

## CHAPTER VIII – NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

### D. EVENTS / SCHEDULES

#### Section 1 – National-rated Events

- 1.1 Any change made by the Board of Directors in the schedules of the Spring, Summer and Fall National-rated events will not be effective for at least six months.
- 1.2 The default starting times for the prime-time sessions at NABCs for all events are 1:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. After consultation with District and Unit officials when circumstances warrant (e.g., not many walking-distance restaurants of all types and insufficient cab service available), ACBL management may set the above times to 1:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Should ACBL management elect to institute the latter times, the ACBL Board of Directors will be informed 12 months before the NABC. Any other starting times are subject to ACBL Board of Directors' approval.
- 1.3 The first session of each NABC+ event will have the same starting times each day throughout the length of the event. There may be an exception for the final Sunday of an NABC.
- 1.4 Except for the Reisinger, which will remain as is, approximately 50% of the field but no less than 40% of an NABC+ event's field will qualify from one level to the next (qualifying to final, qualifying to semifinal and qualifying semifinal to final).
- 1.5 For any NABC+ event with or without a set masterpoint award, whenever entry is fewer than 30 tables for three consecutive years, the ACBL Board of Directors must review continuing this event on the National schedule.
- 1.6 In order to participate in a National-rated event at an NABC, a person must be an ACBL member whose service fees or dues are current.
- 1.7 Voluntary Relinquishment of First or Second Place in NABC or NABC+ Events.
  - 1.7.1 If members of a team which contains player(s) convicted of cheating, in the event in question or any others that occurred prior to those player(s) conviction for cheating, that team shall be permitted to voluntarily relinquish their title under the following circumstances –
    - 1.7.1.1 The team captain (playing or non-playing) and at least half of the team members not involved in the cheating conviction must concur. If the captain is a non-playing captain, a unanimous request from the members who played, but not including the convicted cheaters, may override the captain.
    - 1.7.1.2 Any title or second place finish so relinquished shall be declared "vacated".

- 1.7.1.3 To relinquish any title or second place finish, the team members desiring the relinquishment shall deliver to ACBL Headquarters, or to NABC Tournament Headquarters, a document signed and dated by all concurring team members.
- 1.7.2 At the discretion of ACBL management, voluntary relinquishment may be published in the Daily Bulletin at an NABC and/or the monthly ACBL Bulletin.
- 1.7.3 Any ancillary benefit coming from a first or second place finish in a NABC or NABC+ event will be removed or returned for all members of the relinquishing pair or team. This includes but is not limited to –
  - 1.7.3.1 Any remuneration of any kind shall be returned to the ACBL.
  - 1.7.3.2 Any trophy shall be returned to ACBL. The names of the relinquished players shall be struck from any trophy awarded.
  - 1.7.3.3 Any rank change occurring as a result of the relinquished title shall be rescinded, including but not limited to Grand Life Master.
  - 1.7.3.4 Any masterpoints and any event (such as Blue Ribbon Pairs) qualification shall be removed.
- 1.8 Appendix 8-D contains the current schedule of National-rated events.

See Appendix 8-D *National-rated Event Schedule*

## **Section II – Other Events at an NABC**

- 2.1 Regional-rated events at NABCs will be treated as though they are being held at a Regional tournament.
- 2.2 The Regional-rated schedule and conditions at NABCs will be set by ACBL management after discussion with and input from the local organization. For example, reasonable suggestions of scoring method in Swiss Team events, selection of Victory Point scale and length of KO matches.

- 2.3 On the first session of the first day of each NABC, there will be a one-session Regional-rated red point event for the benefit of the International Fund. Proceeds shall be determined by subtracting actual expenses from revenues. A surcharge of \$1.00 will be made.
- 2.4 A Regional-rated knockout team game, held in conjunction with the regular Thursday night Educational Foundation game, shall be added to the schedule for each NABC. Proceeds from the first session only shall benefit the ACBL Educational Foundation.
- 2.5 ACBL management is authorized to set the times for all National-rated events with an upper masterpoint limit on the final Sunday to be concurrent with the scheduled Regional event.
- 2.6 The choice as to number of boards played in Regional-rated primetime knockout events at NABCs is up to the host organization. ACBL management will make certain that the host organization's selection is requested and implemented.
- 2.7 All participants in any NABC event are required to have a valid ACBL member number (even if inactive). **(Effective March 1, 2018)**