

# Fall 2017 NABC Report - San Diego

---

San Diego is a beautiful city and the Manchester Grand Hyatt is a great venue for an NABC. The weather was great and the views spectacular. Table count for the NABC was 11747, 253 tables under budget.

Jay Whipple for District 9, Florida, was elected as ACBL Board of Directors President for 2018 to replace Bob Heller from District 7. The Board thanked Bob for his year of service and I am especially appreciative as Bob allowed me to be fully engaged with committee and taskforce work in my first year on the board.

The following is a summary of key Board actions taken in San Diego:

NABC Online Event – The Toronto event was a success and the Board approved having three in 2018. They will probably be run prior to the start of each NABC.

Anyone who joined ACBL prior to Jan 1, 2010 and whose membership lapsed prior to that date will retain the 300 masterpoint requirement for Life Master. If the member is reinstated prior to July 1, 2018, there will be no additional charge other than paying current dues. For those who reinstated after July 1, 2018 an additional \$50 fee will apply. To be reinstated with inclusion of masterpoints won while the membership was lapsed, a person must buy a three-year membership at the time of reinstatement.

Term Limits for ACBL Board members passed on the first reading. Since a By-laws change is required a second vote will be taken in Philadelphia and if successful, then it needs to be ratified by the Board of Governors. Beginning with terms starting January 1, 2019, Board members will be limited to four 3-year terms under this proposal which I co-sponsored.

A Temporary Membership was created to introduce new players to ACBL. It lasts for 30 days and will cost only \$7.99. Temporary memberships will be available from Teachers, Clubs and Tournaments but not online or by phone. Teachers and Clubs will receive an incentive rebate for each temporary membership. The discussion centered around a \$5 rebate. Players may purchase multiple temporary memberships and it will also replace the \$4/session charge at tournaments for non-members and lapsed members. While this initiative has several purposes, it is expected to stimulate membership growth and will enable better tracking of students and players.

Uniform Electronic Device Policy for NABCs and Regionals – Requires regional tournaments to have the policy used at NABCs. The District 16 Board already adopted the same policy, but expect more rigorous enforcement at our regionals.

Beginning in 2019, the fall NABC will feature the Soloway KO event.

Limited Sectionals may now include players with up to 750 masterpoints which is increased from 500.

A change was made for Open Swiss events to award higher masterpoints by being credited for flighted Gold Rush events whether the Gold Rush is a pairs or Swiss event. Open Pairs events already enjoy this benefit and the change was made to have equity between Swiss and Pairs.

Unit Championships – These are currently sanctioned by day and session, morning afternoon or evening. The Board approved a change to allow every club to participate in a Unit Championship provided they hold a sanction for the day of the event and the Unit is NOT conducting a Unit Wide Championship where multiple clubs compete and overalls are awarded across the clubs.

10 Big Ideas – Continued development of Advertise, Promote Sponsor and Improve Teaching Effectiveness were agreed. Specific funding proposals for these ideas are expected in Philadelphia. More study will be done on Integrate Social Bridge, Simplify Masterpoints and Strength Based Ratings. Another round of Big Ideas is expected early in 2018.

Both the Club and Tournament Taskforces made reports. Study will continue around the issues including the Life Master masterpoint requirements.