

BY-LAWS OF  
EVERETT WASHINGTON AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE (ACBL)

The Unit is a subsidiary of the league; recognizes the League as the parent organization, having authority and control over tournament bridge in the United States; exists under the sanction of the League, and functions within the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the League.

Objects of the Organization

The objects of the Organization shall be:

- a) To preserve and promote the best interest of competitive contract bridge, and any modifications thereof;
- b) To cooperate with and assist the League in the promotion and conduct of contract bridge tournaments;
- c) To prescribe rules of eligibility for participation in tournaments under its own auspices;
- d) To consider and pass upon reports of dishonest, unethical or improper conduct of participants in tournaments, and to bar or suspend persons guilty of such conduct from further participation;
- e) To promote the development and organization of affiliated clubs within the unit;
- 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 may operate shall be such area as is presently assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL, and as it may hereafter be modified from time to time (Snohomish County).

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

- a) Any person of good moral character, who is in good standing with ACBL and residing within the playing area of the Unit, is eligible for membership.
- b) If they do not reside within the specified geographic area, members, with a letter to ACBL, can request to be assigned to a particular unit.
- c) A member remains in good standing unless the member has failed to pay ACBL dues or has been disciplined under Article V(8f) of these laws.

ARTICLE III

DUES

Currently this article does not apply. Any future dues will be set by a membership meeting and approved as an addendum.

ARTICLE IV  
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- a) The annual meeting of the members shall be on a day prior to the 31st of December each year.
- b) The Board of Directors shall fix the time and the place of the annual meeting and shall give notice of such meeting at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Notice can include mail, email, phone calls, texts and publication of the notice on the club bulletin board and website.
- c) Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Board of Directors or by the President upon ten (10) days notice to all members. The notice of any special meeting shall contain an agenda of the matters to be taken up at such meeting. Notice can include mail, email, phone calls, texts and publication of the notice on the club bulletin board and website.

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 six (6) persons all of whom must be members of the Unit. The seventh, ex officio, member of the board is the club manager, who shall have full voting rights. Unit board members shall be elected by the membership at each annual meeting.

2. Term of Office

Each Director shall hold office for a period of three(3) years , which will coincide with the calendar year, and shall continue to hold office until January 1<sup>st</sup> when the duly elected successor takes office. Directors terms of office shall be staggered, with one-third (2) being elected every year..

3. Nomination

- a) All Board of Directors shall be charged with recruiting new members to serve on the board. Every effort will be made to include new members and members at every level.
- b) The names of the persons nominated to the Board of Directors shall be made known to the members in the notice of the annual meeting at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Notice can include mail, email, phone calls, texts and publication of the notice on the club bulletin board and website.
- c) Members may make additional nominations from the floor at the annual meeting.

4. Elections

Every qualified unit member shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each director to be elected. If the number of candidates exceed the number of vacancies, a secret ballot shall be conducted. Otherwise, election by acclamation is appropriate. If there is a secret ballot, all candidates are entitled to have witnesses at the counting.

5. Vacancies

Any vacancies on the Board of Directors may be filled by the Board of Directors, and the person(s) so appointed shall hold office during the unexpired term.

## 6. Meetings

The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of four (4) meetings a year, the first of which shall be held in January to elect board officers and set the calendar for the year. The President shall call a meeting whenever it is deemed necessary to conduct business or upon request of at least two (2) of the Board's members.

## 7. Quorum

A Quorum of the Board of Directors for the transaction of business shall consist of not less than four (4) members of the board.

## 8. Power and Duties

In addition to the powers granted by other provisions of these By-Laws and by the Laws of the State of Washington, 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 Unit.
- b) To appropriate the funds of the Unit for the purposes 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 included in but not limited to the conduct of the tournaments and the making of all contracts in connection therewith.
- f) To censure, suspend, expel or otherwise discipline any member. No member however, shall be censured, suspended, expelled or otherwise disciplined until written charges have been furnished to the member and there has been time to reply to them. The member may be represented by counsel. Disciplinary action by the Unit may be appealed to the National Board of Directors. While charges are pending, the right of the member to participate in tournaments shall not be affected.

## ARTICLE VI

### UNIT OFFICERS

#### 1. Number

The officers of the unit shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#### 2. Election

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.

#### 3. Vacancies

Vacancies due to death, resignation or other cause shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

#### 4. Duties

The duties of the officers shall be as outlined in the By-Laws of the American Contract Bridge League.

ARTICLE VII  
IMPEACHMENT

Any officer or Director may be removed for cause at any meeting of the Board of Directors provided at least 4 Board members so vote. Any officer or director against whom impeachment charges shall be brought shall be notified in writing, by registered mail, of the charges at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and shall be given an opportunity to be heard before the Board of Directors and to be represented by counsel. The action taken by the Board of Directors shall be conclusive and final.

ARTICLE VIII  
AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

Amendment to the By-Laws may be made by the members of the Unit upon a petition signed by at least ten (10) members and submitted to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days in advance of the annual meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose; or upon a petition signed by at least four (4) members of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment/s in the notice of the meeting. The concurrence of two-thirds of all members present and voting shall be required to adopt any amendment.

ARTICLE IX  
TOURNAMENTS

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

ARTICLE X

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 shall define their duties.

MARLA PATTERSON  
UNIT 437 PRESIDENT

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 APRIL 2017 \_\_\_\_\_