

2017 NABC Online Individual

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Event Format and Schedule

1. The 2017 NABC Online Individual is a four-day, four-session Bridge Base Online (BBO) robot duplicate event.
2. This is a national-rated contest Sunday, July 23, through Wednesday, July 26, 2017.
3. Each session comprises 24 boards.
4. Each session spans one calendar day.
5. A registered player may begin their daily session at any time during the calendar day, but must complete their 24 boards within four hours of their session start time (or prior to 23:59:59 Eastern Daylight Time, whichever comes first.)
6. Players must complete at least one board in a session to continue in the event. Players who skip a session are eliminated from the event.
7. Any incomplete boards are scored as a zero.
8. Every session is weighed equally for the final result with full carryover. There is no elimination between sessions.
9. The event is played robot duplicate style: The player sits South, with robots at the other three seats at the table.
10. The event is played best-hand style: Player always receives the hand with the most high-card points at the table or tied for the most high-card points. (Best-hand is defined solely by high-card points and does not take into account hand pattern.)
11. Human player declares for his robot partner when their side wins the contract.
12. The event is scored by matchpoints. Each session is played without running scores; the provisional leaderboard is generated following each session. Players can use either the BBO mobile app or the BBO website -- <http://www.bridgebase.com/> -- to participate.

Registration/Player Eligibility

13. Pre-registration is required to participate in the event. Registration is open July 9 through July 23, 8 p.m. (20:00) Eastern Daylight Time.
14. Card fees are \$40 July 9-19; \$50 July 20-23. Participants may pay using credit card -- VISA, Mastercard, Discover, American Express -- or PayPal, at the time of entry.
15. Registration is limited to ACBL members in good standing. Non-members wishing to join the ACBL, or players whose membership has lapsed, should complete the membership process by Friday, July 21, 3 p.m. (15:00) Eastern Daylight Time. Go to acbl.org and click on Join Now in the upper right corner of the screen.
16. ACBL and BBO employees and immediate family members may not participate.

Playing with Robots

17. The robots used are GIB robots.
18. The robots play a modified 2/1 system.
19. This is a link to system notes:
http://www.bridgebase.com/doc/gib_system_notes.php. The robots sometimes deviate from notes if simulations lead them to other conclusions.
20. The robot's understanding of what a bid means can be seen by hovering over the highlighted bid.
21. When it is a player's turn to bid, the player can see what robots think a bid means before making the bid. Please refer to Miscellaneous point 32. If the bid is not highlighted, it means the robots have no special understanding or definition for that particular bid.

Security

22. This event utilizes deal pools. Not every player will play the same boards. Each board will be duplicated a limited number of times.
23. Players are expected to refrain from communication with anyone else about the boards they have played in a session until the conclusion of the session. Players agree not to misrepresent themselves.
24. Following each session, provisional winners are listed, subject to manual review by an expert panel. The confirmed winner list for each session and the overall event will be released after review, and the decisions of the panel are final.

Awards and Title

25. This event awards one-third gold, and two-thirds red ACBL masterpoints and an NABC title.
26. First place overall awards up to 48 masterpoints.
27. Each session awards up to 18 masterpoints.

Miscellaneous

28. If there are insufficient entrants as of July 22, 2017, the event will be cancelled and all card fees refunded. Players will be notified about the event cancellation before event start date.
29. If there are severe technical issues on BBO's part that result in a player's inability to complete their session (hence disqualifying them from the event), the player's card fees will be refunded for the full event.
30. If there are minor technical issues on BBO's part that impede, but do not prohibit a player's ability to complete a session, no refunds are given.
31. Participants in this event are allowed to play other events simultaneously during the 2017 Summer NABC and receive full masterpoint awards.
32. To prevent misunderstandings, players are encouraged to familiarize themselves with BBO software and the mechanics of robot play on BBO prior to the event. In particular, players are strongly encouraged to learn how to read robot's alerts, how to claim properly, and how to customize the software to ensure their full comfort (card size, card type, chat font size, etc) before the event begins.
33. Unless specifically noted, the General Conditions of Contest, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and ACBL's Zero Tolerance Policy shall govern this event.
34. The decisions of the Director in Charge are final.

6/14/2017 Subject to change