

Registering for the game

Q: How can I contact the director before or after the game?

A: The **Director in Charge** is always logged into BBO as **vacb225938**. You can send private chat to that name any time the director is online - typically at least 30 minutes before game time, and for a little while (no more than 20 minutes) after. If you make that name a "friend" (or: "follow") in your personal account, you won't have to look it up when you want to find it again - it will always be there in your "friends" list. (That's the same ID you will see in front of the game info when you look for our game to register).

Q: How do I register for the game?

A: 1. Log into BBO and choose "competitive".

2. Choose ACBL Virtual clubs; if it's within 2 hours of game time, our club game will show up there - probably the only one unless you are an active member of another club which also has a game starting.

3. Click on the line with our game. Don't click on the blue tile on the left that says vacb..... When you open our game, the registration box should pop up, along with menu choices of "details", "entries" (where you will see any pairs already registered) and "partnership desk".

If you need further help watch the video "How to find your club's games" which takes you through the process. It's accessible from the BCON website via "online bridge videos" under "help playing online".

Q: I'm having trouble registering for a game. Who do I contact?

A: Jane Jennings(bridge@benlo.com) is the principal contact for sorting out problems, but if you need help just before game time, the faster, more

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direct approach, is to contact the director of the game in question. Send chat to vacb225938 (see above).

Q: Can I choose which direction I sit?

A: Your pair cannot choose NS or EW, BUT, the inviter in the registration process will be placed S or W, and the invitee will be N or E.

Q: Why do I have to have ACBL membership to play in the restricted (limited MP) games?

A: Your membership does not have to be current, but you need an ACBL number because that's the only way the BBO system has of determining that you qualify for the limited games.

If you were once a member of the ACBL, your old membership number will do the trick.

If you have never been an ACBL member, you can get a free guest membership at:

https://acbl.site-ym.com/general/pick_username.asp

In either case, record your number in your BBO account (Log in; select ACBL World); then contact Jane (bridge@benlo.com) with your BBO nickname to make sure you are included in the BCON list of friends.

Be sure to log in early on the day you want to play, so we have time to iron out any issues before game time.

Q: How do I register my ACBL number with BBO?

A: Log in to BBO, select “ACBL World”. You will see a tab “Add your ACBL number”. Allow 24 hours between doing this and registering for your limited point game, for the 2 systems to synchronize their databases.

Q: Do I need a convention card?

A: Convention cards are the primary mechanism for disclosing your partnership agreements to your opponents, both in live games and online. It is a violation of ACBL rules - and a discourtesy to your opponents - to play without one.

Look under the “account” tab and choose “convention cards”. You will find several stock cards that you can use or modify, or you can start from scratch. There is a video link here on the BCON website to help you through the process.

Q: I’ve been added to the BCON Friends list, but when I log on and click on ACBL virtual clubs, I don’t see the BCON game(s).

A: “ACBL Virtual Clubs.” shows you only games that you are able to play in as a non-visitor. In other words, these are clubs where ACBL has a record of you playing face-to-face over the last ~18 months.

If you wish to see other clubs, instead of going to “ACBL Virtual Clubs,” go to “All Tournaments.” This will produce a very long list. To narrow that list down, you can type BCON into the search box at the top of the screen. Alternatively, if you wish to see all Virtual Club games, type “vacb” in the search box, and it will show you all Virtual Club games that are open for registration.

Q: What does “no enemies” mean in the details of our BBO “tournaments”?

A: The term “enemy” is somewhat out-dated/historic. Earlier versions of BBO allowed players to designate other players as “friend”, neutral or “enemy”. In the current BBO version that most of us are using, the equivalent terms are “follow”, neutral or “ignore”.

For our BBO games, we are set up as a private club; the intention was to provide a venue for the people who play at our “real” club, and their guests. The “restrictions” that you see under details show that to play in our games, you need to have been known to BBO as a BCON player (“include list”) or to have been added to our list of “friends”. The “no enemies” is more or less a default setting; it gives us the ability to bar a player from our game by selecting “ignore” on their profile should we need to.

Q: How do I offer my services as a sub?

A: Just before game time, send a chat message to vacb225938. Ahead of time, you can do the same, or send an email to the director in charge