

## March Madness in Delaware Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What's a Team Match?

All team matches pit teams of four players (two pairs) against each other at two tables, each team sitting North-South at one table and East-West at the other, both tables playing the same hands. Bridgebase Online (BBO) runs much two-team matches regularly. Scoring is by IMPs (international match points) instead of MPs (match points), so overtricks matter less and bidding a game or slam has a big impact.

### 2. How will the Swiss Team format work?

The Swiss Team format refers to a type of movement in which teams with similar records play against each other in successive rounds as the event progresses. Initially, teams are matched up with teams having similar master point totals. For the DSBA games, each team will play five boards against one team, then the results for the round will be tallied and new team pairings assigned for the next round of five boards according to each team's record. There will be four rounds in all, for a total of 20 boards. (For more detail about how teams are ranked, see [this ACBL reference document](#).)

### 3. When will the games start?

One event will be held each Saturday in March starting at 10:00 AM. To help directors and team captains deal with administrative issues, all players should be logged into BBO by 9:30 AM, especially the first week.

### 4. What is the team captain's responsibility?

Captains must provide the names and BBO IDs of their four team members by noon on the Friday before each event by email to Soley Kristjansdottir ([siggasoley@gmail.com](mailto:siggasoley@gmail.com)). To enable us to match up teams before the event based on their expected skill, each captain must also submit the total ACBL masterpoints of the four team members. Based on this input, bracket information will be provided by email to the team captains by 9:00 PM Friday night. Captains will then enter their team into the correct bracket on Saturday morning. It is recommended that all team members be online by 9:30 AM each Saturday to facilitate this process. Detailed instructions for captains are available here ([link to be inserted later](#)).

### 5. I need help finding or assembling a team. Can you help?

Yes. Please email Rohan Mandayam ([rohanmandayam@gmail.com](mailto:rohanmandayam@gmail.com)) for assistance in finding a partner, another pair, or a team for this event.

### 6. What is the registration fee?

The weekly fee for the event is \$5.00 per player, paid in BBO\$.

7. Will I get master points for playing in the Saturday games?

Yes! These games are treated as club sessions for a Delaware-wide virtual club, awarding ACBL master points. If the ACBL announces special events during March those awards will apply.

8. Can I play in the tournament if I am not a member of ACBL Unit 190 (Delaware State Bridge Association)?

Generally yes, but only if your partner is a member of Unit 190. Players from outside Unit 190 will be identified during the pre-registration process. Also, because the ACBL requires that at least 85% of the players in this tournament are Unit 190 members, it is possible that we may have to limit the number of players who are not in Unit 190.

9. Is there a minimum number of teams needed to play?

The event requires at least six teams for good bracketing. We do not expect to have any trouble meeting this number.

10. How will the match-ups be arranged if an odd number of teams register?

This question is still being considered. Robots and a sit-out in the lowest bracket are options.

11. Is this a month-long tournament?

No, the four Saturdays will be four separate events, with no overall winner.

12. Door prizes?

Yes! Each week we will draw three names randomly from among that week's participants who have not already won a door prize on a Saturday in January, February or March. The winners will receive awards of 25 BBO\$. Submit a selfie for an extra chance! (see the next item)

13. Selfies?

In the interest of attaching more faces to the names of Delaware players, players who have submitted photos of themselves in COVID times to Soley Kristjansdottir ([siggasoley@gmail.com](mailto:siggasoley@gmail.com)) and given permission for the image to be displayed or linked on the DSBA website will get an extra entry in the door prize drawing each week they play. You can see previously submitted photos [here](#).

14. Is this a Charitable event?

Each week the DSBA will make a \$1.00 donation to the Food Bank of Delaware for each player in that week's Saturday game.