

**021 NABC - Houston, TX
ITT COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING
Sunday, March 10, 2002, 10:30 A.M.**

Michael Becker, ITTC Chairman conducted the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Las Vegas, NV Fall 2001 NABC meeting were approved.

Internet Broadcast of 2002 USBC

Becker was reminded to pursue broadcasting the trials via Fred Gitelman's Internet site.

2002 Conditions of Contest

Appendix P was discussed in detail. Modifications plus additional changes over the previous version were approved. Wildavsky offered to provide a detailed, cleaner presentation of Appendix P.

It was agreed that the COCs should contain a statement that the Trials are governed by the ACBL interpretation of The Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Titles, rather than specific names will be used in the Conditions.

The Committee approved the COCs as amended. If possible, the COCs will be published on the USBF by the end of March.

The USBC is an officially sanctioned ACBL tournament, giving masterpoints. As such, ACBL may initiate its own disciplinary inquiries resulting from incidents at a USBC. Such an inquiry would likely begin at the District level with a possible referral to the ACBL Appeals and Charges Committee or the ACBL Ethical Oversight Committee.

The ACBL Board asked the USBF to conduct the Senior USBC even though it may be a multi-national event. Seniors will be asked to form a SITTC to review the format and conditions of the Senior USBC. Becker asked for volunteers.

There was no time for a thorough discussion of screen procedures and timing of tray passing, so the matter was tabled.

Future IOC Grand Prix - Team Selection

A straw poll of the ITTC expressed a slight preference for holding a competitive event or using an existing one for selecting future IOC Grand Prix teams. This is in preference to the USBF Board making the selection based on subjective criteria.

USBF Credentials Committee

The Committee agreed that the Credentials Committee should be composed of players familiar with but not actively playing in the trials. Swanson, Ross and Kears were suggested as were tournament directors. Becker asked for additional names.

The Credentials Committee should carefully process and diligently monitor new applications. After a few years of demonstrated compliance, such close monitoring may not be necessary. How to treat players who obtained resident status under the ACBL criteria was not discussed.

USBF Update

- A. **Salt Lake City**
In general, a big success with 30 USOC/IOC officials visiting the event, a large amount of media attention and an acceptable performance by the teams.
- B. **IOC/USOC**
The IOC meets in Mexico City in November 2002. Perhaps they will discuss whether Bridge becomes a medal sport and whether or not there should be a new, special indoor-games olympics.
Bridge players hope to meet – perhaps a luncheon meeting – with the USOC CEO.
The USBF may reapply for USOC membership after holding its first trials.
- C. **2003 Elections**
Candidates to serve on the USBF Board were sought for nomination.
- D. **Active Member Dues**
Establishing Active Member dues was done to cut the electorate to a decent size, have those who care about the trials be the voters and board members and perhaps raise some money from some who wish to support the USBF, vote and hold office but not play in the trials.
- E. **Donations**
To date, \$160,000 has been raised and there is hope for an additional \$100,000.
- F. **Financial Report**
Including donations, the USBF is currently in good shape financially. However, donations are not expected to continue and the USBF must find ways to support its operations on a continuing basis.
- G. **NABC Kickoff Charity Event - Philadelphia Spring 2003**
This event is under consideration with experts volunteering a session to play with patrons.
- H. **Web Site Update**
The USBF will soon have 2002 USBC entry information and COCs on its site.
- I. **Committee Formation**
Becker mentioned that the USBF is looking for volunteers to serve on its committees.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M.