

**DISTRICT 14 CONDITIONS OF CONTEST
2008-2009 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS**

13 October, 2008

These conditions are supplemental to any ACBL conditions published in the ACBL Bulletin or as distributed to game organizers. The ACBL conditions apply to all club, unit and district games.

I. Schedule

A. The period for Club Qualifying Games begins September 1, 2008 and ends March 6, 2009. Units may specify an earlier ending date if necessary for the scheduling of their Unit Finals.

B. Unit Finals must be completed by March 6, 2009. Unit Finals and Club Qualifying Games may not be held during the Spring Nationals, 2009 or during any District 14 Regional.

C. The District 14 Finals will be held on March 7-8, at the New Brighton Family Service Center, 400 10th Street, New Brighton, MN 55112.

<http://maps.yahoo.com/%23mvt=m&lat=45.036987&lon=-93.222094&zoom=14&q1=400%2010th%20St.%2C%20New%20Brighton%20MN%23mvt=m&lat=45.065244&lon=-93.191882&zoom=16&q1=400%252010th%2520Street%252C%2520New%2520Brighton%252C%2520MN%252055112#mvt=m&lat=45.065244&lon=-93.191882&zoom=16&q1=400%252010th%2520Street%252C%2520New%2520Brighton%252C%2520MN%252055112>

II. Club Qualifying

A. Clubs may schedule as many Qualifying Games in each flight as they wish during their regularly sanctioned game times, and may schedule additional one-or two- session Qualifying Games at other times with the approval of their Unit Secretary.

B. Clubs are encouraged to conduct stratified and flighted Qualifying Games in order to accommodate the maximum number of potential players. Any reasonable movement may be used consistent with producing a fair result.

C. The players on teams in the top 50% of each stratum or flight in each Club Qualifying Game earn qualification to the Unit Finals, except that no player who is not a member of District 14 may earn qualification. Players may play at any club as often as desired and with any other players.

D. At the club and unit stages, players qualify as individuals. Any Non-Life Master who earns a qualification in Superflight, Flight A or Flight B will also automatically earn a qualification in Flight C. Any player with less than 2000 master points who earns qualification in Superflight or Flight A will automatically earn a qualification in Flight B. Any player with less than 5000 master points who earns a qualification in Superflight will also earn a qualification in Flight A.

E. To continue beyond the club stage, the player must be a member of ACBL and in good standing with current dues paid for Non-Life Masters, and current Life Master Maintenance Fee for Life Masters. Delinquent members must pay the required dues or maintenance fees prior to playing in the Unit or District Finals.

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F. The District 14 sanction fee of \$5.00 per table per session should be sent to the District 14 GNT Coordinator (Bruce Burns, PO Box 6091, Lincoln, NE 68506, phone: (402) 488-4365, email: nowallp@gmail.com) within seven days of the completion of a qualifying game. A copy of the ACBL GNT report form should be included also. The game director or club manager is responsible for notifying each individual of their qualification won in club or unit games and their eligibility to participate in the next stage of the event.

G. The national sanction fee of \$1.25 per table per session is sent directly to the ACBL within their normal monthly game report.

III. Unit Finals

A. Units may hold a Unit Final for all flights, Superflight, A, B and C. Units may hold stratified or flighted finals on the same day, but are encouraged to hold flighted finals on different days in order to permit the greatest possible player participation. Unit Finals are optional, but players who do not participate in a Unit Final will incur a surcharge at the District Finals.

B. Unit Finals must be a two-session or longer event with each team playing a minimum of 24 boards per session. Any appropriate Swiss, round robin or knockout movement may be used.

C. At the Unit Finals, four, five or six players (recommended four to maximize the number of teams) enter as a team. To be eligible for participation in the Unit Final, all players must be members of District 14 and have earned a Club Level Qualification in District 14 for the flight in which they are entered.

D. The District 14 sanction fee of \$6.00 per table per session, a copy of the ACBL Report and Result Form, showing the team members having played, should be sent to the District 14 GNT Coordinator (Bruce Burns) within 72 hours of completion of the Unit Finals.

E. The national sanction fee of \$1.25 per table per session is sent directly to the ACBL within their normal monthly game report.

IV. District Finals

A. The District Finals for all flights will be held in conjunction with a Swiss Team Sectional at the New Brighton Family Service 400 10th. St., New Brighton, MN.55112, March 7-8, 2009.

[insert District 14 website address for Swiss Team Sectional/GNT Finals flyer]

B. Depending on the anticipated table count, All Flights will be two-session qualifying events beginning at 1:00 PM. The second session will begin at 7:00 PM Saturday evening. We will qualify, entries available, four teams for each semifinal round. The semifinal round will start on Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 AM. The finals will begin later that day at a time to be determined by the Tournament Director. Subject to the approval of the Tournament Director, semifinal and final matches may be played or partially played at times agreeable to both teams.

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Each team will play a minimum of 48 boards in the qualifying event. The semifinal and final events will consist of 26 boards each. There is no carry-over from the Saturday qualifying rounds to the final rounds.

C. The entry fee is \$44 per team per session at the District GNT Finals. All players who have not participated in a Unit Final will incur a surcharge of \$11 to be paid at first entry.

D. The winning team in each flight will be subsidized, in part, by the District to participate in the National Finals in Washington D.C. at the Summer NABC, 2009. After payment of all District 14 GNT expenses, the balance of the District 14 income will be distributed equally among the four flights.

V. Substitution, Replacement, Augmentation and Pay

A. A player must play at least 50% of the boards played (not necessarily half of each match and including tie-breaking boards) by his/her team in each stage of the competition. At the District Stage, each player must play at least 50% of the semi-final knockout match and 50% of the final knockout match in order to receive overall master point awards.

B. The District Director, the District 14 GNT Coordinator or the Tournament Director at the playing site may approve a substitute player in an emergency. Only one substitute is permitted at any time on a team and no substitute is permitted if four or more team members of record are available. A substitute must be a member of District 14, must not appreciably strengthen the team and, beyond the Club Stage, must not play on any other team in the same flight at the same time. If a substitute plays more than 50% of the boards in any stage of competition, he/she becomes a permanent player of record for that team.

C. If a team of fewer than six players wins the District Final, that team may elect to add a fifth and/or sixth player for the National Finals. Any player so augmented to the team must be a member of District 14 and must be eligible to play in that flight. The District Director shall approve the augmentation of a fifth and/or sixth player to a team. Augmented players will not be subsidized by the District to participate in the National Finals.

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VI. Conventions

At all stages of the Superflight, Flight A, flight B and Flight C, the ACBL general convention chart will apply except that the ACBL Mid-Chart Conventions may be used in the Flight A and Superflight District 14 Finals.

VII. Funding

Each of the four flights will split the available district funds equally. District funds accrue from the entry fees from club qualifiers, Unit Finals, and the Swiss Team Sectional/GNT Final. District 14 income will be distributed equally among the four flights after payment of all District 14 GNT expenses.

VIII. District Director Authority

The District Director is the final authority in the interpretation of District 14 Conditions of Contest and may, in the case of emergency or unforeseen conditions, issue or make adjustments consistent with the general spirit of the Conditions of Contest.

The District 14 Director is Sharon Anderson, 2243 Estates Drive, Eagan, MN 55122
(651) 797-2902 , e-mail sharonroeanderson@comcast.net

The District 14 Coordinator is Bruce Burns, PO Box 6091, Lincoln, NE 68506
(402) 488-4365, e-mail nowallp@gmail.com

The Unit 178 GNT coordinator for the Swiss Team Sectional/GNT Finals is Mike Cassel,
3002 Troseth Rd., Roseville, MN 55113

(651) 697-9856, e-mail mcassel9856@comcast.net

Note:

Updates to the District 14 GNT Conditions of Contest will be available on the District 14 website at http://moot.typepad.com/district_14/files/d14.html and follow the links.