

Dear Members of the Board of Governors:

The next meeting of the Board of Governors will be held on Sunday, July 29, 2018 at 10 AM in the Marriott Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia. The exact location of the meeting will be announced in the Daily Bulletin.

At this meeting, nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Governors for a two year term commencing January 1, 2019 will be made. I understand from Barbara Heller that she plans to run for re-election as Vice Chair, and I plan to run for re-election as Chair. The election will take place at the fall meeting in Honolulu.

The ACBL Board of Directors has passed two sets of amendments to the ACBL Bylaws on their first reading. One of these deals with term limits for members of the Board of Directors, and the other contains many “cleanup” provisions which are needed to comply with certain changes made to the New York Nonprofit Corporation Law. The ACBL is incorporated in New York State. If these amendments pass their second reading at the Board of Directors meeting in Atlanta, then they will be presented for a vote by the Board of Governors. It is very important that as many members as possible attend this meeting, so that we can be sure to have a quorum so as to be able to vote on the Bylaw amendments if passed by the BOD.

As always, if you wish to attend by proxy, please use the proxy form located at <http://www.acbl.org/bog-meeting-docs>. You must sign the proxy form yourself, and the holder of the proxy must present it at the meeting with your signature (photocopies and printed out email copies are acceptable). Your District Director cannot sign a proxy on your behalf.

If you wish to submit any motions at the meeting, please do so no later than July 20, 2018, and preferably before then. They should be submitted to [Kelley.Trejo@acbl.org](mailto:Kelley.Trejo@acbl.org) and to me at [rjapopper@verizon.net](mailto:rjapopper@verizon.net). The earlier these motions are submitted, the more chance I will have to make any appropriate editorial suggestions, which I will be happy to do regardless of whether I personally believe the motion should be passed. Please submit your motions using the issue sheet found here <http://www.acbl.org/bog-meeting-docs>.

Following the Philadelphia meeting of the Board of Governors, a task force consisting of Kevin Wilson, Stu Goodgold, Barbara Heller and I on behalf of the Board of Governors, and four District Directors including Margot Hennings, (Chair of the Board of Directors Governance Committee), Sharon Anderson, Phyllis Harlan, and AJ Stephani, was formed to discuss better coordination between the Board of Governors and Board of Directors. This task force has met twice by telephone and has exchanged multiple emails. It has also audited telephone calls of a Board of Directors task force which is considering various changes to how the ACBL is governed. Some of the changes from this Board of Directors Task Force will be presented as Discussion items and/or motions for the Atlanta meeting.

As of the time of this letter, no specific proposal has been finalized by either task force, but at least some of the proposals could meaningfully increase the role of the Board of Governors. In the interest of allowing the members of the Board of Governors as a whole to contribute to the conversation, I would like to encourage your input via email before Atlanta to the following topics, such as attendance at the BOG by proxies, continuing the process of

streamlining our motions, and consideration of a procedure of deferring complex motions, and instead assigning them to a committee of board of governors members who will study the relevant issue, and come up with a motion at the next meeting which is thoroughly thought out for consideration. The use of the Board of Governors Forum on Bridge Winners to vet issues can and does help improve our motions, but the formation of committees to do detailed study of issues might more impress the Board of Directors so as to give us a potential better success rate in getting our motions passed. Please send your emails on this to Barbara Heller, who is on the task force and is the Vice Chair of the Board of Governors. Her email address is bhellerb@gmail.com

I look forward to seeing you all in Atlanta.

Sincerely,

Richard J. A. Popper

Chair, Board of Governors