

**District Director, Joann Glasson**  
**June 2018**

## **PHILADELPHIA NABC**

District 4 many years ago established a fund to finance a national tournament coming to our area every six or seven years. The fund currently has about \$100K. When a local committee takes on the task of running an NABC they receive some funding from the ACBL to help cover the cost of player hospitality and registration gifts. The rest of the money needs to be raised locally or provided by the home District.

The final accounting is in for the Philly NABC and I am happy to report that due to the fund-raising efforts of Bob Glasson, the generous support of District 4 players and the unselfish efforts of our committee of volunteers, the tournament was financed without using any of the District 4 NABC fund.

This allows District 4 to schedule another NABC in the future.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

It's hard to believe that it's been two years since I assumed the role of District Director for District 4. After two years on the job the Board is struggling with some of the same issues I first encountered, primarily technology.

The ACBL Board of Directors consists of 25 men and women from the United States and Canada. Some think this is an unwieldy number and there have been continuing efforts to reduce the size of the board while retaining a board that brings the skills needed for the oversight of the ACBL. It's a difficult problem as we try to grapple with geographic representation and needed skillsets.

Representation varies greatly because of District size. Florida has over 20,000 members. District 4 is somewhere in the middle with about 6,500 members and some districts have just over 3,000 members. District lines even overlap the Canadian border.

One of the possible considerations might be to combine some smaller districts to equalize the number of players being represented, another is to reduce the board size through attrition, while others think that creating a smaller board within a board is the way to go.

It's a complex problem and one that may take a few more years to resolve.

## **USING CREDIT CARDS FOR ENTRIES**

District 4 is currently looking at alternative ways to allow our players to purchase entries with credit cards. At the Valley Forge regional at the end of the month we will be testing Purple Pass as a vendor for credit card use. We are also looking at selling vouchers with credit cards and have gathered information from District 6 and 7 who both currently use this process.

Using credit cards for entry sales is an advantage for our players and it also minimizes the amount of cash handling at tournaments.

## **ACBL**

The Board of Directors has decided to make a change in the leadership of the ACBL. Bahar Gidwani, who was the CEO for the last ten months, commuting from New York to Memphis, has been relieved of his duties.

For legal reasons I am unable to share the details leading to the decision, but I assure you that it was a sound decision by the ACBL board.

Joe Jones, ACBL CFO, has been named interim CEO. The ACBL is in good hands with Joe and his strong leadership team.

A search committee led by Paul Cuneo of District 16 has been formed to find a replacement. I am one of six members of the committee which also includes District 4's Richard Popper, Chairman of the Board of Governors. Other members of the committee are Georgia Heth from District 8, who was on the previous search committee, Claire Jones, ACBL Treasurer and Director from District 18, and A.J. Stephani from District 11.

Our plan is to take a long thoughtful time considering all options with a goal of putting together a new management team before the end of 2018.