

**2017 WBL Unit Knockout  
Flights A and B  
Conditions of Contest**

**FORMAT OF EVENT:** This is a single elimination knockout. There will be an Open Flight (A), a 0-2500 Flight (B) and a NLM Flight (C/D). Players may enter multiple flights if they are eligible. These CoCs apply to Flights A and B. Flight C/D has a separate CoC

**ENTRY FEE:** \$30.00 per team due by January 26, 2017.

**PRIZES:** Flight A \$30.00 for first, \$15.00 for second, Flight B \$30.00 for first.

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

**LENGTH OF MATCHES:** Matches will be of 24 Boards played in 12-board halves.

**LENGTH OF EVENT:** This is a single knockout event and will continue until all teams but one have lost a match. The Coordinator will establish reasonable deadlines for the completion of each match, and notify the team captains. Matches not played or scheduled by the end of a deadline period may be required to be played at the WBL Unit Game on the Thursday of the deadline.

**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 based on their results at the January 19th GNT qualifying event at the WBL Unit Game. KO participants who did not play in that event will be assigned a seeding score one below the lowest score given. 5 and 6 man teams receive the scores of the four players on the team with the highest score.

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

- (a) payment of the \$30.00 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 there are 12 boards with cards 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 *match results and the lineups* must be ***emailed or phoned*** 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 participants.

**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 would 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 Round Robin Committee will 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](mailto: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 12-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 30 minutes per 12 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, the Player Evaluation Subcommittee (PES), headed by Barry Falgout (<[fraznoid@yahoo.com](mailto:fraznoid@yahoo.com)> or (240) 506-2455) 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 the PES 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:** Mid-chart conventions will be allowed. Conventions not on the general chart must be pre-alerted and defenses provided in writing. 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.

**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	<a href="mailto:barb.doran@verizon.net">barb.doran@verizon.net</a>	301-608-0347	-- Chair
Steve Robinson	<a href="mailto:robinswr@erols.com">robinswr@erols.com</a>	703-379-4371	
Matt Lahut	<a href="mailto:mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu">mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu</a>		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 **Steve Robinson**. He can be reached at 703-379-4371 or by email at [robinswr@erols.com](mailto:robinswr@erols.com). If the Coordinator cannot be reached for an urgent matter a Committee member should be contacted.

Requests for substitutions should be directed to Barry Falgout by email to [fraznoid@yahoo.com](mailto:fraznoid@yahoo.com) or by phone at (240) 506-2455.

Complaints and concerns should be directed to **Barbara** by email to or by phone at 301-608-0347. If she can not be reached, **contact** any Complaints Committee member, (see above).

**COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:**

Dave Ruderman [davidru\\_999@hotmail.com](mailto:davidru_999@hotmail.com) 301-384-8825

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Bill Cole	<a href="mailto:colebridge@aol.com">colebridge@aol.com</a>	301-649-1350	C: 301-602-9024
Barbara Doran	<a href="mailto:barb.doran@verizon.net">barb.doran@verizon.net</a>	301-608-0347	
Richard Ferrin	<a href="mailto:rferrin@mac.com">rferrin@mac.com</a>	202-321-5288	
Barry Falgout	<a href="mailto:fraznoid@yahoo.com">fraznoid@yahoo.com</a>	240-506-2455	
Matt Lahut	<a href="mailto:mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu">mlahut@alumni.carnegiemellon.edu</a>		518-596-2979
David Marshall	<a href="mailto:ldajmarshall@msn.com">ldajmarshall@msn.com</a>	301-320-6057	C: 301-332-5084
Steve Robinson	<a href="mailto:robinswr@erols.com">robinswr@erols.com</a>	703-379-4371	