

## **District Director, Joann Glasson December 2021**

As I am writing this, the first National Bridge Tournament (NABC) in 2 years is being held in Austin, Texas. I attended the board meetings in Austin but did not play any bridge there, instead returning home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Here's a summary of the major things that happened at the board meetings in Austin:

### **Finance**

The ACBL passed the 2022 budget. Prior to this year, the budget was voted on in the spring. This year we moved the budget cycle in order to have the budget approved prior to the beginning of the calendar year.

The ACBL is projecting a loss of \$858K in 2022. The bulk of that loss is due to a much-needed investment in technology. The major I/T projects are finishing the transfer of data from the outdated AS400 to the cloud, completing the masterpoint engine, upgrading Tourney Trax and initiating pre-registration for all ACBL tournaments.

Many of these projects have been delayed due to both the focus on the pandemic and a loss of programmers at ACBL. Because of the personnel issues, a switch will be made to using outside vendors to accomplish these goals instead of doing them inhouse. This path is more expensive initially, but less expensive long term than hiring additional full-time staff.

The pandemic has produced 2 financially successful years online for the ACBL and the time has come to take that excess money and invest in the future of the game by updating old technology.

### **Bridge**

A new bridge event, a Rainbow STAC, will be held in face-to-face bridge clubs in the Northeast (Districts 4, 3, 24 and 25) The masterpoint awards will be .25 gold/.25 silver/.25 red and .25 black. The event will be scheduled at clubs in District 4 from Monday, January 24 through Sunday January 30, 2022.

The 2022 conditions of contest for the Grand National Teams was approved. Future GNT events can be either held online or in person at the option of the District.

A new style convention card was created by the Competition and Conventions Committee, headed by Danny Sprung, who was a long-time member of District 4. It's cleaner and more logical than our current card and will be released shortly.

### **Recorder**

The report of the Board of Governors anti-cheating committee was reviewed and it contained some really helpful information. There will be some major efforts made to protect our game in the coming months and I will share them with you as the ongoing work is completed.

### **Election**

Joann Glasson was elected President of the ACBL Board for 2022.

Stay well and please contact me anytime with any questions or concerns: [joannglasson@msn.com](mailto:joannglasson@msn.com)

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