
2022 District 21 Conditions of Contest

The ACBL District 21 2022 Grand National Teams will be played according to the [Grand National Teams 2021-2022 ACBL Special Conditions of Contest](#), with District 21 electing the following options as allowed in those Conditions. Any changes to the ACBL Conditions of Contest and their allowed options take precedent over the items listed here.

This coming GNT season is still filled with uncertainty. D21 will set dates and locations for all Flights later this year. We will plan to play face-to-face. But the possibility of continuing Pandemic restrictions, and common sense health considerations, might require switching to holding the events Online. This fluid situation will require all players be open minded and flexible.

If F2F: All players will be required to submit proof of full vaccinations. Masks will be required if the CDC or ACBL recommends. A mandate at ANY level of government (federal, state, county, or local) will also apply. Masks may be uncomfortable to wear all day, but the health and well-being of all our fellow bridge players takes precedence.

If Online: If we are forced to hold the events online, all players will be required to use Zoom or some equivalent product. Each player will share a session with their screenmate. System notes will NOT be allowed.

In accordance with ACBL regulations, each participant in the GNT must be an ACBL member in good standing and must follow ACBL residency requirements.

The GNT is divided into four flights as defined below. Players will be allowed to participate in multiple flights as long as dates do not conflict. Players are expected to continue in any event they enter until completion, and may not withdraw in order to play in a different Flight. Eligibility is based on masterpoint holdings as of the ACBL September masterpoint cycle, which is printed on the back of the player's September 2021 Bulletin. Foreign players with non-ACBL experience and masterpoints must register their foreign points with the ACBL.

1. FLIGHTS

Open Championship Flight	Unlimited
Flight A	Under 6,000 masterpoints
Flight B	Under 2,500 masterpoints
Flight C	Non-Life Master under 500 masterpoints

2. ENTRY FEES

Entry fees will be \$48.00 per team per session. District 21 shall give each flight \$2,000.00 to represent District 21 at the Summer NABC in Providence, RI, to be held July, 2022. ACBL will not charge entry fees for Flights A, B, and C for the first two days of the national finals.

3. REGISTRATION (these dates are tentative)

Teams must register online no later than:

Open Championship Flight	Jan 31, 2022
Flight A	Apr 3, 2022
Flight B	Feb 7, 2022
Flight C	May 1, 2022

Instructions for registering will be provided. Late registration will be accepted only at the discretion of the District 21 GNT coordinator.

4. CAPTAINCY

Each team must designate the team captain from among its own playing members, and said captain will be responsible for all representation of the team.

5. TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAY REQUIREMENTS

Teams may consist of four, five or six players. Players may be added at any time before actual competition begins. Each player must play at 50% of the boards or one full session during the first stage, and at least 50% of the semi-final and final knockout matches thereafter. Exception to this rule may be made by request to the District 21 GNT coordinator but will be entertained only with good cause. No exceptions will be made for the final match.

6. ITEMS NOT COVERED

Any items not covered by these Conditions of Contest will be resolved by the District 21 GNT coordinator in consultation with the Director-In-Charge.

7. CONVENTIONS

All conventions in the Basic+ Chart are permitted in all flights. Open+ Chart conventions will be allowed in the Open Flight and Flight A. Open+ conventions that require written defenses must have two copies presented to the opponents before play begins, or will not be permitted.

8. SUBSTITUTIONS, REPLACEMENT AND AUGMENTATIONS

A permanent replacement for a player who, for cause, cannot continue in the event is permitted only with the permission of the District 21 GNT coordinator. Prior to the completion of the District final, the replacement need not have played in the event but must: (1) be a member of the ACBL and maintain their membership in District 21, and (2) not appreciably strengthen the team.

A replaced player permanently leaves the District event with all masterpoints already earned and the replacement continues in the event earning masterpoints thereafter. Play percentage requirements apply to the replacement only for the portion of the event yet to be played. Three or more players on the team must participate in order to play in the

National Finals. Any player augmented to the team for the National Final must be approved by the District 21 GNT Coordinator.

9. KNOCKOUT MATCH DURATION

Each knockout match in Open Flight and Flight A will consist of 60 boards divided into four 15-board quarters. Unless deferred, the higher-ranked team will have seating rights in the first and fourth quarters. Flight B and Flight C will play 28-board matches. In each 28-board head-to-head match, the higher ranked team will decide whether to be seeded for the first or second half. There will be no playbacks until the final match.

10. NUMBER OF KNOCKOUT MATCHES

Each Flight will consist of 4 Knockout Matches, perhaps with round robins to reduce teams to a multiple of two. If more than 16 teams enter any Flight, a 5th match will be scheduled one week following the final scheduled weekend. Furthermore. In Flights B and C, where 2 teams will be sent to the National Final, a playoff between 3rd and 4th place will be played concurrently with the Final. This will determine the first substitute, should either of the Finalists choose not to attend the Nationals.

11. SEEDING

Final seeding for all flights will be chosen by the Director-in-Charge, the District 21 GNT coordinator, and Eugene Hung, our seeding executive.

GNT Coordinator: Grant Vance, grantvance1@gmail.com