



### D21 GNT Report

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### 2024 Grand National Teams (GNT)



Congratulations to the winners of this year's District 21 Championships. The following teams will be traveling to the National Finals in July in Toronto, Canada. All teams competed 4-handed, but some chose to augment their roster for the long, arduous event in Toronto.

**Flight C - non-Life Masters:** Wesley May, Kai Eckert, Richard Ross, Ryan Gossiaux.

**Flight B - Under 2500:** Rajan Jeyakumar, Terry Kellerman, Marcus Ballinger, Eugene Sor. A second team, led by Amit Garg, is also qualified to play in

Toronto in Flight B. The District is permitted to send two teams if at least 8 teams compete at the District level.

**Flight A - under 6000:** Michael Bodell, Matthew Haag, Mike Cailean, Alan Malloy.

**The Open:** Perennial Champions Kit Woolsey, Chip Martel, Amber Lin, Kevin Rosenberg. This team has augmented their roster with Bruce Zhu and Ming Sheng for the long and grueling competition at the National level.

The Grand National Teams is a grassroots tournament played in all ACBL Districts across the US and Canada, with the winners in each area representing their District in the National Final. The GNT knock-out events are often described as the purest form of the game. Your team and their team, head-to-head for 24 or 60 boards, winner takes all. Sadly, since Covid, participation in our event has fallen like much tournament attendance. District 21 has historically produced 50 or 60 teams each year in the four Flights. Currently, the events have fallen to only 20 teams. At this level of participation, the District will not be able to continue giving stipends to the winning teams. But most importantly, people are missing out on the Premier Event in our District. Everyone has their own competitive level and gets to play many teams over 2 or 3 days in the finest, most challenging competition you will find on the D21 Calendar.

Let's see everyone come out and play next year. It's fun, competitive at all levels, and important to the success of face-to-face bridge!