

2021 Grand National Teams
Conditions of Contest
District 18

1. General

a. National Conditions

Grand National Teams (GNT) Conditions of Contest, as published by the ACBL govern and are incorporated into these conditions. These ACBL District 18 (D18) Conditions of Contest cover circumstances that are unique to D18 and clarify options available under the National Conditions of Contest.

<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2020-21.pdf>

b. Participation

Any player in good standing with the ACBL and a member of District 18. The **District 18 has waived the club level qualifier for the 2020-2021 season.** See Appendix I of the National Conditions of Contest for clarification of District membership.

c. District Coordinator

Melissa Martin
123 Trails End Road
Whitefish MT 59937
E-mail address: mgmbridge@yahoo.com
Telephone: 406-570-9614

d. Flight Eligibility

Flight Eligibility is determined by a player's masterpoint totals as of **August 6, 2019.** You also must reside in District 18 as of September 1, 2020 to be eligible to play.

Championship Flight is open to all players (Unlimited Masterpoints)

Flight A is open to players with less than 6,000 Masterpoints

Flight B is open to players with less than 2,500 Masterpoints

Flight C is open to players with less than 500 Masterpoints who are Non-Life Masters

e. District Membership – A player is eligible to compete in the District of their principal residence as of September 1, 2019.

2. Club Level

All Club Level Qualifying events have been waived.

3. Unit Level Qualifying

There are no Unit Level Qualifying events in District 18.

4. District Finals

a. Event Date and Location

To increase attendance and offer the opportunity for eligible players and teams to play in more than one flight, District 18 has elected to hold the GNT district finals on two separate weekends. Flights C and A will be on May 15-16. Flight B and the Championship Flight will be held May 22-23. *Anyone or team playing May 15-16 may also choose to play on the second weekend. Flight C and A players who qualify to represent District 18 in more than one flight must choose which flight they will play in at the national event.* Please refer to the Appendix II of the National Conditions of Contest for clarifications of online play. Specifically, Appendix O for Online Play applies and supersedes any conditions in this document in the event of conflict.

b. Starting Times (MDST)*

Session #1 Saturday 10:00 am
Session #2 Saturday 2:00 pm
Session #3 Sunday 10:00 am
Session #4 Sunday 2:00 pm

*Starting times may be staggered depending on the number of teams in each flight. All contestants will be notified of the exact starting times prior to the start of the event.

c. Entries

Teams wishing to participate in the District Final must pre-register for the event by May 10 for Flights C and A. Pre-registration for the Championship Flight and Flight B will end May 17. Please complete the attached entry form and e-mail it to the District Coordinator. All correspondence will be through the Team Captain. The entry fee is \$100 (local currency) per team. There is an additional charge of \$50 (local currency) to advance to the 3rd and an additional charge of \$50 (local) to the 4th round of the D18 Final. Payment information will be provided when registration is confirmed.

Canadian Entries
Don Greenwood
D18 Bridge
11810 Kingsway NW
Edmonton AB T5G 0X5

US Entries
Melissa Martin
123 Trails End Road
Whitefish MT 59937

d. Bridge Conventions

The Basic Chart applies to Flight C, The Basic+ Chart applies to Flight B, the Open Chart applies to Flight A and the Open+ applies to the Championship Flight.

e. Event Format

1 Entry

If there is only one team entered in a flight there will be no District Final. That team will have the option to represent District 18 at the National Event.

2 Entries

If there are only two teams entered in a flight, they will play a double session knockout to determine the winner of that flight.

3 or 4 Entries

Flights of 3 or 4 teams will play a two-session round robin or Swiss. The top two teams (must have won a match) will qualify to a third round 24 board match to determine the winner. In the first round, if all teams win an equal number of matches, then the Victory Point scale (20 point) will be used to determine the winner.

5 or more Entries

Flights with 5 or more teams will play a two-session round robin or Swiss to determine four advancers, each of which must have won a match. The 20 point Victory Scale will be used. In the event of a tie, (equal number of match wins as well as Victory Points won) then the following solutions will determine the advancers:

1. Total game wins (Win=1, Tie=1/2, Loss=0), if no winner then
2. Net IMPS against all opponents in common, if no winner then
3. Coin flip.

The first place team of the first 2 sessions will select their opponents from the 3rd and 4th place finishers; the 2nd place team will play the remaining team. Both matches will be 24 board knockouts. The winners of the two matches in the 3rd session of play will advance to the 4th and final session to play a 24 board knockout.

In the event of a tie in any of the matches of the 3rd and 4th sessions a 3 board tiebreaker will be held. If that does not solve the tie a sudden death event will begin. First to win a game wins the match.

In all cases, the Director in Charge may modify the number of boards and sessions to be played to accommodate unanticipated circumstances.

f. Substitution

If a player on a registered team becomes unavailable prior to the district final, the team captain must contact the District Coordinator and make arrangements for a substitute subject to the same conditions as described in section 2 a and b (above).

g. Online Competition

The Conditions of Contest for District GNT Finals hosted online as specified in Appendix II of the ACBL Grand National Teams 2020-2021 Conditions of Contest apply to the District 18 final.

Security provisions are described in Appendix II, Section II. **Alternate Security Provisions** described at the end of this section is the most probable scenario during Covid restrictions. *“During all team matches, players will be required to have an ongoing video or audio chat session with their screenmate (North and East are screenmates; South and West are screenmates). This chat can be done in software of the players choice, or by telephone call; if none can be agreed, the default choice is Zoom.”*

“Lack of proficiency with computers or the software used by the online host does not excuse any irregularity or violation of these conditions.”

5. District Winners

The winning team in each flight of the D18 Finals is eligible to compete in the National Finals. **THERE WILL BE NO SUBSIDY GIVEN FOR ONLINE PLAY.**

- At least 2 of the original team members must compete in the National Finals.
- Any substitute player must meet the requirements to play in the D18 Finals.
- The District Coordinator must approve any substitutions.

6. Contingencies

The Director in Charge (DIC) will resolve all contingencies or ambiguities relating to the format or playing conditions of the D18 finals that are not specifically addressed by these conditions.