

District 20 NAP COC 2023-2024

General

A. National Conditions of Contest: The 2023-2024 North American Pairs (hereafter, NAP) Conditions of Contest as published by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) govern this competition: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/NAP/CoC.pdf>

B. Participation: To advance beyond the club level in this event, a player must be a member in good standing of both the ACBL and its geographical division of District 20 (D20).

C. District Coordinator: The D20's coordinator for the ACBL-wide North American events is currently Hal Montgomery (hereafter "Coordinator"), 5533 SW Boundary st, Portland, Oregon 97221; e-mail: dewitt@imaginata.com; telephone number (503) 583-3717.

Club Stage

Club qualifying games will be conducted in June, July and August of 2023 as detailed in the ACBL National Conditions of Contest. Club qualifying is required. You may qualify in a NAP qualifying game held in a different district. Players qualify as individuals.

Unit Level

The Unit Stage of the NAP competition will not be conducted in D20. Players who qualify in club qualifying games advance directly to the D20 Finals.

District Finals (for A, B, and C Flights)

Final Tournaments Eligibility:

(a) D20 players who qualified in a Club NAP qualifying game or are otherwise qualified by the ACBL National Conditions of Contest may compete in the D20 NAP Finals in the flight(s) for which they are eligible.

(b) Masterpoint (MP) limits for each flight are as of the 2023 June MP cycle:

Flight A - Open to any player.

Flight B - Players with less than 2500 MPs.

Flight C - Non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 MPs

(c) There are no exemptions from qualification - players must earn eligibility in a club or Unit-sponsored NAP qualifying game (but not necessarily in District

20).

Event Dates, Times and Locations:

(a) The Flight A and C Finals will be held simultaneously on Sunday, November 19th, 2023. The Flight B Finals will be held on Saturday, November 18th, 2023.

(b) Planned starting times for the two sessions are 11:00 am and 4:00 pm Pacific Time (9:00 am and 2:00 pm in Hawaii, 12:00 pm and 5:00 pm in Boise) The DIC will announce the exact starting time for the second session at the end of the first session.

(c) The dates, times, and locations for these Finals are subject to change by the Coordinator for good cause.

(d) All flights will be contested on Bridge Base Online (BBO). Monitors will be required.

Event Format:

(a) Flights A, B, and C: All three flights in the D20 NAP Finals will be conducted as one-day, two-session, play-through events supervised by the Director-in-Charge (DIC) who must have at least the rank of ACBL Tournament director. The national conditions of contest call for each session to be at least 24 but not more than 30 boards long.

(b) Format Changes: The Event format in all flights is subject to change for good reason by a committee consisting of the DIC, NAE Coordinator, and Regional Director.

District Finals Conditions of Play

1. Entry Fees: The entry fee for the District Finals for Flights A and B will be \$80 per pair. The entry fee for the District Finals for Flight C will be \$72 per pair. Players will pay the entry fee to BBO on the day of the event. Pre Registration is required!! You must pre register at least one week before the event. The registration form will be available on the D-20 web site.

2. Bidding Boxes/Screens: Since the competition is on-line, no boxes or screens are needed.

3. Seeding: It is intended that pairs play against the other pairs in an equitable movement. The DIC will balance the field by taking into account the players' Masterpoint holdings and recent accomplishments. The DIC may consult with the Regional Director, District President, and NAE Coordinator regarding the seeding.

4. Slow Play: A maximum of 7.0 minutes per board is permitted in each segment of play, unless play is delayed for a technical difficulty. The DIC will monitor play and may add additional time in the case of technical difficulties.

5. Kibitzing: Kibitzing is prohibited.

6. Scoring: The contestants within each flight will be scored via match point scoring with every other competitor within their flight to determine the overall rankings.

7. Ties: Ties for advancement positions in any flight Finals will be broken as follows. The boards played in common will be scored board-a-match versus average, with 1 point for above average, ½ point for average, and no points for below average. If the pairs are still tied then a coin flip will determine the placing.

Online Competition

1. Provisions for On-line Competition: This event will be played on-line to provide broad accessibility for players in all parts of D20 and to select the representatives to the National Finals in the fairest way possible. The online host will be Bridge Base Online (BBO).

2. The ACBL regulations for on-line play are contained in the National Conditions Appendix I : Online Events Special Conditions of Contest <https://web2.acbl.org/coc/AppendixI.pdf>

3. The General Conditions referenced above shall govern this event except for the following clarifications or exceptions:

A) This event will be hosted on-line by Bridge Base Online (BBO), an ACBL approved host.

B) Pre-registration is required by November 11th, 2023 for Flight B and by November 12th 2023 for Flights A and C to assure participation in the finals. Registration(s) after this date may be accepted to improve the game movement or for other good reasons subject to approval by the DIC.

C) 2.1 Pairs are not allowed to submit funds at the time of preregistration as required in section 7 of the national conditions but will submit payment at the time of registering with BBO on the day of the event.

D) Monitors are required at each playing venue of the D-20 NAP finals.

Electronic Device Policy

The ACBL electronic device policy applies to this event. The URL is copied below. <https://web2.acbl.org/coc/AppendixJ.pdf>

Conventions

1. Contestants are required to post a complete convention card, in ACBL format, including any supplemental notes.
2. The ACBL Open+ Chart applies to the Flight A Finals. Pairs playing methods requiring a written defense must pre-alert their opponents and post a written description of their method(s) along with their convention card. Contestants opposing a pair playing such methods are permitted to access the ACBL's defense database and keep said defenses open in their internet browser.
3. The ACBL Basic + Convention Chart applies to Flights B and C.

If players have questions regarding the permissibility of their own or their opponent's conventions they should contact the DIC.

Advancement

1. Ranking of Pairs: Pairs will be ranked by their overall score, within each flight, for overall masterpoint awards and for pair advancement eligibility.
2. Advancement: The top three pairs in A and the top four pairs in B and C will be eligible to advance to the National Finals, subject to the tie-breaking procedure.
3. Advancement Declined: If a pair declines the opportunity to advance, the vacant position will be offered to the next highest pair. Note: pairs must declare intention to advance within two weeks of notification or risk having their status deemed "declined."
4. Additional Pairs If additional pairs (other than the previous year's winner in Flight A) are eligible to advance per Appendix II of the National Conditions of Contest, they will be the pair or pairs with the highest score not otherwise qualified to advance.

Subsidies

1. Subsidy awards for those who qualify for participation in the National Finals will be based on a pair's position.
2. The ACBL offers travel expense subsidies only for the top two pairs in each flight. D20 may provide additional subsidies from the general fund or with a portion of the funds generated by the Grass Roots Fund games (if any) at the discretion of the D20 Board as recommended by the NA Events Committee. Participants in any Flight may conduct fundraisers, all proceeds of which will be used to supplement the ACBL and D20 subsidies of that Flight.
3. The subsidies provided by the ACBL and D20 for the NAPs will be posted on the D20 website once the D20 board has determined the subsidy amounts. The D20 portion varies from year to year.

Publicity

D20's champions of each Flight will cooperate reasonably in promoting the event including, if requested, (i) by supplying a short written report of the D20 and National Finals for publication in the D20's newspaper; and (ii) by making public appearances. The Coordinator will promote the event to the D20 Units, Clubs and individuals with general information for club qualification and dates, times and locations of the Finals by (i) providing fliers and/or advance email notifications; and (ii) by publishing schedules and reports in the D20's newspaper and on its web site.

Contingencies

The Coordinator will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to Club Qualifying Events, publicity, playing sites and dates that are not specifically addressed by these conditions. Also, in consultation with the NA Events Committee if feasible, the Coordinator will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the Finals that are not specifically addressed by these Conditions and which arise on or before November 11th, 2023. If such a matter should involve his or her partnership, then the Coordinator shall defer to a member of the NA Events Committee to act in his or her stead. The DiC will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the Finals that are not specifically addressed by these conditions and which arise after November 11th, 2023.

Security

The ACBL online security requirements as detailed on the ACBL website at: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/NAP/CoC.pdf> are part of these conditions.

However, in D-20 monitors are required for all venues in our finals. The following conditions are in addition to the security provisions in appendix 7 of the national COC.

1. The Tournament Organizer will designate at least one Monitor for each playing venue. The DIC shall be informed, no later than 2 days after the close of registration, of the proposed Monitor for each venue and their contact information. The proposed Monitor is subject to approval by the DIC. Monitors should not be family members.
2. Monitors shall ensure the enforcement of these CoC and will be primarily responsible for the enforcement of any security-related issues at their designated location.
3. The goal of the district is to have many locally organized venues, permitting players to play locally with as little travel as possible.
4. Except in unusual circumstances one person venues will not be approved. When one member of a pair is permitted to play from a one person venue the other player must be playing from a multi person venue.