

District 7 Grand National Teams Conditions of Contest, 2020–2021

ACBL Conditions of Contest are incorporated into these Conditions

General ACBL Conditions of Contest/GNT Conditions of Contest:

<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2020-21.pdf>

Eligible players can participate in more than one final. The ACBL decided because of the unusual circumstances of the Coronavirus pandemic that any member of District 7 in good standing may participate in the GNT finals. Therefore, prequalification at club level will not be required for the 2020–2021 GNT cycle. We hope this will encourage more players to attend the district finals. All clubs in the district, however, may have as many GNT games as they want, although qualification for the district final is not necessary for this cycle.

Point Count!

The district final will be held online using the Bridge Base Online (BBO) website.

The Open Championship and Flight B (0–2500) will play on Saturday, June 12, and Sunday June 13. If eight or more teams participate in Flight B, the runner-up will qualify for the NABC finals.

Flight A (0–6000 MP) will play for the District championship on Saturday, June 5, and Sunday, June 6. Flight C (Non-LM <500 MP) will play a one day Swiss on Saturday, June 5. If eight or more teams compete in Flight C, the runner up will qualify for the NABC finals.

We will arrange a practice online Swiss for Flight C. This has proved successful in other districts. Details will be available later. A coaching schedule will be available Monday May 17 and Wednesday May 19. The practice Swiss event will be Saturday May 22 at 10:30am.

The NABC finals in all flights are tentatively scheduled to begin Wednesday, July 14. Complete details will appear in an upcoming issue of the *District 7 News* and on the District 7 website.

Registration

Pre-registration is required for the district finals. Since no travel will be involved for the GNT national finals, District 7 will cover the cost of the online district final and ACBL sanction fee.

Thus, **the district final will be free for participants** and will be paid from the Grass Roots fund. There will, however, be a \$100 **deposit** for the online final—**which will be refunded so long as the registrants participate in the final**. The team captain should send the check to the district coordinator and should include the following:

- The names and ACBL membership numbers of the team members
- BBO names and phone numbers for all players
- A stamped, self-addressed envelope so the deposit may be returned after the team participates in the district final (no shows will not receive the refund)
- Mail check and SSE to the D7 assistant treasurer:
Vivian McIntire
5 Pendleton Place
Kingsport TN 37664.

The following are the links to register for the GNT district finals. The registration page asks for the team captain's email, team name, and captain's ACBL number or BBO ID.

- Registration for Open: <https://tinyurl.com/D7-GNT-Championship>
- Registration for A: <https://tinyurl.com/GNT-D7-Flight-A>
- Registration for B: <https://tinyurl.com/GNT-D7-Flight-B>
- Registration for C: <https://tinyurl.com/GNT-D7-Flight-C>

Because of the current situation with the pandemic, the flight eligibility that was established by ACBL's September 2019 masterpoint cycle will be used. This information was distributed on August 6, 2019. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events. The cutoff date is being rolled back to August 6, 2019. Eligibility will be the same as for the 2019–20 cycle.

Questions/information contact District 7 GNT Coordinator Brian Hingerty:
(865) 694-0609 (home) or (615) 525-7906 (cell), behingerty@bellsouth.net
8612 Peppertree Lane, Knoxville TN 37923

Appendix

Conventions

New convention charts took effect Nov. 20, 2018. The following is a link to the ACBL document for this: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/181AttachmentD.pdf>. The district final will use these new charts as part of the conditions of contest.

Flight C	Basic Chart
Flight B	Basic+ Chart
Flight A	Open Chart
Championship	Open+ Chart

All players including those from other districts or non-members may play at the club level. To play at the District 7 Finals players must meet the following requirements:

- Be members of the ACBL and in good standing
- Be members of District 7 or have received special permission (rarely granted)

Teams are formed for the District 7 final from eligible players who are in good standing and members of District 7.

District Finals

District champions who do not have at least three original members who played in the district finals will be replaced by the next eligible team willing to participate.

The captain of each winning flight is responsible for advising the district coordinator no later than June 15, 2021, of players to be replaced and/or of any augmentation. Players may be replaced only with confirmed consent of the replaced player. Any district champion team has the right to augment up to a 6-person team that includes the players who participated at the district finals. Substitution may be allowed at the discretion of the DIC so long as the substitute does not substantially improve the team for any individual session. Only one substitute allowed per team

per session. **Any emergency substitution will be determined by the DIC, whose decision is final.**

In the Open and Flight A competition, if the District champion decides to not participate at the NABC level, then the District runner-up is invited. If neither the first nor second place finisher chooses to play, the next choice would be the semifinalist that loses by the fewest number of IMPs. If neither the first nor second place team wishes to advance and the semifinal matches are determined by the same margin, there would be a 14-board match to determine the team to advance. If the team that loses its semifinal by the fewest IMPs declines, the fourth team would be invited.

In Flight B, if two teams are eligible to advance and one or more declines, then the procedure is the same as in Open and Flight A, extending to the fourth team if necessary (i.e., the team that loses its semifinal by the most IMPs)

In Flight C, if two teams are eligible to advance and one or more declines, then the third-place finisher is invited, followed by the fourth-place team. If only one team is eligible to advance and it declines, then the second-place finisher is invited, followed by the third-place finisher.

Tournament and Competition Committee

The tournament and competition committee (or a subcommittee thereof) is responsible for any modifications and/or clarifications of the GNT Conditions of Contest.

- In the Open and Flight A, there will be a 28-board semifinal and final.
- In Flight B, there will be a 24-board semifinal and final
- Open, A and B will use the NABC+ VP scale. Flight C to use standard 20 VP scale.

In Open/Flight A events, If an odd number of teams register a stand-by team will play.

2-4 Teams	28 boards per session, Knockout format
6-10 Teams	Full round robin to Qualify 4 teams for the 2nd day. Six teams shall play five matches of 10 boards. Eight teams shall play seven matches of seven boards. Ten teams shall play nine matches of six boards. The round robin winner shall have the right to choose its opponent for the semifinal from the 3 rd and 4 th place teams. Carryover shall apply to both semifinal and final.
12 Teams	To be divided into two pools, A and B, seeded by masterpoints. Each pool shall play a round robin, five matches of 10 boards. 1 st place in A shall play 2 nd place in B in the semifinal and <i>vice versa</i> . There shall be no carryover in the semifinal.
14+ Teams	To be played as a Swiss, eight matches of seven boards, 4 teams advance to (28 board) Sunday KO. The Swiss winner shall have the right to choose its opponent, (from 3 rd or 4 th), for the semifinal. Carryover shall apply to both semifinal and final.

In Flight B events, the number of boards is determined by the DIC. and District Coordinator. There is no carryover for Flight B.

- 2-4 Teams 24 boards per session, Knockout format.
- 6 - 10 Teams Full round robin to qualify 4 teams for the 2nd day. Six teams shall play five matches of nine boards. Eight teams shall play seven matches of seven boards. Ten teams shall play nine matches of six boards. The round robin winner shall have the right to choose its opponent for the semifinal from the 3rd and 4th place teams.
- 12+ Teams To be played as a Swiss, eight matches of six boards, 4 teams advance to (24 board) Sunday KO. The Swiss winner shall have the right to choose its opponent, (from 3rd or 4th), for the semifinal. Carryover shall apply to both semifinal and final.

For Flight C events: The GNT final will be held as a one-day Swiss

Special Note: A second team shall qualify for the Nationals in flights B and C if 8 or more teams show up for the district finals.

Mini-Spingold Participation

If there are less than 8 teams in the non-championship district finals, we add an extra incentive for these levels. The runners up from Flights A, B, and C will receive a free entry to the Mini-Spingold if a Mini-Spingold is held online at BBO. The whole team will play as a team. There will be no augmentation. Payment will be sent after the event with *proof of entry*. If 1 or 2 players of a 5- or 6-person team voluntarily decide not to enter the event, then the others will still receive a free entry. Again, this will be paid for by the Grass Roots fund of D7.

Tie Breakers (applies to all flights)

In the event of a tie for the last qualifying spot (the right to advance and play in the semifinals), the following chart applies. It also applies if there is a tie and both teams qualify for the next round.

<p>Tie Breakers from Round Robins Qualifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Head to head (2) Wins (3) BAM results from Head to Head (4) Total Points from Head to Head (5) Coin Flip 	<p>Tie Breakers from Swiss Qualifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Head to Head if the teams met (2) Wins (3) Wins by common opponents (4) BAM if played each other (5) Total Points if played each other (6) Coin Flip
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Club Level

Note: The following information is standard to qualify for GNTs, but is not in effect for this cycle. As stated above, prequalification at club level will not be required for the 2020–2021 GNT cycle

Clubs may hold GNT qualifying events from September 1, 2020, through and including April 30, 2021 and they should be stratified combining Open and Flight A, Flight B, and Flight C. There is no limit for the number of GNT qualifying games a club may host.

Qualifying games must be advertised to the local players at least 1 week prior to the event.

In addition, we would like to encourage separate Flt C and Flt B GNT games. As such, these will be flighted events similar to the Gold Rush pairs and Flight B events. This is a good way for Flt C and B players to qualify without having to play against the top players

Fee Schedule

Note: As stated above, preregistration for the district final will be required with a \$100—refundable—deposit.

District fees for club qualifying games are \$4.75/team for one-session events, or \$8/team for two-session event. These fees should be paid to the District 7 GNT Coordinator and are not paid to the ACBL in the monthly report. Please make checks payable to District 7 and forward with the appropriate **financial report and a list of qualifiers** to the District 7 GNT coordinator:

Brian Hingerty: 8612 Peppertree Lane, Knoxville TN 37923

Payment for the District 7 GNT fees must be made within 30 days from the submission of the ACBL monthly club report. There will be a late fee penalty of \$25 for fees paid after this date. For example, a game held Oct 15 must have its district fees paid by Nov 30 or the \$25 penalty will apply.

District fees for **GNT Fund** club pair games is \$4 per table—to be sent to the same place. The ACBL monthly report will note that a GN Fund Raiser Pair game was played but will note that the fees for this should be sent to the GNT coordinator and not to the ACBL in the financial report. This is similar to STAC games where the fees are sent to the STAC coordinator rather than to the ACBL. **The same \$25 penalty applies if payment is not received within one month of the ACBL club monthly report.**

A special report form for the games held during the month for a club is included with this statement very much like the STaC report form that has to be sent in to the STaC coordinator. This form should be included with the printed form from the ACBL Score program, a list of qualifiers and a check made out to District 7.

Submitting Table Fees for GNT GAMES for District 7

Please send your check for all GNT games (GNT Fundraiser and/or GNT Team/Qualifying Games) **when you file your monthly report with the ACBL**. The ACBL *does not collect District 7 extra fees* for these games. Thus, when you file your monthly report with ACBL, please send your check for all GNT games (GNT Fundraiser and/or GNT Team/Qualifying Games) to **Brian Hingerty, 8612 Peppertree Ln., Knoxville, TN 37923**.

All checks should be made out to **District 7 of the ACBL**. Payments more than 30 days after the due date (date of submission of your monthly report) will incur a \$25 late payment.

Clubs using BBO Robots to fill half tables are required to pay GNT fees for the Robots. For example, an 8.5 table game that uses robots to prevent a sit-out will pay GNT fees for a 9 table game.

District 7 extra GNT Team/Qualifying Game Fees are \$4.75 per table (*in addition to ACBL \$2.25 per table fees*) while **District 7 extra** GNT Fund Game Fees are \$4/table (*in addition to normal ACBL \$1/table fee*).

Send the check—referencing your **Club number**. If using direct check issuance from your bank, please ask them to include the **club number** (may use the account field, if needed), but then also scan/email this form to behingerty@bellsouth.net. *Note: If you are paying for multiple club numbers, please include the club # with each table count in table below on game day or session, as best possible. If you run more games in a month than will fit in the table below, please print & fill out additional copies of this form.*

Club #: _____ Club Name: _____

Game Day	GNT Fundraiser Games (\$4 / table)				GNT Team/Qualifying Games (\$4.75 / table)			
	Morning games	Afternoon Games	Evening Games	Daily Total	Morning games	Afternoon Games	Evening Games	Daily Total
	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables	# Tables
Monthly Totals								
Fee Totals	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Total Payment _____

Manager's Signature: _____

Revised April 15, 2021

Email address: _____ Phone #: _____