now be reimbursed at 50% with a max of \$500.

APPEALS AT NATIONALS

ACBL Tournament Directors shall hear and rule upon all appeals at NABC'S. All conduct and ethics or disciplinary matters shall continue to be referred to and heard by the NABC Tournament Committee or its assignees.

LEAGUE COUNSEL

The post of League Counsel is abolished effective August 1, 2016. The CEO shall hire as a full time employee an "in house Counsel" as soon as possible thereafter.

Anyone interested in this job should contact the ACBL CEO.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE'S

For hearing at the ACBL Ethical Oversight, Disciplinary and appeals and charges committees, the advocate selected to appear at the hearing may be an attorney.

The Board created an Anti-Cheating Committee. This will be composed of at least five expert players.

TEAM ENTRY FEES

For team events held at NABC's, in which all team members receive full overall masterpoint awards, entry fees will be charged on a per person basis.

This is optional for Sectionals and Regionals; your District Board will be discussing this if anyone has a strong opinion.

A full copy of the minutes will be on the ACBL website if anyone would like to examine it.

Looking forward to seeing you at the tables

All the best

Dan