

2016 - 2017 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Revised August 28, 2016

General Information:

The September masterpoint cycle produced on August 6, 2016 marks the cutoff date for flight eligibility. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.

The Super Flight is unlimited, Flight A is 0 - 6000, Flight B is 0 - 2500, Flight C is non-life master with less than 500 masterpoints.

A player must be a member of the ACBL.

A player must be a member in good standing of District 16.

The ACBL conditions of contest are included [herein](#) as a part of the District 16 conditions of contest.

Unit Qualifying for Flight 'C' and Flight 'B':

All flight 'C' and flight 'B' teams must qualify at a unit qualifying tournament. This is a two session Swiss qualifying, held by each unit at its convenience. The unit may hold two qualifying events, one for flight 'C' and one for flight 'B' teams, or it may hold a joint qualifying event for both flight 'C' and flight 'B' together.

The unit will qualify 60% of the field, or 60% of both fields if held jointly. You technically qualify as an individual rather than as a team, even though you are qualifying in a team event.

You do not have to qualify in your unit. You may qualify at any unit event in the district.

Substitutions and Realignment:

You do not have to play at the district level with the team you qualified with at the unit level. The district level team may be made up of entirely different people as long as each individual has qualified at some unit qualifying event.

District Finals:

The district finals for all four flights; 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'super flight' will be held at the Houston sectional April 8, 9, 2017 at the Marriott Westchase, 2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston, TX.

The sessions will run at the same time as the sectional sessions, Saturday morning 10:00 and Afternoon 2:30. Sunday at 10:00 and TBA.

District Level Competition

The format for the District Level competition is the same for flights A, B, C and Super.

If one team enters the event: That team will be declared the district champion.

If two teams enter the event: they will play a two session final Saturday (24 boards per session, divided into two 12-board halves) with the winner being the district champion.

If three or four teams enter the event: they will play a round robin, two session Saturday to come to two teams. The two teams will play a two session final on Sunday (24 boards per session divided into two 12-board halves) with the winner being the district champion.

If five or more teams enter the event: they will play a Swiss or Round Robin two sessions Saturday to come down to four teams. The four teams will play a one session semi-final and a one-session final (each 24 boards per session, divided into two 12-board halves) on Sunday with the winner being the district champion.

All round robins or Swiss qualifying will be scored on the WBF 20- point scale.

Conventions Allowed

- In Flight B and C, all General Chart conventions and systems are allowed.
- In Champion Flight and Flight A, all Mid Chart conventions and systems are allowed.

Number of Boards Played

All players must play at least 50% of the boards played in each of the events (Round Robin and Knockout matches) at the District Level competition in order to qualify for overall master point awards and to be eligible to play in the remainder of the Grand National competition.

Substitutes

A team must be prepared to field at least three members or it forfeits the match scheduled for that time. If due to absence for cause, only three members are available, a substitute may be utilized for no more than one calendar day or two half days during any one level of competition. Substitutes must be approved by the Director in Charge, and should not appreciably strengthen or weaken the team. A substitute must be a member of the District and may not be a member of a team still in competition. If four members are available, a

substitute is not permitted for an absent fifth or sixth member. A substitute player is entitled to any match awards while playing.

Protests

The protest period expires 30 minutes after each match, half match or segment, as applicable.

The DIC will use ROD for protests in all flights.

Time Limit Penalties

Starting Time Penalty

Any team which fails to seat a complete team at the start of a match shall be subject to the standard ACBL start time penalties. If this occurs during a round robin or swiss qualifying match and results in a forfeit, the team winning by default shall receive the largest of the following:

- 15 Victory Points
- The average of its Victory Points scored in other matches not involving defaults
- The average number of Victory Points scored against the team that defaults
- The team that defaults shall receive zero Victory Points

Playing Time Penalties

Play of the matches must be completed within the allotted time plus the grace period. Failure to complete play of boards will result in penalties.