

# 2006–2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS



## CONDITIONS OF CONTEST





# 2006–2007 NAP CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

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## American Contract Bridge League

# 2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

THESE CONDITIONS OF CONTEST MAY NOT BE CHANGED AT ANY LEVEL OF PLAY DURING THE COURSE OF THIS EVENT. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE CAUSE FOR EXCEPTION TO THESE CONDITIONS OF CONTEST.

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### **SCHEDULE**

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|----|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | <b>Club Level</b>     | May be held only in June, July and August of 2006                |
| 2. | <b>Unit Level</b>     | As scheduled by Units & approved by the District NAP Coordinator |
| 3. | <b>District Level</b> | Must be completed by the 3rd Sunday of January 2007              |
| 4. | <b>National Level</b> | St. Louis MO, 2007 Spring NABC                                   |
|    | Flight A              | Wednesday and Thursday, March 7 and March 8                      |
|    | Flights B and C       | Saturday and Sunday, March 17 and March 18                       |

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### **FLIGHT ELIGIBILITY**

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Masterpoints won in any other bridge organizations must be taken into account for placement in the appropriate flights.

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|----|----------|---|
| 1. | Flight A | Open to any player  |
| 2. | Flight B | Players with less than 2000 MPs as of the 2006 June masterpoint cycle. *        |
| 3. | Flight C | Non-Life Masters with fewer than 500 MPs as of the 2006 June masterpoint cycle. |

\* The June masterpoint cycle is run by ACBL data processing on May 6, 2006. Any points won but not included in this cycle do not affect masterpoint eligibility.

### **PRIOR TO THE NATIONAL LEVEL OF PLAY**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Flight C Eligible Players | May play in Flights A, B & C until concurrence forces a choice      |
| Flight B Eligible Players | May play in Flight B and Flight A until concurrence forces a choice |
| Flight A Eligible Players | May play in Flight A only   |

However, please note that in a stratified event at the unit or District level, a player must have played in a club qualifying game and earned qualification in that flight to be eligible. If not eligible to qualify for higher flights, the pair will receive masterpoints, but not qualification to the next stage for the higher flight for which he did not qualify at the club level. When noting qualifiers from a stratified field, select players who are eligible for qualification, disregarding the ineligible pair(s).

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### **FLIGHT-MIXED PARTNERSHIPS**

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- Partnerships consisting of an A player and a B player, must enter the event as a Flight A pair. If the pair qualifies in the Flight A strat or event, the A player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A event only. The Flight B player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A and Flight B events.

2. Partnerships consisting of an A player and a C player must enter the event as a Flight A pair. If the pair qualifies in the Flight A strat or event, the Flight A player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A event only. The Flight C player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A, Flight B and Flight C events.
3. Partnerships consisting of a B player and a C player must enter the event as a Flight A or B pair. If the pair qualifies in the Flight A strat or event, the Flight B player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A and Flight B events only. The Flight C player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight A, Flight B and Flight C events.  
If the pair qualifies in the Flight B strat or event, the Flight B player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight B event only. The Flight C player is eligible for the next stage in the Flight B and Flight C events.

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### ***CLUB LEVEL PARTICIPATION***

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1. Club level qualification may be earned at any club in any unit in any District.
2. Club level qualification is earned as an individual and not as a partnership. A player may play at any participating club as often as desired and with as many different partners as desired.
3. At the club stage, a player may qualify and earn masterpoints with any member of the ACBL or with a non-member of the ACBL.

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### ***UNIT LEVEL PARTICIPATION***

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1. Both players must be members of the parent District. (**See Appendix I in these Conditions.**)
2. Both players must have qualified in a club.
3. Any player that qualified in any club may play with any other qualified player in any unit in their District. Each player must be a member of a unit of their parent District.
4. Each player must be an ACBL member in good standing. An ACBL member in good standing is defined as: A player who is not currently on suspension, indefinite probation or serving probation in excess of 90 days that resulted from a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of 90 days and whose dues are current OR, A Life Master with Life Member status (must have joined the ACBL prior to January 1, 1996 and have never resigned his membership at any time) who is not currently on suspension, indefinite probation or serving probation in excess of 90 days that resulted from a suspension, the initial term of which was in excess of 90 days whose fees may or may not be paid.
5. A player may enter only one unit stage competition per flight. (A stratified event covers all club flight eligibility options.)
6. A player whose membership dues are paid prior to the unit competition is deemed to be a paid member at the time of entry. **ONLY PAID MEMBERS, INCLUDING LIFE MASTERS WITH LIFE MEMBER STATUS, WHOSE DUES OR FEES ARE CURRENT PRIOR TO THE UNIT STAGE MAY PARTICIPATE BEYOND THE CLUB LEVEL.**

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### ***DISTRICT LEVEL PARTICIPATION***

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1. A player who moves to a different District during the course of the event may elect to continue in his original District and not his new District for the remainder of the event.
2. District Conditions of Contest will define qualification requirements. In general to be eligible for the District stage:
  - A) If there is a unit stage — a player must have qualified at the club stage and at the unit stage; or
  - B) If there is NO unit stage — a player must have qualified at the club stage.

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## ***NATIONAL LEVEL PARTICIPATION***

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A person or pair may represent a District in only one flight at the national level. The North American Pairs final will be a four-session event, with between 52 and 78 pairs competing in a two-session playthrough to qualify for a 28-pair two-session playthrough final with carryover as per ACBL formula.

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## ***QUALIFYING TO THE NEXT LEVEL***

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### **From Club Stage**

Eligible partnerships finishing in the top 50% of their field (rounded up and including ties) plus any pair with “average” not in the top half of their field. New partnerships between club stage qualifiers may be formed at the unit stage. Only paid-up ACBL members and Life Masters whose service fees are paid prior to the unit stage may participate beyond the club level.

### **From Unit Stage**

Eligible partnerships finishing in the top 50% of their field (rounded up and including ties) plus any pair with “average” not in the top half of their field. Plus, at District option, a unit may qualify 60% of the field to the next level. New partnerships between unit stage qualifiers may be formed at the unit District stage.

### **Special Advancement to District Stage**

An ACBL member who qualified at the club stage whose representation of his NCBO or ACBL in WBF competition prevents participation in the unit level competition is granted qualification to the District final and may play with a player who has qualified at the club level and has not played in a level beyond the club level. This also applies to ACBL members who are WBF officials, and NPCs and coaches on official ACBL/NCBO business preventing participation at the unit qualifying.

### **From District Stage**

The top three eligible pairs in each flight qualify to the national finals. Plus, two additional pairs in each flight will be invited by the method outlined in Appendix II. Districts may opt to qualify alternate players for qualified players who choose not to play in the District final. (Consult your District NAP Conditions of Contest). Pairs qualifying to the national finals qualify as a pair and no new partnerships may be formed at the national finals regardless of the circumstances.

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## ***MULTI-FLIGHT QUALIFICATIONS***

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Flight C category players — Retain qualification in each flight (A, B & C) in which they have achieved the finish stated for each level of play.

Flight B category players — Retain qualification in each flight (except Flight C) in which they have achieved the finish stated for each level of play.

Flight A category players — Compete in Flight A only.

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## **CONVENTIONS**

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1. At the club stage, subject to established ACBL minimum guidelines, each club determines the conventions to be allowed in its games.
2. At the unit stage, the ACBL General Convention Chart applies.
3. At the District stage, the ACBL General Convention Chart applies except that at District option Flight A may use the ACBL Mid-Chart.
4. At the national stage, the ACBL Mid-Chart applies for Flight A, and the ACBL General Convention Chart applies to Flights B and C.

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## **SUBSTITUTES**

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1. At any stage of the competition, the District Director (or his designee), the District NAP coordinator, the tournament director or the tournament committee may approve a substitute in an emergency. A substitute must meet the eligibility requirements listed on page 1, under FLIGHT ELIGIBILITY, and may not appreciably strengthen the partnership and is subject to the following limitations:
  - A) At the club or unit stage, if a substitute plays more than 50 percent of the boards, he becomes the contestant of record if otherwise qualified.
  - B) At any stage beyond the unit stage, a substitute is not permitted for more than 50 percent of the boards played in a qualifying session or sessions; for more than 50 percent of the boards played in a final session or sessions; or for more than one session in any case. Additionally, the substitute must be a member of the District and must be either eliminated from the event or not yet qualified from the unit stage.
2. A replacement is not permitted beyond the District stage of the competition.

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## **MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS**

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1. When a District final is held at split sites, the qualifiers may be apportioned on any objective basis, provided the basis is published in the District's Conditions of Contest. Should a qualified pair decline to participate in the national final, an alternate pair (based on the order of finish in the District final from the same qualifying field) will replace them.

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## **SUBSIDIES TO NATIONAL FINALS**

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1. Those who qualify for participation in the national finals will be notified by the ACBL Special Events Manager of any travel and/or lodging subsidy their finish in the District finals may have earned.

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## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR AUTHORITY**

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All ACBL tournament regulations, though not specifically included in these conditions, apply to this event throughout. Only in the case of an unforeseen situation, the District Director (or his designee), in consultation with the ACBL NAP coordinator, may make exceptions to these conditions. In emergency situations only, the District Director on his own may make decisions consistent with the spirit of these conditions of contest. In cases of dual residence, active military duty, school attendance or similar cases of extended temporary or permanent relocation, the ACBL NAP coordinator has final authority of the residency and/or the qualification requirements (see Appendix I to these conditions). The District Director has final authority on any item not specified in the conditions of contest.

# **APPENDIX I**

## **2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS**

### **CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

#### **DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP - (Board Item 003-106)**

Members of the ACBL are normally expected to belong to the unit in which they reside. If a member chooses to belong to a unit in which he/she does not reside, the member must specifically make this request in writing to the ACBL stating the unit of preference and the reasons for the request. Further, if the unit is not in the same District as where he/she resides, both Districts must approve the membership in the other District. The following are some of the reasons why a member would be given permission to belong to a unit outside the District of residence. (To warrant consideration, a player should meet at least two of the six reasons listed):

1. Plays at least once a month in a club in that unit
2. Attends STaCs or sectionals in that unit at least twice a year
3. Attends the annual unit dinner and/or membership meeting
4. Participates in unit special events
5. Serves on the unit board and/or unit committees
6. Serves on the District board and/or District committees

If it is determined that a member requests a change of unit membership for the sole purpose of Grand National Teams (GNT) or North American Pairs (NAP) play, the request must be denied.

The membership approval granted by a District in which the member does not reside may be reviewed by that District at least every five years to assure the above criteria continue to justify non-residency membership.

If a player has been a member of that unit and wishes to remain and does not participate in GNT and NAP events in that District, permission may be granted by the District without the player meeting any of the six criteria.

# **APPENDIX II**

## **2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS**

### **CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

  

#### **SELECTION OF ADDED PAIRS**

#### **TO NATIONAL FINALS — ALL FLIGHTS**

In addition to the three top pairs determined at the 25 District Finals, two more pairs for each flight will be invited to participate in the national finals determined as follows:

**FLIGHT A** — One of the two extra pairs will be the previous year's winners at the national final. This pair may, if they wish, play in the current event at any stage for which they are eligible and qualified. Should either or both players move to a different District, the pair is deemed to

represent the original District. The second pair will be determined by the method described below.

FLIGHT B — Both pairs will be determined by the method described below.

FLIGHT C — Both pairs will be determined by the method described below.

### **DETERMINATION OF EXTRA PAIRS**

Districts (and each Flight) will be ranked from 1 to 25 on two scales:

1. The total tables in play at the club level (in each flight) based on reports received in Memphis by October 1. (The lowest table count will be assigned a value of 1 and the highest a value of 25)
2. The ratio of total tables in play at the club level in each flight to the total membership of that flight in the District as of the May 1 Data Processing computer cycle. (In the case of Flight C this number once determined will be doubled.)
3. The values determined in numbers 1. and 2. above will be added and the Districts with the highest total will earn the extra berths.
4. Ties will be broken in favor of the highest participation percentage and then by total club level participation.
5. The home District of the previous year's Flight A winner is not eligible to earn the other Flight A extra pair regardless of their ranking as determined by steps 1–4 above.

## **APPENDIX III**

### **2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST**

#### **RIBBON QUALIFICATIONS EARNED**

<b>Flight</b>	<b>Single-Site District Final District Final</b>	<b>Split-Site Separate Ranking</b>	<b>National Final</b>
<b>A</b>	1st and 2nd (plus ties) = Blue Ribbon Q	1st at each site (plus ties) = Blue Ribbon Q	Top Ten (plus ties) = Blue
<b>B &amp; C</b>	1st and 2nd (plus ties) = Appropriate Q	1st at each site (plus ties) = Appropriate Q	Top Ten (plus ties) = Appropriate Q

# APPENDIX IV

## 2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

### MASTERPOINT AWARDS

#### CLUB STAGE

Flight	Color	Rating	Rate & Color Club Is Invitational
A	Half Red, Half Black	100% of Sectional Rating	Black only, 80% of Sectional Rating
B	Half Red, Half Black	84% of Sectional Rating	Black only, 60% of Sectional Rating
C	Half Red, Half Black	60% of Sectional Rating	Black only, 45% of Sectional Rating

#### UNIT STAGE

Flight	Color One Session	Color — Two Sessions or More Overall	Section	Rating
A	Red	20% G, 80% R	Red	100% of Sectional Rating
B	Red	10% G, 90% R	Red	84% of Sectional Rating
C	Red	5% G, 95% R	Red	60% of Sectional Rating

#### UNIT STAGE — CONSOLATION

Flight A	Black Points at 65% of Sectional Rating
Flight B	53% of Sectional Rating
Flight C	39% of Sectional Rating

#### DISTRICT STAGE

Flight	First Overall			Color Overall Awards	Color Section Top	Color Session Awards	Rating of Session Awards
	2 Sessions	3 Sessions	4 Sessions				
A	24	30	36	100% Gold	Gold	Red	100% of Regional Rating
B	16	20	24	100% Gold	Gold	Red	84% of Regional
C	10	12.5	15	25% Gold, 75% Red	Red	Red	60% of Regional

**NOTE:** In Districts holding a separately scored and ranked split-site final, the applicable first-place award will be divided in proportion to each site's share of the total tables.

#### DISTRICT STAGE — CONSOLATION

	One or Two-Session Consolation and 1st Session of a Two-Session Consolation	2nd Session of a Two-Session Consolation
Flight A	65% of Regional Rating	50% Red 50% Black
Flight B	53% of Regional Rating	50% Red 50% Black
Flight C	39% of Regional Rating	50% Red 50% Black

#### NATIONAL FINALS

Flight	1st Overall Points	Session Awards
A	65 Gold	Gold/Red at 100% of National Rating
B	45 Gold	Gold/Red at 84% of National Rating
C	30 1/3 Gold 2/3 Red	Red at 60% of National Rating (Except Section Top 1/2 Gold, 2/3 Red)



## APPENDIX V

### 2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

#### STRATIFYING YOUR CLUB, UNIT, AND DISTRICT NAP GAME

#### **NOTE: ALWAYS SET YOUR STRATS USING THE NAP LIMITS — NONE/2000/NLM (<500)**

1. At the club level, the choice to stratify or not is the independent choice of the club for all or any qualifying games (in any flight) held at that club.
2. At the unit level, units are encouraged to stratify rather than not conduct a particular flight.
3. At the District level, stratification is NOT recommended, but a two-session playthrough stratified event is allowed when attendance is insufficient to support separate flights.
4. Pairs from each flight should be evenly distributed in the North-South and East-West fields.
5. Flight A, B or C pairs finishing in the top half (rounded up and including ties) of the Flight A field (N-S or E-W) qualify for the next level of play in Flight A.
6. Flight B or Flight C pairs finishing in the top half (rounded up and including ties) of the Flight B field (N-S or E-W) qualify for the next level of play in Flight B.
7. Flight C pairs finishing in the top half (rounded up and including ties) of the Flight C field (N-S or E-W) qualify for the next level of play in Flight C.
8. A pair playing “average” (even though the finishing position is not in the top half of the field) is deemed to also be in the top half of the field.
9. Flight C may be a “stand-alone” stratified event with the only permissible strats being 0-20, 20-100, 100-NLM<500.
10. Flights A and B may be run as a stratified event (with Flight C run separately).
11. Flights B and C may be run as a stratified event (with Flight A run separately).
12. At the unit level, to be eligible to compete in any particular flight, a pair must have played at the club level and qualified in that particular flight. For example, any Flight C player who qualified at the club level in both B and C may compete at the unit level in B and C but not in A.
13. At the District level, to be eligible to compete in any particular flight, a pair must have played at the unit level and qualified in that particular flight. For example, any Flight C player who qualified at the unit level in both B and C may compete at the unit level in B and C but not in A.
14. Qualifiers are determined for each strat across the field at large.
15. Ineligible players are disregarded when selecting qualifiers from a stratified field.
16. At District option 60% of the field may be qualified.
17. At District option, when an insufficient number of pairs (fewer than five pairs) enter a scheduled qualifying event (unit or earlier stage), all players who pay their entry fee are qualified to the next stage of competition. This also applies when an insufficient number of pairs enter the lowest strat of a scheduled stratified game. Sanction fees, player numbers and names must be submitted to ACBL.
18. A District running a stratified District Final must continue the same format for all sessions.



## APPENDIX VI

### 2006-2007 NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

#### ORGANIZERS CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

Organizers and directors should be familiar with all Conditions of Contest in order to conduct the event.

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#### ***DISTRICT COORDINATOR***

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Each District will appoint a District NAP Coordinator whose duties are to:

1. Submit to ACBL Headquarters, prior to commencement of the event, a set of District NAP Conditions of Contest supplementing the National Conditions with the District's options and specifics.
  2. Provide necessary information to players, clubs and units.
  3. Perform all other functions necessary for the smooth and efficient operation of the contest at all stages within the District.
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#### ***CLUB STAGE***

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1. Clubs may hold up to two (2) club qualifying games in each of the three months (June, July, August) for each weekly sanctioned session held that month. This applies to each flight.
2. No special sanction is required; clubs should use the club number as the sanction number.
3. A club may hold a qualifying game at a time for which it is not sanctioned only by obtaining permission from the District Director or his designee.
4. A club may hold a qualifying game at a different location (to accommodate expected attendance) provided the game is at the same time as its regularly sanctioned game and the move is adequately publicized.
5. A club may hold a regular club game simultaneously with any flight of a NAP qualifying game.
6. An invitational club (a club open to members only) may conduct a NAP qualifying game:
  - A. Under its usual rules and award masterpoints at 80% of an open club or,
  - B. May, with unit permission and appropriate publicity, hold an open qualifying game for any NAP flight, provided the game is open to any ACBL member fitting any applicable flight participation requirements
7. A club-stage game may not be held within 25 miles of a sectional tournament within the District without permission of the District Director or his designee.
8. All club-stage games conflicting with a regional tournament in that District may be prohibited by the District. (Consult your NAP District Conditions of Contest.)
9. A club-stage event must have a club or higher-rated director. ACBL recommends a non-playing director, but games of one section with 17 tables or fewer (at the club or unit stage only) may have a playing director.
10. Sections should not be larger than 17 tables. Boards should be duplicated when there are two or more sections. The game should be seeded regardless of size.
11. The game director must issue qualifying slips to the qualifiers. ACBLscore will print qualifying slips.
12. At a club-stage game, each pair must be scheduled to play at least 21 boards.
13. A list of all the qualifiers from each game must be submitted to the District NAP Coordinator or his designee.

14. Fees of \$4.00 (U.S.) per table, per session are due ACBL and are paid in one of the following ways:
  - A. Clubs using the latest version of ACBLscore should DBADD the game file to the monthly report for masterpoint postings. ACBLscore will calculate the amount due for the NAP game and include it with the monthly report total along with all other games held at the club. No separate payment is necessary.
  - B. The updated version of ACBLscore will have the new sanction fee of \$4.00 per table. If you are using an older version of ACBLscore or scoring by hand, please make the necessary adjustments on your month-end financial report. Send the game report and separate payment to ACBL Special Events Department.
15. Club NAP qualifying games may be stratified using these limits: Open/2000/Non-Life Master<500
16. A stand-alone Flight C event may be stratified. The only permissible strats are 0-20, 20-100, 100-NLM<500.
17. See Page 5, Qualifying to the Next Level, for determination of qualifiers.
18. When an insufficient number of pairs (fewer than five pairs) enter a scheduled qualifying event, all players who pay their entry fee are qualified to the next stage of competition.
19. When an insufficient number of pairs (fewer than five pairs) enter the lowest strat of a scheduled stratified game, all players who pay their entry fee are qualified to the next stage of competition.
20. A LIST OF ALL QUALIFIERS FROM EACH GAME MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE DISTRICT NAP COORDINATOR OR HIS DESIGNEE.
21. See Appendix V — Stratifying Club, Unit and District Stage NAP Games
22. If no clubs in a particular unit hold club level qualifying games then the unit must hold a club level qualifying game.

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## **UNIT STAGE – ORGANIZATION**

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1. A District may opt to hold no unit qualifying games providing each unit in the District agrees not to run a unit final.
2. If unit finals are not held in a District, that District may hold a multi-unit single-site unit final prior to the District final; or eliminate the unit stage, qualifying directly from the clubs to a District final.
3. If unit finals are held, the following options are available:
  - A. A one-unit unit final sponsored by the unit or by the District.
  - B. A multi-unit single-site unit final sponsored by one or more units or the District.
  - C. A unit with many club-stage qualifiers may request District permission to conduct a unit semi-final game (club stage rating) to qualify a reasonable number of pairs to a unit final.
  - D. A unit may hold a multiple-site unit final (but not if a unit semi-final is held). Games in a multiple-site unit final should be concurrent. A unit final may not conflict with a North American Bridge Championship.
4. A sanction application must be submitted to ACBL Headquarters for each unit final and should be submitted at least 90 days prior to the event. Your District NAP Coordinator must approve scheduling.
  - A. Go to [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org), click on Units & Districts, then Units and select NAP in red, fill out the form and click on the submit button.
  - B. Your application will come to the Special Events Department via e-mail.
  - C. Your submission will be acknowledged and copied to your District Coordinator, who can then approve it or inform you of any objections.
  - D. Your sanction number is a “U” followed by the unit number unless the event is directed by an ACBL-assigned Director in which case you will be notified of the sanction number.
5. The sponsor is responsible for obtaining a director (club or higher-rated) for each game site and for obtaining supplies, etc.
6. SEE Page 2 UNIT LEVEL PARTICIPATION for eligibility rules.
7. A unit final may not conflict with a NABC.

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## **UNIT STAGE – CONDUCTING AND REPORTING**

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1. The Unit Final may be one or more sessions. (Overall awards in a two-session or more unit final are part gold. See Appendix IV - Masterpoint Awards)
2. The first session of a Unit Final may be used to qualify at least 70% of the field for the second session. The percent of the field to qualify must be announced no later than the second round in session one. A consolation session for non-qualifiers may be held awarding black points at 65% of sectional rating for Flight A, black points at 53% of sectional rating for Flight B and black points at 39% of sectional rating for Flight C. See ACBLscore and Your Unit Level NAP Game enclosed.
3. Each session of a unit final must be at least 24 and no more than 30 boards.
4. Ineligible pairs playing to fill out the movement will receive **session** awards (no overall awards) won but may not qualify for the next stage of the event. If the ineligible pair includes one or two players with more masterpoints than permitted in the flight they are filling in, duplicate masterpoint awards will be issued by ACBL.
5. A player arriving without his qualification slip should be allowed to play if he advises the director of the name of the club at which he qualified. This information must be included with the game report.
6. The game director must issue qualifying slips to the qualifiers. ACBLscore will print qualifying slips.
7. Game results must be reported to the District NAP Coordinator.
8. A fee of \$7.00 (U.S.) per table, per session must be remitted to ACBL.
9. See Appendix V - Stratifying Club, Unit and District Stage NAP Games.

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## **DISTRICT STAGE (Not during NABC)**

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1. The District Coordinator must submit the sanction application to ACBL Headquarters 90 days prior to the date of the event.
2. A tournament director will be assigned by the Tournament Department to officiate at each District Final. ACBL will attempt to assign requested Directors. A District Final may be:
  - A. A two-session playthrough event.
  - B. A three-session event, the first two sessions playthrough to qualify 25 to 45% of the field for the final session (with carryover as per ACBL formula).
  - C. A four-session event, the first two sessions playthrough to qualify 30 to 50% of the field for the final two playthrough sessions (with carryover as per ACBL formula).
  - D. A four-session playthrough event.
3. A District may hold a split-site District Final; each site governed by the same conditions of contest as detailed in the District's submitted conditions. The DICs at both sites should coordinate the reporting of results to be certain the determination of rankings is reported accurately.
4. Each session must be at least 24 boards and no more than 30 boards.
5. Only ACBL members in good standing may participate. Ineligible pairs playing to fill out the movement will receive any **session** awards (no overall awards) won but may not qualify to the next stage of the event. If the ineligible pair includes one or two players with more masterpoints than permitted in the flight they are filling in, duplicate masterpoint awards will be issued by ACBL.
6. When a qualifying format is used, the District may run a one or two-session consolation for the non-qualifiers.
7. Stratification at the District Final is NOT recommended, but a two session playthrough stratified event is allowed when attendance is insufficient to support separate flights.
8. See Appendix V — Stratifying Club, Unit and District Stage NAP Games.
9. A fee of \$7.00 (US) per table, per session must be submitted to ACBL. (NAP games held in conjunction with other tournaments will not be charged more or less than their prescribed sanction fees.)
10. District stage competitions may not be held during an NABC.