

**2017 WBL Unit Knockout
Flight C & D
Conditions of Contest**

FORMAT OF EVENT: This is a single elimination knockout for teams of Non-Life Masters. If the teams entered are sufficient in number to warrant a split field, Flight C will consist of teams of individuals with an average masterpoint holding of 50-NLM. Flight D will consist of teams of individuals with an average masterpoint holding of 0-50. If the total number of teams do not support a split field, all teams will be in Flight C.

ENTRY FEE: \$16.00 per team due by January 26th, 2017.

PRIZES: \$16.00 for first place.

MEMBERSHIP: Teams may consist of four, five or six players. No fifth or sixth member may be added without the specific approval of the Coordinator or Round Robin/Knockout (RR) Committee after the entries has been closed. Reasonable additions will be allowed.

LENGTH OF MATCHES: Matches will be of 20 Boards played in 10-board halves.

LENGTH OF EVENT: Each Flight is a single knockout event and will continue until all teams but one has lost a match. Reasonable deadlines for matches will be set by the coordinator once the event has started.

BRACKETS: The Coordinator will set up the brackets and a Committee member will check the results. Teams will be placed in a normal 8, 16 or 32 team bracket. Top seeded teams may receive a first round bye.

SEEDING: All teams will be seeded by random draw.

CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITIES: These include, but are not limited to:

- (a) payment of the \$16.00 entry fee at the time entries are submitted
- (b) arranging as early as practical with all other Captains the date, location, and starting time of all matches;
- (c) ensuring that at least 10 boards with cards are available;
- (d) payment of any supplemental fee to any participating Club Manager in the amount agreed upon in advance for the use of the Club's facilities;
- (e) agreement prior to start of play upon the minutes of lateness, if any; and all official team communication with the Coordinator or Committee, including reporting of scores, appeals, claims of forfeit, requests for modification of team membership or captaincy, and proper advance notice of all matches including the dates locations and official starting time. This notification should be sent to the Coordinator, not to a Committee member. The email with match results must be reported to the Coordinator within 48 hours of the completion of each match. Late

reporting is discourteous and an inconvenience to the Coordinator and the rest of the event.

Team Members' Responsibilities: Since reporting correct results to the Coordinator is important, any team member is allowed to report the result of their match. This will ensure that credit for the match will be given.

SCHEDULING: All Captains are encouraged to schedule and play their matches as soon as possible. If agreement between two opposing Captains can't be reached, the Coordinator/RR Committee is to set the date and location of their matches. Our Unit Game facilities are available any Thursday evening during this period; a fee will be charged for the use of these facilities; Chris Miller wblmanager@gmail.com or (301) 318-6083 must be notified in advance. Any scheduling difficulties must be discussed with the Coordinator or, in his absence, a Committee member prior to the deadline.

LINEUP PROCEDURES: Players may just sit in the (appropriate direction) at the tables. If a problem arises, seating rights can be determined by a coin flip. If both teams do not agree to a coin flip, each captain (or designee) will write down their N/S and E/W players independently. During the second half, the team that's behind will have choice of opponents. Except for emergencies or illness, no change of players will be permitted during the 10-board half.

NOTE: In home-played matches, the host-person shall be given the privilege of choosing the location (room) where he is to play; this shall not affect those rights outlined above.

TARDINESS: Arriving late to a match is a discourtesy to your teammates and opponents. The section below describes the penalties for lateness. These penalties may be appealed as described below, 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 must agree on the time that each team was prepared to begin play.

Definition of starting time: The starting time of a match is defined as either the scheduled starting time (which should have been sent to the Coordinator when the match was scheduled) or the time at which four members of one team are ready to begin play, whichever is later.

Lateness Penalties: A penalty of three IMPs per each five minutes or fraction thereof after the first ten minutes of lateness with a maximum of 18 IMPs will be assessed against the late-arriving team. A team may appeal to the Coordinator in order to get the penalty reduced because of extenuating conditions. The appeal will be decided by the RR Committee.

Forfeiture: If a team is over 40 minutes late, the opposing Captain may call the Coordinator or, in his absence, a Committee member, and request a win by forfeit. An attempt shall be made to reschedule the match in which case the offending team will be assessed an 18 IMP late penalty. The intent of the Committee is to hold matches, and

every effort will be made to have a match played rather than declared a forfeit. The Committee expects full cooperation from all teams in accomplishing this aim.

SLOW PLAY: Play is expected to progress at the rate of 7-1/2 minutes per board, or one hour and 15 minutes per 10 boards. Complaints of slow play may be made to a director (if available) during the match or to the Coordinator in writing when reporting the scores.

SUBSTITUTES: A team must field at least three registered members unless special Committee approval is granted. If a substitute is needed, Matt Lahut (mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu or 518-596-2979), in consultation with other RR committee members, must approve the substitution. The substitute should not improve the team by partnership or ability. A substitute may not be a member of another team still playing in this event. As a matter of courtesy, attempts should be made to notify the opposing team Captain. The opposing Captain may not appeal an approved substitution.

If Matt cannot be reached a Committee member must be notified of the proposed substitution.

SMOKING: This event is non-smoking unless both teams agree otherwise. Captains with team-members who want to smoke should discuss this with the other Captain in advance. Smoking breaks will be permitted.

QUALIFICATION: By ACBL rule, in order for a player to receive overall master point awards, a player must have played at least 50% of the total hands played by the team. A player must play half of the final match to receive master-points for winning the event.

CONVENTIONS: Only General Convention Chart (GCC) conventions may be used in this event. Special carding agreements and treatments must be pre-alerted.

TIE BREAKING: In the event of a tie, there will be four (4) board playoffs until the tie is broken. If both teams prefer not to proceed with a playoff, the team captains, or their designees will flip a coin to determine the winner. Note: If a team cannot field a team (one of their players went home before the score comparison) that team agrees to a coin flip.

RULINGS: In the case of an irregularity, a Director or Committee member must be called. Appeals of any director's ruling or any decision of the Coordinator and/or RR Committee must be filed in writing, hand-delivered or e-mailed within three days of the match by the captain or his designee. In order for an appeal to be timely, a Director must be called or notice of intention to call a Director made to the opponents before the start of play at both tables in the next segment, or sixty minutes after the completion of the segment.. Such appeals will be promptly forwarded to the appropriate committee for review. The membership of any appeals committee must be approved by a member of the RR Committee.

Director's contact information: Chris Miller wblmanager@gmail.com 301-318-6083

Appeals without Merit: Frivolous protests will be penalized by banning any protest by the complaining parties and team Captain for the remainder of the event and in the next Round Robin and Knockout.

INTERPRETATION OF RULES: The Coordinator, in consultation with other Committee members, has the authority to interpret the rules in the best interest of the event. Modification of the rules during the event can only be made by a majority vote of the Committee.

COMPLAINTS AND CONCERNS: Any complaints or concerns should be addressed to the Complaints Committee:

Barbara Doran	barb.doran@verizon.net	301-608-0347 -- Chair
Steve Robinson	robinswr@erols.com	703-379-4371
Matt Lahut	mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu	518-596-2979

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Committee members should recuse themselves from participating in making decisions on issues before the Committee if they, or their spouses or significant others, would be directly affected by the outcome.

COORDINATOR: The Coordinator for this event is **Matt Lahut**. He can be reached by email to [<mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu>](mailto:mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu) or by phone at 518-596-2979. If the Coordinator cannot be reached for an urgent matter, such as approval of a substitute for a team member who is ill, a Committee member should be contacted.

Requests for substitutions should be directed to **Matt Lahut** (see above).

Complaints and concerns should be directed to **Barbara Doran** by email to barb.doran@verizon.net or by phone at 301-608-0347.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Dave Ruderman davidru_999@hotmail.com 301-384-8825

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Bill Cole	colebridge@aol.com	301-649-1350	C: 301-602-9024
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