



Region 12 Director Report

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Hello District 21 bridge players,

I really enjoyed attending the Fall Board meetings and NABC in San Francisco. Attendance was a few hundred tables shy of the estimate of 8,000+ tables, but everyone that I spoke to at the tournament said they were having a great time.

I would like to highlight some of the actions the Board took in San Francisco. Please read the attached Fall 2025 National Board Report to find all actions taken at the meetings ([Here](#)).



Overall, ACBL membership is down 7% from 2024, but the number of new guest members has increased by over 160%. Our 2026 operating and capital budgets were approved with an expected revenue gain of \$20,000. The best news is that Management expects the migration from the AS 400 to the new Back Office to be complete by the end of 2026.

The Board discussed the new business model being proposed for future NABCs which will be pilot tested at the 2028 Fall Austin NABC. There will be NABC rated events at the NABC, but there will not be any regionally rated events. There will be more information on this new business model available in 2026.

The Board voted in favor of eliminating the Codification requirement that permitted online events to be held at in-person regionals. These events have been successful in some locations, but they have lost money in many other areas. These online events may still be held, but that will be decided by the local sponsor.

ACBL Management will now pay the first two days of entry fees for the Grand National Teams (GNT) Championship Flight. Prior to this, ACBL Management only paid the entry fees for the first two days for Flights A, B, and C. The Board was also informed that ACBL has been undercharging Districts the amount they owe for entry fees for the remaining 3-5 days that their players are in the GNT. While all previous underpayments will be forgiven, Districts will be charged the correct amount for entry fees beginning in 2027.

Several motions were approved by the Board related to how the ACBL Board of Directors conducts its business. These included a completed Board Resource Manual, a Board Oversight Committee Framework, an ACBL Organization Framework identifying the hierarchy of the ACBL's governing documents and revisions to a portion of Chapter IV - Board Procedures in the Codification. Chapter IV revisions will be completed in 2026.

The Board passed a motion identifying the rights and responsibilities of non-members which will be placed in the Membership chapter of the Codification. Non-members will be allowed to play in certain ACBL-sanctioned club games. They will not be allowed to play in tournaments unless they become guest members (if it is their first time becoming an ACBL member) or renew their lapsed membership.

A motion to transfer the independent management of the ACBL Charitable Recognition Award to the ACBL Charity Foundation was approved by the Board. District Presidents, in collaboration with their Regional Director, will no longer select ACBL Charitable Recognition Award winners.

The Advisory Council requested a change to the Bylaws as follows:

- The Advisory Council will establish committees as it deems necessary rather than have mandated committees
- The Advisory Council will submit resolutions for consideration and, if necessary, reconsideration to the Board of Directors

- Advisory Council members will report important issues to District and Unit members.

The Board voted in favor of the first reading of this bylaws change.

The Board elected new officers for 2026. Cindy Shoemaker, Region 10, was elected ACBL President. Dennis Carman, Region 5, was elected ACBL Vice President. Our new Treasurer is Joann Glasson, Region 3.

I have received my Board committee assignments for 2026. They are the Chair of the Governance Committee, Finance Committee member and Executive Committee Western Zone Representative for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy 2026!

Jackie Z