

Blue Ribbon Pairs Special Conditions of Contest

The General Conditions of Contest for pair events will apply to this event, subject to the following special conditions of contest. These Conditions of Contest may not be changed at any level of play during the course of this event. Lack of knowledge does not constitute cause for exemption. Regarding any of the below or any of the general conditions of ACBL pair events, the decision of the Director in Charge (DIC) shall be final.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The Blue Ribbon Pairs will be open to any two paid up ACBL Members, each of whom hold a Blue Ribbon qualification. See Appendix R for more complete information on how one obtains a qualification. ACBL Members who do not hold such qualification may request an exemption, in writing. Only the DIC, or his designee, may grant this request.

CONVENTIONS

Bidding and carding methods permitted, restricted or not permitted in this event are per the ACBL Open+ Convention Chart.

SCORING AND PLAY

- 1) The Blue Ribbon Pairs will consist of six sessions: two qualifying, two semi-final and two final.
- 2) For the two qualifying sessions the field will be divided into comparison/qualifying groups of two or three sections. For the semi-final sessions there will be across the field scoring with up to seven sections. With more than seven sections the DIC may, at his or her discretion, score across the field if logistically appropriate or arrange for two or three section comparison/qualifying groups. The matchpoints on each board will be calculated across each group for the two qualifying sessions.
- 3) There will be a carryover from the qualifying sessions to the semi-final. The carryover will be calculated as per ACBL regulations but the spread from top to bottom can be no greater than two and one half boards. There will be a carryover from the semi-final sessions to the final as well but the spread can be no greater than four boards.
- 4) For purposes of qualifying or for determining final overall ranking any fraction of a matchpoint difference will constitute sufficient separation.
- 5) The DIC is permitted to combine as many sections as logical and practical for scoring. Qualification of contestants for subsequent stages shall be based on overall standing in the entire field, regardless of section and/or direction. Between 40% and 50% of the field will qualify from the qualifying to the semi-final and from the semi-final to the final. The intent is to have 2 – 4 sections in the final, unless a larger field is needed to accommodate an unusually large initial entry. Ties for the last qualifying position will be broken as per ACBL regulation.
- 6) Management, at its discretion, may, for the final day, authorize barometer scoring with publication of previous rounds' results and standings throughout the day with a one round lag through the penultimate round (i.e., the last preliminary posting will be through the antepenultimate round).