

CHAPTER XI – SPECIAL EVENTS

B. GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS

Section 1 – Guidelines

- 1.1 Any player participating in GNT events must be a dues-paying or service-fee paid ACBL member prior to playing in any level of this event except club qualifying.
- 1.2 The GNT competition will have four flights as follows:
 - a. Championship Flight: 0-unlimited
 - b. Flight A: 0-6000 masterpoints
 - c. Flight B: 0-2500 masterpoints
 - d. Flight C: non-Life Master up to 500 masterpoints
- 1.3 The District has the option of conducting any fair bridge competition it chooses to select a winning team for each flight, which is then entitled to play in the National finals at the Summer NABC. Sometimes a GNT club-round qualifying event is scheduled, but participation by an individual club is optional.
- 1.4 The ACBL finals of Flight B and Flight C of the GNT will be a seeded knockout.
 - 1.4.1 Seeding will be by average masterpoints. Ties will be broken by lot.
- 1.5 At the GNT National finals, screens shall be used starting in the round of eight in the Championship Flight and Flight A and in the round of four in Flight B and Flight C. If, due to space limitations, ACBL management believes that they will be unable to comply with these regulations, ACBL management may reduce the number of screens as appropriate.

Section 2 – Fees and Fund Raising

- 2.1 Sanction fees shall be \$1.00 per table per session at all stages of the event. At District option, a surcharge may be added.
- 2.2 Each Regional shall be allocated one (1) sanction-free midnight Swiss game held to subsidize District GNT competition.
- 2.3 A District may permit each club within its geographical area to hold one Sectional-rated event (for as many game sessions as the club has sanctioned) as a fundraiser for the GNT or the Canadian National Team Championship. Each District sets the amount its clubs must remit to it, up to a maximum of \$6.00 per table.

Section 3 – Miscellaneous GNT Regulations

- 3.1 The regulations that apply to sanctioning Sectionals shall apply to the sanctioning of a District's GNT final.
- 3.2 ACBL members representing their NBO or Zone 2 in WBF competitions shall be granted a waiver of the qualification requirements for GNTs where a conflict of dates exists. This waiver will not apply to a District final.
- 3.3 Districts may hold events in one or more stages.
- 3.4 Districts may hold Sectional-rated events in conjunction with the District finals of GNT events.
- 3.5 If a flight is held at a Sectional, silver points shall be awarded at that stage.
- 3.6 District champions of each flight will be eligible to participate in a National final to be held immediately prior to the start of the Summer NABC. A District need not be represented at the National final.
 - 3.6.1 There will be no subsidy from the ACBL nor any required subsidy from the Districts.
- 3.7 The GNT Championship Flight masterpoints won at the NABC final in the semifinals and finals will be included in the Player of the Year race.
- 3.8 The GNT Championship Flight masterpoints won at the NABC final in the semifinals and finals will be included for the Fishbein Trophy awarded to the player winning the most masterpoints at the Summer NABC in NABC+ events.