

**D21 NAP Report**

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Contact Jim: jcoke@yahoo.com**It's Time For North American Pairs!!**

Our annual grass roots chance to win an NABC title is underway. The NAP is a hierarchical event where everyone starts at the club level then higher performing pairs progress to the next level. High performing pairs gradually work their way up to the National level. The winning pair wins an NABC title. Actually, there are 3 titles, one each for Open (flight A), less than 2500 master points (flight B) and a lowest level title requires players to be both a non-Life Master and less than 500 Master Points (flight C).

The NAP process has already begun. Club games started at the beginning of June and will continue through the end of August. A club must register a game as an NAP game in ACBLScor for it to be counted as an NAP game. Two NAP games per month are allowed for each game in a club's regular sanction. In general, players must place in the top half of their strat to qualify for the next level of play. (There are some cases where more players may qualify but the explanation of all this is pretty detailed.) The only thing players need to do is check whether there is a Q by their name when the game's final standings are displayed. There will be 3 Qualification columns in the final scores display – one for each of the A, B and C levels. Administration of qualifiers is handled by ACBLLive which simplifies the process for players and directors.

The Q qualifies a pair to play at the next level of the competition. Traditionally, there have been 4 levels: club, unit, district and NABC. This year District 21 elected to skip the unit level again so everyone who qualified at the club automatically advances to the district level. Units may optionally hold a Unit Level NAP game if they wish but Unit Level Qualifiers will not affect qualification for the District Level NAP game. The District Level Qualification game will be held at the Monterey Regional on the 11th and 12th of January 2025. The NAP National level will be played at the Memphis NABC which will run from March 12–23, 2025.

At the club level, players qualify as individuals. This allows players to switch partners between the club stage and the unit or district stage so long as both partners are qualified and meet the requirements for unit / district / NABC participation. Among other requirements, players must be paid up members of ACBL in good standing.

Players from any district may qualify at any ACBL NAP club game. The unit level and district level NAP games will require that players are members of the respective district. So, in District 21 unit and district level games, only District 21 members will be allowed to participate because the district winners represent their home district.

NAP Flight A allows the Open+ chart while Flights B & C will be limited the Basic+ chart. Most Flight B & C players will not have trouble with this restriction but some pairs playing more exotic conventions should be aware that these conventions may be disallowed for the NAP. If you are not sure about whether your convention is legal under Basic+, consult your local director.

For those interested in the fine details, the ACBL has published [2024-2025 North American Pairs Conditions of Contest](#) which governs the contest at the National level and District 21 has published their D21 District 2024-2025 North American Pairs Conditions of Contest which describes our local implementation of the National NAP CoC [here](#).