



D21 GNT Report

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District 21 2026 GNTs

The Minneapolis Nationals are over, with six of our District 21 teams having competed in the Grand National Teams. The success story of the event was our team of Jun Shi, Tien-Chun Yang, Ethan Liu, Ming Sheng, and team captain Yanong Han. Defeating many National Champs on the way to the Championship Flight Finals, they lost by less than 10 IMPs to a team of famous household (and Bridge Bulletin) names. Fantastic job, gentlemen!

Another D21 team going deep into the draw was our Flight C reps, Milind Girkar, Maggie Zhao, Henry Zhang, and Shailesh Sampat. In the semifinals, the Girkar team was tied after three quarters, only to lose by a minuscule 6 IMPs. So close!

Our Flight A team of Mukund Thapa, Thomas Stern, Floyd McWilliams, Scott Benson, Bob Sanner, and Frank Xie reached the quarterfinals before losing a see-saw battle with many lead changes. In the end, they finished 5 IMPs short.

Our other Flight C squad was equally close in their quarterfinals. The team of Emily Francis, Henry Zhang, David Murray, and Raymond Ochoa jumped out to a first-quarter lead and stayed close the whole match, but eventually failed to advance by just a handful of IMPs.

Congratulations to all our winners from District 21. The 2027 event is planned to be similar in time and place to this year's event. The Open Flight and Flight A early rounds will be held in Oakland in February or March, with the Finals of each in April. Flights B and C will be hosted in Palo Alto, also in April. See you then!