

## **ACBL Handbook**

### IV. ACBL DISTRICTS

The territory under ACBL's jurisdiction is divided into as many geographical districts as the ACBL Board of Directors, with the approval of the ACBL Board of Governors, shall designate. There are currently 25 geographically defined districts within ACBL territory.

#### A. DISTRICT BYLAWS

Each district shall establish bylaws. The ACBL Board of Directors also empowers the district to exercise the prerogatives assigned to it by ACBL. The prerogatives given to the districts may increase or decrease in scope by the passage of new regulations.

#### **B. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Districts have certain rights and responsibilities which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A vacancy in the office of District Director shall be filled by the First Alternate Director for the unexpired remainder of the term. A vacancy in the office of First Alternate Director shall be filled by the Second Alternate Director for the remainder of the term. A vacancy in the office of Second Alternate Director shall be filled in accordance with regulations established by the affected district organization.
- In conjunction with a designated (non-home) district, the district may approve a member's joining a unit in the designated district rather than a unit in his or her home district.
- The district may make recommendations to the ACBL Board of Directors on the consolidation, division or dissolution of units within its boundaries.
- The district must have a tournament coordinator who is responsible for approving tournament dates and schedules of events for sectional and regional tournaments within the district, and for helping resolve tournament date conflicts within and outside the district.
- The district must have a designated electronic contact. ACBL may require business between ACBL and districts to be conducted electronically.

- The district serves as a clearinghouse for scheduling sectional tournaments in the district and for coordinating such schedules with neighboring districts. When an intra district dispute or misunderstanding occurs, the district, as empowered by its member units, may act as fact finder, arbitrator, or both.
- The district serves as the host organization for NABCs held within its geographical boundaries. It may, at its sole discretion, delegate such sponsorship to a unit(s) within its geographical boundaries.
- The district organizes and operates the regional tournaments assigned to it, but it may assign such tournaments to units within its jurisdiction.
- The district organizes and conducts district-wide contests to select winners to represent it in the various flights of the ACBL Grand National Teams finals and the ACBL North American Pairs finals.
- The district has control over its own disciplinary matters and must have a District Disciplinary and a District Appellate Committee. See Chapter 11 and Appendix D, The ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations.

## **ACBL Codification**

### CHAPTER III – ADMINISTRATION

#### SECTION B – DISTRICTS

##### Section 1 – Rights and Responsibilities

1.1 The geographical area within which the district shall have jurisdiction shall be such area as is presently or may in the future be assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL.

1.2 The relationship between ACBL and each of its districts is that of independent organizations.

1.3 Every District must have a District Organization and District Bylaws.

1.4 The bylaws shall provide for the establishment of a democratically composed District Organization. Sample District Bylaws will be furnished upon request.

1.5 The District Organization must establish a Judiciary Committee.

1.6 The District Organization may appoint a District Tournament Coordinator whose job shall be to screen all sanction applications for tournaments and other special games, advise the units within the district of any scheduling conflicts, and resolve said conflicts.

1.7 Districts shall designate a member to serve as a liaison with the ACBL for the purpose of furthering Educational programs.

1.8 Except where regulations give specific authority to the District Director, each District Organization shall have complete supervision over all red and gold point events allocated to that district, including allocation of regional tournaments to units or playing area, and supervision of the Grand National Teams and North American Pairs.

1.9 Bylaws and regulations of District Organizations must comply with ACBL Bylaws, rules and regulations, as well as with all governmental (national, state, provincial and local) laws, rules and regulations.

## Section 2 – Business Practices

### 2.1 Regional Tournaments

#### Chapter 3, B.2

2.1.1 Districts shall bear the full responsibility for regional tournaments sanctioned to them, regardless of the actual individual or group undertaking management functions.

2.1.2 Sponsoring organizations are required to pay the Director-in-Charge all funds due the ACBL at the conclusion of the tournament.

2.2 Expense in connection with District Judiciary Committees shall not be borne by the ACBL unless specifically authorized by the ACBL.

### 2.3 District Assessments

2.3.1 Districts do not have the right to fix dues, whether in the form of assessments or otherwise.

2.3.2 Districts may enter into agreements with constituent units for voluntary contributions for purposes consistent with the objectives of ACBL and the district, such

as, but not limited to, hosting a national or International event or sustaining the District Organization.

2.3.3 None of the foregoing shall be construed as prohibiting District Organizations from controlling regionals, or including, but not limited to, a per table charge.

2.4 Districts are strongly urged to conduct an annual audit of their financial records. If an external audit by an independent professional is deemed too expensive, it is recommended that districts appoint an internal audit committee to, as a minimum verify cash and cash equivalents and test major income and expense items.

2.5 Management is authorized to require, at its discretion, business between ACBL and districts to be conducted electronically.

2.6 No ACBL employee may serve on District Boards as voting members nor may they serve as proxies to vote at a district meeting