

# PLEASE, WHATEVER YOU DO, DO NOT READ ANY OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS!!

(OK, if you got here, you are already breaking the rules for the STaC. Please let this be the only time. ☺ )

## Top Ten STaC Pet Peeves (with thanks to Letterman and “The Tonight Show”)

- **Receiving emails with no game file attachments, receiving files that aren't gamefiles (BWS, LZH, HTM, or TXT) or receiving games from the wrong date.** Do you really want your gamefile from three months ago in this STaC??!! Before you hit send, look at the name of the attachment on the email. If the first 6 numbers aren't the date of your game and the last three letters aren't ACM (morning), ACA (afternoon) or ACE (evening), you are about to send the wrong file. Sending the wrong file may get you a starring role on America's Funniest Bloopers, but...
  - **Not responding to an email asking a question about the file you sent.** During STaC week, you must read your emails, or, if you want questions sent to someone else, put their name and contact info in the text of your email. No one likes to be ignored. During STaCs, ACBL directors are bored and crave human contact.
  - **Not being notified about a registered game that is not held.** Just like the proverbial bride or groom left at the altar, if you register for a game, we expect to get it and are full of anticipation. If you don't hold the game, let us know immediately. No one likes to be stood up when they expected a hot date.
  - **Receiving a call that a club can't register for a game or download handrecords...10 minutes before the game starts!!!** Sorry, last minute surprises may be fun for birthday parties but not STaCs.
  - **Setting up the game incorrectly.** The instructions, including stratum limits, how the game should be stratified (by average or by higher player), sanction number, event codes, etc., are all in the Game Setup & Reporting Instructions. Download them and, even more novel, read them. We promise, they are not written in Klingon. And, when you set up the game, any game, be sure you set it up as a Multi-site event. Otherwise, your players will think they are getting tons of points they really aren't. Sorry, there are limits to what the ACBL silver mines can produce each week and it is our job to make sure you don't give away too much.
  - **Putting in the wrong name of the director in the game setup.** When the director is setting up the game in ACBLscore, and sees a name that is not their own, they should change it. The odds that Mr. or Ms. Various is actually directing the game are very small, and no parent named their child Fred/Melissa/George. So, only one name please, preferably, the actual director's.
  - **Make sure your ACBLscore database is up to date.** If Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell come to play in your game, and your computer thinks they belong in strat C, it is probably out of date. And, if an out-of-towner comes to play, and they aren't in your database, ask them how many points they have and get their ACBL number. Then, put that number, or any player's number you don't already have, into your database for the future.
  - **When the STaC is over, send money promptly** to the unit treasurer or wherever your instructions designate. It is very frustrating for the volunteer treasurer to have to “beat up” the clubs to get the money for the STaC fees so they can be sent to the ACBL, so be considerate and send them the money quickly.
  - **Sending your gamefile to the incorrect email address.** The Game Setup & Reporting Instructions have the email address of the director. It may not be the same as the last STaC, or the director's email address may have changed. Address books are great, but you need to be sure you are sending to the correct email address.
- And, the # 1 Pet Peeve of STaCs is...**
- **If you are having problems with your game or your internet, call and let us know.** We can have the patience of Job if we know there is a problem and, believe it or not, we may actually be able to help solve it. We get paid whether you call us or not, so you might as well use the services available to you.

## STaC “Cheat Sheet” – Really Important Stuff

Please read and post near the scoring computer for the directors to use during STaC week.

**Sanction Number:** ST1607059

**Participating Districts/Units:** Unit 242 (Nassau-Suffolk Bridge Association)

**Strata to use for the STaC** (must be used by all open and invitational pair games):

A: 2000 +

B: 750 - 2000      **by higher player**

C: 0 - 750

**Event codes:** The event code is a 4-character code. The first two characters are the session number of the game. The next two characters indicate the type of game being played.

Open Pair Game event codes (check the appropriate column based on when your game starts)

**Games before noon:**

Friday Morning: 13OP

Saturday Morning: 16OP

Sunday Morning: 19OP

**Games from noon to 4:00PM:**

Friday Afternoon: 14OP

Saturday Afternoon: 17OP

Sunday Afternoon: 20OP

**Games after 4:00PM:**

Friday Evening: 15OP

Saturday Evening: 18OP

Sunday Evening: 21OP

For Invitational games, replace the last two characters with “IP”

For Masterpoint Limited games, replace the last two characters with “LP”

For one-session open Swiss Teams games, replace the last two characters with “T1”

For two-session open Swiss Team games, replace the last two characters with “T2”

Playing directors may win session awards at their local club but may not win overall awards when combined with other clubs. This applies only to games of 17.0 tables or less and only one section. Larger games, more than 17.0 tables or 2 or more sections, **require** a non-playing director. Also, no one may play who has participated in making copies of the hands or duplicating the boards by hand. Duplication by machine does not disqualify someone from playing in the STaC. To enforce this rule, **it is mandatory that the director put his/her full name into the ACBLscore setup for the game.** Failure to follow all these rules may jeopardize your inclusion in the STaC and prevent your players from receiving silver points.

Director in Charge: Peter Marcus

Phone: 817-879-2971

E-mail: stacworld@att.net

STaC Organizer:

Phone:

E-mail:

Lee Launer

516-628-2546

actuary3@hotmail.com

## More Important STaC Information

All directors should also read this info, it is important too!!

Only open games of 5.0 tables or more are eligible for participation in the main, open event. Open games of 4.5 tables or less will be put into a separate, STaC-rated open game, which will pay overall awards. Multiple games of 4.5 tables or less in the same session will be combined for higher overalls.

Handrecords have been provided for this STaC and must be used by all games that wish to participate in the STaC and award silver points.

All open pair games (minimum 2.5 tables), no matter how many tables, are scored as open championships with STaC rating (about 82% of sectional rating) and pay silver points.

Invitational games are scored as open championship games with one (1) restriction, awarding silver points at 80% of the points of an open STaC game. Invitational pair games in the same session will be combined for higher overall awards.

Masterpoint limited pair games are set up as championship events with the appropriate upper masterpoint limit and strata as determined by the club. Multiple games with the same upper limit will be combined for higher overalls. In such cases, lower strata may be changed by the ACBL director to allow combination with games from other clubs. All points will be silver.

All Swiss team events are set up as championship events and are stand-alone at each club. Strata for Swiss team events are set at the discretion of the club. Swiss Team events pay silver points.

If you have registered for a game but do not hold it, you MUST notify the ACBL STaC director immediately. Failure to do so will delay results for other clubs and potentially affect your participation in future STaCs.

**All games must be reported to the ACBL STaC director within a maximum of 24 hours after the game ends.** Reporting earlier will allow the results to be posted for everyone sooner, so please do not hold up reporting your results. **On the last day of the STaC, reporting is required within 12 hours of the end of the game.** Late reporting may jeopardize your game's participation in the STaC and lose the opportunity for your players to win silver points.

Report your game to Peter Marcus via email to [stacworld@att.net](mailto:stacworld@att.net). The only file you should send is the ACBLscore gamefile. The file name will end with .ACM (for a morning game), .ACA (for afternoon) or .ACE (for evening). In particular, **do not send any file that ends with .LZH, .TXT, .BWS, or .HTM.** They are useless and will not stop the 24-hour reporting clock from continuing to count down.

Include your **club number, event code and sanction number** in the subject line of your email message.

The per table sanction fee is \$ 8.00. Please send a check, made out to NSBA, within 24 hours of the end of the STaC to:

Dave Schwartz  
7 Maxwell Court  
Huntington NY 11743

## STaC Boilerplate

(Reading this can't hurt you and you may need to refer to it during the STaC, so keep it handy)

### Types of Games Allowed

1. Open Pairs — combined for overall awards (see masterpoint strata limits above)
2. Swiss Teams — Swiss Team overall awards are based only on the entry at each individual site.
3. Novice, 99er, 199er or 299er Games or any Intermediate, Novice or Limited Game, combined if possible.
4. Invitational Games – use same strata limits as open pairs, will be combined for overall ranking.

The ACBL General Convention Chart will be used. Conventions and systems not allowed by the General Convention Chart will not be allowed.

A club must post a copy of the recap for inspection at the end of each session. The correction period for STaCs is the same as most other tournaments, 24 hours after the game ends.

**(New in 2016) A club that is sanctioned and regularly holds an invitational or masterpoint-limited game may participate in the STaC, but may not run their STaC game as an open game. Only games that are regularly run as open games during non-STaC times may run as an open game during the STaC.**

ACBLScore Instructions for setting up STaC games:

Use Club Mode for STaCs. In defining the specific parameters of your game:

Set up as usual until you get to event rating.

Choose rating (9) - Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaC) or Progressive Sectional

Choose option (1) – Sectional Tournament at Clubs

Associate with a club: “Y”

Chose club number running the game and then session number

Select number of strata – one of the following choices (based on limits and stratification method shown above)

**the middle option (3 strata), if stratifying by higher player**

**the bottom option (three strata – average of both players), if stratifying by average**

Choose option (1) – Championship rating, for all(!) STaC games

Chose number of played sessions (always 1 unless setting up a two-session Swiss Team game)

Choose proper event restrictions (1 restriction for invitational games, none for all other games)

*When setting up a gamefile you select invitational only if the game is restricted by other than masterpoints (members only, women only, etc.). Games that are open to any player with less than some upper masterpoint limit are reduced by the upper masterpoint limit only.*

Enter strat limits (for open or invitational games, see limits on first page)

After entering the stratum A limit, **ALWAYS(!)** answer “Y” to Multi-site event (except for Swiss Teams)

Enter tournament data, including full name of director.

## MOVEMENTS WITH HAND RECORDS

# TABLES	BDS PER RD	HOW TO START THE GAME
* 5	6	Move boards down one table & Move East/West up one table
6	5	Move boards down one table – Skip after round 3
* 7	4	Move boards down one table & Move East/West up one table
8	4	Move boards down one table – Skip after round 4
* 9	3	Move boards down one table & Move East/West up one table
10	3	Move boards down one table – Skip after round 5
11	3	Move boards down two tables
12	3	Move boards down one table – Skip after round 6
* 13	2	Move boards down one table & Move East/West up one table
14	2	Move boards down one table – Skip after round 7
15	2	Move boards down two tables
16	2	Move boards down two tables – Skip after round 7
17	2	Move boards down two tables
18	2	Move boards down two tables – Skip after round 7

\* These asterisked movements only allow you to play 24 boards unless you prepare the boards ahead of time. If you want to play more than 24 boards, either pre-duplicate the boards or call the DIC for other, special movement instructions.

ALWAYS PLAY YOUR NORMAL NUMBER OF BOARDS EXCEPT WHEN LIMITED BY THE NUMBER OF TABLES STARRED ABOVE. IF YOU DUPLICATE YOUR BOARDS AHEAD OF TIME, YOU CAN RUN ANY MOVEMENT YOU WISH, MITCHELL OR HOWELL.

If you expect less than 5 tables you should make up your boards ahead of time so that you can play the optimum number of hands and opponents.

## General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs)

Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs) provide bridge players with the opportunity to win silver masterpoints at their local clubs. All of the ACBL's rules, regulations, and procedures for running a Sectional tournament apply to the organization and management of a STaC. ACBL's current STaC guidelines and fees will apply.

Sponsoring organizations may, with ACBL approval only, amend these conditions for a specific event. Such amendments should appear in all printed tournament schedules and be posted prior to the start of event.

The Director in Charge (DIC) shall make the final decision on any item in these conditions. Furthermore, the Director in Charge will resolve any issue not specifically covered.

### **SPONSORING UNIT**

1. A STaC may be scheduled for up to seven consecutive days, but may include only one weekend: however, Management may grant an exception to the weekend requirement for cause. A sanction application must be sent to the appropriate District Tournament Coordinator at least 12 months prior to the scheduled tournament date. The ACBL may sanction a STaC when it receives the sanction application with fewer than 12 months advance notice if there is no scheduling conflict and the STaC can be advertised in "The Bulletin" calendar schedule at least one month prior.
2. While only Units may apply for a sanction to hold a STaC, there is no objection to a Unit nominating a District or Districts to conduct the tournament. In District-wide STaCs all clubs within the District(s) must be offered the opportunity to participate. Participation is at the club level when sponsored by a District. If a Unit outside of the sponsoring District wants to participate, all clubs within that Unit must be invited to participate (the Unit must receive approval from its District coordinator).
3. A sponsor may schedule morning, afternoon and/or evening sessions. For the purpose of determining in which session a club should participate use the standard club session designations. The local sponsor must designate the sessions to be scheduled. As an example: Morning games would be those starting prior to 12:00 local time, afternoon games start prior to 18:00 local time, and evening games 18:00 and later. Morning and afternoon games may not be combined as day games nor may afternoon and evening games be combined.
4. STaC sessions may be scheduled at any participating club for any session that the club has a regularly sanctioned game at that club. Additional games may be held at the option of the sanctioned club. However, when a scheduling conflict exists, preference shall be granted to the club that holds a regularly scheduled game (within a 25 mile radius) at the time in question. The STaC sponsor has the final decision.
5. Each Sponsor must develop a schedule of games and Conditions of Contest (CoC). This schedule and the CoC will be posted on ACBL's web site. Open and limited Stratified Pair and Swiss team events may be scheduled. All pair events are single-session events. Team games shall be stand-alone events at the site played.
6. All masterpoints awarded are silver. Overall awards are based on the total entry in each event except that Swiss Team overall awards are based only on the entry at each individual site. Open Swiss Team overall awards do receive credit for limited event tables at the same site. Open Pair events do not receive credit for other limited event tables at the same site, unless they are not combined with other clubs in the main STaC.

General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for  
Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs)

7. The use of hand records is encouraged but not required. For a STaC using hand records, games at sites not using hand records will be entered as a side game for ranking and masterpoint awards (65% of Championship rating).
8. Masterpoint levels and strat limits will be set by the STaC sponsor. The strat levels will be the same for all open pair games and for like limited pair games. Swiss team events are at club option.
9. The sponsor is responsible for notifying all club managers to register for the upcoming STaC. An e-mail blast may be requested for those managers with an address on file. Snail mail notification will need to note that they must register online and submit results by e-mail to participate.
10. The organization receiving the sanction (sponsoring organization – ‘SO’) is responsible for the collection of any fees due from a participating ACBL sanctioned game. Each participating club is responsible for submitting all fees to the sponsoring organization in a timely manner. The ‘SO’ is also responsible for ensuring that all fees due the ACBL are remitted in a timely manner. Should a participating club owe a debt to a unit, district, conference or ACBL, the ‘SO’ may ask Management for assistance in collection as permitted by ACBL regulations.

**PARTICIPATING CLUBS**

1. Any club within the area of the participating Unit may hold a STaC game in lieu of its regularly scheduled club game. Additional games may be held, as noted above.
2. The ACBL General Convention Chart will be used unless the sponsor specifies and advertises otherwise.
3. A minimum section size of 10 pairs is needed to be included in the Open Championship session event. Sections with fewer than 10 pairs may be reported, combined, and included as a separate Championship event. This restriction may be modified or waived, prior to the start of the tournament, at sponsor option.
4. Invitational (not masterpoint limited) games will be scored and ranked as stand alone Championship events with 1 restriction (80% sectional rating). Invitational clubs will use the same limits as the open event and will be combined for overall ranking. Clubs which hold sanctioned invitational games may not declare such games as open for the tournament.
5. Limited masterpoint games will be scored and ranked alone unless a like limited masterpoint game is held at one or more other STaC sites. In this case, these games will be scored together for overall rankings and masterpoint awards. Clubs which hold sanctioned limited games may not declare such games as open for the tournament.
6. Playing directors may not duplicate the boards in games using hand records. The club director of such a game may play only with the consent, in advance, of the DIC of the STaC.
7. Non-playing directors are encouraged but not required for games with no more than one section of 17 tables or fewer. Non-playing directors are required in games larger than 17 tables or with two or more sections. Club Directors who are eligible to play will receive masterpoints.
8. Each club must report its results to the DIC within the designated time limit. The time limit is 24 hours from the end of its game unless the sponsor specifies an earlier time limit. In no case may this time limit be less than twelve (12) hours from the end of the game. Club games not reported within the time limit will be scored, ranked, and issued masterpoints as a side game if received prior to the final reporting period.

General Conditions of Contest and Guidelines for  
Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (StacS)

9. Reporting will be by e-mail attachment of the game file. At sponsor option, special reporting arrangements may be made for games with fewer than 17 tables. Reporting procedures will be posted with the sponsor's STaC Conditions of Contest.
10. The final reporting period for the STaC ends 12 hours after the last event ends. Later reports will be returned to the club, to be reported as a regularly scheduled club session.
11. The correction period at each club is the same as the reporting time limit. A club must post a copy of the recap for inspection at the end of each session.
12. The club manager must register for all sessions to be held using the registration process available on ACBL's web site at least two days prior to the start date of the STaC. Late registrations are at the discretion of the DIC.
13. The club must notify the STaC DIC of any scheduled session that is canceled within one hour of the start time for the session.
14. The STaC sponsor may require clubs to download hand record files from ACBL's web site.
15. In order to be eligible for overall awards in a STaC, or any event that is scored across more than one club, the minimum number of boards played is set at 20.

**Director-in-Charge**

1. The DIC of a STaC must be an ACBL Tournament Director or higher rank.
2. The DIC of a STaC, and the sponsor, will develop reporting guidelines and specific conditions of contest to be posted on ACBL's web site at least six weeks prior to the start of the STaC.
3. The DIC of a STaC will label hand records when used.
4. The DIC will organize and provide results to participating clubs for each session after the deadline for reporting the game results.
5. The DIC will create reports at the end of the STaC as requested by the sponsor.
6. The DIC will provide standard Sectional tournament reports.
7. In addition to the expected functions of a DIC, the DIC may be asked to perform a variety of additional tasks. Typical tasks may include distribution of hand record printouts, pre-tournament advertising, or a post-tournament bulletin. The DIC and the sponsor will determine the time and fees for these tasks.