

District 8 Conditions of Contest
2024 District 8 Grand National Teams

The following conditions apply to the District 8 Grand National Team Finals, to be held online via the BBO platform on April 27 and 28, 2024. Additionally, the ACBL Conditions of Contest will also apply. The National Conditions of Contest for the Grand National Teams, KO events, and Swiss team events shall apply in any circumstance not mentioned below and shall prevail if there is any conflict between the District and National Conditions of Contest.

THE EVENT

The District 8 Grand National Teams Final is a District-wide competition held annually to select teams to represent District 8 at the summer Nationals. The ACBL Summer Nationals will be held from July 18 – 28, 2024 in Toronto, Canada, although Grand National Team play may begin on July 17. One team of 4, 5 or 6 players is selected to represent each flight: Open/Championship, Flight A, Flight B, and Flight C. If there are at least 8 teams competing in the B or C flights of the District 8 GNT Finals, a second team in the flight will be considered eligible to compete in the National GNT Final of their respective flight.

ELIGIBILITY

Each player wishing to enter must be a District 8 member in good-standing with the ACBL. No club or unit qualifier is required; however, all teams planning to play are required to advise the District 8 GNT Coordinator (Phyllis Siegel) no later than April 19, 2024 in order to assist in planning for the event. **Pre-registration and initial payment are required by April 19, 2024.** (see pre-registration/payment heading shown below). A team Captain must report the team's flight, team captain name, and each player's name, ACBL number, BBO username, telephone number, and email address. Each team may be comprised of 4, 5 or 6 players.

LOCATION

The specific location of the District 8 GNT finals is **ONLINE** through the BBO platform. **Start time will be 11:00 am on Saturday, April 27, 2024 for all Flights: Championship, A, B, and C.** As needed, start time on Sunday, April 28, will be 11:00 am for the finals in all Flights: Championship, A, B, and C. Start times may vary slightly depending on the number of teams in each flight.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The event will be run in four flights: Open/Championship Flight with no master point restrictions; Flight A, limited to players with fewer than 6000 recorded master points; Flight B, limited to players with fewer than 2500 master points; Flight C, limited to non-Life Masters who have fewer than 500 master points. **Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September masterpoint cycle. This information was produced on August 6, 2023 in Horn Lake, MS. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.**

2 Teams	One match, Knockout (KO), 24 board match
3-4 Teams	Swiss teams - 16 board matches on Saturday. Top two teams play a 24-board KO final on Sunday, no carry over.
5-8 Teams	Swiss Teams Qualifying on Saturday. Two sessions, match length determined by the Director in Charge; top four teams play a KO phase on Sunday, no carry over. Top qualifier selects their opponent for the semi-final match from the teams that finish 3 rd and 4 th .
9+ Teams	Swiss Teams of 7 boards per match; top four teams qualify to the KO phase; both semi-final and final will be 24 board KO matches on Sunday; standard ACBL tie breaker shall apply; top qualifier selects their opponent for the semi-final match from the teams that finish 3 rd and 4 th ; no carry over.
<p>NOTES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For all Swiss events, the ACBL Continuous 20 Victory Point (VP) scale will be used. • For Swiss qualifying, the standard ACBL tie breaking procedures apply. • Players on 5 or 6 person teams must play half of the RR or Swiss matches on Saturday and half of each KO match on Sunday in order to continue participating in the event. • For KO matches, a 6 board play-off in case of a tie; subsequent ties with continuing 4 board play-offs. • No seating rights in any of the matches (blind lineups). • One team may be added to each flight after the Pre-Registration deadline, at the discretion of the GNT Coordinator and the Director in Charge, in order to have an even number of teams per flight. 	

In the Knockout Rounds only, Virtual Screenmates or telephones must be used in all flights (Open/Championship, A, B, C). For players who do not have camera capability on their devices, audio monitoring of opponents via telephone calls will be considered sufficient. This is not a requirement for the qualifying Swiss Team rounds.

The length of the event for all Flights will be determined by the number of teams entered and may be held on Saturday only, or held Saturday with qualifying players continuing on through Sunday.

If only one team enters a flight, they must buy an entry to be declared the winner and to qualify for the National finals.

Convention charts allowed for this event are:

Open/Championship: Open+

Flight A: Open

Flight B: Basic+

Flight C: Basic+

DISTRICT WINNERS

The winning team from each flight becomes the District 8 Grand National Teams Champion for that flight and advances to the National Championships held at the 2024 Summer NABC in Toronto. If a team is not planning to compete in the NABC, they must inform the GNT Coordinator as soon as possible.

District 8 will reimburse one team (first place) winner in each Flight: Open/Championship, A, B, C) **\$800 travel expenses**, per team (not per individual), for participating in the NABC GNT Finals in person in Toronto and competing in the GNT's. The winning flight team will not receive any travel monies if they withdraw from the event. Travel expenses will be reimbursed after the event. The team captain and team will determine and be responsible for disbursement of the funds. The reimbursement will be sent to the team captain.

ACBL already waives the entry fees for the first two days of the GNT for flights A, B, and C.

Substitutions and/or augmentations on teams representing the District must not weaken the team and must be approved by the ACBL District 8 representative on the ACBL Board of Directors.

PRE-REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT AND EVENT CANCELLATION

Since this is an online event, pre-registration and payment are required for this event and must be received by the GNT coordinator, as shown below, by April 19, 2024. **Payment cannot be made online through BBO. Checks should be made payable to District 8. Initially, District 8 is only collecting for two sessions. Entry fees are \$15 per person per session. Therefore, initial entry fees due for 2 sessions are \$120 per team for a four-person team, \$150 per team for a five-person team, or \$180 per team for a six-person team. If a team advances into the Sunday final, payment for the final session(s) must be made on or before May 17, 2024. Entry fees for Sunday play are also \$15 per person per session. Failure to submit payment for the Sunday finals will result in non-eligibility to play in the GNT finals at the 2024 Summer NABC or any other District 8 wide event, such as the North American Pairs finals or future GNT'S, until payment is received.**

Along with the team's check(s) for initial entry fees, the team Captain should also send the team's flight, the team captain name, and each player's name, ACBL number, BBO username, telephone number, and email address. Payment and team information should be sent to the GNT Coordinator, as shown below, no later than April 19, 2024.

In the event that District 8 does not receive enough entries to make the event financially viable, the event may be canceled. Should this occur, all monies will be returned to the team captain and no teams would represent District 8 at the 2024 Summer NABC.

CONTACTS

The District 8 GNT coordinator is Phyllis Siegel, psiegeltennis@yahoo.com (314) 313-6092.

Mail entry fees and team information to:

Phyllis Siegel, 2415 Hidden Meadow Lane, Manchester, MO 63021

Any questions should be directed to the GNT Coordinator, or the Director in Charge, as shown on the ACBL website.

HELPFUL LINKS

ACBL Conditions of Contest: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2023-24.pdf>

Online Play: Appendix O: <https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AppendixO.pdf>