

Auditing Your Club Records

bivio

Poll 1-True Confessions

bivio

Poll 2-Are You Planning to Do Your Club Audit this Weekend?

bivio

What is an Audit?

bivio

A verification of the accuracy of your club's records by other than the club treasurer



Check that treasurer is doing what you think they're doing with your club finances

If they're suddenly able to take lots of beach vacations you may want to question why.



You want to make sure your taxes are prepared accurately Just because your bivio site shows a lot of numbers doesn't mean they're useful for anything. Without verification your taxes may just be

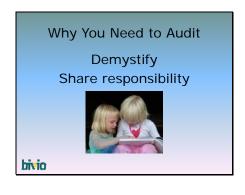
<click> garbage in

<click>garbage out



You want to make sure each members ownership is being tracked accurately. Both ownership percentage and tax allocations

When you invest in a club, it's like you are making an investment in a mutual fund. You will have a "basis" in your investment in the club and when you withdraw money, you will pay a capital gain or loss on the difference between what you take out and your basis.



To demystify your clubs finances

and spread the burden of making sure your club is keeping accurate records.

Your club treasurer has a big responsibility because your club has to comply with partnership tax requirements. Unlike your investing activities, the IRS is not as forgiving in terms of you being a novice doing so. It's important that every club member have a general understanding of what club accounting is about and what can and cannot be easily handled by your treasurer. The simpler your club finances, the simpler your audit will be. And there's no reason not to keep things simple.

Regular Record Verification

- Monthly-Club Treasurer
 - Confirm Cash Balances
 - Number of Shares of Stock
 - Member Payments
- Yearly
 - Independent Audit-Audit committee (not including Club Treasurer)
 - Tax Time-Verification of 1099 with Club Records-Treasurer

bivio

There are several types of regular verification that should go on in your club. This is what is recommended. Each provides a little bit different type of verification. But they all interrelate.

It may look like a lot of work but if you use AccountSync to make entries in your records, you set up your record keeping to be simple and your treasurer verifies everything monthly, any year end verifications should go very quickly.

This class will be discussing how to do your Annual Record Verification

When Should You Do An Audit?

- Suggestion
 - January
- Why?
 - Get records in shape to complete taxes
 - January is a slower month
 - Help fill time

bivio

You can do an audit at any point during the year but we recommend that you do it in January.

This is after your regular December, end of year brokerage statements are ready

Why?

Get records in shape to complete taxes. If your records are verified, doing taxes will be a very quick process of making a final check against 1099's and taking a short tax interview.

Of course January is often a slower month in terms of activities

For those who get antsy about getting taxes done an audit helps fill time till taxes can be done.

What are You Going to Do During Your Audit?

- Compare bivio entries
 - Reports
 - Transaction Lists

То

- Financial Institution Records
 - Statements
 - Summary Lists from Financial Institution website

bivio

Audit Checklist

Audit Form

bivio

We provide you with an audit checklist which you can use to do this. You'll find at this link:

http://www.bivio.com/hn/AuditForm_2010_Tax_Year.pdf, we will also be putting a link to it from the club café page.

We'll be going through all the steps in detail so you can get a good idea of what needs to be done.

Financial Institution Records Needed

- Monthly statements
- Dec-previous tax year through Dec Current tax year
- Trade Confirmation Records
 - Individual or Summary List
- Dividend and Interest Transaction Records
- From Statements or Summary List
- · Checks written
 - Copies or Summary List

bivio

The first part of doing your audit is gathering the information you'll be comparing. Your treasurer may be the person who is most familiar with both your financial institution records and with using bivio so it will usually be their job to gather this information.

Financial Institution Records Needed

• Where do you get these?

Brokerage Website

bivio

Sometimes one of the learning experiences about doing an audit is learning the types of information and the way you can get it from your brokerage website.

For example, during your audit you'll need access to your monthly statements. (demo how to get to them)

You'll also be looking at specific types of transactions in bivio such as dividend payments. What's nice is that you can get lists of just specific types of transactions at your brokerage website. (demo how to get dividend list)

Club Records Needed

- · Receipts for expenses
- Verification of Member Deposits by Members
 - From club member review of year end Member Contributions and Withdrawals report
- Monthly Meeting Minutes
 - Authorization of Expenses, stock transactions, withdrawal discussions
- · Partnership Agreement
 - Terms for Paying Withdrawals

hivio Allocation of Expenses

The records you'll be comparing to are reports or information you may(and probably should) have stored in bivio somewhere. For example,

Club Records Needed

- Club Reports
 - Valuation reports
 - Cash balances and Shares Owned
 - Transaction History Report
 - Transactions grouped into categories
 Income Statement
 - Shows dividends by company, Interest and Expenses recorded
- Withdrawal Reports
- For all members who withdrew during year
- Transaction Lists (from
- Accounting>Accounts>transactions)

 Dates and amounts in chronological order

Member Contributions and Withdrawals Report

Here are some of the bivio reports you'll be using.

Audit Steps

- 1) Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock –start of tax year
- 2) Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock-end of tax year
- 3) Verify income received
- 4) Verify expenses recorded
- 5) Verify stock transactions
- 6) Verify accuracy of member contributions
- 7) Verify accuracy of withdrawals

bivio

Once all your records are gathered, the information is given to the auditors. The audit guide includes 7 steps we recommend you do to audit your records. They are:

- Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock start of tax year
- Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock-end of tax year
- Verify income received
- Verify expenses recorded
- Verify stock transactions
- Verify accuracy of member contributions
- Verify accuracy of any withdrawals

Next, we will go through each of these steps in more detail. We'll talk about why you do it, go through an example of how you do it and discuss what to do if you find any discrepancies.



Your first step is to confirm that you started out the tax year with correct records. To do this you'll be comparing the brokerage statement from the end of the prior tax year to a bivio valuation report. Using End of prior tax year brokerage statement and valuation report.

Compare Start of year Cash balances and number of shares
Number of Shares should agree Exactly
Market Value may differ slightly
Investigate if huge amount
May have an investment entered as "Unlisted"
What if things don't agree?

What if things don't agree? You may have a past tax issue. Need to find out problem and then decide how to address. May need to file amended tax returns.



First, you'll compare the cash balances between the two reports.



Then you'll compare the number of shares of each stock between the two.

The number of shares should agree exactly

There may be slight variations in market value (a few pennies). If there is a big difference, you should investigate further to make sure you do not have unlisted investments without current prices. There is no reason to change anything if you are just a few pennies different.

Step 1
Check end of year cash balances and number of shares for the Prior Tax Year
Why?
Because if the start of year numbers are off, there is no way the 2009 numbers will be correct.
What do you do if there is a discrepancy?
Stop and assess

<click> Why do we do this step?

Because if the start of year numbers are off, there is no way the 2009 numbers will be correct.

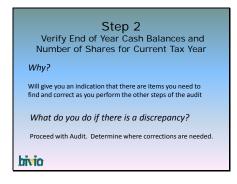
What do you do?

Remember that there are many things in your clubs historical transactions that are still affecting your current record keeping. It is important to know they are correct also.

If there is a problem it needs to be addressed before you go any further. It could be as simple as a small adjustment or as complicated as filing amended returns for your club for prior tax years. This would also mean that each of your members would need to file amended personal returns. But there is no way your 2010 records can be correct if the numbers weren't right at the start of the year. Feel free to contact us in support if you find a problem and are not sure what to do to address it.



The same comparisons are made using the same forms you used for the previous year numbers. A valuation report and an end of year brokerage Statement.



Going through the steps of the audit will bring out where the problems lie.

You are going to weed these out and then give them to your treasurer to fix. You should not need to stop just because you have found a problem.

Is it income or expense?

Is it income not recorded correctly?

Expense not recorded correctly?

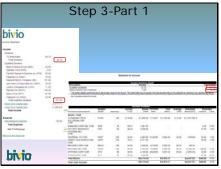
Stock transaction not recorded correctly?

Comparing cash balance and number of shares of stock is something your treasurer should do every month to reconcile your accounts. If you do this, you can have a reasonable degree of comfort that your bivio records are correct.

However, these checks to not examine everything. The next steps in the audit will make sure some of the finer details of your records are also accurate.



Step 3 is where you verify the entries for any income you have received. This will be dividends and interest.



First you'll compare dividend and interest totals on the income statement to those on the brokerage year end statement.

Note that interest on money market accounts may show up as dividend income on your brokers statement. Make sure it is correctly identified as such in your bivio records



Next you'll compare the specific entries using dividend transaction lists. You'll confirm the date of receipt, amount and company who paid a dividend. These details are important for correctly determining Qualified/Non Qualified status

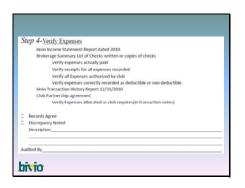


Why do you do this step

Have to pay tax on the income. It has to be classified correctly so it agrees with 1099's and you are taxed at the proper rate on it.

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections are needed.



A club usually has very few expenses but there may be tax consequences to them. In this step you will make sure they were both authorized and actually paid and that they were recorded correctly.

To do this, you will need meeting minutes to show expenses were authorized and receipts and cancelled checks or a summary list of checks paid from your brokerage to show expenses were actually paid.

You'll also need to know how your club has agreed to allocate expenses. Be default and per IRS regulations, expenses are allocated in proportion to ownership share. If you want to allocate them equally to each member, you need to make sure this method is specifically called out in your partnership agreement.



If you have recorded any expenses in bivio, on Income statement report, you'll find a link which will take you to a listing of what was recorded. Make sure you have records where each expense was authorized and a receipt to show it was actually paid.



To Confirm that the expense was allocated as your club has agreed to in your partnership agreement, go to the Transaction history report. If you see a note that an expense was allocated equally, make sure that this is something you have all agreed to that is spelled out in your partnership agreement.



Why?

Verifies expenses were authorized and actually paid. Verify expense was allocated to club members in the method the club agreed on.

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections are needed.



Step 5 is to verify that all your stock transactions have been entered correctly. You want to do this so you know that the value of your portfolio is being tracked properly and that capital gains and losses when you sell stock will be calculated and reported correctly on your taxes.



When you own stock you need to keep records of it's tax basis. Basis is determined by the purchase price, any commission paid and may also be affected by any reorganizations that have happened.

If you have purchased the same stock at several different times, you will have multiple lots of stock to track, which all will have different bases.

Don't worry. Bivio keeps track of all of this as long as you hold the stock and enter the purchases correctly.

The first thing you should do for this step is to compare the stock purchases and sales in the bivio transaction ledger to a summary list of purchases from our brokerage.

You want to make sure these things:

Purchase/Sale prices and number of shares agree
Purchase/Sale Dates agree
Total proceeds agree- This is your total cost basis for shares
you've purchased or the total that will be used to calculate your
gain or loss if you've sold a stock.



If you have a sale and you have told your broker to use a cost basis method which is different from First In First Out, you will need to make sure the correct lots have been chosen in bivio to record the sale.

The lots you select as the ones you are selling will be used to calculate the gain or loss that you will be taxed on.

Starting in 2011, this gain or loss will be reported by your brokerage to the IRS and they will be matching the amounts to your reported income. It will become extremely important that your bivio records match the cost basis method you are using.

Brokerages are only required to report numbers starting in 2011. This means that though they may show you capital gains and losses now, the amounts they show may not be correct. This often happens when you have changed brokers or there have been reorganizations that affect your stock. If you know you have all the transactions recorded correctly in bivio, your bivio records will show you the correct amounts for gains and losses and you don't need to worry about what the brokerage is showing. That is part of the reason we perform this step during the audit.

If something doesn't agree and you have questions about it, feel free to contact us in support and we will help you double check that your records are correct.



The other thing which may affect stock basis values are reorganizations such as stock splits, spinoffs etc. These can get complicated sometimes and it is important they be entered in your records. Making sure this happens is part of the service you receive from bivio.

How will you know that there has been a reorganization entered? There are several clues you might find that will alert you.

First, there is a section on the transactions history report that will show you if your treasurer has entered an event.

Or, you may find that the number of shares of stock may not agree with brokerage statement (if treasurer hasn't recorded reorganization)

Finally, whoever in your club is watching each stock should have made sure the club was alerted when news of the reorganization came out. You should ask your club members prior to the audit to double check the stocks they are following.

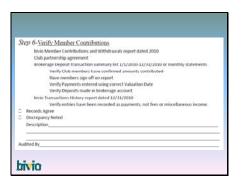
To assess what has been entered, first find the brokerage statement for the month reorganization occurred and look at the transactions that are listed.

Make a note to ask your treasurer how they determined what to enter

If there's any doubt about an entry, feel free to ask bivio support for confirmation. We will do any necessary research and make sure correct entries are made for you.

Entering reorganizations correctly can be one of the most difficult things you need to do as an investor. Part of what you receive when you have a bivio subscription is the ability to have experts help you account for them correctly.







Why?

Verifies that all stock transactions have been recorded so that value of club is being calculated correctly.

Verifies that basis is being tracked correctly so that correct capital gains and losses will be reported on your Income Taxes

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections are needed.

This step confirms that your members contributions to the club have been recorded accurately. This is very important because it affects member ownership. Both the percentage of the club assets that a member owns as well as the gains or losses he has had from his investment in the club.

- First of all, you should require all members to review the annual member contributions and withdrawals report and confirm that what you show as their contributions is correct. Have them initial the report for your records
- <click>
- •Then compare the report to a deposits transaction list or to your brokers statements to confirm that the payments really were deposited in your brokerage account.



- •Check the Valuation Dates that were used to record the transaction
 - First of all, you will need to know the answer to the question, what does your club use for valuation date?
 - •Usually clubs use either one per month, in which case,
 - •For a given month, they should all be the same
 - •Should not be the same month to month
 - or they set the Valuation date equal to the transaction date. In this case,
 - Valuation dates will differ.
 - •The valuation date should equal the transaction date shown for the payment deposits on your brokerage list.

This club uses a single valuation date per month.

In March we see that the valuation dates entered for Snow White and Sneezy were different

Than the ones entered for the others. This doesn't look right. It is something to note and have the treasurer check into.

For some months, there are no payments recorded for certain members. Is that OK? Are the total contributions for the year correct for the members? That is why one of the parts of this audit step is to have the members confirm their totals.

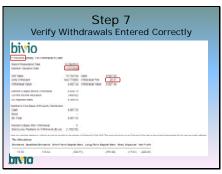


The final thing you want to do us to use the transaction History report to confirm that member deposits have been recorded as member payments not as fees or miscellaneous income. If each listing in this section is identified as a member payment

And the total amount equals the total on the member contributions and withdrawals report, you know things have been recorded correctly.







Why?

Verifies that all member investments are being tracked correctly.

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections are needed.

Your final check will only be necessary if you have paid out any withdrawals during the year. It will confirm that withdrawals were processed according to the terms in your partnership agreement and that the correct amounts were paid.

To determine whether a withdrawal was paid according to the club partnership agreement, you will have to find the section describing the requirements and then review the withdrawal reports to make sure the entries had

Proper valuation date

Correct transaction date

Correct fee assessed (if any)

Correct stock transaction date entered-If stock transferred

You should also make sure that your club records had been reconciled before the withdrawal amount was determined. If they were not, you might see

"post withdrawal adjustments"

Step 7

Verify withdrawals entered correctly

Why?

Verifies you have paid withdrawals according to the method agreed to in your partnership agreement

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections or future improvements are needed.

bivio

Why?

Verifies you have paid withdrawals according to the method agreed to in your partnership agreement

What do you do if there is a discrepancy?

Proceed with Audit. Note entries where corrections or future improvements are needed. *(note that if a withdrawal has been paid, it may be impossible to correct discrepancies because the member has left and may have already received and cashed the check. . It will be up to your club to determine whether to pursue making corrections. You should still note discrepancies as recommendations for future improvement)

Audit Steps

- 1) Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock –start of tax year
- 2) Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock-end of tax year
- 3) Verify income received
- 4) Verify expenses recorded
- 5) Verify stock transactions
- 6) Verify accuracy of member contributions
- 7) Verify accuracy of withdrawals

bivio

So to summarize, when you're done you will have completed these steps

- Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock start of tax year
- Verify cash balances and number of shares of stock-end of tax year
- Verify income received
- Verify expenses recorded
- Verify stock transactions
- Verify accuracy of member contributions
- Verify accuracy of any withdrawals

Audit Wrapup

- Discuss discrepancies with treasurer and club
- Treasurer should report action taken to make corrections
- Everyone should sign off on Audit form
- Party Time!

bivio

Once the auditors have gone through the steps and prepared the notes on their findings, the information should be presented to the club

Tax Preparation

- February 1-1099 DIV and 1099-INTAmt of dividends and Interest
- Qualified versus Non Qualified Dividend Split
- Dates on end of year dividend payments
- February 16-1099-B
- Filing Mandatory for All Clubs
- Tax Interview
- Review/File/Distribute Tax forms -April 18 - Certified mail return receipt required

bivio

Questions?

support@bivio.com

If you need a phone call, email phone number and 2 or 3 times when you might be available

bivio

Poll Who's Having a Party?

bivio



Once your club audit is complete and your records are correct, there are just a couple more things your treasurer will need to do to get your taxes prepared.