

District 8 Conditions of Contest
2020-2021 Grand National Teams

The following conditions apply to the District 8 Grand National Team Finals, to be held online via the BBO platform on May 1 and 2, 2021. Additionally, the ACBL Conditions of Contest will also apply. The National Conditions of Contest for the Grand National Teams, KO events and Swiss team events shall apply in any circumstance not mentioned below and shall prevail if there is any conflict between the District and National Conditions of Contest.

THE EVENT

The District 8 Grand National Teams Final is a District-wide competition held annually to select teams to represent District 8 at the summer Nationals. The ACBL Summer Nationals will be held online from July 14-18, 2021. One team of 4, 5 or 6 players is selected to represent each flight: Open, Flight A, Flight B and Flight C. If there are at least 8 teams competing in the B or C flights of the District 8 GNT Finals, a second team in the flight will be considered eligible to compete in the National GNT Final of their respective flight.

ELIGIBILITY

Each player wishing to enter must be a District 8 member in good-standing with the ACBL. No club or unit qualifier is required; however, all teams planning to play are requested to advise the District 8 GNT Coordinator (Phyllis Siegel) no later than April 15, 2021 in order to assist in planning for the event. Pre-registration and initial payment are required by April 15, 2021 (see pre-registration/payment heading shown below). A team Captain must report the team's playing flight, player names, player ACBL numbers, each player's BBO username, a telephone number and an email address. Each team may be comprised of 4, 5 or 6 players.

LOCATION

The specific location of the District 8 GNT finals is **ONLINE** through the BBO platform. Start time will be 11:00 a.m. on Saturday May 1, 2021 for all Flights: Open, A, B, and C. Start time on Sunday, May 2, will be 11:00a.m. for the finals in all Flights: Open, A, B, and C. Start times may vary slightly depending on the number of teams in each flight.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The event will be run in four flights: Championship/Open Flight with no master point restrictions; Flight A, limited to players with fewer than 6000 recorded master points; Flight B, limited to players with fewer than 2500 master points; Flight C, limited to non-Life Masters who have fewer than 500 master points. Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September

masterpoint cycle. This information was produced on August 6, 2019. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for this event.

2-4 teams – 2 sessions with each team playing all others.

5-8 teams – 3 sessions. The first day will qualify 2 teams to a one session final on Sunday.

9+ teams – 4 sessions. The first day will qualify 4 teams to a one session semifinal (head-to-head Knock Out) and one session final on Sunday.

2 Teams	2 x 24 board segments, Knockout (KO) Format
3 Teams	2 Victory Point matches of 2 x 12 board segments, each of two sessions* (result is two, 24 board matches)
4 Teams	3 Victory Point matches of 3 x 8 boards, each of two sessions* (result is three, 16 board matches)
5-8 Teams	Round Robin Swiss of two sessions; match length determined by the Director in Charge; top two teams to a 24 board KO final on Sunday; no carry over.
9+ Teams	Straight Swiss of 7 boards per match; top four teams to KO phase; both semi-final and final will be 24 board KO matches on Sunday; standard ACBL tie breaker shall apply; top qualifier selects their opponent for the semi-final match; no carry-over.
<p>NOTES*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For 3 and 4 team events, the ACBL Continuous 20 Victory Point (VP) scale will be used. • For 5+ team event, the standard 20 VP scale will be used. • For Swiss qualifying, the standard ACBL tie breaking procedures apply. • For KO matches, a 6 board play-off in case of a tie; subsequent ties with continuing 4 board play-offs. 	

The finals of the open flight will have additional security measures as decided by ACBL. ACBL protocols and methods will apply, but in general, it will be run with “virtual screenmates” using a platform like ZOOM for audio and video monitoring between opponents. The GNT Director in Charge will provide Zoom links for easy player access and also provide instructions for implementation. For players who do not have camera capability on their devices, audio monitoring of opponents via cell phones will be considered sufficient.

These security measures do not apply to the finals of flights A, B, and C.

The length of the event for all Flights will be determined by the number of teams entered and may be held on Saturday only, or held Saturday with qualifying players continuing on through Sunday.

If only one team enters a flight, they must buy an entry to be declared the winner and to qualify for the National finals.

Convention charts allowed for this event are:

Open: Open +

Flight A: Open

Flight B: Basic +

Flight C: Basic

DISTRICT WINNERS

The winning team from each flight becomes the District 8 Grand National Teams Champion for that flight and advances to the National Championships held online at the 2021 Summer NABC from July 14-18, 2021. If a team is not planning to compete in the NABC, they must inform the GNT Coordinator as soon as possible.

District 8 will reimburse the 1st place District 8 Open Flight team for their incurred entry fees for participating in the NABC GNT Open Finals on day one and also day two if the team qualifies and actually plays in the GNT on day two. Reimbursement may be up to \$320 or \$160/team for playing day one and another \$160/team for playing day two. The team will not receive entry fee reimbursement for day one or day two if they withdraw from the event. This year the winning teams will receive no other monetary compensation from the District due to the pandemic and the online nature of this year's event which eliminates any travel expenses.

ACBL already waives the entry fees for the first two days of the GNT for flights A, B, and C.

Substitutions and/or augmentations on teams representing the District must not weaken the team and must be approved by the ACBL District 8 representative on the ACBL Board of Directors.

PRE-REGISTRATION, PAYMENT, EVENT CANCELLATION

Since this is an online event, pre-registration and payment are required for this event and must be received by the GNT coordinator, as shown below, by April 15, 2021. Payment cannot be made online through BBO. Checks should be made payable to District 8. Do not make them payable to the GNT Coordinator. Initially, District 8 is only collecting for two sessions. Therefore, **entry fees are \$80/per team for two sessions** (\$40/team, per session). If a team advances into the Sunday final, payment for the final session(s) must be made on or before May 15, 2021. Fees for Sunday play are the same and are \$40/per team, per session. If one session is played, \$40 will be due District 8. If two sessions are played, \$80 will be due District 8. Failure to submit payment for the Sunday finals will result in non-eligibility to play in the GNT finals at the 2021 Summer NABC or any other District 8 wide event, such as the North American Pairs finals or future GNT'S, until payment is received.

Along with the team's \$80 payment, the team Captain should send the team's playing flight, player names, player ACBL numbers, each player's BBO username, a telephone number and an email address. Payment and team information should be sent to the GNT Coordinator, as shown below, no later than April 15, 2021.

In the event that District 8 does not receive enough entries to make the event financially viable, the event may be cancelled. Should this occur, all monies will be returned to the team captain and no teams would represent District 8 at the 2021 Summer NABC.

CONTACTS

The District 8 GNT coordinator is Phyllis Siegel, psiegeltennis@yahoo.com Phones are (314) 966-3933(h) or (314) 313-6092(c).

Mail entry fees and team information no later than April 15, 2021 to: Phyllis Siegel, 2415 Hidden Meadow Lane, Manchester, MO 63021.

Any questions should be directed to the GNT Coordinator, or the Director in Charge, as shown on the ACBL site.

HELPFUL LINKS

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

Online Play: Appendix O: <https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AppendixO.pdf>