



Canadian Bridge Federation – Annual General Membership Meeting

Date: September 16, 2025

Time: 7:30 PM ET

Location: Online Meeting (Zoom)

MEETING TYPE: Special ▾

MINUTES TYPE: Proposed ▾

I. Attendees

Zone I

Kathi Macnab	194
Anne Hughes	194
Allan Callard	230

Zone II

Sondra Blank	151
Louise Mascolo	151
George Retek	151
Jeff Smith	192
Kathy McDonald	192

Zone III

Catherine Kinsella	166
Danny Miles	166
Minna Zhu	166
Nancy Strachan	166
Jean Belfour	246
Larry Gifford	246
Susan Beals	246
Kelly Collard	246
Terry Du	246
Jack Cole	249
Ginger Grant	255

Zone IV

Marielle Decelles-Brentnall	181
Neil Kimelman	181

Zone V

Martin M Tweedale	391
Mike Hargreaves	391
Kate Logan	575

Zone VI

Shelley Burns	430
Lorne Burns	430

II. Call To Order

Shelley Burns,, CBF President and Zone VII Director, confirmed that a quorum of at least seven members from at least three zones were in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7:35PM ET.

III.Minutes of 2024 AGM

Motion AGM 25-49: To accept the minutes of the 2024 AGM

Proposed by: Mike Hargreaves

Seconded by: Terry Du

CARRIED

No business arising from the minutes

IV. Confirmation of Zone Directors

- **Allan Callard**, Zone I - Term beginning January 1, 2025
- **Marielle Decelles-Brentnall**, Zone IV - Mid-Term replacement, beginning May 1, 2025
- **Lois Matton**, Zone V

NOTICE UPCOMING ELECTIONS: Zone II and Zone V

V. Financial Statements

Shelley Burns spoke to the Financial Statements which were posted on the CBF website. Highlights included:

- Financial position improved compared to 2023
- Increased membership due to ACBL discount for Toronto NABC
- Total expenses reduced by approximately 15% compared to 2023
 - New external account - ~\$3500 less than 2023
 - CBF magazine reduced from bi-monthly to quarterly - savings of ~\$4800
 - Canadian Championships partnering with local regionals
- New treasurer (Sheila Xu) and accounting support (Minna Zhu)
- Potential liability with World Bridge Federation dues based on ACBL membership numbers

Susan Beals raised concerns about retaining new members acquired through the NABC discount, prompting Shelley to confirm that the CBF is developing a strategy to retain these members.

VI. Appointment of Accounting Firm

Edward & Manning LLP, Chartered Accountants
170 The Donway W, Suite 213, Toronto, ON, M3C2G3
416-621-9998 | Dan Edward, dedward@emllp.ca

Motion AGM 25-50: To appoint the firm Edward & Manning LLP as the CBF financial reviewer for the next fiscal year.

Proposed by: Allan Callard

Seconded by: Marielle Decelles-Brentnall

CARRIED

VII. Highlights of Board of Directors Meeting

CBF Revenue and Sustainability Initiatives

Shelley discussed the CBF's long-term sustainability goals, focusing on increasing revenues and reducing costs. Initiatives include:

- Administration charge for the Junior Fund.
- Exploring increased revenue from ACBL and a larger share of international fund revenue.
- Emphasizing CBF relevance before recruiting new members.

New Initiatives

- Maple Leaf Games: Weekly online games on RealBridge platform
 - Profit-sharing with home clubs for Canadian players
 - Online Team Leagues: Open, B, C, and Newcomer divisions
 - Fundraising Auction (February 23, 2026)
 - Celebrity online game with pros from Europe and North America
-

VIII. CBF By-Law and CoC Amendments

Discussion focused on the 2026 Canadian Bridge Championships in Penticton (June 15–21). Key points:

- B and C divisions no longer require qualification.
- Open, Women's, Seniors, and Mixed divisions will require qualification via club or online team games.
- Round robins to be held in January and February (dates posted on CBF website).
- Players may enter multiple events (e.g., Seniors and Mixed) if team structures allow.

Bylaw and Conditions of Contest Changes:

- Executive Secretary title changed to Executive Administrator
- Language updated to be gender-neutral
- Qualification requirements adjusted for various events
- Contingency plans for large number of team entries in B and C events
- Updated dates to accommodate playoff scheduling

Motion AGM 25-51: To amend CBF by-laws as presented

Proposed by: Mike Hargreaves

Seconded by: Ginger Grant

CARRIED

IX. 2024 Richmond Award Winner

Winner: Richard Chan - CBF member who has accumulated the most masterpoints in the year.

Mini Richmond pins to be awarded for lower masterpoint categories.

X. Other Business

- George Retek suggested that the CBF apply for charitable status. This would allow individuals to contribute shares to the CBF and receive a tax receipt based on the market value of the shares.
- Ginger Grant will work with George Retek on navigating this process.

XI. Adjournment

Motion AGM 25-51: To amend CBF by-laws as presented

Proposed by: Allan Callard

Seconded by: Ginger Grant

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM ET.