

District 24 NAP COC 2026-2027

General

(a) National Conditions of Contest: The 2026-2027 North American Pairs (hereafter, NAP) Conditions of Contest as published by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) govern this competition: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/NAP/CoC.pdf>

(b) District Coordinator: The D24's coordinator for the ACBL-wide North American Pair event is currently Bill Dinner (hereafter "Coordinator"), e-mail: bill.dinner@gmail.com; telephone number (917) 623-0634.

(c) Participation: To advance beyond the club level in this event, a player must be a member in good standing of both the ACBL and District 20 (D24).

(d) Club Stage: Club qualifying games will be conducted in June, July and August of 2026 as detailed in the ACBL National Conditions of Contest. You may qualify in a NAP qualifying game in any ACBL district. Players qualify as individuals and may play with any eligible partner in the district finals.

(e) D24 players who qualified in a Club NAP qualifying game or are otherwise qualified by the ACBL National Conditions of Contest may compete in the D24 NAP Finals in the flight(s) for which they are eligible.

(f) For the purposes of this competition, a player's eligibility for a specific flight will be determined by what their masterpoints were on May 6, 2026 (The June masterpoint cycle).

Partnerships consisting of players at different experience levels are only eligible to compete in those flights for which both players are eligible. For example, a 1000-MP player playing with a 3500-MP player is not eligible for Flight B even though the average of the partnership is less than 3000 MP. Players may participate in any flight for which they (and their partner) are eligible. However, a player may play in only one flight at the NABC Final.

Event Dates, Times and Locations:

(a) The Flight A and Flight C Finals will be held simultaneously on Sunday, October 18, 2026. The Championship Flight will be held on Sunday October 4 and Flight B Finals will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026. Planned starting times for the two sessions are 10:00 am and to be announced - The Director in Charge (DIC) will announce the exact starting time for the second session at the end of the first session. All participants are required to register for the game at least one hour before the starting time. Any later participants will be allowed only by the discretion of the director.

(b) The dates, times, and locations for these Finals are subject to change by the Coordinator or Regional Director for good cause.

(c) The NAPs will be contested on the Realbridge platform (realbridge.online). Players may play from any venue that they wish to participate from.

Event Format:

(a) All four flights in the D24 NAP Finals will be conducted as one-day, two-session, play-through events supervised by the DIC who must have at least the rank of ACBL Tournament director. The national conditions of contest call for each session to be at least 24 but not more than 30 deals long. However, the DIC may adjust the session length to accommodate the number of pairs in each flight.

(b) Format Changes: The event format in all flights is subject to change for good reason by a committee consisting of the DIC, NAE Coordinator, and Regional Director.

District Finals Conditions of Play

(a) You must register 1 hour earlier than game time on the date of your competition. Registration(s) after this date may be accepted to improve the game movement or for other good reasons subject to approval by the DIC.

(b) The entry fee for the District Finals for all Flights is \$30 per person. Payable on RealBridge.online.

(c) Seeding: It is intended that pairs play against the other pairs in an equitable movement. The DIC will balance the field. by taking into account the players' Masterpoint holdings and recent accomplishments. The DIC may consult with the Regional Director, District President, and NAE Coordinator regarding the seeding.

(d) Slow Play: A maximum of 7.0 minutes per board is permitted in each segment of play, unless play is delayed for a technical difficulty. The DIC will monitor play and may add additional time in the case of technical difficulties.

(e) Kibitzing: Kibitzing is prohibited.

(f) Scoring: The contestants within each flight will be scored via match point scoring with every other competitor within their flight to determine the overall rankings.

(g) Ties: Ties for advancement positions in any flight Finals will be broken as follows. The boards played in common will be scored board-a-match versus average, with 1 point for above average, ½ point for average, and no points for below average. If the pairs are still tied then a coin flip by the DIC will determine the placing.

Online Competition

(a) Provisions for Online Competition: This event will be played online to provide broad accessibility for players in all parts of D24 and to select the representatives to the National Finals in the fairest way possible. The ACBL regulations for on-line play govern this event and are contained in the National Conditions Appendix O : Online Play
<https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AppendixO.pdf>.

Electronic Device Policy

The ACBL electronic device policy applies to this event. The URL is copied below.
<https://web2.acbl.org/coc/AppendixJ.pdf>

Conventions

(a) Contestants are required to upload convention cards to RealBridge.

(b) The ACBL Open+ Chart applies to the Championship flight.

(c) The ACBL Open Chart applies to Flight A.

(d) The ACBL Basic+ Convention Chart applies to Flights B and C.

(e) If players have questions regarding the permissibility of their own or their opponent's conventions they should contact the DIC.

Advancement

- (a) Ranking of Pairs: Pairs will be ranked by their overall score, within each flight, for overall masterpoint awards and for pair advancement eligibility.
- (b) Subject to the tie-breaking procedure, the top three pairs in the championship flight and flight A and the top four pairs in flights B and C will be eligible to advance to the National Finals.
- (c) If a pair declines the opportunity to advance, the vacant position will be offered to the next highest pair. Note: pairs must declare intention to advance within two weeks of notification or risk having their status deemed “declined.” and/or advance email notifications; and by publishing schedules and reports in the D24’s newsletter, social media, and on its web site.

Contingencies

- (a) The Coordinator will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to Club Qualifying Events, publicity, playing sites and dates that are not specifically addressed by these conditions. Also, in consultation with the NA Events Committee if feasible, the Coordinator will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the finals that are not specifically addressed by these conditions and which arise before October 25th, 2026. If such a matter should involve a flight of competition that the coordinator is also competing in, then the Coordinator shall defer to a member of the NA Events Committee who is not competing in that flight to act in his or her stead.
- (b) The DIC will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the Finals that are not specifically addressed by these conditions and which arise on or after October 24th, 2026.

Security

The ACBL online security requirements as detailed on the ACBL website at:
<http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/NAP/CoC.pdf> are part of these conditions.

- a) Though no monitor or specific playing venue is required, individuals competing in the same flight should not be in a location where they can hear each other or see the screens of another competitor.