

BY-LAWS OF KANSAS STATE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

THE UNIT

The Kansas State Bridge Association, also known as ACBL Unit # 132 (the Unit), functions within the By-Laws and Regulations of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and its District.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION

The objectives of the organization are:

- (a) To preserve and promote the best interests of and to stimulate interest in the art of playing competitive duplicate contract bridge and any modifications thereof;
- (b) To cooperate with, and assist the ACBL in the promotion and conduct of contract bridge tournaments;
- (c) To encourage the highest standards of conduct and ethics by its members, and to enforce such standards;
- (d) To promote the development and organization of affiliated clubs within the Unit;
- (e) To cooperate in the ACBL District 15 charity program, and to sponsor and conduct charity events with the objective of realizing funds to be devoted to worthy humanitarian causes;
- (f) To conduct such other activities as may be in keeping with its principal objectives.

ARTICLE I

UNIT JURISDICTION

The geographical area within which this Unit shall have jurisdiction shall be such area as is presently or may in the future be assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any person residing within the jurisdiction of the Unit, subject to District regulations, is eligible for membership, and no person shall be denied membership because of race, creed, age, sex, national origin or disability.
- B. Such person, upon joining the ACBL, shall become and remain a member unless:
 - 1. He/she changes his/her residence to a place outside the jurisdiction of the Unit, in which case he/she shall become a member of the new Unit immediately on processing by the ACBL of his/her change of address.

2. He/she has failed to pay his/her dues in accordance with regulations of the ACBL;

3. He/she has been suspended or expelled from membership in accordance with regulations established by the ACBL, the Board of Directors of the Unit, provided, however, that such regulations shall conform to the rules of due process applicable to membership corporations, and that such regulations as are established by the Board of directors of the Unit shall not be in conflict with the regulations of the ACBL.

ARTICLE III

DUES

A. Annual dues shall be the amount named by ACBL payable as scheduled by the ACBL.

B. The Board of Directors shall have no power to levy any special assessment.

C. Any person elected to membership shall pay dues for the entire year without abatement.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1. The annual meeting of the members shall be held during the Annual Spring Tournament in Wichita, Kansas, on a day prior to the 15th of July each year.
2. The Board of Directors shall fix the time and place of the meeting and shall give notice by mail, email, or the tournament brochure of such meeting at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
3. Special Meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Board of Directors or by the President upon ten (10) days written to all members. The notice of any special meeting shall contain an Agenda of the matters to be taken up at such meeting.
4. A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual or special meeting shall consist of ten (10) members.

ARTICLE V

UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. **Number of Directors.** The affairs of the Unit shall be managed and conducted by the Board of Directors which shall consist of not less than ten (10) or more than twenty (20) members, all of whom must be members of the Unit. The Board shall consist of the Officers, the Immediate Past President, the President Emeritus, six elected members and four (4) members appointed by the President, and the two club owners of Wichita that report the largest receipts annually to the ACBL. The appointed members shall include

representatives from northwest Kansas, Southwest Kansas, North central Kansas, and Hutchinson.

2. **Term of Office.** The elected Directors shall hold office for a period of two (2) years. Three Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting of the members. All other Directors shall serve for a period of one (1) year concluding with the annual meeting of the members.
3. **Vacancies.** Any vacancy on the Board of Directors may be filled by the Board of Directors and the person so appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
4. **Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of one (1) meeting a year, the first of which shall be immediately after the Annual Membership Meeting for the purpose of transacting business as may come before it. The Secretary shall call a meeting of the Board of Directors at the request of the President or upon request in writing of ten (10) members. Members must be notified not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the proposed meeting
5. **Quorum.** A Quorum of the Board of Directors for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than five (5) Directors.
6. **Powers and Duties.** In addition to the powers granted by other provisions of these By-Laws and by the laws of the State of Kansas, the Board of Directors shall have the following powers and duties:
 - a. To acquire, hold, administer, maintain and dispose of all the property of the Association in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation.
 - b. To appropriate the funds of the Unit for the purpose set forth in these By-Laws.
 - c. To hire and discharge employees and to supervise their conduct and to fix their compensation.
 - d. To audit all receipts and disbursements of the Unit.
 - e. To conduct, manage, supervise and control all of the business of the Unit including but not limited to the conduct of tournaments, the selection of all dates and locations for holding such tournaments and the making of all contracts in connection therewith.
 - f. To censure, suspend, expel or otherwise discipline any member. No member shall be censured, suspended, expelled or otherwise disciplined until he/she has been furnished with written charges, to which he/she has time to reply or until after a hearing of which he/she has received reasonable notice. He/she may be represented by counsel. Disciplinary action may be appealed to the National Board of Directors. The right of a member against whom charges are pending to play in tournaments during such pendency shall not be affected unless otherwise directed by the Board.

ARTICLE VI

UNIT OFFICERS

1. **Number.** The Officers of the Unit shall consist of a President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer, and shall become members of the Board of Directors upon their election.
2. **Term of Office.** Each officer shall serve a term of one year beginning at the end of the Annual Spring Tournament.
3. **Vacancies.** Vacated Officer positions shall be filled by the Board of Directors.
4. **Duties.** The duties of the Officers shall be as outlined in the Regulations of the ACBL.

ARTICLE VII

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

1. **Nominations.** Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Hutchinson Tournament in January or by December 31 whichever comes earlier, The Board of Directors, shall select a Nominating Committee composed of three (3) persons, two (2) or more of which shall not be members of the current Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall meet prior to the Hutchinson Tournament and shall prepare a slate of Officers and Directors to be placed in Nomination at the Nominating Meeting in Hutchinson.
2. **Slate of Officers and Board Members.** The nominating committee shall come up with a suggested nominee for the Office of President, Vice President, Secretary, and at least four nominations for the three board slots available. These names will be presented to the Unit at the nomination committee meeting at the Hutchinson Tournament. In the event that there is no January Hutchinson tournament, the President shall call a meeting in January to receive the report of the Nominating Committee.
3. **Additional nominations.** Other member nominations may be placed on the ballot by a nominating petition which shall identify the member by name, office and be signed by five (5) members of unit 132. The Unit Secretary shall receive the nominating petitions not more than thirty (30) days immediately following the nominating committees' report. The Unit Secretary will add those duly named by petition to the General Election Ballot.
4. **Preparation of Ballots.** 31 days after the Hutchinson Tournament, the Unit Secretary will prepare ballots for the general election. These ballots will be mailed to each active ACBL accredited club in the Unit in such a timely method as to reach the club at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting of Unit. Each ballot will have specific instructions on voting procedures printed clearly on the ballot.
5. **Voting Procedures.** Members may vote in person at the Annual Meeting during the Spring Sectional in Wichita or at their local club. Every active ACBL member may obtain a ballot from his or her local club or from the unit officers. To be valid, the mailed in ballot must be placed in an envelope, sealed, have the ACBL member number on the outside

of the envelope and be received by the Unit Secretary not less than seven days before the Annual Meeting.

6. **Proper Ballots.** To be considered a valid ballot
 - a. The ballot must be sealed as described in 5 (above) with an Active ACBL number on the outside. This number will be checked off a list of members and the sealed envelope securely stored for future counting.
 - b. The ballot must be received by the Unit Secretary as described in 5 (above).
 - c. The ballot must have an unused and current ACBL number. If a duplicate number is used, both ballots will be marked invalid and not be opened or counted.
 - d. Seven days before the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall prepare a list of all members' numbers eligible to vote and shall check off the numbers of the validated and invalid ballots. All validated ballot envelopes will be opened and the ballot placed in a sealed ballot box. The envelopes shall be retained by the Secretary for a minimum of fourteen days following the election then destroyed when desired.
 - e. No record of the ACBL number shall remain with the ballot.
7. **Annual Meeting Election.** Any member may vote in person at the Annual meeting provided he/she has not already voted and been checked off on the Secretary's list.
8. **Elections.** Every qualified member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Director to be elected. All ballots shall be secret. All candidates are entitled to have witnesses at the counting. The person receiving the most votes is elected once the count is officially finalized. In the event of a tie for an officer position, there will be a run-off election at a time to be determined by the unit board.

ARTICLE VIII

IMPEACHMENT

Any Officer or Director may be removed for cause at any meeting of the Board of Directors provided two-thirds (2/3) of those present constituting a quorum shall so vote. The impeachment charges must be presented in writing by registered mail to the officer or director at least ten (10) days before the meeting. The officer or director shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the Board of Directors and to be represented by counsel of his or her own choosing. The action taken by the Board of Directors shall be conclusive and final.

ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Amendments to the By-Laws may be made by the members of the Unit upon petition signed by at least ten (10) members and submitted to the Secretary at least ten (10) days in advance of the Annual Meeting or any special meeting called for the purpose; or upon petition signed by at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment in the notice of the meeting. The concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of all members present and voting shall be required to pass any amendment.

ARTICLE X

TOURNAMENTS

The Unit shall have complete authority over all tournaments conducted by it subject to the regulations of the American Contract Bridge League.

ARTICLE XI

COMMITTEES

The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint such committees as may be necessary or desirable to perform the functions of the Organization and he/she shall define their duties. Among the committees appointed by him/her shall be the following standing committees: Tournament Committee, Conduct and Ethics Committee, Membership Committee, and Publicity Committee.