

**BERMUDA UNIT 198
OF
THE AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE**

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

- Section 1. The Name of the organisation shall be THE BERMUDA UNIT No. 198 of the American Contract Bridge League.
- Section 2. The short title of THE BERMUDA UNIT, as used in these By-Laws, is THE UNIT, and the short title of the American Contract Bridge League is THE LEAGUE.
- Section 3. THE UNIT
- a. is a subsidiary of THE LEAGUE
 - b. recognises THE LEAGUE as the parent organisation
 - c. exists under the sanction of THE LEAGUE and functions within the constitution, by-laws and regulations of THE LEAGUE
- Section 4. The territory of THE UNIT shall be the Islands of Bermuda.
- Section 5. The fiscal year shall be from March 1st to the end of February.

ARTICLE II

Objects of the Organisation

The objects of the organisation shall be

- a. to preserve and promote the best interests of competitive contract bridge or any modification 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 judgment upon reports of dishonest, unethical or improper conduct of participants in tournaments, and to bar or suspend persons guilty of such conduct from participation in tournaments under its auspices

ARTICLE III

Membership

Any person is eligible to apply for membership. The acceptance of any membership application requires

- a. approval of THE LEAGUE
- b. payment of the annual dues.

ARTICLE IV

Administration of Unit Affairs

- Section 1. The affairs of THE UNIT shall be administered by a Board of Governors.

- Section 2. The Board of Governors of THE UNIT shall be made up of six (6) members duly elected in accordance with the provisions contained in these By-Laws plus up to three (3) members co-opted by the elected members of the Board which three shall include the immediate past president if that person is not an elected member of the Board and is prepared to continue to be a member of the Board.
- Section 3. The Board of Governors shall, subject to Article X Section 2, elect the following from amongst themselves, namely, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Tournament Chairman, Sectional Tournament Chairman, Membership Charities and other Officers at the first meeting held after the annual election of members to the Board and such meeting must be held within 30 days after the said annual election.
- Section 4. A member of the Board of Governors may be elected to serve in more than one of the elected offices designated in Section 3 of this Article.
- Section 5. Duties of members elected to offices designated in Section 3 of this Article shall be as proscribed by the Board of Governors at that time in office.

ARTICLE V Amendments

- Section 1. Amendments to the By-Laws may be made at any meeting of the members at which a Quorum is present providing notice of such proposed amendment or amendments has been given to all members by email, sent to each member's last email address known by the Secretary, and has been posted on the Notice Board at all Bridge Clubs in THE UNIT at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting at which such amendment or amendments are to be considered. In the event that any member has no email address, or has failed to provide the Secretary with his or her email address, the posting of a general notice of the amendment on the Notice Board shall be deemed sufficient notice to such member.
- Section 2. The concurrence of two-thirds of all members present at a meeting entitled to consider an amendment to these By-Laws shall be required to validate any such amendment.

ARTICLE VI Elections

- Section 1. During the month of February each year, the Board of Governors shall elect a nominating committee of three members, whose duty it shall be to select two members for nomination for election to the Board of Governors of THE UNIT to serve for a period of three (3) years and also to select such other members as may be required for nomination to be elected to serve on the Board of Governors for the unexpired term of elected members of the Board who may have resigned or are for other reasons unable to serve their full elected period of office.
- Section 2. An Annual General Meeting of members of THE UNIT shall be held during the first sixty (60) days of each fiscal year for the purpose of electing two members to serve on the Board of Governors of THE UNIT for a period of

three years and to elect such other members as may be required to serve on the Board of Governors for the unexpired term of elected members of the Board who have resigned or are for other reasons unable to serve their full elected period of office.

Section 3. Whenever a decision of the Board of Governors or of a committee of the Board or of the members of THE UNIT concerns a member of THE UNIT and when such a decision requires a ballot to be taken, the ballot shall be secret.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. The Annual General Meeting of members required by Section 2 of Article VI shall be held at the time and place specified by the President.

Section 2. A quorum for all General Meetings shall consist of ten (10) members.

Section 3. Special General Meetings may be called by the President or upon the written request of a majority of the Board of Governors or of twenty per cent (20%) of the members.

Section 4. Notice of the Annual General Meeting and any Special Meeting must be emailed to each member's last email address known by the Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting and a copy of the notice along with the agenda shall be posted on the Notice Board of all bridge clubs in THE UNIT. In the event that any member has no email address or has failed to provide the Secretary with his or her email address, the posting of a general notice on the Notice Board shall be deemed sufficient notice to such member.

ARTICLE VIII Membership Dues and Privileges

Section 1. Members dues shall be set from time to time by THE LEAGUE.

Section 2. Membership dues shall be payable on a date specified by THE LEAGUE in each year.

Section 3. The privileges of members in good standing shall be as follows:

- a. to vote in person at the annual meeting for the election of members to the Board of Governors;
- b. to receive all notices of THE UNIT and all publications of THE LEAGUE;
- c. to be eligible for election as a member of the Board of Governors of THE UNIT or for appointment as a member of any of its committees.

ARTICLE IX Board of Governors

Section 1. The powers hereby conferred on the Board of Governors are:

- a. to decide on general policies of THE UNIT;
- b. to elect THE UNIT's officers;
- c. to arrange a schedule of tournament activities and to apply to THE LEAGUE for approval of suitable dates;

d. to decide any other matters relating to THE UNIT.

Section 2. In the event of a vacancy occurring on the Board of Governors, the Board of Governors shall elect a member of THE UNIT to serve on the Board until the next annual meeting of members called as required by Section 2 of Article VI.

ARTICLE X Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee of THE UNIT shall include the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Regional Tournament Chairman, plus the most recently retired President and such other members of the Board of Governors as the President may select to bring the total membership to a minimum number of five. The function of this committee is to advise the President and to make decisions on matters of immediate urgency. The President may call a meeting of this committee at any time and decisions approved by a simple majority of the members of this committee shall be binding on the Board of Governors until such time as the Board of Governors are next assembled in meeting.

Section 2. The Board of Governors may elect a Regional Tournament Chairman and a Sectional Tournament Chairman of THE UNIT. They will be responsible for arranging a Regional Tournament or Sectional Tournament of duplicate activities in THE UNIT territory respectively. They are responsible for stimulating interest and attendance at the respective tournaments for the dates approved by THE UNIT and THE LEAGUE.

Section 3. The Membership Officer shall be a member of the Board of Governors of THE UNIT. Th officer shall be responsible for collecting dues and maintaining a register of members.

Section 4. A Charities Officer shall be elected by the Board of Governors and shall be responsible for recommending donations from THE UNIT to local charities annually and such donations to local charities shall be approved by the Board of Governors.

Section 5. An Ethics Officer shall be elected by the Board of Governors and shall be responsible for investigating all alleged dishonest, unethical or improper actions of participants in UNIT-sponsored tournaments, and shall report any such findings and recommendations to the Board of Governors.

As amended at the Annual General Meeting on 23 April 2014

Rachael Gosling
President

23 April 2014