

District 10 Grand National Teams Conditions of Contest for 2023-24

The following, in conjunction with the ACBL Special Conditions of Contest, shall constitute the District 10 Conditions of Contest (CoC) for the 2023-24 Grand National Teams (GNT). The ACBL Special Conditions of Contest for 2023-24 may be found on the ACBL web site at: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2023-24.pdf>.

The District 10 GNT Coordinator is Jerry Burford. Questions or requests for clarification may be directed to the coordinator using the following contact information:

Home address: 6 Charleston Avenue, Clinton, MS 39056
phone: 601-925-0506
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Flight Eligibility

Open Championship Flight — Unlimited
Flight A — Under 6000 MPs
Flight B — Under 2500 MPs
Flight C — Non-Life Masters with under 500 MPs

Masterpoint totals for flight eligibility are determined by the ACBL September 1, 2023 masterpoint cycle as produced by ACBL on August 6, 2023. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for the 2024 national final.

The ACBL 2024 Summer NABC

The Summer NABC will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada from July 18 to July 28, 2024. At the time these CoCs were established a detailed schedule showing dates and times of the GNT events was not available; the ACBL CoC notes the National Final is expected to begin on the Wednesday afternoon prior to the start of the NABC (July 17, 2024). See the ACBL NABC web site for current information.

Participation Requirements

A player must be a member of the ACBL in good standing to participate at any level of the GNT. A player is considered to be in good standing if his/her dues are paid at the time of the District 10 finals. A player's physical residence as of September 1, 2023 must be in District 10 in order to participate in the District 10 GNT Finals, except as noted in the ACBL Special Conditions (e.g., full-time students, members of the armed forces, etc.)

Team Constituency and Qualification Requirements

Team Formation

For the NABC, teams may consist of four, five, or six members from anywhere within District 10 (i.e., may be comprised of members from more than one Unit in District 10.)

Club Level / Unit Level Competition

For the 2024 competition, District 10 does not require qualification at either the Club-level or the Unit-level for any flight. Clubs/Units are permitted to conduct club/unit qualifying team games as a fundraiser; appropriate sanctions from ACBL must be requested for these games.

District Level Competition

The District 10 Final is a flighted event, and similar to the D10 NAP Final, the competition will be conducted online. Flights B and C will use the ACBL Basic+ Convention Chart, Flight A will use the Open Convention Chart and the Open Championship Flight will use the Open+ Convention Chart. The event will utilize a 20-point victory scale.

Any team wishing to participate should pre-register for the event (see Reporting section below).

The initial two sessions of the District Finals for each Flight will be conducted on a Sunday in February, 2024. Specifically, Flights A and C initial sessions will be held on February 18, 2024 and the Flights B and Championship initial sessions will be held on February 25, 2024. These sessions will consist of a two-session Swiss.

The initial two sessions of the District final will be two sessions of 24+ boards. The format will depend on the size of the field:

- 1 team – the team is declared District champion after paying the entry fee
- 2 teams – a head-to-head 48-board match
- 3-9 teams – teams will play a full round-robin scored on the 20-VP scale
- 10 or more teams – teams will play a Swiss of 6 8-board matches scored on the 20-VP scale.

For any flight for which there are 8+ teams participating, those initial sessions will serve as qualifying rounds to narrow the field to 4 teams in the flight. Those 4 teams will move on to a two-session round robin competition to determine the final ranking for that flight. The final two-session event for Flights A and C, if required, will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2024; the final two-session event for Flights B and Championship, if required, will be held on Sunday, March 10, 2024.

District NABC Representatives

The winner of each flight will be invited to represent District 10 at the Summer NABC GNT events. In addition, should there be eight or more teams participating in the D10 Flight B or C Finals, the second place finisher will also be invited to the NABC as a District 10 representative. Teams that win the District 10 final may augment their team up to six players to participate in the National finals, however at least three members of the original team that competed at the District 10 final must attend/participate in the NABC. All substitutes and replacements must meet the masterpoint and residency requirements of the flight in which they are participating. Players selected to augment the team may not materially improve the team players that participated in the District Final.

If an invited team is unable to meet the above requirements or is otherwise unable to attend the NABC, the invitation will be passed along to the next team based upon its finish in the District 10 competition.

Reporting

Team captains planning to participate in the District Final must submit a listing of team members, their phone numbers, their ACBL player numbers, their BBO ids and the flight for which they are registering to the GNT Coordinator. Registration may be by email or US Mail. In addition, the team captains should submit by mail payment for the initial two sessions for which they are registering (\$26 per team member, for a total of \$104, \$130 or \$156 for a 4-, 5- or 6-member team, respectively.) If there are any questions, please contact the Coordinator (contact info above). Registration should be completed / received by the GNT Coordinator by January 31, 2024.

If required by the size of the field in a given flight (i.e., initial field of 8+ teams), those teams qualifying for a second two-session event should notify the GNT Coordinator by the following Thursday evening (i.e., by February 22, 2024 for Flights A and C and by February 29, 2024 for Flights B and Championship) of their intent to participate in the final two-round session. They shall remit a check (made out to District 10) in the amount of \$104 (or \$130 or \$156 for 5- or 6-member teams, respectively) for the final two sessions to the GNT Coordinator.

The Captain of each team selected to represent District 10 in the NABC is responsible for advising the District 10 GNT Coordinator:

- a) no later than April 1, 2024 of his/her team's intention to represent District 10 at the NABC, and
- b) no later than April 22, 2024 of the names and ACBL numbers of all team members, including any team augmentations or replacements. Players may be replaced only with confirmed consent of the replaced player (and, again, keep in mind that at least three of the players who played in the District Final must attend and play in the NABC.)

District Subsidy

If the 2024 Summer NABC is conducted as a face-to-face event (as currently planned), District 10 will provide a subsidy (amount to be determined) to help defray travel expenses for the District teams.

Should the NABC have to be cancelled and the national-level GNT competition is conducted online, there will be no district subsidies to teams representing the district.

Delegation of Responsibility

If the District 10 GNT Coordinator is playing in a District Final, the Coordinator will delegate any discretionary decisions to the Director-in-Charge in order to avoid a conflict of interest or the appearance thereof. The appointment of a designee is at the Coordinator's sole discretion and is not subject to review.