

**District 14 GNT Conditions of Contest: 2016-2017**

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**DISTRICT 14 CONDITIONS OF CONTEST  
2016-2017 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS**

<http://moot.typepad.com/district14/> GNT tab

ACBL tournament regulations, including those for KO, RR, and Swiss events, not specifically included in these conditions, apply to all club, unit and district games throughout this event, subject to the ACBL special & District 14-specific conditions of contest.

ACBL Conditions of Contest are a part of the District Conditions of Contest, including recently passed conditions regarding online play: [http://www.acbl.org/assets/documents/play/Conditions-of-Contest/Other-GNT\\_CoC.pdf](http://www.acbl.org/assets/documents/play/Conditions-of-Contest/Other-GNT_CoC.pdf)

**I. Schedule**

**A.** The period for Club Qualifying Games begins September 1, 2016 and ends on May 4, 2017.

**B.** Unit Finals must be completed by May 4, 2017. Unit Finals and Club Qualifying Games may not be held during the Spring Nationals, nor during any District 14 Regional. **Club qualifying events may be scheduled after Unit finals.**

**C.** The District Finals for all flights will be held in conjunction with a special sectional to be held with Unit 163 at the Meredith Willson Music Man Square Reunion Hall, 308 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Mason City, IA May 5-7, 2017.

**II. Club & Unit Qualifying Games**

**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 or 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.

Units will promote club level play. Units or joint units may sponsor one-session qualifying events or two-session qualifying games, and are encouraged to do so if club managers choose to not have qualifiers. Two-session **Unit Finals award gold points for overall placements.**

- C.** The players on Flight B & C teams qualify for unit or district finals if their team:
1. Wins one-half or more of their matches in a Swiss Teams (a tie is one-half of a win)
  2. Finishes average or higher in scoring system used to rank teams (VP or win-loss)
  3. Finishes in the top 50% within a stratum or flight in the scoring system used

Note to club Directors: ACBLScore does not always qualify every team eligible by the above rules. It might be necessary to add manual qualifications before making the results official.

No player who is not a member of District 14 may earn qualification except as ACBL Special conditions of contest stipulate. Players may play at any club as often as desired and with any other players.

In a Unit in which only one club qualification event is held, all Flight C players who participate in the event will qualify for the District Final.

**D.** At the club and unit stages, players qualify as individuals. The flights are as follows:

Any Non-Life Master who earns a qualification in Championship flight, Flight A or Flight B will also automatically earn a qualification in Flight C. Any player with less than 2500 master points who earns qualification in Championship flight or Flight A will automatically earn a qualification in Flight B. Any player with less than 6000 master points who earns a qualification in Championship flight will also earn a qualification in Flight A.

Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September masterpoint cycle. This information will be produced on August 6, 2016. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.

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**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.

**F.** The District 14 club qualifying table fees of \$5.00 per table per session should be sent to D14 via the District GNT Coordinator, Mike Cassel, 3002 Troseth Rd., Roseville, MN. 55113 before the start of the Spring Gopher Regional. 'Last Chance' GNT qualifying events, including 1-session Unit qualifying events held during the co-hosting sectional or regional will not be responsible for the \$5/table fee.

The D14 GNT coordinator will prepare a summary request to Unit GNT coordinators after the conclusion of the club qualifying period based on ACBL Score generated reports.

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. Before Unit and District finals, Club managers should notify their Unit GNT Coordinator of GNT-qualified players who will then forward the list to the District Coordinator at least one week before the District Finals.

**G.** The national sanction fee of \$1.25 per table per session is sent directly to the ACBL with a club's normal monthly game report.

### **H. GNT Fund-Raiser Games NOT QUALIFIERS**

**Units are urged to encourage their clubs to support the idea of raising financial aid for GNT district championship teams by running Grand National Team fund-raiser events.**

A GNT fund-raiser event can be run as a pair game, team game or can use any special format that will encourage players to participate. The masterpoints for the fund-raisers are sectionally rated and the sanction fees are regular club game and table fees. A club can hold one GNT Fund Raiser per year for each of its sanctions. The game is NOT a GNT qualifying event. Table fees of \$4/table to be sent to the District GNT Coordinator at the conclusion of the GNT annual cycle and will be used to reimburse district champions for team entry fees at the summer NABC on a pro-rata share basis. Each day of GNT NABC play counts as one share

At the current time the GNT Club Qualifying Games can only be held during a club's existing sanctions except:

GNT Fund games to be held at a time that a club does not have a regular sanctioned game, if the following conditions are met:

1. Unit approval
2. Permission from any clubs within 25 miles of the game location that hold sanctioned games during that day of the week.

If you want to have a party on a Saturday night when you have no sanction, and run a special game as a GNT Fund-Raiser you can have this sectionally rated game by meeting the above conditions.

### **III. Unit Finals**

**Participation at the District Finals is not contingent on participation or above average performance in a Unit Final and the scheduling of Unit Finals is not intended to cut the field for the district finals. The date of a Unit Final does not signal the end of the club qualifying period.**

Qualification for a Unit Final is the same as that for the District Final except that Flight A and championship flight players must play in a prior GNT event (Unit qualifying events included) to be eligible to play in the District Final (see IV.C.4 Buy-in fee for exemptions from this requirement)

		<b>Unit Final</b>	<b>District Final</b>
<b>Flight</b>	Master Point Limit Points as of 8/6/15 MP Cycle	<b>Club Qualification</b>	<b>Club or Unit Qualification</b>
<b>Open/Champ</b>	Unlimited	Play in Qualifier	Play in qualifier
<b>A</b>	Fewer than 6000 points	Play in Qualifier	Play in qualifier
<b>B</b>	Fewer than 2500 points	See section II.C above	See section II.C above
<b>C</b>	Non-Life master & <500 points	See section II.C above	See section II.C above

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**A.** Units are encouraged to hold a Unit Final for all flights, Championship flight, A, B and C. Unit Finals are optional, but ~~players who do not participate in a Unit Final will incur an \$11 surcharge to play in the District Finals.~~ The D14 BOD eliminated the \$11 surcharge in May 2016

Units are encouraged to offer the profits from the event to offset travel charges for players moving who play at the District finals, or to incent Unit Final play by offering Flight winners free entries for the Qualifying day at the District finals if the finals are sited locally.

**B.** Unit Finals can be one or two sessions with each team playing a minimum of 24 boards per session. Any appropriate Swiss, round-robin or knockout movement may be used. Unit finals will pay a percentage of gold points if the event is longer than one session. Units are encouraged to offer a gold point game to Flight C teams.

**C.** At the Unit Finals, four, five or six players enter as a team. To be eligible for participation in the Unit Final, all players must be members of District 14 and, for Flights B & C, have earned a Club Level Qualification in District 14 for the flight in which they are entered. **Players in Flights A and the Open Flight qualify for Unit Final play by previously playing in a GNT club qualifying event.** Units should encourage clubs to hold Club GNT qualifying events just before the Unit Final.

**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 before the DISTRICT 14 GNT 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.

**F.** Entry forms for the unit and district finals shall include the following statement: "By entering this event, I hereby certify, subject to penalties as provided in the conditions of contest for this event and in the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations, that I am eligible to play in this district". The District 14 GNT Coordinator has a supply of these forms.

### IV. District Finals

#### A. Date & Venue

The District Finals for all flights will be held on May 6-7 at the Meredith Willson Music Man Square Reunion Hall, 308 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Mason City IA 50401. **The annual finals for our GNTs, with it's 4 flights, is the best opportunity to compete against your peers in the district. There is a substantial masterpoint award for the winners and NO REQUIREMENT that entrants who win must represent the district at the summer NABC.**

#### B. Format

ACBL Special Conditions of Contest for GNTs state: "It is the spirit of these conditions that the Grand National Teams be a "grass roots" event" with "fair competition". District 14 interprets the ACBL's desire for "fair competition" to include round-robin play when feasible so that most or all teams in any flight meet head to head in matches of at least 6 boards on the qualifying day.

**Level playing field:** Each flight will play the same boards within their flight. Hand records with preduplicated boards are the norm.

All Flights except Flight C will hold two-session qualifying events beginning Saturday at 1:30 PM. Based on the overwhelming interest of 2014 Flight C GNT finalists, the Flight C GNT finals will be contested as a Swiss Team or Round Robin event conducted over 2 sessions on Saturday.

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT 1/2 HR BEFORE GAME TIME.**

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### **ENTRIES SOLD AFTER THE PRE-REGISTRATION PERIOD EXPIRES WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR.**

The second session will begin at 7:00 PM Saturday evening.

Entries warranted, **four teams from flights A, B and the Championship flight** will qualify for semifinal or final KO play on Sunday.

The semifinal round will start on Sunday at 9:30 AM. The finals will begin later that day at a time to be determined by the Tournament Director. **A playthrough format with an onsite meal is preferred to accommodate out of town travelers.** Subject to the approval of the Tournament Director, semifinal and final matches may be played or partially played at times agreeable to both teams.

### **C. Entries**

1. The entry fee is \$50 per team per session at the District GNT Finals. ~~Entrants who have not participated in a Unit Final will incur a surcharge of \$11 to be paid at first entry.~~ Nonqualifiers and Flight C GNT participants are encouraged to play in the 2-session regionally-rated (silver point) Grass Roots Fund Swiss Teams on Sunday.

2. At the District Finals, four, five or six players enter as a team. To be eligible for participation all players must be members of District 14 and, for Flights B & C, have earned a Club Level Qualification in District 14 for the flight in which they are entered. **Previous play in a GNT qualifying event is sufficient to establish eligibility in Flights A and the Open Flight.**

3. Entry forms for the district finals shall include the following statement: "By entering this event, I hereby certify, subject to penalties as provided in the conditions of contest for this event and in the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations, that I am eligible to play in this district".

Entry forms should also identify both a team captain and a team member willing to participate, if the need arises, on a committee.

#### **4. BUY-IN FEE:**

A PLAYER will be exempted from qualifying for the District 14 Finals provided they warrant, in writing to the GNT District Coordinator before April 1 of the current cycle that:

1. No club qualifying event was scheduled within 50 miles of their home; or
2. A significant business or personal reason prevented them from participating in any of the Club qualifying events within 50 miles of their home, including being out of state during the qualifying period, and
3. A \$20 fee is paid to the District 14 GNT coordinator prior to the start of District Finals.

### **D. General Conditions of Contest at District Finals**

#### 1. Seeds

- a. The prior year's District Champions with more than 50% of team members returning earn top seed.
- b. Otherwise, teams shall be seeded based on average masterpoint holdings.
- c. Results of the qualifying sessions determine seeds for finals play. When semifinals play dictates head to head matches the #1 seed may choose it's opponent between the #3 & #4 seeds

#### 2. Seating Rights

- a. If there are no seeds, seating rights will be determined by a coin flip.
- b. The seeded team has seating rights. The captain the team with seating rights should declare whether she to use the team's seating rights in the first or second half of the match. The team with seating rights sits down last.
- c. If there was no disagreement at the start of the match but there is one at halftime, the team that is behind has seating rights. If the teams are tied seating rights tbd by coin-flip.
- d. No change in seating may be made after the auction has started at either table except on instructions from the Director.

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### 3. Corrections and Appeals Period

- a. In matches requiring a playoff, no appeal of a director's ruling or score correction is possible after the auction begins at either table of the playoff
- b. No increase in score will be granted unless the Director's attention is called to the error 15 minutes prior to the announced starting time of the next session.
- c. The period for an appeal expires 15 minutes before the next session's start time.
- d. If a team appeals a ruling by the Director, victory point totals for the purpose of determining match pairings will be temporarily scored assuming that each team will win the appeal. After the decision of the committee, the victory points for each team will be adjusted according to the decision of the committee.

4. Kibitzing: A player who kibitzes must be at least two tables' distance from where teammates are playing. Any player at a table may bar kibitzers.

### 5. Penalties (<http://www.acbl.org/assets/documents/play/Conditions-of-Contest/General-KOTeams.pdf>)

- a. A team may not waive any penalties assessed against their opponents for tardiness or slow play.
- b. The penalty for failure to seat a complete team at the announced game time is:
  - 0-10 minutes no penalty
  - 10-15 minutes 1 IMP
  - 15-20 minutes 3 IMPs
  - 20-25 minutes 6 IMPs
  - 25-30 minutes 9 IMPs
  - 30-35 minutes 12 IMPs
  - 35-40 minutes 15 IMPs

In addition, the match will be curtailed one board, up to a maximum of four boards, for each 7.5 minute or fraction thereof of tardiness after the first ten minutes. Three IMPs will be awarded to the non-offending side for each curtailed board.

- c. If play has not commenced within forty minutes of announced game time, the match is forfeited.
- d. When a table exceeds the time allowed for play, the pair(s) involved will receive a warning. When a pair exceeds the time limit a second time in an event, they will appear before the Conduct & Ethics committee for review. Cases of excessive slow play will be referred to the Conduct & Ethics committee without previous warning.
- e. At the discretion of the Director, similar penalties may be assessed for slow play. Slow play penalties do not carry over to the next match unless a team is unable to start on time and is judged at fault.

### 6. Resolving Ties

#### Definitions:

Net IMPs: the difference between the total number of IMPs won and the total number of IMPs lost.

IMP Quotient: the total number of IMPs won divided by the total number of IMPs lost

#### a. Qualifying Play

1. Head-to-head match: a 4-board play-off will be played
2. 2-way Ties in round-robin (not 3-way) play (either W-L format or VPs)
  - a. Result of head to head matches.
  - b. Net IMPs for the day
3. 3-way Ties in round-robin play: focus on matches between the three
  - a. When two teams progress and one team has not lost both matches:
    1. If each team has won a match:
      - a. Net IMPs among the 3 matches
      - b. Net IMPs for the day
    2. If one team has won two matches and the other two teams tied:
      - a. Net IMPs among the 3 matches
      - b. Net IMPs for the day

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- b. When one team progresses and one team has not won both matches:
  1. If each team has won a match:
    - a. Result of the head-to-head match
    - b. Net IMPs for the day
  2. If two teams beat the third team and tie their match:
    - a. Net IMPs for the day
    - b. IMP Quotient
- b. Finals play
  1. Head-to-head match: a 4-board play-off will be played
  2. Ties in round-robin play broken by result of head to head competition during finals play, then
    - a. by the results of Saturday's head to head competition
    - b. Net IMPs in finals play

### E. Specific Conditions of Contest: Flighted Play

#### 1. FLIGHTS A, B AND CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

**Knockout play will be scheduled for any flight with 4 or fewer teams. Round-robin play is in effect in any qualifying event with less than 11 teams. Utilization of the continuous 20-pt. victory point scale (see pg 11) preferred.** BAM movement up to 10 teams with a preference for hands to be predealt and shared across the field. Swiss Team pairings with 11+ teams. No matches will be fewer than 6 boards.

**The semifinal and final events in FLIGHTS A & B will consist of 28 board knockouts.** If qualifying play reduces the field to 2 teams (2,3, or 4 teams in the qualifying field), a 56-board final will be played in 4 14-board quarters.

If qualifying play reduces the field to 4 teams, the #1 seed chooses between seeds #3 or #4 for their semi-final match. See section on seeding rights: IV.D.1

There is no carry-over from the Saturday qualifying rounds to the final rounds

**Two teams:** ACBL contest conditions limit the overall award to 50% of maximum if only two teams are competing, In that case the District Champion in a 2 team flight will be determined by 2 sessions of knockout play in 2 28-board halves played in 14 -board quarters.

**Three teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin knockout play in 2 28-board matches played in 7 -board quarters, 14-board halves to produce 2 finalists. If each team ends up with 1 win and 1 loss ties will be broken via net IMPs (Sec IV. D.6.3)

**Four teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin knockout play (1v4 & 2v3, then 1v3 & 2v4, then 1v2 & 3v4) 3 8-board halves in 16 board matches. In the case where there are not two clear W-L winners: 3 teams are tied (2-1, or 1-2), match imp differentials to be converted to Victory Points using the WBF 20-point scale for 16 board matches (see VP table, p.11).

**Five teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 12 board matches, consisting of 2 6-board halves against the four other teams to eliminate one team. BAM movement. Break after round 2 to accommodate 5-6 person teams. Matches converted to VP via the WBF continuous 20pt scale.

**Six teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 10 board matches, against the five other teams to eliminate two teams. Recommended movement: Thurner. The top four VP scores qualify (20-point VP scale) for semi-final knockouts.

**Seven teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play with 3 discrete matches: 8 board matches. Scoring on 20-point VP scale. Top 4 teams qualify for semifinal knockouts. If the Director determines that time allows for 5-board halves & 10 board matches scoring can be win-loss.

**Eight teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 7 board matches, against the seven other teams to eliminate two teams. Four matches in the afternoon, three in the evening. 7 boards placed on 5 tables in two sections. Boards remain stationary throughout the set. Preassigned guide cards. The top four VP scores qualify (20-point VP scale) for semi-final knockouts.

**Nine teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 6 board matches, consisting of 2 3-board halves against the eight other teams. A standard BAM movement with 8 3-board halves/session. The 6-board matches to be converted to VPs (on 20-point VP scale) and the top four VP scores qualify for semi-final knockouts.

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**Ten teams:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 5 teams in each section. EW pairs cross over to play 5-6 board matches in the first session. The 5 team sections play an internal 6-board BAM in the evening session. The teams with the top four VP scores using the 20-point WBF Continuous Victory point scale will qualify for semi-final knockouts.

**Eleven or more teams:** Teams will play a two session Swiss Team qualifier: 8 6-board matches using preduplicated hands and the 20-point WBF Continuous Victory point scale. The teams with the top four VP scores qualify for semi-final knockouts.

### 2. FLIGHT C

**FIVE or SEVEN teams:** A two-session round-robin will be played on Saturday in a BAM movement as described in the table below.

**SIX teams:** A round-robin with 5 discrete matches 10 boards in length. (see Championship Flight special conditions.)

**EIGHT teams:** 2 sessions round-robin Swiss with discrete matches: 4 7-board matches in the afternoon session and three 7-board matches in the evening. Match pairings predetermined.

#TEAMS	# MATCHES/ROUND	#BOARDS per MATCH	BDS PLAYED
5	4	6+6=12 (WBF 20vp scale)*	48
6	5	10	50
7	6	4+4=8	48
8	7	7	49

**NINE TEAMS:** A two session full round-robin will be played consisting 8 3-board halves/session with a standard BAM movement. The 6-board matches will be converted to VPs (20-point scale)

**TEN TEAMS:** 2 sessions of round-robin play: 5 teams in each section. EW pairs cross over to play 5-5 board matches in the first session (1 Mitchell and 1 mirror Mitchell). The 5 team sections play an internal 5-board BAM in the evening session. The teams with the top five VP scores qualify for a 2-session round-robin final. [ACBL 20pt VP scale in use for 5 board matches]

#TEAMS	# MATCHES/ROUND	#BOARDS per MATCH	BDS PLAYED
9	6	4+4=8	48
10	8	3+3=6	48

**ELEVEN or MORE teams:** Flight C plays a 2 session Swiss Team unseeded except that the top two seeds will not meet each other in the first round of the Swiss. The WBF continuous victory point scale is on page 12

- a. The ACBL General Convention Chart will apply. No other conventions will be allowed.
- b. For fields of 11 or more teams, the Director will assign the match pairings at random the first match of Swiss Team play. There are no seeding rights except that the #1 and #2 seeds as described above (Sec. IV.D.1) shall not meet in match #1. Thereafter, pairings will be determined by Victory Point total with teams having like total scores playing against each other.
- c. Should any questions arise as to the seating of players on one team against players on an opposing team, the captains will be required to submit precise geographic lineups to the Director. Should a team appeal a ruling by the Director, victory point totals for the purpose of determining match pairings will be temporarily scored assuming that each team will win the appeal. After the decision of the committee, the victory points for each team will be adjusted according to the decision of the committee.

### 3. Consolation Games

The tournament committee, in consultation with the District GNT Coordinator, will schedule events for teams who did not qualify for semi-final or finals play. An effort will be made to have a second day of flighted play if attendance warrants, and the tournament committee will provide assistance in team re-formation for players from teams that do not continue to the second day. If



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possible, the Sunday event will be a regionally rated 2 session Charity Swiss for the benefit of the Grass Roots Fund.

### V. Substitution, Replacement, Augmentation and Subsidies

#### A. 50% Rule

Every member of every team must play in at least half of the scheduled boards of each day of the event (exclusive of playoffs) in order to continue participating on the team for the remainder of the event. The team captain may submit an application for exceptions with the Director in charge but must do so prior to entering the team.

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. Substitution

A team may use a substitute in an emergency at the discretion of the Director in Charge in consultation with the GNT Coordinator, and/or the District Director. 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. Augmentation

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 with the following conditions:

1. Any player so augmented to the team must be a member of District 14 and must be eligible to play in that flight.
2. Players may be replaced only with confirmed consent of the replaced player and do not automatically qualify for District subsidy.
3. The augmentee must have participated in one of the current cycle's GNT Club Level Qualifying, Unit qualifying or Final, or District GNT final events. If a team wishes to augment a player who could not attend any GNT events in the current cycle due to family or other such emergencies, the District Director and GNT Coordinator **may** be willing to waive this provision.
4. The augmentee must meet the masterpoint eligibility requirements for the team's flight listed above.
5. ***The Captain of the District Champion is responsible for advising the District GNT Coordinator in writing and no later than May 31, 2017 of players to be replaced and/or augmentation. Augmented players will not be subsidized by the District to participate in the National Finals. Augmentation of a player who did not participate in the District finals is strongly discouraged.*** Any player who does not play in the event, hoping to join the winning team via augmentation, can expect to be excluded from the augmentation pool.
6. The District GNT Coordinator will consult with District Director on proposed augmentations, and will notify team captains of the decision within 7 days.
7. The GNT Coordinator will submit final team rosters to the ACBL by 6/15/2017.

#### D. Replacement Team

Winning team captains must notify the District 14 GNT coordinator by May 31, 2017 if the team does not intend to represent the District at the Summer Nationals. Winning teams must compete in the National GNT competition to receive the District subsidy.

The next eligible team willing to participate will replace district Champions that do not have at least 3 original members who played in the District Finals. The replacement team will be entitled to the winning-team subsidy should the winning team be unable to attend.

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### E. District Subsidies to Winning Teams

The winning team in each flight will be subsidized by the District to participate in the National Finals in Toronto, Ontario, Canada at the Summer NABC in July, 2017. The District 14 Board of Directors voted in August 2015 to subsidize each team \$2,000. All district championship teams will be offered free entries for the first two days of the NABC finals whether or not these entries are granted by the ACBL.

### VI. Conventions

At all stages of the Championship flight, 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 Championship flight District 14 Finals. Mid-chart conventions must be pre-alerted, and written defenses must be available.

### VII. Disqualifications

A. Reference the ACBL GNT Conditions of Contest for disqualification regulations.

B. When a player's team is disqualified after the correction period, teams move up one position as appropriate.

### VIII. Contingencies

A. District 14 GNT Coordinator: The District 14 GNT Coordinator will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to Club Qualifying Events, Unit Level Qualifying or Final Events, and the format or playing conditions of the Finals that are not specifically addressed by these Conditions including publicity, playing sites and dates. If any circumstances or rulings might directly affect the GNT Coordinator, he will be expected to not rule or adjudicate on such matters, but defer to the District Director to act in his or her stead.

B. The Tournament Director (DIC) will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the District Finals that arise during the District Finals that are not specifically addressed by these conditions. The DIC will ensure that if any circumstances or rulings might directly affect the GNT Coordinator or the District Director or their teams as participants playing during the competition, that they will be expected to not rule or adjudicate on such matters.

C. ACBL tournament regulations, though not specifically included in these conditions, apply throughout this event, unless they are specifically addressed by these conditions (e.g. resolving ties).

### IX. District Director Authority

The District Director (or designee) has final authority in the interpretation of District 14 Conditions of Contest and on any item not specified in the conditions of contest. In the case of emergency or unforeseen conditions, they may issue or make adjustments regarding any item that is consistent with the general spirit of the Conditions of Contest. Where feasible, or if the issue directly involves his or her team, the District Director should consult with the GNT coordinator and/or available Unit officials before exercising this authority.

The District 14 Director is Sharon Anderson, 2243 Estates Drive, Eagan, MN 55122

(651) 797-2902, e-mail [sharonroeanderson@comcast.net](mailto:sharonroeanderson@comcast.net)

The District 14 GNT Coordinator is Mike Cassel, 3002 Troseth Rd., Roseville, MN 55113

(651) 697-9856, e-mail [mcassel9856@comcast.net](mailto:mcassel9856@comcast.net)



## WBF Continuous VP Scale

<http://www.worldbridge.org/victory-point-scales.aspx>

This scale will be used in WBF Championships and should be used for major team Tournaments

IMPS	No of Boards									
	6	7	8	9	10	12	14	16	20	32
0	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
1	10.50	10.47	10.44	10.41	10.39	10.36	10.33	10.31	10.28	10.22
2	10.99	10.92	10.86	10.81	10.77	10.71	10.66	10.61	10.55	10.44
3	11.46	11.35	11.27	11.20	11.14	11.05	10.97	10.91	10.82	10.65
4	11.90	11.77	11.67	11.58	11.50	11.38	11.28	11.20	11.08	10.86
5	12.33	12.18	12.05	11.94	11.85	11.70	11.58	11.48	11.34	11.07
6	12.75	12.57	12.42	12.29	12.18	12.01	11.87	11.76	11.59	11.27
7	13.15	12.94	12.77	12.63	12.51	12.31	12.16	12.03	11.83	11.47
8	13.53	13.31	13.12	12.96	12.83	12.61	12.44	12.29	12.07	11.67
9	13.90	13.65	13.45	13.28	13.14	12.90	12.71	12.55	12.30	11.86
10	14.25	13.99	13.78	13.59	13.43	13.18	12.97	12.80	12.53	12.05
11	14.59	14.32	14.09	13.89	13.72	13.45	13.23	13.04	12.76	12.24
12	14.92	14.63	14.39	14.18	14.00	13.71	13.48	13.28	12.98	12.42
13	15.24	14.93	14.68	14.46	14.28	13.97	13.72	13.52	13.20	12.60
14	15.54	15.22	14.96	14.74	14.54	14.22	13.96	13.75	13.41	12.78
15	15.83	15.50	15.23	15.00	14.80	14.46	14.19	13.97	13.61	12.95
16	16.11	15.78	15.50	15.26	15.05	14.70	14.42	14.18	13.81	13.12
17	16.38	16.04	15.75	15.50	15.29	14.93	14.64	14.39	14.01	13.29
18	16.64	16.29	16.00	15.74	15.52	15.15	14.85	14.60	14.20	13.46
19	16.89	16.53	16.23	15.97	15.75	15.37	15.06	14.80	14.39	13.62
20	17.12	16.77	16.46	16.20	15.97	15.58	15.26	15.00	14.58	13.78
21	17.35	16.99	16.68	16.42	16.18	15.79	15.46	15.19	14.76	13.94
22	17.58	17.21	16.90	16.63	16.39	15.99	15.66	15.38	14.94	14.09
23	17.79	17.42	17.11	16.83	16.59	16.18	15.85	15.56	15.11	14.24
24	17.99	17.62	17.31	17.03	16.78	16.37	16.03	15.74	15.28	14.39
25	18.19	17.82	17.50	17.22	16.97	16.55	16.21	15.92	15.45	14.54
26	18.38	18.01	17.69	17.41	17.16	16.73	16.38	16.09	15.61	14.68
27	18.56	18.19	17.87	17.59	17.34	16.91	16.55	16.26	15.77	14.82
28	18.73	18.36	18.04	17.76	17.51	17.08	16.72	16.42	15.93	14.96
29	18.90	18.53	18.21	17.93	17.68	17.24	16.88	16.58	16.08	15.10
30	19.06	18.69	18.37	18.09	17.84	17.40	17.04	16.73	16.23	15.24
31	19.22	18.85	18.53	18.25	18.00	17.56	17.19	16.88	16.38	15.37
32	19.37	19.00	18.68	18.40	18.15	17.71	17.34	17.03	16.52	15.50
33	19.51	19.15	18.83	18.55	18.30	17.86	17.49	17.17	16.66	15.63
34	19.65	19.29	18.97	18.69	18.44	18.00	17.63	17.31	16.80	15.76
35	19.78	19.43	19.11	18.83	18.58	18.14	17.77	17.45	16.93	15.88
36	19.91	19.56	19.24	18.97	18.71	18.28	17.91	17.59	17.06	16.00
37	20.00	19.68	19.37	19.10	18.84	18.41	18.04	17.72	17.19	16.12
38		19.80	19.50	19.22	18.97	18.54	18.17	17.85	17.32	16.24
39		19.92	19.62	19.34	19.10	18.66	18.29	17.97	17.44	16.35
40		20.00	19.74	19.46	19.22	18.78	18.41	18.09	17.56	16.46
41			19.85	19.58	19.33	18.90	18.53	18.21	17.68	16.57
42			19.95	19.69	19.44	19.02	18.65	18.33	17.79	16.68
43			20.00	19.80	19.55	19.13	18.76	18.44	17.90	16.79
44				19.90	19.66	19.24	18.87	18.55	18.01	16.90
45				20.00	19.76	19.34	18.98	18.66	18.12	17.01
46					19.86	19.44	19.08	18.77	18.23	17.11
47					19.96	19.54	19.18	18.87	18.33	17.21

**Appendix A: GNT Cycle Calendar for 2016-2017**

**GNT Cycle Annual Calendar Dates**

**August 6** ACBL Masterpoint Flight Eligibility Determined  
Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September masterpoint cycle. This information will be produced on August 6, 2016 in Horn Lake, MS. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.

**September 1** Start of the GNT qualifying period

**May 14-15** District Finals

**May 31** Winning Captains inform GNT Coordinator of Replacements, Augmentation

Winning Captains inform GNT Coordinator of Abdication

**June 15** District GNT Coordinator forwards name of team members for Summer Nationals  
"All districts must notify ACBL Headquarters by June 15, 2017 of each team in any flight that will be participating in the GNT North American finals

**New Cycle**

**June 1** Sanction Request for next cycle's GNT finals due to ACBL

**July 1** District Eligibility exception requests: If players wish an exception from the requirements of sections A above, they must begin the process for the GNT by July 1. Players must seek permission in writing from the district directors of the district in which he lives and the district in which he wishes to play. Both district directors must agree for the exception to be granted. For the Open Championship Flight in the GNT, this written permission from both district directors will be forwarded to the credentials committee for final approval. If the directors do not agree, the exception is not granted. There is no appeal from this decision.

**September 1**

Each district shall determine the nature of the event by which it declares its district champions. Prior to Sept. 1, each district must provide ACBL Headquarters with an outline of their conditions of play. The name, address and phone number of the person to whom questions should be directed concerning the district's event should be included.

**Appendix B**

**Conditions of Contest For District GNT Finals Hosted Online see**

**[http://www.acbl.org/assets/documents/play/Conditions-of-Contest/Other-GNT\\_CoC.pdf](http://www.acbl.org/assets/documents/play/Conditions-of-Contest/Other-GNT_CoC.pdf)**

**Appendix C: GNT Logistic Principles endorsed by the District 14 Board of Directors**

**GNT logistics:**

1. Each Unit will designate a liaison for GNT coordination, typically the Unit GNT Coordinator or Unit Tournament Coordinator, who will work with the club managers in the unit to encourage GNT participation as well as coordinate with District 14 GNT coordinator.
2. The District 14 GNT coordinator will prepare a list of fees due the District from each Unit at the conclusion of the club qualifying period based on reports from the ACBL Special Events coordinator.
3. **Unit GNT liaisons** will assist the D14 GNT coordinator to see that table fees from club qualifiers are forwarded to the District before the completion of the District Finals.
4. Club managers will print report forms from GNT club qualifying games as they occur and be prepared to forward table fees & report forms when requested. Club managers need not send a series of checks after each qualifying game. Club managers will also prepare a list for posting of GNT-qualified players at the conclusion of their qualifiers.
5. Units are encouraged to hold two-session Unit Finals with the following benefits and caveats:
  - a. Players can earn gold points in a two session Unit GNT game.
  - b. Players do not have to play in a Unit Final to qualify for the District Finals
  - c. Unit finals are not designed to thin the field; the maximum number of teams will qualify (ACBLScore program will qualify 90%).

It was agreed that these principles would be added to the District 14 Policies under GNT. (D14 BOD meeting October 2009)

.....  
**Club managers** forward the ACBL sanction fee of \$1.25 per table per session to the ACBL with their normal monthly game report.

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. A posting of GNT-qualified players is sufficient notification.

<p>Note: The players on Flight B &amp; C teams qualify for unit or district finals if their team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. wins one-half or more of their matches in a Swiss Teams (a tie is one-half of a win)</li><li>2. finishes average or higher in the scoring system used to rank teams (VP or win-loss)</li><li>3. finishes in the top 50% within a stratum or flight in the scoring system used</li></ol> <p>ACBLScore does not always qualify every team eligible by the above rules. It might be necessary to add manual qualifications before making the results official.</p>
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**Club managers** should provide their Unit GNT Coordinator a list of GNT-qualified participants before the District finals.

Units or joint units may sponsor one or two-session qualifying games, and are encouraged to do so if club managers choose to not have qualifiers.