

District Director's Report – March 2011

Louisville NABC

The Spring NABC was held at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. Attendance was 9,547 tables, slightly below pre-tournament expectations. The playing space was excellent, all located in a central area of the main hotel, and there were many good places to eat within walking distance of the site. There were also numerous attractions to visit between bridge sessions, including Churchill Downs, the home of the Kentucky Derby, the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory and the Mohammad Ali Center. Though there were fewer District players than at most NABCs, all who attended had a wonderful time. New Englanders won two events with no masterpoint restrictions and the Flight B North American Pairs.

There were many, many local volunteers who were very enthusiastic and did an outstanding job. Congratulations and many thanks to District Director Beth Reid and all the volunteers who did such a great job to make this a very enjoyable tournament.

TOP 10 FINISHERS IN NABC EVENTS – DISTRICT 25

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS - A

Lloyd Arvedon, Natick MA
Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA 3

SILVER RIBBON PAIRS

Rich DeMartino, Riverside CT
John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT 1

MIXED PAIRS

Carolyn Sessler, Boca Raton FL
Lloyd Arvedon, Natick MA 1

Steve Gladyszak, Chelsea MA
Ann Borgshulte, Lexington MA 3

RED RIBBON PAIRS

Stephen McDevitt, Medford MA 5

WOMEN'S PAIRS

Kamla Chawla, Longmeadow MA 4

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS - B

Philippe Galasky, Amherst MA
Roger Webb, Amherst MA 1

WOMEN'S SWISS

Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA 7

Highlights of ACBL Board Meeting

CEO Report

CEO Jay Baum reported that membership for the first two months of 2011 is down about 500 members despite averaging over 1,000 new members for the first two months. He expects that membership will remain at the same level this year after several years of increases in membership.

Jay reported that the preliminary count for club games for 2010 is 2,965,821 tables, of which 713,135 are from on-line games, up from 589,000 in 2009.

Financial Results

The final result for calendar year 2010 was a loss of \$61,000. This deficit is much more favorable than the 2010 budgeted loss of \$374,000. For 2011, the budget is for a gain of \$141,000. The ACBL continues to be in excellent shape financially.

Stop Cards

A motion to eliminate the use of the “stop cards” after the first round of the auction was defeated. Apparently in some parts of the country the belief is that there are problems with the stop card procedure in that some players are not using them properly. I’d appreciate any input you may have on this issue. My view is that the stop card procedure is working just fine.

Sanctioned On-Line Games

The following regulations for sanctioned on-line games were approved (no change from the present policy): (i) All masterpoints won on-line count towards a player’s total; (ii) Masterpoints won on line do not count towards yearly masterpoint races (there are separate on-line races); and, (iii) No more than 1/3 of the total masterpoints required for rank advancement can be won on-line.

Robot Games on Bridge Base Online

A motion was made not to continue to award masterpoints in robot games, which are generally run as individuals. After much discussion, this motion failed. In these games, all live participants are in the same seat and have robots as partners and opponents. Those who favor the games say they are enjoyable and point out that the quality of the partner and opponents are exactly the same at all tables. Those opposed say this is not real bridge. The motion failed so robot games will continue to pay masterpoints, as do other on-line games.

For complete details on Board actions, please refer to the minutes of the Board meeting on the ACBL website (ACBL.org). These will be posted within the next two weeks.

Top 25 Masterpoint Winners – Louisville NABC

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>Points Won In NABC+ Events</u>
1	Lloyd Arvedon, Natick MA	180.97	159.29
2	John Stiefel, Wethersfield CT	168.69	125.61
3	Rich DeMartino, Riverside CT	146.04	146.04
4	Douglas Doub, W Hartford CT	135.64	116.11
5	Carolyn Sessler, Boca Raton FL	107.67	104.24
6	Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea MA	80.24	71.62
7	Stephen McDevitt, Medford MA	64.94	14.81
8	Ann Borgschulte, Lexington MA	64.10	57.31
9	Pat McDevitt, Brookline MA	50.54	36.56
10	Alan Applebaum, Brookline MA	50.46	17.22
11	Nathan Glasser, Somerville MA	49.81	2.00
12	James Tullis, Yarmouth Port MA	48.34	44.44
13	Franklin Merblum, Bloomfield CT	46.92	13.68
14	Arkadiusz Sitek, Ashland MA	46.88	45.45
15	Roger Webb, Amherst MA	46.30	
	Philippe Galaski, Amherst MA	46.30	
17	Gloria Tsoi, Arlington MA	42.58	14.81
18	Robert Bertoni, Haverhill MA	41.15	5.50
19	Lewis Gamerman, Westwood MA	37.83	24.24
20	Phyllis Fireman, Chestnut Hill MA	36.03	25.00
21	Bill Irvine, Quincy MA	35.72	16.96
22	Kamla Chawla, Longmeadow MA	34.21	16.96
23	Jay Borker, Greenwich CT	33.33	33.33
24	Peter Manzon, Waltham MA	31.28	5.50
25	Victor King, Hartford CT	29.54	25.00

The Summer NABC will be held from July 21 through July 31 at the Fairmont Royal York and Sheraton Center in Toronto, Ontario. I remind you all that you will need a passport. Also note that there is a \$10 per night discount rate at the Royal York until April 15 so if you plan to stay there, I suggest you make your reservations before then. Toronto has always been one of our players' favorite sites and despite the seemingly high room rates, I expect that to be the case again this year. I anticipate there will be many players from District 25 in Toronto, so come and enjoy the fun.

Rich DeMartino
District 25 Director