

2015/2016 North American Collegiate Bridge Bowl

Conditions of Contest

REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION

- A. Any number of four to six person teams from a college or university in North America may enter the Qualifying Stage which will be held from October 1, 2015 12:01 a.m. ET through March 31, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. PT. No participant may be on more than one team.
- B. Registration begins August 1, 2015 and ends February 28, 2016
- C. Eligible students must be currently enrolled and be born no earlier than January 1, 1991.
- D. Each team must consist of four to six players from the same college
- E. Each team will select a team captain, who will submit a team roster and submission for entry to education@acbl.org containing the full name of the school, the team captain, team name, player's full names, addresses and e-mail addresses of all team members and each of their registered Bridge Base names; those who do not have a Bridge Base account can sign up for free
- F. Teams may register at any time during the Qualifying Stage, but will not receive assignments until the next month
- G. In the event a team needs to replace one or more participants, the team may register a new team. No Victory Points will carry over to any new team.
- H. Each participant will sign the "Agreement of Fair and Sportsmanlike Participation." All forms must be completed and submitted before a team is considered registered.
- I. The ACBL reserves the right to adjust the result on any board or the result of a match under the laws of duplicate bridge and/or the conditions of contest of the Collegiate Bridge Bowl. Teams may request in writing to education@acbl.org to the Director in Charge the review of a hand or match where an allegation of an irregularity has occurred, which will be reviewed by the Director in Charge and/or an ACBL designated Committee.

QUALIFYING STAGE

- A. Two qualifying periods will be created. Qualifying Stage I will start October 1, 2015 and end December 31, 2015. Qualifying Stage II will start January 1, 2016 and end March 31, 2016.
- B. Each month, starting October 1, 2015, all registered teams will be assigned two head to head matches that must be completed by the last day of the month at 11:59 p.m. PST.
- C. The first month of each Qualifying Stage will be a random draw assignment. The remaining two months will be Swiss assignments.

- D. Captains will be responsible for coordinating with other captains to play head to head matches on Bridge Base. A match must consist of four members of the team playing against four members of the other team.
- E. Teams will log in to Bridge Base and use the Team Match feature to create matches between colleges. Setup should be as follows:
 - a. Team 1 & 2 should contain each School Team Name and Number
 - b. Form of Scoring: IMPs
 - c. Number of Boards: 16
 - d. Do Not Allow Kibitzers
 - e. Do Not Allow Kibitzers to Chat With Players
 - f. Allow Undo Requests (to be allowed reasonably)
 - g. Do Not Allow Barometer Scoring
 - h. Deal Source: Use Random Deals
- F. Teams will complete the 16 board round, and each team captain will submit the .lin game file, or link to the game file, to education@acbl.org
- G. No substitutions of players may take place in the middle of a match
- H. There is no minimum number of boards a player must play to qualify
- I. Game results will be converted to the 20 Victory Point scale.
- J. Failure to complete a match will result in a 0-0 VP award for the match
- K. In the event a team is unresponsive or unwilling to participate during a month, a captain may report the team to education@acbl.org between the 15 and 23 of that month. The ACBL will send a communication to both team captains. In the event that a team remains unresponsive or unwilling to participate, they will forfeit the match resulting in a 12-0 VP award.
- L. At the end of Qualifying Stage I, the two teams with the most VPs will earn a position to attend the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Final. At the end of Qualifying Stage II, the two teams with the most VPs will earn a position to attend the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Final. In the event that one or both of the top two teams in Qualifying Stage II have already qualified from Qualifying Stage I, the next top team or teams of total VPs from Qualifying Stage I and Qualifying Stage II will earn the position. A total of four teams will qualify to the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Final.
- M. In the event of a tie for a qualifying position, additional 8 board matches will be assigned to determine the qualifying team or teams.
- N. The qualifying team with the most earned Victory Points from both qualifying stages, not counting any tie-breaker matches, earns the #1 Seed position and the right to determine their first round opponent in the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Final.
- O. The ACBL General Convention Chart will govern play.
- P. Qualifying Stage I and Qualifying Stage II will award regionally-rated red masterpoints for both overall and match awards.

FINALS STAGE

- A. Teams attending the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals must comprise of four to six original members of the team. Teams of only four members may have one replacement, which must be an eligible student from the same participating college. A replaced player forfeits all rights earned in the competition. The ACBL invitation is extended specifically to players, not teams. Therefore, a player being replaced must be unwilling or unable to participate in the finals, and the substitution must be approved by the ACBL. No team shall have the right to replace a player who is willing and able to participate in the finals.
- B. No teams will be given the ability to augment additional players.
- C. Each member of the qualifying teams must be an ACBL member with a membership date not later than June 1, 2016.
- D. Qualifying teams will be invited to Washington, DC to compete in the finals of the 2016 Collegiate Bridge Bowl. Each participant receives:
 - a. Economy round-trip airfare up to \$500 to Washington, DC
 - b. Lodging for three nights, double occupancy
 - c. Expense supplement for meals
- E. The captain of the #1 seed will select their first round opponent, creating a knockout style bracket. Day 1, teams will play 2, 24 board matches scored by IMPs. The winning teams will move on to the finals bracket, while the other two teams move on to the consolation bracket. Day 2, the finals bracket will play for 1 and 2, and the consolation bracket will play for 3 and 4.
- F. In the event of a tie, additional 8 board matches will be assigned to determine the winning team.
- G. The winning team of the Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals will win a \$20,000 scholarship to be split evenly among all competitors of the winning team. The scholarship is non-transferable and is not redeemable for any cash value. The scholarship must be paid directly to the school, or toward a loan which can be proven as used for the education of the participant. The scholarship can be redeemed up to 5 years from the date it was won.
- H. The ACBL General Convention Chart will govern play.
- I. The Collegiate Bridge Bowl Finals will award 30 gold masterpoints for first place, 20 for second and 10 for third.