

DISTRICT 12 CONDITIONS OF CONTEST – 2015-2016

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS – FLIGHTS OPEN, A, B, and C

1. Please also refer to the ACBL Conditions of Contest which govern competition at the NABC GNT FINALS. They are posted on the district web site: www.district12bridge.org.
2. A player must be a member of the ACBL in good standing at all levels of this event. District 12 does not currently have Club level or Unit level qualifying; the competition in District 12 begins and ends at the District level.
3. A player must be a member of District 12. A waiver may be requested in writing for a) students enrolled and attending a college or university in District 12 at the time of the District Final, or b) members of the armed services posted within the District at the time of the District Final. Sufficient documentation establishing the basis for the waiver must be attached to the waiver request. Waiver requests must be received by the District Coordinator no later than February 28 of the year in which the District Final is contested.
4. The September masterpoint cycle (determined before the second week of August of each year) of the year in which the GNT competition begins will determine a player's eligibility to participate in any limited flight. Since the 2013-2014 cycle, the ACBL has modified the masterpoint ranges for this event; the A flight now extends up to 6000 MPs and the B flight extends up to 2500 MPs. The C flight range is unchanged: NLM with fewer than 500 MPs.
5. The event is open to teams of 4, 5, or 6 players.
6. The District Final will be open to all entries. All teams entered will be expected to compete at the summer NABC GNT final if they prevail as the district winner in their flight. **Note that this is a new district condition begun in 2013 – 2014.**
7. The District final will be held at the Bridge Connection at 26776 W. 12 Mile Rd. in Southfield, Michigan on April 9 & 10, 2016. On Saturday April 9, each flight will be reduced to two teams who will play on the following day to determine the District winner for the each flight.
8. If a flight has 9 or fewer teams, Saturday's match will be a round robin unless, in the Director-in-Charge's discretion, a different format would be more appropriate. If a flight has 10 or more teams, Saturday's matches will be in a Swiss format.
9. Entry fees will be determined by the District 12 Board of Directors.
10. The District, in its sole discretion as established by District action, will provide a stipend for the District representative in each flight, to help offset expenses at the National Final.
11. If the District final event is not profitable, Units will be assessed amounts sufficient to

make the event break even based on the July 1 membership numbers of each unit.

12. For any overall award, a player must play at least 50% of all boards played by the team during the district final competition. A player may play less than 50% of all boards played by the team but will then be eligible only for match awards.
13. On the final day of the competition, the match between the two finalists will consist of 56 boards. Each match will be divided into 14 board quarters. There are no seeding rights and, should a seating disagreement occur, each captain will submit a geographic lineup for their team to the Director-in-Charge. Should a match end in a tie, an 8 board playoff will be played, and if the tie persists, additional 4 board playoffs. Play will resume after a short intermission with captains again submitting a lineup to the DIC.
14. The protest/appeals period expires 30 minutes after each session.
15. Kibitzers will be permitted but shall try to confine themselves to a single table which may not be that of their own team. Each player has the right to bar one kibitzer without cause. No player has the right to bar all kibitzers from their table. Any kibitzer may be barred for cause by the DIC.
16. The penalty for failure to seat a complete team at the announced game time will be:
 - a. First five (5) minutes: no penalty.
 - b. More than five minutes – up to 10 minutes: 1 IMP.
 - c. More than 10 minutes – up to 15 minutes: 3 IMPs.
 - d. More than 15 minutes – up to 20 minutes: 6 IMPs
 - e. More than 20 minutes – up to 30 minutes: 9 IMPs
 - f. More than 30 minutes – up to 40 minutes: 12 IMPsThe match will be curtailed one board, up to a maximum of four boards, for each 7 ½ minutes or fraction thereof of tardiness after the first ten minutes. If play has not commenced (with or without a substitute) within 40 minutes of the announced game time, the match will be declared forfeit.
17. Substitutes are subject to the discretion of the District GNT Coordinator and the DIC; substitutes may not strengthen a team. A substitute is not allowed if a fifth or sixth member of a team is available.
18. Slow play. A total of two (2) hours will be allotted for each 14 board quarter when a knockout format is in use. When a lesser number of boards is in play due to a round robin format, a proportionally less period of time will be allocated for completion of the match. Any board not started within the allotted time will be canceled with a three (3) IMP penalty per board assessed to an offending team. Players will be responsible for notifying the DIC of late arriving opponents and of slow play during each round of play.
19. Penalties for not timely fielding a team and for slow play are independent of each other and are thus, additive.

20. The ACBL Mid Chart will be allowed in both the Unlimited Flight and Flight A.
21. In order for a District winner to represent the district at the National Finals, at least three (3) members of the winning team must play at the National Finals. Winning teams that do not meet this requirement will not be allowed to supplement or augment the team and will be disqualified as the district representative. In the event of disqualification of the winning team, the opportunity to serve as the district representative within the flight will be offered to the runner-up in the flight. If the runner-up declines to participate or is disqualified by the above criterion, the District Board of directors will select players to represent the District.
22. District winners may substitute for any original member of the team unable to attend the National Finals from among any District member eligible to play in the Flight. District winners in any flight with less than six members may augment the team to a total of six members from among any District members eligible to play in the Flight. Teams wishing to substitute or augment their team will be expected to do so with the goal of fielding the best team to represent the District. If substitution or augmentation is desired, it must be approved by the District GNT Coordinator. Requests for substitution or augmentation must be submitted to the District GNT Coordinator in writing no later than April 30, 2015.
23. If the district GNT Coordinator is playing in the District Final event, the Coordinator will delegate any discretionary decisions to the Director-in-Charge or any other district member in good standing in the ACBL in order to avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance thereof. The appointment of a designee is at the Coordinator's sole discretion and is not subject to review.