

Per the bylaws, a Nominating Committee was appointed to solicit members interested in serving on the Unit 183 Board of Directors.

The members of the Committee consisted of:

David Branch, Chair

Gary Neisler

Kay Jones

Every Unit member in good standing shall be entitled to vote, either in person on the date of the election or by absentee ballot. All valid ballots, whether cast in person or by absentee, must contain no more than three (3) votes. Ballots cast for more candidates will not count. A ballot with more than one vote for the same candidate will not count. Write-on candidates are permitted. Ballots voted by proxy will not count.

Five (5) voting methods shall be allowed: (a) absentee voting by mail, (b) absentee voting by delivery to a member of the Election Committee, (c) absentee voting using a ballot box, (d) early electronic voting (not available), and (e) voting in person at the Annual Meeting usually held during the Fall Sectional Tournament. The Unit may use any or all such methods for an election; failure to use all methods does not invalidate the election.

The procedure for each voting method is:

A. Absentee by Mail: Any voting member may choose this method. The member may print a ballot from the Unit website or collect a ballot at the Fort Worth Studio or any other playing site within the Unit where ballots may be available. (Ballots need not be provided at all playing sites.)

If the voter desires secrecy, he or she shall do the following: (a) seal the ballot inside an envelope and place the sealed envelope inside another sealed envelope addressed to an Election Committee member; and (b) sign the back flap of the outside envelope and write down the voter's ACBL number. A ballot without both the voter's signature and ACBL number will not be counted. The signed envelope must be postmarked at least seven (7) days before the start of in-person voting.

If a voter does not desire secrecy, he or she need not use two envelopes. The voter may return the ballot in a single envelope with his or her signature and ACBL number marked on the ballot. A ballot without both the voter's signature and ACBL number will not be counted. The envelope containing the ballot must be postmarked at least seven (7) days before the start of in-person voting.

B. A voter may hand an absentee ballot to an Election Committee member at least three (3) days before the start of in-person voting. A member desiring secrecy shall place a signed, sealed envelope containing the ballot inside another sealed envelope. The voter must sign the outer envelope and write on it his or her ACBL number. A member not desiring secrecy shall place the ballot in a single envelope and shall sign the ballot.

C. The voter may place a completed absentee ballot in a ballot box provided by the Unit. The Unit may place ballot boxes in any or all clubs within the Unit and at such other places as it believes members are likely to vote. A member desiring secrecy shall place a signed, sealed envelope containing the ballot inside another sealed envelope. The voter must sign the outer envelope and write on it his or her ACBL number. A member not desiring secrecy shall sign the ballot and write his or her ACBL number on it.

After review of their qualifications and interest, the Committee recommends the following three members to stand for election to a three-year term.

John Fee



I learned how to play "party" Bridge in the mid '80s at lunch time. It was a love-at-first-sight thing. We played only at lunch for about 3 years. Fast forward 30 years: Picked up the Duplicate version through Jacque Montgomery, along with Darlene and Steve Shirey at the Ft. Worth Studio where I have been a "regular" since July 2021. I retired from Lockheed in 2011 after a 35+-year career. Pam and I live in Benbrook, have 3 children and 4 grandchildren (2 of which are local), and a spoiled beagle. My other interests include golf, 42, motorcycling, bicycling, playing steel guitar, and cruising every now and then. I have found that Duplicate Bridge is only a small benefit compared to the friendships I have found - not only at Ft Worth, but in Arlington and Denton. I would be most honored to serve on the Board if elected.

David Urbel



I retired (several times) in 2017 and my wife suggested that I start playing bridge. I've played it for years, but not seriously. Now I am there two or the times a week. Still a long time to Life Master.

Verlyn Stahlecker



I have played bridge for several years. We moved to Fort Worth in 2016. I became a member of the club and average playing twice a week. Someone recommended that I serve on the board so I will "toss my hat in the ring" and if elected, promise to serve you to the best of my ability.