

BYLAWS  
of the  
OCEANSIDE UNIT  
of the

AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE  
UNIT NO. 531

November 1978  
Amended November 1986  
Amended November 1989  
Amended December 2004  
Amended December 2015

The Oceanside Unit is a subsidiary of the American Contract Bridge League. It recognizes the League as the parent organization, having authority and control over tournament bridge in the United States. The Unit exists under the sanction of the League and functions with the Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations of the League.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION

The objectives of the Oceanside Unit shall be:

1. To preserve and promote the best interest of competitive duplicate bridge and any modifications thereof.
2. To cooperate with and assist the League in the promotion and conduct of bridge tournaments.
3. To encourage the highest standards and ethics of its members and to enforce such standards.
4. To promote the development and organization of affiliated clubs within the Oceanside Unit.
5. To cooperate in the League's charity program and to sponsor and conduct charity events with the object of realizing funds to be donated to worthy humanitarian causes.
6. 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 areas as is presently or may in the future be assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the League.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Any person residing within the jurisdiction of the Unit is eligible for membership, and upon application for membership, acceptance by the Unit and payment of the annual membership dues shall become a member. Membership in the Unit shall carry with it membership in the American Contract Bridge League.

ARTICLE III: DUES

Annual membership dues shall be in the amount fixed by the American Contract Bridge League. The Unit does not have the authority to levy any special assessment.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- A. The annual meeting of the members shall be held on any Sunday in November for the purpose of electing member to the Board of Directors and for conducting any pertinent business.
- B. The Board of Directors shall fix the time and the place of the Annual Meeting and shall give notice of such meeting either by mail or by posting notices in all clubs of the Unit at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- C. Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Board of Directors of the Unit, by the President of the Unit, or by petition of thirty-five (35) members. The notice of any special meeting shall contain an agenda of the matters to be discussed at such meeting.
- D. All membership meetings shall be conducted according to generally accepted rules of parliamentary procedure.
- E. No proxies shall be permitted.

#### ARTICLE V: UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### A. Number of Directors:

The affairs of the Unit shall be managed and conducted by the Board of Directors which shall consist of seven (7) persons, all of whom must be members of the Unit and one of whom shall be the immediate outgoing President. If the President's term has expired, he/she shall be an ex-officio member for one year. No club owner or manager is eligible to become a member of the Board of Directors.

##### B. Term of Office:

- 1. Each director shall hold office for a period of two (2) years, which shall coincide with the calendar year of the Unit and shall continue to hold office until his successor shall have been elected.
- 2. Duly elected members shall be staggered to provide continuity. In even-numbered years four (4) directors shall be elected. In odd-numbered years three (3) directors shall be elected.

##### C. Nominations

- 1. The Board of Directors, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Membership meeting, shall select a Nominating Committee. This Committee shall be composed of three (3) persons. No more than one (1) member of the Nominating Committee may currently be serving on the Board of Directors.
- 2. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to place in nomination those persons who appear to be best able and willing to serve the interests of the Unit.
- 3. No candidate's name shall be placed in nomination without his approval and/or acceptance if elected.
- 4. Where there are several playing areas within the Unit, each area should be represented on the Board.
- 5. The names of those persons nominated as Directors by the Nominating Committee shall be made known to the members at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Membership Meeting.
- 6. Additional nomination may be made from the floor at the Annual Membership Meeting providing the nominee meets all the requirements which have been previously stated.

##### D. Elections

1. Every qualified member of the Unit shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each Director to be elected.
2. All voting shall be done by Secret Ballot.
3. All candidates are entitled to have witnesses at the counting of the ballots.
4. Ballots shall be mailed to the entire membership thirty (30) days before the Annual Membership Meeting or distributed to the membership immediately prior to the Annual Meeting.
5. The ballots will be counted by the Nominating Committee. In case of a tie for the last place, the Committee shall break the tie by lot.
6. A record of the number of votes shall be retained by the Secretary of the Unit.

#### E. Vacancies

1. Any vacancy on the Board of Directors due to death, resignation, impeachment, or other cause shall be filled by a majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors.
2. Such appointment shall be valid for the remainder of the unexpired term of the person being replaced.
3. The Secretary shall keep a special record of the terms of office of the appointees.

#### F. Meetings

1. The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of ten (10) meetings a year, the first of which after the Annual meeting for the purpose of transacting such business as may come before it.
2. The Secretary will call a meeting of the Board of Directors at the request of the President or a quorum of the Board with suitable notification for all those concerned.

#### G. Quorum

1. A quorum of the Board of Directors for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than four (4) Directors.

#### H. Power and Duties

1. In addition to the powers granted by other provisions of the Bylaws, and by the laws of the State of California, the Board of Directors shall have the following powers and duties:
  - a. To acquire, hold, administer, maintain, and dispose of all property of the Unit.
  - b. To appropriate the funds of the Unit for purposes set forth in the Bylaws.
  - c. To hire and discharge employees and to supervise their conduct.
  - d. To audit all receipts and disbursements of the Unit.
  - e. To conduct, manage, supervise, and control all the business of the Unit, including but not limited to, the conduct of the tournaments, the selection of all dates and location for such tournaments and the mailing of all contracts in connection therewith.
  - f. To censure, suspend, expel or otherwise discipline any member. But no member shall be censured, suspended, expelled or otherwise disciplined until he/she has been furnished with written charges, to which he/she has had time to reply or until after a hearing of which he has received reasonable notice. He may be represented by counsel. Disciplinary action by the Unit 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 until otherwise directed by the Board.

## ARTICLE VI: UNIT OFFICERS

- A. The officers of the Unit shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. Selection of Officers
  - 1. The Board of Directors shall elect all officers at its first meeting following the Annual Membership Meeting and the persons elected shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors have been duly elected.
- C. Vacancies
  - 1. Vacancies due to death, resignation, or other causes shall be filled by a majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors.
  - 2. The appointment shall be valid for the remainder of the unexpired term of the person being replaced.
- D. The Board may elect to select other officers such as that of an additional Secretary, or it may elect to combine certain offices, such as that of Secretary and Treasurer.
- E. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by other than Board members if no qualified Board member is available.
- F. The duties of the officers shall be as those outlined in the Bylaws of the American Contract Bridge League.
- G. Impeachment
  - 1. Any Board member or officer may be removed for cause at any meeting of the Board of Directors provide two-thirds (2/3) of those present constituting a quorum shall so vote. Any officer or director against whom impeachment charges shall be brought shall be notified in writing, by registered mail, of the charges against him/her. This shall be done at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. He/she shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the Board of Directors and to be represented by counsel of his own choosing. The action taken by the Board of Directors shall be conclusive and final.
  - 2. Three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from a meeting of the Board of Directors may be considered cause for removal.

## ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

- A. 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 the President shall define their duties. Among the committees appointed may be the following standing committees:
  - 1. Tournament Committee
  - 2. Ethics and Conduct Committee
  - 3. Membership Committee
  - 4. Publicity Committee
  - 5. Hospitality Committee
  - 6. Special Events Committee

- B. The President may officiate on all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- C. Committee members need not be Board members.

#### ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

- A. Articles of the bylaws and portions thereof may be revised, repealed, or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the member votes cast at the annual Membership Meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose.
- B. Proposed amendments or changes may be initiated by petition of four (4) members of the Board of Directors or by petition signed by at least thirty-five (35) members of the Unit.
- C. Proposed changes must be submitted to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Annual Membership Meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose.
- D. The Secretary will incorporate the text of the proposed amendments or changes in a notice that will be posted at the site of all Unit and Club games at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Annual Membership Meeting or special meeting called for that purpose.

#### ARTICLE IX: TOURNAMENTS

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

#### ARTICLE X: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised shall govern all meetings of the Unit and the Board of Directors insofar as it is consistent with these Bylaws.