

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST AND POLICIES OF MABC

Entry Fees

The entry fee is \$10 per player per session for all events. The entry fee for Late Night Zip KOs is \$10 per team per match. Entries are sold near the playing area. Sales start approximately 1 hour before game time. Please purchase your entries ahead of game time so we may begin on time. Write legibly and include your first name.

Youth Discounts and 0-20 Discounts

The MABC offers a \$5.00 discount on each full session at each Regional for contestants ages 22 and under, a full-time student under 26 or any player with 20 or fewer Masterpoints playing in a single-session Intermediate or Novice event. Inform the director when purchasing the entry.

Knockouts

Knockouts are bracketed based on the average masterpoint holdings of all team members. To receive an overall award, a player must play at least half of the boards his team plays, including half of the boards played in the (combined) semifinal and final matches. He receives only the award earned in the last match of which he has played at least half that his team won. Example: A player plays the whole first match, sits out the whole second match, and plays half or all of the third match. If the team loses the third match, this player receives only a match award, not the points for 3/4 overall. Compact KO teams must be composed of *exactly four players*.

Bracketed Knockouts

Brackets are drawn based on the total masterpoints of all members of the team divided by the number of members. The team captain will enter by submitting a registration form on which he has completed the number of players and the total masterpoints. Once the brackets have been drawn, it is too late to enter or withdraw a team.

Side Game Series Pairs

The Side Game Series will be held as three separate events. The Earnhardt Side Series Pairs will run in the mornings only Tuesday through Saturday. The Gordon Side Series Pairs will be afternoon and evening events Wednesday through Friday and the Labonte Side Series Pairs Saturday through Monday. You may play in as many sessions as you like and with different partners. Your best two individual sessions (not necessarily consecutive sessions) will be the ones counted for placing in the overalls.

Conventions

Mid-chart conventions are approved for use at this tournament in Flight A/X pairs or teams, or in bracketed KO events where the lowest team in the bracket has an average of at least 1000 MP per player. Players using mid-chart conventions must download and carry with them ACBL-approved defenses. For other events or brackets, the ACBL General Convention Chart applies, except that all constructive defenses to the opponents' NT openings are always permitted. Players who by agreement lead low from a small doubleton must pre-alert the opponents at the start of the round.

Bidding Boxes

MABC policy is that bidding boxes are used in all events. All players must use them unless they have a sight problem or other physical handicap. Explanatory cards are available in the tournament's office for players who are unable to use bidding boxes.

Tournament Recorder

The recorder for this tournament is Bob White. Recorder forms may be picked up from, and returned to, any director, or in the tournament's office.

Non-ACBL Masterpoints

Players with non-ACBL masterpoints or non-members who have earned ACBL masterpoints must declare them at the time of entry, so they are placed in the correct flight, strata, or bracket based on the appropriate conversion factor. Failure to

do so may result in disqualification and forfeiture of any masterpoints earned.

Pets and Children

Pets and non-participating children are not permitted in the playing area.

Cell Phones and Pagers

The only approved setting is **off** (except for emergency situations—please notify a director).

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed in any playing area, hallway or lobby. Smoking breaks will be provided during the sessions.

Attire

Please do not wear obviously inappropriate apparel. Shirts and shoes are required.

Zero Tolerance Policy—Be Nice!

For tournaments to be fun, cooperation from all (players, organizers, officials, staff, and volunteers) is necessary. To establish an atmosphere, which promotes the enjoyment of bridge as both a competitive and a social game, the MABC has adopted the ACBL's policy of courteous behavior. Please report conduct that is unacceptable by calling the director immediately, keeping in mind that we must be tolerant of other people in general and bridge

players in particular. Also, please report especially outstanding or refreshing conduct on a player memo form (available from any director or on the information table).



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Commendable

- ☺ Being a good "host" or "guest" at the table.
- ☺ Greeting others in a friendly manner.
- ☺ Praising the bidding and/or play of the opponents.
- ☺ Having two clearly completed convention cards readily available to the opponents (This one is a regulation, not just a nicety)

Unacceptable

- ☹ Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, threats, or violence.
- ☹ Negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding
- ☹ Gloating over good results
- ☹ Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table.
- ☹ Loud and disruptive arguing with a tournament director
- ☹ Ringing cell phones
- ☹ Slow play

Courteous behavior brings out the best in everyone. Please consider the manner in which you have been behaving. Try to eliminate those mannerisms and behaviors which may cause others to be uncomfortable, and increase those which make you a person others wish to be around. We all have in common a love of bridge. We should focus on our similarities, increase our tolerance of one another, and always behave civilly toward other players. With such policy, our intent is to create an environment in which it is *never necessary* to issue a penalty. However, the publicity surrounding this new program constitutes your only warning. Serious breaches of good behavior will be penalized at their first occurrence.

Disciplinary penalties are not subject to appeal.