

2014 Great Western Spring STaC

May 5-11, 2014

Sanction # **ST1405010**

DIC: Bill Michael

E-Mail: stacman592@yahoo.com

This is the **only** e-mail address to use – any other submission may not get to me in a timely manner. Gamefile submissions to other addresses that do not reach me in time will be deemed late, and not included in the main event.

Cell Phone: (719) 660-6168

All email communications, whether a gamefile submission or not **must** have your club# in the subject line. I have over 300 clubs corresponding with me, and this is the only sure way I have of identifying who I'm corresponding with. Communications without the club number (including gamefile submissions) may get lost in the shuffle, causing you to not be answered or have your gamefile submission not be included in the main event.

ACBL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS WILL APPLY FOR ALL GAMEFILE SUBMISSIONS!

GAMEFILES AND ANY SCORING CORRECTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

Morning games: 5:00 PM (MST) the following day.

Afternoon games: 10:00 PM (MST) the following day.

Evening games: Midnight (MST) the following day.

ALL Sunday games must be received by Noon (MST) on Monday.

Games MUST be submitted as the ACBLScore gamefile (ending in ".ACM", ".ACA", ".ACE", or ".ACL")

CALL me if you have a problem finding or attaching this file to your e-mail. Any other submission will not be processed – therefore will NOT be included in the main event. ".htm", ".txt", ".lzh", etc... are not gamefiles and will be summarily dismissed. An email will be sent to you stating that I have received the wrong file, and requesting the proper one. The proper gamefile must still be received by the above cutoff times.

Please remember: playing directors (and their partners) are ineligible for overall rankings or awards. Playing directors are eligible for section awards. **All games must indicate the director's name, or the gamefile will not be accepted.**

Please see page #5 for setup instructions to adjust eligibility.

Sanction fees must be sent in within 48 hours of your final game. Please print out and use the reporting form on page #8 with your payment submission. Thank you.

Download the instructions and hand records from <http://www.acbl.org/tournament-calendar/stac/> after you register.. If you have any problems, let me know. **YOUR HAND RECORDS WILL NOT BE EMAILED TO YOU.**

Swiss team events are allowed in any session. You may stratify them as you wish. Overall awards for team events will be for that site.

All Gamefile submissions **must** be submitted to stacman592@yahoo.com by the cutoff times listed on page 1. If I do not have your gamefile by the appropriate cutoff time, **it will not be included in the main event!** Per our conditions of contest, any such games will be combined in a separate *side game rated* event, and awards will be based on this much smaller award calculation. **If you attempt to submit your gamefile, and have a problem, please CALL me, and let me know that something's wrong. Have the information for your game in front of you when you call me.** I will acknowledge, by e-mail, all gamefile submissions, as quickly as possible, as long as you have included your club# in the subject line. If you don't get this acknowledgement before the cutoff time for submissions listed on page #1, please CALL me to verify receipt of your gamefile.

Gamefile submissions must be the ACBLScore gamefile. This is the file that ends with .ACM for morning games, .ACA for afternoon games, or .ACE for evening games. If you don't change the ACBLScore defaults, the rest of the gamefile name will be based on the date: YYMMDD.AC?. If you need help retrieving and emailing this file, I will be available for the entire tournament and can help step you through it on the phone. (You may try calling 24 hours/day – If I'm unavailable, please leave a message. If it's a late call, please tell me when I may call you – i.e. until 2:00am, after 9:00 am, your local time, etc., or I will assume that 9:00AM-9:00PM is the acceptable call time range). Please be in front of your computer when you call me for this, or any other computer related questions. Do not send files that end with ".htm", ".txt", ".lzh", or any other extension. These are not gamefiles and cannot be processed, **nor do they constitute submission within the 24 hour period.**

Score corrections have the same cutoff time as gamefile submissions. Name corrections will be accepted until 6:00 PM the Monday evening following the end of the STaC tournament. Strata for overall ranking will only be raised, not lowered, for a player name correction submitted after the cutoff time. Local section awards will be recalculated using the corrected stratum. (If your original name made the pair a stratum "A", or "B" pair, and the correction makes the pair a stratum "C" pair, the pair will remain stratum "A" for overall awards, unless the name change was submitted before the original cutoff time.)

Score corrections should be submitted in the following manner: Note the correction in an email to me. The email should have your club # in the subject line, and note, either

in the subject line, or in the body of the email the session and the correction. (e.g. Board #9 N/S 6 vs E/W 3 should be N/S +200 instead of E/W +200). Name changes should be submitted the same way.

If you do not use ACBLScore, please call me at the conclusion of your game to handle reporting instructions. Do not email anything to me until/unless I advise you so to do.

All games are to be stratified by average. There will be a consistent stratification breakdown for all “main event” games (games combined with others). The event codes have been expanded to reflect these common game limits and are outlined on the next page. If you wish to run a limited game with a different top limit than indicated, it will be a standalone game, so overall awards will only be awarded based on the tables at your own site. You may stratify this type of game with any breaks you wish. **If it is your actual intent to run a standalone game with a limited top strata game, then three additional things need to be done by you.**

NEW 1 - *Email me at least 24 hours in advance of your game(s) to tell me of your intention of running a standalone game. Please include both your club# and something to the effect that you are telling me that a game is being scheduled to be run as a standalone game. Failure to send me this e-mail will result in your game being included in the main event, with the strata modified, if necessary, to match our specified strata breakdowns.*

2 - *When you are setting up your gamefile, answer "no" to the question about whether this is a multi-site event. **This is only for special standalone pairs games, and all Swiss Team games – all other games answer “yes” to the multi-site question.***

3 - *add a note to me in the gamefile. In DOS, the command is "NOTE", in windows, use the command list (<F11> or "Alt-L" and select the command "NOTE". Just say something like "This is intentionally a standalone game. **If you fail to include this note, I will assume a mistake was made, and re-stratify your game when I receive it.***

Sanction fees are to be mailed within 48 hours of the completion of your last session. Please be prompt and remember to print and include the STaC report form on the last page of this guide. ***NEW*** When I have received the last game you’ve registered for, I will send an invoice to verify that we are in agreement on the number of tables and total sanction fees you owe. If you receive this invoice before your last game has been run, it means that all of your games are not registered, so send me an e-mail telling me what else you were planning on running.

Any conditions not addressed in this guide will be determined by the official Western Conference STaC CofC, and by the general ACBL STaC CofC.

Event Codes (note: these are expanded from prior STaCs)

Replace the "XX" listed below with the session number. Session numbers are:

01 - Monday Morning	02 - Monday Afternoon	03 - Monday Evening
04 - Tuesday Morning	05 - Tuesday Afternoon	06 - Tuesday Evening
07 - Wednesday Morning	08 - Wednesday Afternoon	09 - Wednesday Evening
10 - Thursday Morning	11 - Thursday Afternoon	12 - Thursday Evening
13 - Friday Morning	14 - Friday Afternoon	15 - Friday Evening
16 - Saturday Morning	17 - Saturday Afternoon	18 - Saturday Evening
19 - Sunday Morning	20 - Sunday Afternoon	21 - Sunday Evening

XX01 - Open Pairs. +/2000/750

XX02 - 749er pairs 750/300/100

XX03 - All 499er, 299er, and NLM 500/200/100

XX04 - All 199er pairs. 200/100/50

XX05 - 99er pairs. 100/50/20

XX06 - 49er pairs. 50/20/10

XX07 - Newcomer pairs. 20/10/5

(example: A Thursday Afternoon 499er game would be event code: 1103)

XX21 - Auxiliary pairs. +/2000/750. **These are open games with less than 10 pairs.**

To be eligible for the Open Pairs (XX01), there must be a minimum of 10 pairs in the game. If your game is an open game with less than 10 pairs, your event code will be **XX21**.

XX11 - Any Invitational Pairs*. (If you have more than one invitational pairs events at the same time, keep adding 1, so a second event will be XX12, etc...)

XX99 Any team game. (If you run more than one team game at the same time, count down from 99, so a second team game will have the event code of XX98, etc..)

XX50 - For any games not listed above (keep adding 1 if you have more than one event that's not listed above - 51, 52, etc...)

* Invitational games are limited by age, address, or other restriction. Games that allow anybody to play in them, except for people with more than a specified number of masterpoints, are not invitational, but are "limited", (749er, or non-life master e.g.).

If you have any questions, or problems determining your event code, please call me before or during your game, and I'll be happy to help. Bill (719) 660-6168.

Game Setup Instructions

Start setting up your gamefile normally. When you select that it is a stac game (option #9 in the event rating segment), there will be a few different questions than for a normal club game.

Select option #1 "Sectional Tournament at Clubs".

Then, "yes" to the question Associate the STAC game with a club.

Select the 5th option for number of strata "three strata - average of both players"

Then, "Championship Rating".

All pairs games are 1 session, team games may be held as a 1 or 2 session event

Select the appropriate masterpoint rating - the open game will be "no limit", 2000, 750.

When the computer asks if this is a multi-site event, **for pairs games the answer is "YES"**.

For team games, or games that are intentionally not participating in the main events, the answer is "NO".

When the tournament information box pops up, fill in the blanks. **Don't forget to include the director's name!**

The sanction number is the entire sanction number, *including the letters*; "ST1405010".

Select your event code from the list on the previous page. All four digits are important - make sure you select the proper session number when you enter the event code.

Example: an open pairs game run on Wednesday afternoon will have the event code of: "0801".

Games with a standardized top masterpoint holding (including unlimited) will be re-stratified automatically by me. Therefore, it behooves you to enter my standardized strata from the outset, as your section awards will then match what is ultimately submitted to ACBL.

For games with playing directors

!MAKE SURE YOU LIST THE ACTUAL DIRECTOR'S NAME IN THE "DIRECTOR" BOX – THIS WILL BE THE OFFICIAL PLAYER WHO WILL BE MARKED INELIGIBLE!

To mark a pair as ineligible for overall awards:

In the main game screen OF THE SECTION THE DIRECTOR IS PLAYING IN, press the <F9> button.

Select option #4 - Qualification/Eligibility.

In the next menu, again select option #4 – Specify Overall and Session rank ineligibility.

This will bring up a list of players.

Find the Director's pair number (and direction for a Mitchell/Web).

Change the eligibility from "Y" to "S". This allows section awards, while eliminating this pair from the overall listing.

Helpful Errata - from questions I've had in the past.

"Limited" means a game that is restricted only by masterpoint holding.

"Invitational" means a game that is restricted by gender, address, age, or some other restriction that bars specific people from playing, regardless of how many masterpoints they hold.

"Auxiliary Pairs" are otherwise open pairs games that have less than 10 pairs in the game. This is a separate championship event that will have the overall awards based on the total number of tables from open games with less than 5 full tables.

Section awards are awards that are paid to players who sit in the same direction in the same section. This would be all pairs in a one-winner movement. If you have more than one section, and you combine the rankings between the multiple sections, there will only be one section 1st awarded; won by the highest ranking pair in each direction of all combined sections. These awards are calculated locally - based on the number of pairs in your own game - regardless of what anybody else's game has. Because of this, your players may, with a good game and a lot of pairs in their stratum, achieve a higher section award than overall award. In all cases, the final award to your players will be the highest of all awards won. Your players may see pairs who ranked lower in the overalls earn a higher award. This is pretty much always because the pair earned a higher section award than the overall award would have been. Don't hesitate to drop me a line to double check that everything is on track, if this occurs.

Overall awards are awards that are paid after all gamefiles are processed for a specific event. These are ranked based on the percentage score of all pairs, sitting any direction. The awards are calculated based on the total number of tables from all submitting clubs. Because of this, the overall awards will take awhile to be calculated, and will be changing until finalized. Finalized results will be noted as final on the WC website – they will not be specifically noted on the ACBL website, but when the WC site reflects “final”, the ACBL website will also be final. After a session is listed as “final”, there will be no corrections of any nature allowed for the open games, including adding non-reported games, scoring corrections, etc... with the exception of player name changes as listed above, or to correct errors on my part.

If you hold games with more than one section, it is more likely that your players will have a higher score if you do not score across the field. It is your choice whether you score across the field. The decision of whether or not to score across sections must be made in advance of the scoring, and is not to be changed after scores are known. My recommendation is that you score and rank within sections.

MITCHELL MOVEMENTS WITH HAND RECORDS

# of Tables	Bds/Rnd	# of Played Rds.	How to start after duplication
5*	6	4	Boards down 1 table & E/W players up 1 table
6	5	5	Boards down 1 table, skip after 3 rounds
7*	4	6	Boards down 1 table & E/W players up 1 table
8	4	7	Boards down 1 table, skip after 4 rounds
9*	3	8	Boards down 1 table & E/W players up 1 table
10	3	9	Boards down 1 table, skip after 5 rounds
11	3	9	Boards down 2 tables
12	3	9	Boards down 1 table, skip after 6 rounds
13*	2	12	Boards down 1 table & E/W players up 1 table
14	2	13	Boards down 1 table, skip after 7 rounds
15	2	13	Boards down 2 tables
16	2	13	Boards down 2 tables, skip after 7 rounds
17	2	13	Boards down 2 tables
18	2	13	Boards down 2 tables, skip after 9 rounds Alternatively, run 2 9-table sections*

*Asterisked movements will result in 24 board movements, unless you preduplicate the boards.

ALWAYS PLAY YOUR NORMAL NUMBER OF BOARDS, UNLESS LIMITED BY THE ASTERISKED MOVEMENTS ABOVE. IF YOU PREDUPLICATE YOUR BOARDS, YOU CAN PLAY ANY MOVEMENT NORMALLY, HOWELL OR MITCHELL.

If you expect a Howell movement, you should make up the boards in advance, so your players can play the optimum number of boards and opponents.

Non-limited games require a minimum of a 20 board movement

If you have any questions or problems, please call me.

Bill Michael (719) 660-6168

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General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for
Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs)

Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs) provide bridge players with the opportunity to win Silver Points at their local clubs. All of the ACBL's rules, regulations, and procedures for running a Sectional tournament apply to the organization and management of a STaC. ACBL's current STaC guidelines and fees will apply.

Sponsoring organizations may, with ACBL approval only, amend these conditions for a specific event. Such amendments should appear in all printed tournament schedules and be posted prior to the start of event.

The Director in Charge shall make the final decision on any item in these conditions. Furthermore, the Director in Charge will resolve any issue not specifically covered.

SPONSORING UNIT

1. A STaC may be scheduled for up to seven consecutive days, but may include only one weekend -- however, Management may grant an exception to the weekend requirement for cause. A sanction application must be sent to the appropriate District Tournament Coordinator at least 12 months prior to the scheduled tournament date. The ACBL may sanction a STaC when it receives the sanction application with fewer than 12 months advance notice if there are no scheduling conflicts and the STaC can be advertised in "The Bulletin" calendar schedule at least one month prior.
2. While only Units may apply for a sanction to hold a STaC there is no objection to a Unit nominating a District or Districts to conduct the tournament. In District-wide STaCs all clubs within the District(s) must be offered the opportunity to participate. Participation is at the club level when sponsored by a District. If a Unit outside of the sponsoring District wants to participate, all clubs within that Unit must be invited to participate (The unit must receive approval from its district coordinator).
3. A sponsor may schedule morning, afternoon and/or evening sessions. For the purpose of determining in which session a club should participate use the standard club session designations. The local sponsor must designate the sessions to be scheduled. As an example: Morning games would be those starting prior to 12:00 local time, afternoon games start prior to 18:00 local time, and evening games 18:00 and later. Morning and afternoon games may not be combined as day games nor may afternoon and evening games be combined.
4. STaC sessions may be scheduled at any participating club for any session that the club has a regularly sanctioned game at that club. Additional games may be held at the option of the sanctioned club. However, when a scheduling conflict exists, preference shall be granted to the club that holds a regularly scheduled game (within a 25 mile radius) at the time in question. The STaC sponsor has the final decision.
5. Each Sponsor must develop a schedule of games and Conditions of Contest. This schedule and the CoC will be posted on ACBL's web site. Open and limited Stratified Pair and Swiss team events may be scheduled. All pair events are single-session events. Team games shall be stand-alone events at the site played.
6. All masterpoints awarded are silver and sectionally rated. Overall awards are based on the total entry in each event except that Swiss Team overall awards are based only on the entry at each individual

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site. Open events do not receive credit for other concurrent events.

7. The use of hand records is encouraged but not required. For a STaC using hand records, games at sites not using hand records will be entered as a side game for ranking and masterpoint awards (65% of sectional rating).
8. Masterpoint levels and strat limits will be set by the STaC sponsor. The strat levels will be the same for all open pair games and for like limited pair games. Swiss team events are at club option.
9. The sponsor is responsible for notifying all club managers to register for the upcoming STaC. An e-mail blast may be requested for those managers with an address on file. Snail mail notification will need to note that they must register online and submit results by e-mail to participate.
10. The organization receiving the sanction (sponsoring organization – ‘SO’) is responsible for the collection of any fees due from a participating ACBL sanctioned game. Each participating club is responsible for submitting all fees to the sponsoring organization in a timely manner. The ‘SO’ is also responsible for ensuring that all fees due the ACBL are remitted in a timely manner. Should a participating club owe a debt to a unit, district, conference or ACBL, the ‘SO’ may ask Management for assistance in collection as permitted by ACBL regulations.

PARTICIPATING CLUBS

1. Any club within the area of the participating Unit may hold a STaC game in lieu of its regularly scheduled club game. Additional games may be held, as noted above.
2. The ACBL General Convention Chart will be used unless the sponsor specifies and advertises otherwise.
3. A minimum section size of 10 pairs is needed to be included in the Championship session. Sections with fewer than 10 pairs may be reported, combined, and included as a separate Sectionally rated Championship event. This restriction may be modified or waived, prior to the start of the tournament, at sponsor option.
4. Invitational (not masterpoint limited) games will be scored and ranked as stand alone sectionally rated Championship event with 1 restriction (80% sectional rating) unless these games are opened to all players and advertised as such. Invitational clubs will use the same limits as the open event and will be combined for overall ranking.
5. Limited masterpoint games will be scored and ranked alone unless a like limited masterpoint game is held at one or more other STaC sites. In this case, these games will be scored together for overall rankings and masterpoint awards.
6. Playing directors may not duplicate the boards in games using hand records. The club director of such a game may play only with the consent, in advance, of the DIC of the STaC.

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7. Non-playing directors are encouraged but not required for games with no more than one section of 17 tables or fewer. Non-playing directors are required in games larger than 17 tables or with two or more sections.
8. **(2013 – New)** In games of one section and 17.0 tables or less, a playing director and his/her partner (or teammates) are not eligible for overall awards but will receive session (or match win) awards at the local club. This restriction may be waived by the STaC sponsor to allow playing directors and partner to receive overall awards, but such waiver will only apply to single section games of 17.0 tables or less. (Games of two sections or more, or more than 17.0 tables, cannot have a playing director at all, and, if the director does play, the director and partner would not be eligible for masterpoints at all.) **To implement this rule, it is mandatory that each club list the name of the person directing each club's game when setting up the ACBLscore game information.**
9. Each club must report its results to the (DIC) within the designated time limit. The time limit is 24 hours from the end of its game unless the sponsor specifies an earlier time limit. In no case may this time limit be less than 12 hours from the end of the game. Club games not reported within the time limit will be scored, ranked, and issued masterpoints as a sectionally rated side game if received prior to the final reporting period.
10. Reporting will be by e-mail attachment of the gamefile. At sponsor option, special reporting arrangements may be made for games with fewer than 17 tables. Reporting procedures will be posted with the sponsor's STaC Conditions of Contest.
11. The final reporting period for the STaC ends 12 hours after the last event ends. Later reports will be returned to the club, to be reported as a regularly scheduled club session.
12. The correction period at each club is the same as the reporting time limit. A club must post a copy of the recap for inspection at the end of each session.
13. The club manager must register for all sessions to be held using the registration process available on ACBL's web site at least two days prior to the start date of the STaC. Late registrations are at the discretion of the DIC.
14. The club must notify the STaC DIC of any scheduled session that is canceled within one hour of the start time for the session.
15. The STaC sponsor may require clubs to download hand record files from ACBL's web site.
16. In order to be eligible for overall awards in a STaC, or any event that is scored across more than one club, the minimum number of boards played is set at 20.

Director-in-Charge

1. The DiC of a STaC must be an ACBL Tournament Director or higher rank.
2. The DiC of a STaC, and the sponsor, will develop reporting guidelines and specific conditions of contest to be posted on ACBL's web site at least six weeks prior to the start of the STaC..

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3. The DiC of a STaC will label hand records when used.
4. The DiC will organize and provide results to participating clubs for each session after the deadline for reporting the game results.
5. The DiC will create reports at the end of the STaC as requested by the sponsor.
6. The DiC will provide standard Sectional tournament reports.
7. In addition to the expected functions of a DiC, the DiC may be asked to perform a variety of additional tasks. Typical tasks may include distribution of hand record printouts, pre-tournament advertising, or a post-tournament bulletin. The DiC and the sponsor will determine the time and fees for these tasks.