

# Collegiate Bridge Bowl Teams Special Conditions of Contest

The General Conditions of Contest (COC) for Swiss Teams and Knockout Teams events will apply to this event, subject to the following special COC. These conditions are in addition to, or supersede, the General COC. These COC may not be changed during the course of this event.

## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- A. Teams from any accredited college or university in the USA, Canada, Mexico or Bermuda may enter this event, to be held during the Summer NABC.
- B. Each team must consist of four to six players, all students from the same accredited college or university. In case of emergency (travel delay, medical issue, etc.) a substitute not from the same school may be permitted. Any such substitute must be approved by the Director in Charge (DIC) and must meet the eligibility requirements below.
- C. Eligible participants must:
  - a. Be a student regularly enrolled in a degree-seeking college program (associate, bachelor's, master's or doctoral) as of March 1, 2026; and
  - b. Be a fully-paid ACBL member in good standing; and
  - c. Have been born no earlier than July 16, 1991 (under age 35); and
  - d. Have fewer than 3,000 ACBL masterpoints, including eligibility points, as of January 1, 2026

## PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Provided there is sufficient attendance, this event will be comprised of two separate flights: a Top flight (any team meeting the eligibility requirements above may enter) and a Limited flight (only teams whose average masterpoint holding is less than 100 masterpoints may enter). Teams which are eligible for the Limited flight may choose to "play up" and enter the Top flight. The Director in Charge (DIC) may adjust the upper limit of the Limited flight to ensure appropriate balance between the flights.
- 2) The event consists of two qualifying and two final sessions in each flight. The format for the qualifying sessions (played on Thursday) will be a Swiss or Round-Robin determined by the number of teams entered per the table below. Victory point scoring (20-point continuous NABC scale) will be used throughout the qualifying sessions. The final sessions (played on Friday) will be a knockout seeded by final rank in the qualifying sessions.
- 3) Players must play in at least half of the matches in the qualifying sessions to be eligible to play in the finals, and at least half of every match in the finals to be eligible for overall awards. Furthermore, players not prepared to play both days are ineligible and may not enter.
- 4) A player found to be ineligible after the start of the event is disqualified. The ineligible player's team may be disqualified. Any team reduced to fewer than four original members due to disqualification of ineligible players is disqualified. When a player's team is disqualified after the correction period for the event has ended, the disqualified team's position remains vacant. If the deficiency is discovered prior to a match starting, the result of the preceding match is changed; or, if discovered during a match, that match may be forfeit. The result of no other match is altered.

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## CONVENTIONS

Bidding and carding methods permitted, restricted, or not permitted in this event are per the ACBL Open Convention Chart in the Top flight, and per the ACBL Basic+ Convention Chart in the Limited flight.

## SCORING AND PLAY

- 1) For qualification, any fraction of a VP will be sufficient separation.
- 2) The number of teams qualifying for the finals will be determined by the size of the original entry, per the table below. Ties will be broken per the procedure in the general Conditions of Contest for Swiss Teams.
- 3) Matches during the finals (KO) phase will be 24 boards. Each session during the qualifying phase will be as close as is practical to 24 boards.
- 4) Masterpoint awards are per ACBL formula: Regional (played at an NABC) rating; overall awards are Gold in the Top flight, otherwise Red.
- 5) Teams losing in the semi-finals are expected to play for 3<sup>rd</sup> place.
- 6) Regarding any of the above, or any of the General COC, the decision of the DIC will be final.

<b>Event Format Based on Size of Initial Entry</b>			
Teams Entered	Qualifying Format	# Teams in Finals	Finals Format
3-4	Round-Robin (RR)	2	48-board match
5-9	RR	4	Semi-final and Final
10+	Swiss	4	Semi-final and Final