

Niagara-on-the-Lake Duplicate Bridge Centre (NOTL DBC)

2019 Summer Bridge Team League Conditions of Contest (Rules)

1. **Membership:** Teams may consist of four, five or six players. A player shall be a member of only one team.
2. **Schedule:** Each team will be advised by the League Coordinator of the matches to be played. The matches will start on Monday, June 17, 2019 and will be scheduled once a week up to August 26, 2019.
3. **Scheduling Challenges:** In case a match cannot be played on the scheduled evening owing to some unforeseen challenge, Team Captains are encouraged to re-schedule and play their matches as soon as possible, in consultation with the League Coordinator. All such matches must be played at the NOTL Community Centre in conjunction with a regularly scheduled game of NOTL DBC. If agreement between two opposing Team Captains cannot be reached, the League Coordinator will set the "play" date of their match. Any scheduling difficulties must be discussed with the League Coordinator prior to the deadline.
4. **Length of Matches:** Individual matches will be of 24 boards, played in 12-board halves. Player substitutions maybe made at the half.
5. **Format:** All registering team members will be rated as **1** (below 200 MP), **2** (200-750 MP) and **3** (over 750 MP), based on masterpoints on the ACBL database before end of May 2019. A non-ACBL member will be assigned a minimum of 500 master points. This may be increased by the League Coordinator based on the player's level of experience. **"8 is Enough"** concept will be followed with a maximum total rating of the 4 players of a team playing on any day at **8**. Failure to ensure this mandatory condition will result in a win by forfeit to the opposing team.
6. **Lineup Procedures:** There will be no choice of opponents during the first half. If there is disagreement about who is going to play against whom, both Team Captains will write down who will play North, who will play South, who will play East and who will play West in the first half of the match. However, if both Captains agree, there could be a coin toss for which team will have choice of who will play against whom. During the second half, the team that is behind will have choice of opponents. Except for emergencies or illness, no change of players will be permitted during the first half. However, a late-arriving member can replace a substitute.
7. **Tardiness:** Arriving late to a match is a discourtesy to the teammates and opponents. The section below describes the penalties for lateness. These penalties may be appealed to the Team Coordinator but are not subject to discussion by the participants. Such discussion can only further delay the match and cause increased penalties. The only appropriate discussion of tardiness is that the Team Captains should agree on the time that each team was prepared to begin play.
8. **Lateness Penalties:** A penalty of three IMPs per each five minutes or fraction thereof of lateness with a maximum of 18 IMPs will be assessed against the late-arriving team. A team may appeal to the Team Coordinator that the penalty be reduced based on extenuating conditions.
9. **Forfeiture:** If a team is over 30 minutes late, the opposing Team Captain may request a win by forfeit. An attempt shall be made to reschedule a match in which case the offending team will be assessed an 18 IMP late penalty. Any Team deliberately refusing to play a scheduled game will forfeit all their victory points to the opposing Team.
10. **Slow Play:** Play is expected to progress at the rate of 7-1/2 minutes per board, or one hour and 30 minutes per 12 boards. Complaints of slow play must be made to the director during the match.

11. **Substitutes:** A team must field at least three registered members. If a substitute is needed, the League Coordinator's approval is required, and the opposing Team Captain should be notified in advance. The substitute should not improve the team by partnership or ability. The substitute should not substantially weaken the team if the result would affect a third team. The substitute should be equal to or slightly weaker in ability to the team member who is sitting out of the match. A substitute may not be a member of another team still playing in this event.
12. **Member's Participation:** All Team members are expected to play approximately the same number of matches. Team Captain should make every effort to ensure equitable participation of each team members.
13. **Qualification:** By ACBL rule, in order for a player to receive overall masterpoints awards, a player must have played at least 50% of the total hands played by the team (5 ½ matches). The Team Captains are responsible for ensuring that these requirements are met.
14. **Conventions:** Open chart conventions will be in effect.
15. **Ties:** In the event of a tie, there will be four-board playoffs until the tie is broken. If either team prefers not to proceed with a playoff then the Team Captains or their designees will flip a coin to determine the winner.
16. **Playing Fee:** Each player will pay NOTL DBC's regular fee of \$5 per session of 24 boards.
17. **Entry Fee:** Each team will pay \$100 at the time the entries are submitted. 100% of entry fees will be redistributed to the winning teams.
18. **Cash Prize:** The value of the prize pool will depend of the number of teams entered. The payout of the Prize Pool will approximate the following: 1st Place Team: 50%, 2nd Place Team: 30% and 3rd Place Team: 20%.

If 12 Teams entered: 1st Place Team: \$600 2nd Place Team: \$360 3rd Place Team: \$240

19. **Scoring:** Scoring will be by International Match Points (IMPs) converted to Victory Points. A team's IMP total for a match shall consist of the total IMPs won over 24 boards. The difference in IMPs will be converted to Victory Points using the 20 VP scale for 24 boards. Reporting forms will be provided by the League Coordinator.

20. **Victory Point Scale:**

IMPs	0-2	3-6	7-11	12-17	18-24	25-32	33-41	42-50	51-60	61-71	72-+
VPs	10-10	11-9	12-8	13-7	14-6	15-5	16-4	17-3	18-2	19-1	20-0

21. **Matchpoints Award:** Players will receive either the sum of their match awards or the overall awards, whichever is greater. The Overall awards will depend on the number of teams.

If 12 teams entered: 1st place team will receive 12 MPs, 2nd place 8.4, 3rd place 5.88 and 4th place 4.2 (TBC)

22. **Other Awards:** Members of the top three teams will be awarded NOTL DBC certificates and the names of the members of winning team will be engraved in the NOTL DBC Summer Bridge Team League trophy. Presentations will be made during the 2019 AGM of NOTL DBC.
23. **League Coordinator:** The League Coordinator for this event is Chandi Jayawardena and he can be reached at 905-397-3434. If Chandi cannot be reached for an urgent matter, such as approval of a substitute for a team member who is ill, then the Head Director of NOTL DBC, Claude Tremblay should be contacted at 905-468-9349. The League Coordinator has the authority to modify or interpret the rules in the best interest of the event.