

The meeting was called to order by District 4 President Ala Hamilton-Day at 7:05 PM EDT. All attendance was by Zoom videoconference.

ATTENDANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

The Secretary called the roll and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Voting members present by Unit were:

At Large (5): Ala Hamilton-Day (President), Dan Boye (Vice-President), Betsy Cutler (Immediate Past President), Mark Cohen (Presidential Appointee), Todd Thorsen (Presidential Appointee, arrived after the roll call)
Unit 112 (4): Betty Youmans, Liz Patton, Jim Patton, Ken Knight
Unit 120 (2): Joe Destini, Walter Mitchell
Unit 121 (2): none
Unit 133 (2): Lee Stanley, Betty Abrams
Unit 141 (10): Jay Apfelbaum, John Nothdurft, Susan Packer, Pam Scalamandre, Cathy Strauss (arrived after the roll call)
Unit 168 (4): Ron Orr
Unit 190 (3): Bill Herdle, Richard Popper
Unit 217 (2): Jim McKeown

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 31 2025 BOARD MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 31 Board meeting was approved without objection.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Joann Glasson

Valley Forge Board Meeting

There is lots of excitement in ACBL with new programs.

Bridge Battle and the awarding of "sapphires" is the latest marketing effort to attract new members into our game. This newcomer game (with no bidding) is available online and also for face-to-face bridge teachers. The hope is to get new people interested in bridge by playing hands so that they eventually understand the need for bidding to reach a contract and then are willing to step forward to serious lessons.

Bronia has divided the huge headquarter building into two parts, one for the offices and the other for a new "Come Play Games with Us Center". Following the model of Bernadette May in Cherry Hill, the center focuses on getting members of the community to play cards and eventually bridge. Building the model at headquarters will enable the ACBL to share the idea with other interested club owners around the country.

John Dickenson and Rex Saffer were the first to make a presentation at the new ACBL Club Manager's program. When the ACBL said they were planning to move to a quarterly instead of monthly schedule, Mark Cohen stepped up and said that the club managers would suffer from the new schedule. Bronia and I put our heads together and decided that the problem was the old tired program and felt that club managers would best be served by sharing best practices and that's where Rex and John stepped up with a terrific show about the steps needed by the clubs to bring new players into the fold. Their presentation received rave reviews from all who attended and is available to be viewed online.

Rob Maier, District 4's own director, has been named as the ACBL Employee of the Year.

The National Bridge Tournament will return to Philadelphia in both 2030 and 2035. Because of the efforts of tournament chairs, John Dickenson and Ala Hamilton-Day and their team of volunteers, bridge players are looking forward to returning to Philadelphia in just a few years.

ACBL is changing the schedule and format of the Spring and Fall NABCs to the new "Championships for All". There will be no regional events but players will always have an event they can drop into and all games will be flighted according to masterpoints.

REPORT FROM ACBL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jay Apfelbaum

A summary of all approved motions was provided at the February 2026 meeting.

A number of people were appointed to various committees. Our own Bob Glasson was appointed to the Disciplinary Committee for a three-year term.

Philadelphia was approved for another Summer NABC in 2035. It was already approved for the Summer NABC in 2030. In addition, Washington DC was approved for the Fall 2031 NABC. It was also approved for the Fall 2035 NABC, subject to signing the needed contracts.

ACBL ended 2025 in stable financial condition. Assets increased by \$1.367 million to \$12.58 million.

Membership dropped by 5%, falling from 124,076 to 117,813. However, there is an increase in new guest memberships, from 914 to 2,482.

Since February 2024 a total of 50,795 players were screened by EDGAR. The cheating rate is 3.5%. The final cheating rate is projected to be about 3%.

The Advisory Committee's anti-cheating subcommittee submitted a recommendation to change the current practice of advising charged players that

they are guilty of cheating, instead advising them that they are accused of cheating. The Advisory Council has not yet acted on this recommendation.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Bill Herdle

The membership by Unit per the ACBL was:

Unit	10/2023	10/2024	10/2025	6/2026	2026 Reps
112	959	928	803	770	4
120	186	181	146	148	2
121	122	111	87	82	2
133	231	221	216	213	2
141	2,343	2,316	2,134	2141	10
168	775	744	715	704	4
190	503	480	448	431	3
217	81	82	97	93	2
Totals	5,200	5,063	4,646	4582	29

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Nothdurft

Tournament Financial Results:

- Cherry Hill I/N Regional (April 10-12, 2026): Small loss of \$1,794
- Rehoboth Beach Regional (April 27-May 1, 2026): Incredible gain of \$25,661

The full Balance Sheet as of 6/6/26 (*preliminary*) and Income Statement for June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026 (*preliminary*) are appended at the end of this document.

Notes/Comments:

- John Nothdurft is the new Treasurer; former Treasurer Pat Civale has been a wonderful help in mentoring during the transition (this is not an easy position to staff)
- Our cash position is strong and stable since the previous meeting
- We renewed our CD in February 2026
- National reserve fund balance still at \$80K, although with as much as the ACBL controls the finances, it might not need to be that high
- Finger Lakes Regional is happening from June 8-12 and Philadelphia Regional from August 3-9 ... should have more revenue by the end of summer (the dates for both summer Regionals were moved around this year due to the World Cup)
- GNT / NAP "losses" revolve around the subsidies given to players

- GNT Nationals are July 8-19, subsidy checks to follow
- Our credit card used for purchases such as hospitality at regionals has accumulated \$5-6K in rewards.

Concerns:

- We're going to have to invest in a QuickBooks subscription; there is no work-around for new purchases. Pat Civalé has been nice enough to continue using her old copy of the program for now, but that will not work on a long-term basis. It's \$38/month for the lowest tier subscription (1 user; basic reports and bank integrations), and we might have the ability to get it anywhere from 30-50% off through our contacts. This is an expense we haven't had before since standalone copies used to work without a subscription, but frustratingly one that we need to commit to in order to keep good records and continue to have access to our historical records.

A motion to purchase a QuickBooks subscription for the District was made and passed without objection.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ala Hamilton-Day

Our organization remains in a strong position, owing to the dedication, generosity, and hard work of many individuals, including those in attendance this evening. The exceptional success of the Rehoboth Beach Regional, made possible through the leadership of Tournament Chairs Kim Holm and Harold Jordan, and the contributions of many devoted volunteers, has underscored the need for additional and upgraded equipment throughout District 4, including tables, bidding boxes, inserts, and stanchions. At the same time, our consistently well-executed tournaments in Lancaster/Manheim and Philadelphia/Valley Forge, together with the addition of the Finger Lakes Regional, require the resources and operational support necessary to sustain that standard of excellence. We must also evaluate the condition of the assets currently stored at InnerSpace to determine which items remain serviceable and which should be replaced. Jeanne Gehret, Chair of the District 4 Tournament Committee, will address these matters in greater detail in her report.

Our bridge-playing population continues to age, and that demographic reality brings challenges that require both thoughtful leadership and consistent standards. In some instances, age-related changes may affect judgment, impulse control, or awareness of appropriate conduct. For that reason, it is essential that we uphold our Zero Tolerance standards consistently across all settings in which our members play, including online platforms, tournaments, and clubs. Doing so protects the integrity of our organization and helps ensure a respectful and welcoming environment for all participants.

It has become increasingly clear that communities with a strong presence of bridge teachers also tend to foster a larger, more engaged bridge-playing population. These new players are essential to the future vitality of our organization and should be welcomed, encouraged, and supported as they develop their skills and connection to the game. Betty Youmans of Unit 112 has been a strong advocate for the training of additional bridge teachers; an initiative that I believe merits our full attention and support. John Dickenson, Education Chair for the South, and Sally Swing, Education Chair for the North, will offer further perspective on this important priority.

The Executive Committee met to consider whether playing directors should be eligible for overall awards when participating in District 4 STACs. After careful discussion, the Committee reached a unanimous decision that playing directors will not be eligible for such awards.

I'm confident in where we are and in what we can accomplish together. Thank you for your leadership, your support, and all you do for District 4.

RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS Ala Hamilton-Day

The Executive Committee consist of Ala Hamilton-Day (President), Dan Boye (VP), Betsy Cutler (immediate past President), John Nothdurft (Treasurer), Richard Popper (Advisory Council rep), Mary Miller and Bob Glasson (Presidential appointees).

The Board ratified the Executive Committee's decision on February 16 to continue the current policy that playing directors should not be eligible for overall awards when participating in District 4 StaCs. Jim McKeown noted some discomfort with this decision as implying mistrust of playing directors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLICITY Jeanne Gehret

Nothing substantive to share.

DISTRICT 4SPOT Susan Morse (not present)

We're chugging along as usual - the open rate is close to 60% on a good month. Subscription is about 2200. No concerns.

TOURNAMENT COORDINATOR Kurt Engleman (not present)

2026 Tournaments – This year's calendar is in very good shape.

2027 Tournaments - A spreadsheet detailing proposed tournaments for 2027 is appended at the end of these minutes. For most Units the “usual” sectionals have been placed in the “usual” weekends. Unit Tournament Coordinators are encouraged to apply for sanctions, or to reach out to me with any questions.

There remains availability in the calendar for additional tournaments, so please reach out if there is interest.

Regional Tournaments – Sanctions:

All four of our Regional tournaments have secured ACBL Sanctions through the year 2031.

D4 STaC COORDINATOR

Kurt Engleman (not present)

[This report was expanded after the meeting to answer questions raised by participants.]

Turnout was reasonable for both our February (569.5 tables) and May (640.5 tables) tournaments.

Basic info about D4 STaCs:

My understanding is that we are allowed 4 STaCs in a calendar year - 2 can be Royal STaCs (Gold, Red, Silver, Black) - the other 2 are Silver only.

We can decide which 2 are designated as Royal STaCs, and this is easy to update as long as we do so with enough notice. I suppose we could make them all Silver only, but a casual check of other Districts seems to indicate that most follow this “2 and 2” format (which I prefer).

I will submit our sanctions for 2027 in the coming weeks - the only thing that needs to be firm is the actual dates (Royal/Silver determination can be made later).

Financial Aspects of STaCs:

There is a history here, and I don’t know all the details but John Nothdurft and Pat Civale likely know all the details about past financial policies. The current policy is much simpler compared to previous policies.

I believe there used to be a “bump up” in rebate per table if a STaC was of a certain size, which encouraged larger tournaments. I think the current policy is a flat rebate per table, so no financial incentive for hitting a certain threshold.

Combining STaCs with D6:

There is no financial incentive to combine our STaCs with D6, and there would be additional logistical considerations if we wanted to do so (agreeing on dates, pigmentation, whether playing directors can get awards, etc.)

I haven't reached out to D6 to coordinate the combination of STaCs - and D6 has not reached out to me. I believe most people are OK with our current schedule and format.

The proposed 2027 schedule is as follows:
February 1-7: D4 only, silver point STaC
May 3-9: D4 only, Royal STaC
July 26-August 1: D4 only, silver point STaC
November 15-21: D4 only, Royal STaC

CHARITY

Lois Fuini (not present)

Four Units applied for and received grants for a deserving not-for-profit organization. They included Unit 112, Unit 121, Unit 133, and Unit 141. The check presentations, with large printed checks, were photographed and sent to ACBL as part of the publicity, required by the grant guidelines.

FINANCE

Dan Boye

I will be receiving additional information from John as he recently met with Pat Civale to review various items.

D4 Current Banking situation is as follows:

Business adv Relationship Checking (0%)	\$21,754.01
Business adv Savings (0.04%)	\$65,574.29
Flexible CD renews 2027-2-14 (2.47%)	\$53,759.36

Outstanding checks to be sent out:

GNT reimbursement	\$9,200.00
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Tournament Results:

I/N Regional lost \$1,700 due to participation being lower than expected.
Rehoboth gained \$23-\$25k (depending applying district free plays and other expenses).

NAP and GNT

Louis Glasthal (not present)

GNT Finals were held this March, with attendance roughly consistent with that over the past two years (33 tables vs. 34 tables in 2025 and 32 tables in 2024).

NAP Finals are scheduled for the weekends of October 3-4 and 24-25. NAP Conditions of Contest have been approved and are available on the ACBL website (or can be obtained from Lou Glasthal). Locations and dates for the Open/A/B flights are as follows:

Open -- October 3-4 at Game Friendly (Cherry Hill, NJ)

A – October 24 at Harrisburg BC

B – October 3 at Harrisburg BC, North Penn BC, and Canandaigua BC

Flight C will be held on October 24 at all locations wishing to host a game, provided that they can guarantee at least 5 tables of eligible players. Clubs that have already expressed an interest are:

- Harrisburg BC
- North Penn BC
- Game Friendly
- Rochester (exact location TBD)

Anyone else who might have an interest in hosting should reach out to me for more information.

John Nothdurft asked if stipends will remain unchanged this year. No changes are planned, but stipends for pairs are provided by the ACBL; the district subsidizes teams. Jeanne Gehret noted that there is no need for these games to self-fund; part of revenue from Regionals can do this.

Jay Apfelbaum repeated his plea for the NAP open flight be given two days regardless of how many sign up, because four sessions are needed to ensure that D4 sends its best three pairs to the nationals. Dan Boye pointed out the difficulty of playing two days for players from distant parts of the district.

EDUCATION (South)

John Dickenson (not present)

In the southern part of D4 are two clubs that have shown a remarkable ability to create new players and, in fact, Harrisburg Bridge Club and King of Prussia Bridge Club ended up in the top 25 face to face clubs in the ACBL in 2025, as measured by table count. I had originally planned to visit HBC to learn about their best practices and then take the show on the road and educate other clubs in D4 on best practices for education and growth, but all this became unnecessary when Bronia Jenkins and Joanne Glasson gave me the opportunity to present to all the club managers in the ACBL during a regular Club Managers meeting on Zoom.

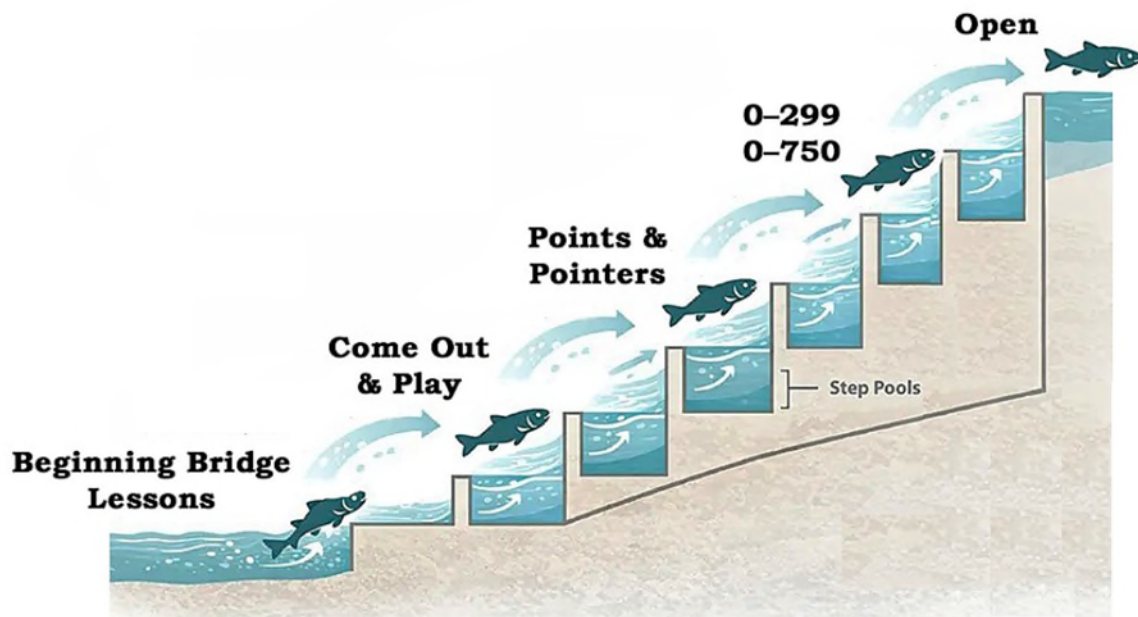
Some basic facts that almost should not have to be stated are these:

- 1) If you run beginner bridge classes but do not provide a safe, non-threatening “landing area” for the graduates, you may as well not teach. You cannot expect a recent graduate to go play in a 0-1500 game, those are shark infested waters for a beginning player.

- 2) If you provide safe spaces such as supervised play sessions and true limited games such as 0-100, but do not fill the top of the funnel by teaching large numbers of “never evers”, you will be running 2 and 3 table safe space events forever.

Returning to the concept of a funnel – from Dennis Shaub of U168 we learned of the strategy of using local libraries to attract students. We offer a 6-week free beginning bridge class at a local library. The library promotes the class for us and we typically sell out a 10-table classroom. We teach from Audrey Grant's Bridge Basics I. The next two lesson series, BB2 and BB3, are offered at our club and the students pay a nominal \$20 per class. We generally find that of the 40 students who signed up for the free series, around 14 continue to BB2 and around 12 remain for BB3 – thus the importance of attracting large numbers of students at the top of the funnel! By the time the students complete BB3, they have an ACBL number, a filled out basic convention card, and a name tag for our club.

In the presentation we highlighted the concept of a fish ladder, whereby salmon



can circumvent a dam by leaping in measured steps of a few feet, ultimately reaching the top.

The students move up the ladder from beginning bridge classes to supervised play to Points and Pointers, a unique 0-100 barometer game where an instructor goes over every board right after it is played. We insist they join ACBL as guest members and when they get their first master points they are hooked. From Points and Pointers they move to a TRUE limited game, 0-300. Along the way we run Pro Am games and a Mentor program where a novice gets paired with an experienced duplicate player. We signed up 46 pairs for our initial Mentor program and have 56 pairs signed up for the program starting in July. These events allow beginners to get to know our experienced players and vice versa.

Applying all of these Best Practices, most shamelessly “stolen” from other clubs, units and districts, has allowed KOPBC to grow from 400 tables a quarter in Q4 2021 right after our founding to 400 tables a month currently and become the 14th largest face to face club in the ACBL (2026 year to date). It should be noted also that Harrisburg Bridge Club, which follows pretty much the same playbook, in 2025 hosted an astonishing 130% of the tables they had in 2019 before the COVID pandemic – a feat perhaps unmatched by any other club in the ACBL. KOPBC did not exist before September 2021, so we used as a baseline the table counts of a for profit club that operated in the same physical location. Using that metric, KOPBC finished 2025 at 78% of pre-COVID table counts. Five other clubs in the region are back to 1/3 to 1/2 of pre-COVID table counts.

	2024	2025
	Percent of 2019	
Harrisburg	120%	130%
Club A	33%	34%
Club B	48%	50%
KOPBC	66%	78%
Club C	45%	43%
Club D	34%	35%
Club E	37%	40%

We are hosting a copy of our Best Practices presentation [here](#).

Rex Saffer (attending as the Philadelphia Regional Chair) was asked to write up some of this information and his work for I/N encouragement such as barometer games and “points and pointers” games for the 4Spot.

Mark Cohen noted that some problems with the recent I/N sectional at North Penn will be addressed in the upcoming Unit 141 Board meeting.

EDUCATION (North)

Sally Swing (not present)

Bridge clubs come in various sizes with different resources, but they are all facing a decline in table counts. Betty Youman, Unit 112, has identified that not only are we challenged by declining numbers we are also challenged with instructors and support services to attract and advance new players.

We have reached out to ACBL and ABTA to assist us as we are searching for the best way to move forward. Betty Youmans, Jim Patton, John Dickenson, and I met with Ala Hamilton-Day during the Finger Lakes Regional to search out possible interventions to address this issue. After much discussion we did not feel offering a Best Practice Workshop at this time to be the solution and we are

going to consult with ABCL and ABTA to offer an online Best Practice Course. Ala Hamilton-Day and John Dickenson will consult with Bronia Jenkins and Stephanie Threkeld as we make plans. We look for your support and encouragement in recruiting participants for the Best Practice Workshop.

Unit 112 is conducting an initial survey to identify the individual clubs and community services that are currently providing basic bridge instruction, frequency of classes, and availability of credentialed instructors. From this fact-finding review, we will identify other challenges clubs are facing and bring together resources to address them.

John Dickensen has provided a wealth of information and ideas for integrating new and returning bridge players into the game. We must also appreciate the dynamics of our clubs and provide added support to aid them as they consider undertaking new initiatives.

The ACBL is recognizing that social bridge players can be an added asset. Adding non-sanctioned and or a social game attracts players who want to play in a less competitive environment but may at some time develop an interest to branch out and give duplicate a try. I will be identifying clubs that may have or do have social games as part of their program and the challenges and successes they encountered and share with the District in the upcoming months.

Joann Glasson endorsed John Dickenson's idea to push the ACBL to make a bridge teacher education program available online instead of only at tournaments. Potential teachers are reluctant to travel just for the course.

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER

Linda O'Malley (not present)

Overview:

Based on feedback from Units, the following strategies are working to both encourage **I/N** growth:

- Continue to offer regular lessons followed by supervised play.
- Offer Pro-Am and/or mentor/mentee opportunities to help newer players make the shift into a duplicate game.
- Offer limited games with "chips" to ask a question.
- Offer intermediate and novice games.
- Continue offering **I/N** Sectionals - the costs are lower than a Regional and the newer players are comfortable playing in a familiar setting (local club)
- Introduce 1/N players to team games at the local level and then encourage them to play at a sectional or regional.
- Offer a free entry to a team game at a regional for those who have played in a Unit sectional (costs covered by the local Unit)

2026 I/N Tournaments (8 total):

- Fairport (Rochester) Sectional in March had an average of 8.5 tables.
- Cherry Hill's **I/N** Regional tournament in April was well attended, averaging 20 tables for the duplicate games. They plan to offer another Regional in the spring.
- Jenkintown's 199er 1-day Sectional tournament had 16 tables in the morning, 13 in the afternoon.
- Upcoming 1/N tournaments:
 - North Wales Sectional 6/20
 - Fairport (Rochester) Sectional 9/4-9/5
 - Oswego Sectional 9/19-9/20
- Last year, D4 offered 11 I/N tournaments, with Harrisburg offering 4.

TOURNAMENTS

Jeanne Gehret

The Tournaments committee endorses a proposal initiated by Kim Holm to address equipment purchase, replacement and storage, which will be addressed under New Business. A detailed presentation appears at the end of this agenda.

Our tournaments are growing in D4, which is not the norm. We believe our efforts at hospitality, food, and so forth are responsible for this growth. Unfortunately, other districts are hard to convince.

TOURNAMENT REPORTS:

Lancaster (Oct 27-Nov 1, 2025)

Jeanne Gehret

Most information was reported in October 2025. Final numbers:

Year:	2025	2024	2023	2022
Tables	1123	1191	1244.5	1052.5
Adjusted income	\$7808.44	\$4538.55	\$4102.07	\$8172.31

We will not increase fees this year, keeping the session fee at \$23, but will probably increase to at least \$25 next year. We do not expect much profit, though a new kickback on hotel rooms will help some.

Harrisburg (Nov 22-23, 2025)

Bob Priest (not present)

Harrisburg was a Rainbow weekend with Friday as a Unit 168 NLM Sectional with a local director, then Saturday/Sunday as the D4 NLM Regional. The exaggerated income from the Sectional was used to pay for all duplicating and food for the entire weekend.

The Regional events had a total of 66.5 tables. The D4 weekend's total income after expenses was \$1845, or 43.7% of all income received.

Philadelphia I/N (April 10-12, 2026)

John Nothdurft and Mark Cohen

This three-day event was our first I/N Regional in the Philadelphia area in recent memory. From a player perspective, the tournament was a success with a 96% approval rate.

We averaged a low 20s table count for Friday and Saturday, then fell down to 11 tables for Sunday's team event, which was less than projected (25 for pairs and 15 for teams). Perhaps I/N players find it difficult to play three days in a row.

With a reduced \$18 entry fee (as opposed to other regionals being \$25+), we lost slightly less than \$1800 due to misjudging ACBL director costs and pre-spending too much on hospitality based on table count projections. The monetary loss on this tournament can be seen in part as both a marketing expense and a learning experience. With more experience and data to go off of, income and expenses issues can easily be fixed for future events.

The I/N program is of utmost importance to the survival of tournaments going forward. Unit 141 alone currently has 1,617 current players below Life Master level, so providing an opportunity for them to possibly win gold is of importance to us. Many of these players were first time tournament attendees, expressing feedback showing comfort playing in an NLM-only event.

Rehoboth Beach (April 27-May 1, 2026)

Kim Holm

By most accounts the Rehoboth Beach tournament was a success. Attendance was up 14% over 2025. We had attendees from 17 states and six countries. Our recommendation rate was 97%. Abbreviated statistics:

Year:	2026	2025	2024	2023
Tables	1102	971	849	
Adjusted income	\$23274.77	\$5240.52	\$15283.19	\$(2784.98)

We are currently working on room blocks for 2027. Will be posting a flyer on the ACBL website asap.

Finger Lakes (June 8-12, 2026)

Gerry Steenberge (not present)

June 8-12, 2026 the newest District 4 'Destination' Regional was held in Penn Yan, NY overlooking the northern shoreline of Keuka Lake. The Tournament was a huge success; players raved about:

- The Location
- The Seasons on Keuka Lake venue
- The Tournament Directors
- *Everything!*

Table Count: 694... more than 2X from a year ago when held at a suburb of Rochester

Attendees: 451... with 91% of the players earning masterpoints

Geographic Reach: 21 States + 2 Provinces

Post Event Survey Feedback: A (4 categories) + B+ (3 categories)

2027 Dates: Mon - Fri, Sept 13-17

Max Daily Session Tables: 75.5 occurred on Wednesday PM 6/10.

Room for Growth: DIC (and TC) now agree *venue can support 100 Tables*

Financials: *Still being finalized but expected to be in the red this year in part due to renting a tent with portable air conditioning as a contingency plan in case we needed more space than Seasons had available and the DIC had approved.*

Jeanne Gehret added some lessons learned. The venue can fit considerably more tables than we realized originally. The DIC (Rui) has agreed that we can use fewer directors. The venue's lunch portions were so generous that we can probably cut back on food orders next time.

Betty Youmans described some efforts to encourage I/N participation. Clubs held preliminary games and offered participating players a free team play at the regional, paid for by the Unit. More than 140 players were eligible. She also pointed out that night games were well attended. Aggressive sponsorship recruitment, including a grant from Yates County tourism, brought in about \$8700.

OLD BUSINESS

Ala Hamilton-Day

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ala Hamilton-Day

A detailed presentation from Jeanne Gehret, appended below, introduced two proposals that were converted to motions and passed as follows:

1. The Tournaments Committee is authorized to evaluate the district's current equipment stored at InnerSpace and with the Executive

Committee's approval to purchase such equipment as reasonably necessary.

2. The Tournaments Committee is authorized to purchase approximately \$14,700 of new tables, bidding boxes and fitted tablecloths for the Rehoboth Beach Regional as described in the attached presentation, and to arrange for local storage for this equipment.

Equipment for Valley Forge and Lancaster will remain at InnerSpace. Finger Lakes uses tables borrowed from clubs in the Rochester area.

Richard Popper suggested checking with District 6 to see if some kind of equipment sharing might be advantageous. Jeanne Gehret agreed to make contact.

Kim Holm asserted that one reason Rehoboth Beach raised prices this year was to pay for motion 2. Jim McKeown noted that the payback is around 10 years, though this does not include savings in time and effort by tournament volunteers.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE MEETING & ADJOURNAMENT

The Lancaster Board meeting and elections will be held October 30, 2026.

A motion to adjourn was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM EDT.

Submitted by Bill Herdle, D4 Secretary
Draft 1, 2026-6-22

DRAFT Minutes for June 22, 206 ACBL District 4 Board Meeting (by Zoom)
Draft 2, 2026-7-3

Proposed 2027 Tournament Schedule

W/E	2027	DATE	LOCATION	TYPE	NAME	ORG	SANC	NOTES
2-3	Jan							1. New Year's Day
9-10	Jan	8-10	Philadelphia, PA	Sectional	New Year's at Bala Sectional	141	2701329	
16-17	Jan							
23-24	Jan	17-21?	SUFFERN, NY	REGIONAL	JOAN GERARD REGIONAL	D3	na	
30-31	Jan	30-31?	D4 GNT Finals?	GNT	GNT Finals	D4	?	
6-7	Feb	1-7?	D4 StaC?	STaC	D4 Winter STaC	D4	?	
13-14	Feb	13-14?	D4 GNT Finals?	GNT	GNT Finals	D4	?	14. Superbowl
20-21	Feb	19-21?	Wilmington, DE	Sectional	Blue Hen Sectional	190	tentative	
27-28	Feb	27-28?	D4 GNT Finals	GNT	GNT Finals	D4	reserved	
6-7	Mar	5-7	Edison, NJ	Sectional		D3	na	
	Mar	5-7?	D4 GNT Finals	GNT	GNT Finals	D4	reserved	
13-14	Mar	10-21	DALLAS TX	NABC	SPRING NABC	ACBL	na	14. Daylight Saving Time
20-21	Mar	10-21	DALLAS TX	NABC	SPRING NABC	ACBL	na	
27-28	Mar	23-24?	Hagerstown, MD	Sectional	Hagerstown Sectional	168	tentative	28. Easter
3-4	Apr	2-4?	Philadelphia, PA	Sectional	Spring into PCBA Sectional	141	tentative	
10-11	Apr	10-11	Edison, NJ	Sectional		D3	na	
	Apr	9-10?	Scranton, PA	Sectional	Northeastern PA Local Sect.	120	tentative	
17-18	Apr	17-18	Rochester, NY	Sectional	Rochester Spring Sectional	112	2704314	
24-25	Apr	19-25	GATLINBURG, TN	REGIONAL		D7	na	21-29. Passover
	Apr	26-30	REHOBOTH BEACH, DE	REGIONAL	BRIDGE AT THE BEACH	D4	2704102	
1-2	May							
8-9	May	3-9?	D4 StaC?	STaC	D4 Spring STaC	D4	?	9. Mother's Day
15-16	May	14-16	Allentown, PA	Sectional	U133 Spring Sectional	133	2705320	
22-23	May							
	May	21-23	Edison, NJ	Sectional		D3	na	
29-30	May							31. Memorial Day
5-6	Jun	4-6	Boalsburg, PA	Sectional	State College Spring Sectional	217	2706313	
12-13	Jun							
19-20	Jun	13-17	FAIRFIELD, NJ	REGIONAL	FAIRFIELD REGIONAL	D3	na	20. Father's Day
26-27	Jun	21-27	KING OF PRUSSIA, PA	REGIONAL	PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL	D4	2706103	
3-4	Jul							4. Independence Day
10-11	Jul	10-11	Rochester, NY	Sectional	Rochester Summer Sectional	112	2707307	
17-18	Jul	14-25	LAS VEGAS NV	NABC	SUMMER NABC	ACBL	na	
24-25	Jul	14-25	LAS VEGAS NV	NABC	SUMMER NABC	ACBL	na	
31-1	Aug	7/26-1?	D4 StaC?	STaC	D4 Summer STaC	D4	?	
7-8	Aug							
14-15	Aug	13-15	Edison, NJ	Sectional		D3	na	
	Aug	13-14?	Scranton, PA	Sectional	Northeastern PA Local Sect.	120	tentative	
21-22	Aug							
28-29	Aug							
4-5	Sept							6. Labor Day
11-12	Sept	10-12	Allentown, PA	Sectional	U133 Fall Sectional	133	reserved	
18-19	Sept	13-17	PENN YAN, NY	REGIONAL	FINGER LAKES REGIONAL	D4	2709107	
25-26	Sept	24-26?	Cherry Hill, NJ	Sectional	Fall PCBA Unit 141 Sectional	141	tentative	
2-3	Oct	3-4?	D4 NAP Finals?	NAP	NAP Finals?	D4	?	1-3. Rosh Hashanah
9-10	Oct	8-10?	Wilmington, DE	Sectional	Diamond State Sectional	190	tentative	10-11. Yom Kippur
	Oct	9-10?	D4 NAP Finals?	Sectional	NAP Finals?	D4	?	
16-17	Oct	15-17?	Wilmington, DE	Sectional	Diamond State Sectional	190	tentative	
	Oct	16-17	D4 NAP Finals	Sectional	NAP Finals?	D4	reserved	
	Oct	15-17	Edison, NJ	Sectional		D3	na	
23-24	Oct	23-24	Rochester, NY	Sectional	Rochester Fall Sectional	112	2710315	
30-31	Oct	25-31	MANHEIM, PA	REGIONAL	LANCASTER REGIONAL	D4	2710101	
6-7	Nov	6-7	D4 NAP Finals	NAP	NAP Finals	D4	reserved	7. Daylight Saving Time
13-14	Nov	13-14	TBA, NY	Sectional	Finger Lakes Sectional		2711312	
20-21	Nov	15-21?	D4 StaC?	STaC	D4 Fall StaC?	D4	?	
27-28	Nov	25-12/5	SEATTLE WA	NABC	FALL NABC	ACBL	na	25. Thanksgiving
4-5	Dec	11/25-5	SEATTLE WA	NABC	FALL NABC	ACBL	na	
11-12	Dec	10-12?	Wilmington, DE	Sectional	Dave Treadwell Sectional	190	tentative	
18-19	Dec							24-31. Hanukah
25-26	Dec							25. Christmas



DISTRICT 4 REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

**EQUIPMENT STORAGE, REPLACEMENT
and PURCHASE RECOMMENDATION**

JUNE 22, 2026

OVERVIEW

- **Request Board approval of ~\$14,700 expenditure** for new tables, bidding boxes and fitted tablecloths for the Rehoboth Beach Regional
 - Equipment to support Rehoboth Beach Regional
 - 170 Tables: \$7,200
 - 680 bidding boxes: \$6,800
 - Fitted tablecloths (elastic edge): \$700



CURRENT SITUATION

- **Regional Equipment Storage:** Card Tables (137), Bidding Boxes (enough for 190 tables), Cases of Boards (100), Stanchions for Section letters, Miscellaneous Additional Items
- **Storage Vendor:** InnerSpace (Northwest Philadelphia) – monthly storage fee + delivery/pick-up charge based on truck size, time, mileage, and tolls incurred
 - Expenses: \$400/mo storage fee (\$4,800/yr)
 - Equipment Delivery/Pickup Fees for Regionals:
 - Rehoboth Beach: \$4,300 (Sunday delivery)
 - Philadelphia (KoP): \$2,300
 - Lancaster: \$2,500
 - Total Annual Expense: \$13,900



Generally works well, except when long-distance and/or weekend deliveries incur upcharges and overtime pay charges, making the service significantly more expensive for the Rehoboth Beach Regional

CHALLENGES TO REHOBOTH BEACH

- **DISTANCE**: 260 miles round trip from InnerSpace to Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. This is nearly 100 miles longer than the round trip distance to Spooky Nook Sports (Lancaster).
- **VENUE RESTRICTIONS**: Convention Center cannot take delivery prior to Sunday, resulting in weekend and overtime delivery fees, and elevating the cost of pickup/delivery services to \$4,300 or more.
- **COST REDUCTION EFFORT**: To avoid this \$4,300 expenditure, Rehoboth Beach volunteers currently rent a truck and perform equipment pickup and delivery themselves. This is a significant stress on volunteers and is not sustainable for the long-term due to aging volunteer population.



EQUIPMENT STORAGE RECOMMENDATION

- **Maintain** InnerSpace storage for use by Philadelphia and Lancaster. Annual cost would be \$9,600.

- Storage: \$400/mo (\$4,800/yr)
- Pickup & Delivery: \$4,800 (KoP & Lancaster)



- **Engage** with Delaware vendor for Rehoboth Beach Regional. 5-year contracted price would be \$2,900/year:

- Storage: \$200/mo (\$2,400/yr)
- Pickup & Delivery: \$500/yr

Total storage & delivery costs with 2 locations = **\$12,500** (savings of \$1,400 over current charges for 3 regionals – details on pg.3)

WHAT ABOUT EXISTING EQUIPMENT?

Tables: ~137 Tables. Many refurbished and most are 20+ years old. 9 new tables were purchased in 2025. Condition of tables are on the continuum between mediocre and woeful, most having either torn tops and wobbly legs, or both.

- **Issue:** Current size of Philadelphia and Lancaster Regionals suggests 150 tables are needed
- **Action:** Increase inventory to 150 tables, with replacement/purchase plan to be developed for Executive Committee action following formal assessment process.

Bidding Boxes: All were dishwasher cleaned for 2026 Rehoboth Beach Regional. Box condition is good to fair. Insert condition – most are excellent/very good. Some are poor.

- **Issue:** Too much inventory. 760 bidding boxes, enough for 190 tables.
- **Action:** Reduce active bidding box inventory to 150 tables worth. During assessment process, inserts that are deemed sticky or damaged will be removed, and the boxes taken out of circulation.

Assessment Process:

- Concurrent with Philadelphia Regional, August 2026 – volunteer group will perform assessment of existing table and bidding box condition.

Next Steps:

- Based on assessment, a recommendation for table replacement purchase to be developed for Board or Executive Committee action.



SUMMARY

Approval is requested for the following expenditures to support the Rehoboth Beach Regional:

- Engage vendor in Delaware at annual cost of \$2,900 for storage, delivery and pickup of equipment
- Tables: purchase 170 at a cost of \$7,200
- Bidding Boxes: purchase 170 sets (for 170 tables), at a cost of \$6,800
- Fitted Tablecloths: enough for 170 tables = \$700 (will be used at all D4 Regionals)

Schedule existing equipment assessment for August 2026 (equipment used by Philadelphia and Lancaster Regionals). The goal of the assessment is as follows:

- Develop and present a recommendation to the Board or Executive Committee for the purchase of card tables to replace those deemed unsafe and/or unusable, and bringing the table inventory up to 150 tables
- Bidding box active inventory will have been reduced to enough for 150 tables; thereby eliminating the effort and expense of maintaining excess stock



ACBL – District 4 Treasurer’s Report

June 2026 Meeting

Included:

- Balance Sheet – as of 6/6/26 (*preliminary*)
- Income Statement – June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026 (*preliminary*)

Tournament Reports:

- I/N Regional – Cherry Hill (April 10-12, 2026)
 - Small loss of \$1,794
- Rehoboth Regional – Rehoboth Beach (April 27-May 1, 2026)
 - Incredible gain of \$25,661

Notes/Comments:

- John Nothdurft is the new Treasurer; former Treasurer Pat Civalé has been a wonderful help in mentoring during the transition (this is not an easy position to staff)
- Our cash position is strong and stable since the previous meeting
- We renewed our CD in February 2026
- National reserve fund balance still at \$80K, although with as much as the ACBL controls the finances, it might not need to be that high
- Finger Lakes Regional is happening from June 8-12 and Philadelphia Regional from August 3-9 ... should have more revenue by the end of summer (the dates for both summer Regionals were moved around this year due to the World Cup)
- GNT / NAP “losses” revolve around the subsidies given to players
 - GNT Nationals are July 8-19, subsidy checks to follow

Concerns:

- We’re going to have to invest in a Quickbooks subscription; there is no work-around for new purchases. Pat Civalé has been nice enough to continue using her old copy of the program for now, but that will not work on a long-term basis. It’s \$38/month for the lowest tier subscription (1 user; basic reports and bank integrations), and we might have the ability to get it anywhere from 30-50% off through our contacts. This is an expense we haven’t had before since standalone copies used to work without a subscription, but frustratingly one that we need to commit to in order to keep good records and continue to have access to our historical records.

Questions:

Please contact me directly: John Nothdurft (856-534-7252)

4:07 PM

06/06/26

Cash Basis

District 4 - ACBL, Inc.

Balance Sheet

As of June 6, 2026

	Jun 6, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Bank of America - Savings Acct.	20,574.29
Cash - Bank of America	68,896.83
CD - Bank of America	53,759.36
Franni Stutman Fund	-1,202.00
Total Checking/Savings	142,028.48
Other Current Assets	
Tournament advances	
Lancaster	2,685.00
New York	25,981.25
Valley Forge	20,400.00
Total Tournament advances	49,066.25
Total Other Current Assets	49,066.25
Total Current Assets	191,094.73
TOTAL ASSETS	191,094.73
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
District fund balance	117,119.34
National reserve fund balance	80,000.00
Retained earnings	-6,024.61
Total Equity	191,094.73
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	191,094.73

PRELIM
6/6/26

4:07 PM
06/06/26
Cash Basis

District 4 - ACBL, Inc.
Profit & Loss
June 2025 through May 2026

	Jun '25 - May 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
ACBL Grass Roots Fund	4,044.64
District STAC	4,253.85
GNT Income	6,265.00
Interest income	1,495.61
Miscellaneous Income	50.00
NAP Income	3,808.30
Nationals, net	1,547.41
NLM Harrisburg	1,844.60
Regionals	
I/N Cherry Hill	-1,794.61
Rehoboth Beach	25,861.27
Rochester, net	-3,773.81
Total Regionals	20,092.85
Total Income	43,402.26
Expense	
Achievement awards	300.00
Franchise tax	25.00
GNT Expenses	16,730.64
Insurance	94.00
Meeting Expense	1,878.60
NAP Expense	6,833.77
Office Expense	130.55
Officers and chairmen	3,727.39
Promotional and incidental	1,063.04
Supplies	1,414.28
Table storage	2,400.00
Teacher Training Course	375.00
Total Expense	34,972.27
Net Ordinary Income	8,429.99
Net Income	8,429.99

PRELIM
6/6/26

District 4 I/N Regional

Dates: April 10-12, 2026
Location: Cherry Hill, NJ (Game Friendly)
TC: John Nothdurft
TC: Mark Cohen
PC: Pam Scalamandre
DiC: Rui Marques
DA: Brendan O'Malley

Table Count:

Friday AM
 Friday PM
 Saturday AM
 Saturday PM
 Sunday AM
 Sunday PM

Projected	Actual
25.0	23.0
25.0	21.5
25.0	21.0
25.0	19.5
15.0	11.0
15.0	11.0
130.0	107.0
\$9,360.00	\$7,704.00
\$0.00	(\$27.00)
\$9,360.00	\$7,677.00
(\$1,650.00)	(\$1,650.00)
\$0.00	(\$585.00)
\$0.00	(\$300.00)
(\$50.00)	(\$45.88)
(\$50.00)	(\$25.00)
(\$1,750.00)	(\$2,605.88)
(\$1,260.00)	\$0.00
\$0.00	\$0.00
\$0.00	\$0.00
(\$50.00)	\$0.00
(\$50.00)	\$0.00
(\$1,360.00)	\$0.00
(\$900.00)	(\$900.00)
\$0.00	\$0.00
\$0.00	\$0.00
(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
\$0.00	\$0.00
(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)

Card Fees: \$18/session
 Free Plays/Refunds

Director: Rui Marques
 (Director-in-Charge)

Director Fees
 Hotel
 Food
 Travel
 Other Expenses

Director: Alan Holdsblott
 (Associate Tournament Director)

Director Fees
 Hotel
 Food
 Travel
 Other Expenses

Director: Brendan O'Malley
 (Local Sectional Director)

Director Fees
 Hotel
 Food
 Travel
 Other Expenses

Food & Hospitality:	Basic Food Selection District Add-On Based on Feedback	(\$2,600.00)	(\$2,440.17)
		\$0.00	(\$407.56)
		(\$2,600.00)	(\$2,847.73)
Marketing:	Unit 141 District 4	\$0.00	\$0.00
		(\$180.00)	(\$180.00)
		(\$180.00)	(\$180.00)
Other Expenses:	Sanction: \$4/table Lessons Hand Records Board Creation Rent	(\$520.00)	(\$428.00)
		\$0.00	\$0.00
		(\$60.00)	(\$60.00)
		(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)
		(\$2,400.00)	(\$2,400.00)
		(\$3,280.00)	(\$3,188.00)
Donations:	West Deptford BC District 3 - Orange EF	\$500.00	\$500.00
		(\$250.00)	(\$150.00)
		\$250.00	\$350.00
Net Profit/(Loss):	I/N Regional		
		(\$560.00)	(\$1,794.61)

Check #	Explanation	Debit	Credit
1579	Mark Cohen - Flyers	\$ 180.00	
1586	Game Friendly - Down Payment	\$ 3,200.00	
1592	Brendan O'Malley - Director	\$ 1,000.00	
1595	John Nothdurft - Refund	\$ 36.00	
1593	Nurit Maur - Refund	\$ 18.00	
	ACBL after Expenses		\$ 4,697.12
1594	Game Friendly - Final Payment	\$ 2,000.17	
	West Deptford BC Donation		\$ 500.00
2003	John Nothdurft - Sunday Lunch	\$ 407.56	
2005	D3: Orange Education Foundation Donation	\$ 150.00	
		\$ 6,991.73	\$ 5,197.12
		TOTAL	\$ (1,794.61)
		NET PROFIT	(\$1,794.61)
		DIFFERENCE	\$ -

Rehoboth Beach	April 27 - May 1, 2026	April 28 - May 3, 2025	April 29 - May 4, 2024	May 1-5, 2023	May 2-6, 2022
Income	\$ 121,440.00	\$ 96,645.00	\$ 84,090.00	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 42,539.00
Less: Free Plays	4,125.00	3,225.00	3,575.00	4,060.00	3,460.00
Adjusted Income	\$ 117,315.00	\$ 93,420.00	\$ 80,515.00	\$ 51,140.00	\$ 39,079.00
Expenses					
ACBL					
Directors' Fees	\$ 16,310.00	\$ 16,860.00	\$ 12,480.00	\$ 11,678.50	\$ 6,019.00
Dir. - trans, hotel, f	10,061.23	10,034.98	7,220.81	6,880.50	4,014.04
Sanction	6,061.00	5,340.50	4,664.00	3,512.32	2,472.13
Hand Records	-	-	-	-	150.00
Supplies	(75.00)	713.00	-	-	318.00
Venue	8,560.00	7,800.00	5,550.00	8,307.37	4,875.00
Tournament Staff	1,064.00	1,874.00	683.00	1,781.94	2,557.00
Hospitality	39,740.50	34,387.00	26,948.00	16,615.58	12,393.00
Tables	3,000.00	4,120.00	1,995.00	2,800.00	2,825.00
Boards & Duplication	977.00	-	708.00	630.00	535.00
Caddies	2,040.00	1,820.00	1,500.00	500.00	720.00
Advertising/Stickers	371.00	95.00	180.00	218.77	246.00
Supplies	452.00	1,798.00	238.00	-	682.00
Fast Results	400.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Entertainment	2,692.00	-	300.00	800.00	621.00
Total Expenses	91,653.73	85,042.48	\$ 62,666.81	\$ 53,924.98	38,627.17
Net Income	\$ 25,661.27	\$ 8,377.52	\$ 17,848.19	\$ (2,784.98)	\$ 451.83
Total Tables	1102	971	849		
Director Sessions	85.0	56.5	50		
Tables per Director	17.0	17.2	16.9		
Note: D4 Expenses					
Supplies	-	1,145.00	32.00		
Free Plays	1,457.50	1,200.00	1,200.00		
Officers' Expenses	929.00	792.00	1,333.00		
After D4 Expenses	\$ 23,274.77	\$ 5,240.52	\$ 15,283.19	\$ (2,784.98)	\$ 451.83