

March 2021

The Reorganization Plan to reduce the size of the ACBL Board of Directors from 25 to 13 passed late last summer and is now official. This change has been in the works for several years and I know that your district director has kept you apprised of the basic substance of the plans for the reorganization. Even though the size of the board will reduce gradually over the next three to four years, we felt it important to communicate what will and will not change as it relates to your district.

First and foremost, all 25 districts will remain intact. District-related functions and events, district treasuries and NAPs and GNTs will not be affected.

However, for the purposes of electing members to the board, several districts will be geographically aligned based on membership size. Your District 17 will become Region 10 and will stand alone. One regional director will represent District 17 on the ACBL Board of Directors.

In some districts, the transition from 25 to 13 members will start during the 2021 election cycle for terms beginning 1/1/2022. The District 17 director will be up for re-election in 2022. Elections for Region 10 will occur in 2022 with terms beginning 1/1/2023. The regional director will serve an initial four-year term (2023-2026).

The positions of first and second alternate to the district director will be discontinued. The people occupying those positions will remain members of the ACBL Board of Governors. If a regional director is unable to serve, a highly expedited election will occur.

Your regional director -- like your current district director -- is expected to set policy and direction for the good of the ACBL and for the membership as a whole, listening and remaining accessible and responsive to concerns of all members within the geographic boundaries of the region.

In addition, your district director has defined responsibilities on your board. Therefore, it is important to review your bylaws and policies and to make revisions as needed.

We are experiencing uncertain and unprecedented times. It is crucial that we work together to focus on the future of the ACBL while fostering consistent and effective communication. In no way do we expect the reorganization -- the reduction in the number of ACBL board members -- to result in less attention to member concerns, and we welcome your thoughts as to how to effect good communication going forward.

Sincerely,

**Georgia Heth
ACBL President
District8director@acbl.org**