



District 25

NEW ENGLAND BRIDGE CONFERENCE - AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE - DISTRICT 25



Welcome to Keohane Senior Center & Cape Cod Regional Sectional

N. Falmouth, MA April 24-28 Gold & Silver on Cape Cod

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Vouchers for entry fees are on sale at the tournament.
Buy as many as you want, use them whenever you
want, and pay by credit card, cash, or check!

Today's schedule is on the last page.

Lineup of Events

Wednesday, April 24				
Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Pairs	Senior		Open/4000/2000	1:00 & 6:00
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 1:00 & 6:00</i>
Gold Rush Pairs	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	1:00 & 6:00
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 1:00 & 6:00</i>
Thursday, April 25				
Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Knockout Qualifier	Senior	Brackets		10:00 & TBA; Finals on Friday at 10:00 & TBA
Open Pairs	Senior		Open/3000/750	10:00 & 2:15
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30</i>
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
Panel discussion of the hands in the morning pairs games				1:30
<i>Super Point Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Session: 7:30</i>
Friday, April 26				
Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Lecture by Dot Kelleher				9:15
Flighted Swiss	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & TBA
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
Gold Rush Swiss	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & 2:15
Open Pairs	Senior		Open/3000/750	10:00 & 2:15
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30</i>
<i>Super Point Series</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Session: 7:30</i>
Saturday, April 27				
Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Pairs	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & 2:15
Gold Rush Pairs	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & 2:15
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30</i>
<i>Open Swiss</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>10 & TBA</i>
<i>Super Point Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Session: 7:30</i>
Sunday, April 28				
Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Swiss	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & TBA
Gold Rush Swiss	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & TBA
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Session: 10:00</i>

Events limited to seniors 60 and older are in standard print. They award gold and red points. *Events in italics are for the Cape Cod Sectional. They award silver points.*

Upcoming Bridge Events in New England

Regional Events (Gold and Red Points):

Tournament	Site	City	Dates
Granite State Getaway	Radisson Hotel	Nashua, NH	June 18 - 23
Ocean State Regional	Crowne Plaza Hotel	Warwick, RI	August 27 – September 1

Sectional Events (Silver Points):

Tournament	Site	City	Dates
Spring Sectional	Senior Center	Auburnn, MA	May 4 - 5
Spring 199er Sectional	Annunciation Church	Stamford, CT	May 4
Silver Apple I/N Sectional	Temple Reyim	Newton, MA	May 5
Spring Sectional	Burlington Bridge Club	Williston, VT	May 17 - 19
Tom Tarbox Memorial Sectional	Camden-Rockport Elementary School	Rockport, ME	May 18-19
Memorial Sectional	Armenian Center	Watertown, MA	May 24-26
STaC	Connecticut clubs		June 3-9
Summer Sectional	Senior Center	Johnston, RI	June 8-9
Spring Sectional	St. Barbara Church	Orange, CT	June 14-16
STaC	Non-CT clubs		June 24-30

Club Games (Black Points):

Sanctioned club games are held nearly every day. Wherever you find yourself, you can find a nearby club at <https://web3.acbl.org/findalist/club>.

Special club games will be held during June, July, and August for the club-level qualification for the **North American Pairs** championships to be held in Columbus, OH, next spring. Contact your local owner/manager for dates and times. The district's qualifying tournament will be held in Mansfield, MA, in November.



The Grass Roots Events: NAP & GNT

The ACBL crowns many champions at its three North American Bridge Championships every year. Fundamentally different from all of the others are the two sets of “Grass Roots” events, the **North American Pairs (NAP)** and the **Grand National Teams (GNT)**. The NAP finals are held at the Spring NABC (Columbus, OH in 2020). The GNT is in the Summer (Las Vegas in 2019).

The other championships may have restrictions based on age, gender, masterpoints, or ribbons, but they are otherwise open to all players from all nations. In contrast, the participants in the NAP and GNT are chosen by each of the 25 districts. There are several flights for both events.

Qualification for the NAP begins at the club level. During the summer clubs throughout New England hold special games. Players who did well in these games earned the right to play in the qualifying tournaments held in the fall at Mansfield, MA.

Flight A is open to all. Flight B is limited to players with less than 2,500 masterpoints. Only non-Life Masters with less than 500 points are eligible for Flight C.

The Grand National Teams has four flights. The Championship Flight is open to all. Every player on teams competing in Flight A must have less than 6,000 masterpoints. Flight B is limited to players with less than 2,500. Only non-Life Masters with less than 500 points are eligible for Flight C.

The district's representatives for the 2019 championships were chosen in Sturbridge, MA, the weekend of April 13-14. Here they are:

Flight	
Open	Pat McDevitt, Mark Aquino, Dean Panagopoulos, Stephen Gladyszak
A	Mike Smith, Russell Friedman, Brett Adler, Susan Smith, Jeffrey Goldman, Al Wolf
B (1)	Yaning Zhou, Dawei Qi, Meivan Duan, Shen Duan
B (2)	Robert Baum, Kenneth Norman, Parul Jain, Fred Magnus
C (1)	Ken Steele, Roger Caplan, Mark Blumenthal, Tehmi Mulla
C (2)	Rollin Shank, Wayne Sherman, John Price, Robert Stillman

Everyone who can should try to compete in these events. The big thrill, of course, comes from representing the entire region in a continental championship. The icing on the cake is the **monetary stipend** paid by the district to the players. The funds come from the entry fees at the qualifying games and other events like the Super Points series.

Special Events at the Cape Cod Tournaments

Hospitality:

- Coffee and treats every morning at 9:00 outside the main ballroom.
- Treats such as cookies or fruit cups in the middle of the afternoon sessions outside of both ballrooms.
- Candy available at the Welcome Desk and in the 299er room.
- Coffee and treats during the evening pairs games.

Education:

- A panel of experts will discuss the hands from the morning pairs game at 1:30 on Thursday in the Ballroom.
- Dot Kelleher will present a talk at 9:15 on Friday morning in the Nauset Center.

Committee Meetings:

Committee	Day	Time	Location
Finance	Friday	8:45 AM	Highland Room
Tournament Scheduling	Friday	6:00 PM	Highland Room
Communications	Saturday	8:30 AM	Highland Room
Executive	Saturday	5:30 PM	Highland Room
NABC 21	Saturday	Following	Highland Room



To be safe, check the sign posted at the Welcome Desk for the **locations** of all committee meetings and special events.

Flights, Strats and Other Tournament Talk

At some point almost every serious bridge player wonders about how the schedules for Regional Tournaments are determined. This page attempts to clarify part of the process.

In District 25 the schedule for each tournament is drawn up by the Tournament Scheduling Committee, a group of volunteers that works hard to devise schedules that will provide a positive experience for the largest number of participants. This schedule must then be approved by the Executive Committee, which includes representatives from each unit.

The schedule must meet certain guidelines established by the ACBL. These guidelines use two terms that might be somewhat confusing to the average player: **flights and strats**. Here is the schedule for the first two days of the Cromwell tournament with each event's flights and strats.

Day	Times	Event	Eligibility	Strats
Wednesday	10 & 2:15	A/X Pairs		Open/3000
February 13	10 & 2:15	B/C Pairs	0-2500	2500/1250
	10 & 2:15	Gold Rush Pairs	0-750	750/300
	10 & TBA	Open Swiss		Open/3000/750
	10, 2:15, 7:30	299er Pairs	0-299.99	300/100/50
	7:30	Super Point Pairs		Open/3000/750
Thursday	10 (continues)	Monster Knockout		Bracketed
February 14	10 & 2:15	Open Pairs		Open/3000/750
	10, 2:15, 7:30	299er Pairs	0-299.99	300/100/50
	7:30	Super Point Pairs		Open/3000/750

A strat (in bridge circles “stratum” and “strata” are seldom used) is a **level in an event** used for scoring, not for eligibility of participation. The scores in stratified events are based upon masterpoints. The stratification can be based upon the player with the most points or upon the average of the team members (or pair in a pairs game). In District 25 stratification is usually based upon the **average** of the team members or pair.

So, the Gold Rush Pairs event on Wednesday had two strats: 0-299.99 and 300-749.99. Pairs with an average of under 300 points can win the top strat, but they must do better than all the players in the event, even those with hundreds of points more than they have. However, to win the bottom strat they must only score more than the other pairs with average points under 300. This approach allows players with less experience to play against players with more points but to be scored against their peers. It helps address the frustration of players who must compete against others with far more experience.

Similarly, the Open Pairs event on Thursday also had three strats. The breaking points were 3,000 and 750 masterpoints. The Open Swiss Teams on Wednesday also had three strats, with breaking points at 3,000 and 750. In all of these the averages of all players were used for stratification.

The ACBL considers the two-session pairs event on Monday as **three flights of the same event**. This distinction is important. This is a much larger event that awards a much larger number of masterpoints than the Swiss. In effect, the winners in the A/X Pairs event are given credit for finishing ahead of everyone in the B/C and Gold Rush events! Of course, those who do not place win nothing.

The Monster Knockout has no strats. It is **bracketed** based on masterpoints. Each bracket has between five and sixteen teams. Players exclusively play against the other teams in their bracket.

The 299er games and Super Points games are also stratified. Because these games are single-session events, they are covered by a different set of standards. In District 25 the levels in 299er games are usually set by the director. The most common strats are 300, 100, and 50.

Social Media

Bridge news and more: **NEBridge** on Facebook, **@NE_Bridge** on Twitter

In the Super Points pairs games at the Cape there will be three strats – Open, 3000, and 750.

District 25's Website, NEBridge.org

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If it has anything to do with bridge in New England, you can find it at NEBridge.org. The home page provides news in the center column. The column on the right promotes upcoming events. Navigation to the rest of the site is done using the green menu bar on the left.

The “Home” tab allows you to return to the home page with one click from any of the other pages

The “Calendar” tab directs the browser to the official D25 calendar that includes all events sponsored by the district. It also includes sectionals sponsored by all eight units, three NABC tournaments held every year, and a few tournaments in nearby districts. For all of the New England events pdf files for the flyers are linked.

“About Us” contains a great deal of information about the organization of bridge in New England as well as explanations of ranks and other matters controlled by the ACBL.

The next tab concerns the two “Grass Roots” events, the North American Pairs (NAP) and the Grand National Teams (GNT). These two championships are sponsored by the ACBL and are

contended at the NABC in the spring and summer. The district sponsors teams in both of these events. This tab (and all of the tabs with down-pointing arrows) has several sub-tabs. You can see them by hovering the cursor on the main tab.

The “Online Partnership Desk” tab links to the ACBL's partnership software. You must sign in to “MyACBL” to use it.

The “Tournament Results” tab connects to a page that links to the results from this tournament and all other district tournaments dating back many years. The sub-tabs provide links to the Winners Board (photos) indexes by player name and event as well as the results from StaC games.

The “Tournament Locations” tab provides a map that shows the locations of the district's events.

The “Conditions of Contest” tab provides a pathway to detailed explanations of the rules of different types of competition, including the NAP and GNT.

The “Member Achievements” tab connects to lists of winners of awards based on points as well as advancements in rank and winners of the Larry Weiss award and NABC events.

Where are my results?

Results from the games are no longer included in this publication. Players who register at ACBLLive.org are sent an email with links to their results as soon as they are posted. Links to both the detailed results and the list of high finishers are also posted on NEBridge.org on both the home page and the Tournament Results page.

Results will now also be posted under a daily banner in the hallway, and, of course, can still find them on the wall in the room in which the session took place.

Nearby Restaurants

Dist. in miles; B=Bourne; C=Cataumet; F=Falmouth (NF WF EF); M=Mashpee

Italian



Bucatino Restaurant and Wine Bar 7 Nathan Ellis Highway NF 508-566-8960 2
Osteria La Civetta 133 Main St. F 508-540-1616 5.1

La Cucina Sul Mare 237 Main St F 508-548-5600 5.3
Siena 17 Steeple St M 508-477-5929 9.5

Trevi Cafe and Wine Bar 25 Market St M 508-477-0055 9.6
Soprano's Ristorante 681 Falmouth Rd M 508-477-7475 10

Mexican / South American



Casa Vallarta 70 Davis Straits F 508-299-8177 5.1

Anejo Mexican Bistro & Tequila Bar 188 Main St F 508-388-7631 5.3

Pizza & Subs



Prime Time House of Pizza 286 Old Main Rd NF 508-302-4358 2.5
Simply Divine Pizza Co. 271 Main St. F 508-548-1222 5.3

Wildfire Brick Oven Pizza 414 Nathan Ellis Hwy M 508-477-6666 8.1

Wicked Restaurant and Wine Bar 35 South St M 508-477-7422 9.9

Pub / Brewery



British Beer Company 263 Grand Ave F 508-540-9600 6

Bobby Byrne's 6 Central Square M 508-477-0600 9.7

Seafood



Celestino's North 444 N Falmouth Hwy NF 508-392-9741 1.6
Epic Oyster 70 County Rd. NF 508-563-3742 1.9
Chart Room 1 Shipyard Lane B 508-563-5350 3.7

Seafood Sam's 356 Palmer Ave F 508-540-7877 4.6
Quarterdeck Restaurant 164 Main St F 508-548-9900 5.2
Quahog Republic Dive Bar 97 Spring Bars Rd F 508-540-4111 5.2

Lobster Trap Restaurant 290 Shore Rd B 508-759-7600 6.6
Cooke's Seafood 7 Ryan's Way M 508-477-9595 10

Steaks



The Cape Grille 3125 Falmouth Woods Rd EF 508-540-4005 2.3

Irish



Liam Maguire's Irish Pub 273 Main St. F 508-540-4005 2.3 2.3

American

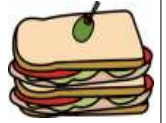


Red's Sea Crest NF 508-356-2136 0
Silver Lounge Restaurant 412 N. Falmouth Hwy. NF 508-563-2410 1.5
Chapoquoit Grill 410 W Falmouth Hwy WF 508-540-7794 2.3
Courtyard Restaurant & Pub 1337 County Rd B 508-563-1818 3.3

Crabapple's 553 Palmer Ave F 508-548-3355 4.3
Glass Onion 37 N. Main St. F 508-540-3730 5
C Salt Wine Bar & Grille 75 Davis Straits F 774-763-2954 5.1
Pickle Jar Kitchen 170 Main St. F 508-540-6760 5.3

Flying Bridge Restaurant 220 Scranton Ave F 508-548-2700 5.8
Moonakis Cafe 460 Waquoit Hwy F 508-457-9630 6.9
99 8 Ryan's Way M 10
Burger Shack 318 Quaker Rd NF .1

Bakery and Deli



West Falmouth Market 623 Massachusetts
28A WF 508-548-1139 1.6

Maison Villatte 267 Main St F 774-255-1855 5.3

Diners: Breakfast & Lunch



Talk of the Town Diner 362 N Falmouth Hwy
NF 508-563-3041 1.4

Village Cafe 634 Route 28A WF
508-548-2486 1.5

Betsy's Diner 457 Main St F
508-540-0060 5.

Coffee Shops



Daily Brew 1370 Route 28A C
508-564-4755 2.8

Dunkin 634 N Falmouth Hwy NF
508-274-6571 2.9

Ice Cream



Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream 402 N
Falmouth Hwy NF 774-392-2632 1.5

Holy Cow 75 County Rd. F
508-274-6571 2

Ben & Bill's Chocolate EMP 209 Main St
F 508-548-7878 5.3

Eulinda's 634 W Falmouth Hwy WF
508-457-1060 1.6

Somerset Creamery 1268 Rte 28A C
508-563-3430 3.3

Asian



Great Wall Restaurant 401 Nathan Ellis Hwy M
508-477-9001 8.2

Tuk Tuk Thai 254 Shore Rd B
508-302-4358 8.9

Bangkok Cuisine 681 Falmouth Rd M
508-539-9991 10

Greek



Estia 26 Steeple St M 508-539-4700 9.5

French



Bleu 10 Market St M 508-539-7907 9.6

Falmouth, the next town to the south, is replete with fine restaurants run by locals. Mashpee is to the east. Most of its restaurants are in Mashpee Commons.

What's Available at the Tournament for Newcomers and Intermediates?

299er

- Limited to players with less than 300 masterpoints
- Single-session pair games
- 10:00, 2:15, and 7:30
Wednesday through Saturday
- 10:00 Sunday
- Silver points
- Strats determined by director

Gold Rush

- Limited to seniors 60 and over with less than 750 masterpoints
- Two-session events
- Pairs on Wednesday and Friday with two strats: 750, 300
- Swiss Teams on Sunday with two strats: 750, 300
- Gold and red points

Knockouts

- Limited to seniors 60 and over
- Four-session team events at 10:00 and 2:15 on two consecutive days
- Senior KO starts on Thursday and continues through Friday
- Bracketed so that everyone plays against other teams with similar levels of experience
- Gold and red points
- Everyone who makes it to the second day wins gold points

Who Does What in District 25?

Board of Delegates	Representatives from each of the eight units	Chosen by the units	Meets twice a year to set policy and elect officers.
Executive Committee	Officers plus past president plus one or two reps from each district	Officers elected by BoD. Reps chosen by the units.	Meets at every regional event to deal with issues that have arisen.
Tournament Director	Peter Marcus	Selected by Executive Committee	Hires and manages directors. Provides advice on ACBL rulings and policy.
District Director	Bob Bertoni	Elected by units	Represents the district in all ACBL meetings and decisions. Appoints the NAP and GNT coordinator.
President	Lois DeBlois	Elected by BoD	Sets the agenda and makes sure that everything gets done.
Vice President	Jack Mahoney	Elected by BoD	Chairman of the Tournament Scheduling Committee and backup for the president.
Treasurer	Joe Brouillard	Elected by BoD	Manages investments and accounting.
Secretary	Carolyn Weiser	Elected by BoD	Records, writes, and publishes minutes. Acts as liaison with the units and clubs.
Tournament Manager	Sally Kirtley	Selected by special committee	Negotiates and manages contracts with tournament sites. Arranges all details of tournaments and reports on attendance and finances.
I/N Director	Sue Miguel	Appointed by president	Manages program for beginners and intermediates. Creates flyers.
Communications	Mike Wavada	Appointed by president	Manages website, emails, database, and tournament bulletin.
Tournament Coordinator	Maureen Fahey	Appointed by president	Arranges for the ACBL to sanction all events sponsored by D25. Maintains the calendar on NEBridge.org.

Knockouts in New England

by Peter Marcus, D25 Tournament Director

New England regional tournaments are very pleased to offer players chances to play in knockout events. They were once very popular, then interest fell off, and for about a year we did not hold them. Then, two years ago we inaugurated the “Monster KO” events, and they have proven very successful in drawing people back to this most enjoyable form of bridge competition.

Knockouts are really fun events. You don't have to change tables (and opponents) every fifteen or twenty minutes. Instead, you get to play a lot of boards against one or two opponents and make new friends. Also, knockouts are divided, “bracketed,” into groups based on how many total points each team has. So, as much as possible, each team plays against teams with similar experience and ability and doesn't have to play against players with thousands more points. Not only does this make the event more enjoyable for everyone, but it also means this is one of the best ways that the ACBL has for players to win gold points.

However, some players have expressed confusion about how these events work. In addition, the ACBL has approved a new way to run knockouts that has proven very successful in other regions. This article is intended to help everyone understand how both kinds of knockout events are organized and run. A primer to the operation and scoring of team games in general can be found [here](#).

Traditional Knockout Format

In its most traditional form, knockout matches involved two teams, generally playing a 24-board, head-to-head match, scored by IMPs, where any win, whether by 1 IMP or 100 IMPs, is good enough to win the match. This leads to the event name “knockout” since, if you lose, by a lot or a little, you are eliminated from the event. To stay in the event you must keep winning. The goal is always to reach the later rounds and the overalls, which in regional knockouts refer to the final four teams,

If a lot of teams enter, it can take a long time to whittle down the field to a final winner. To complete the event in two days, all the entrants are divided into brackets based on the total masterpoints of each team. Bracketing not only allows a large field to be split in a way that the event can be completed in two days, but it also allows for more overalls (one set of overalls for each bracket) and generally means that teams are playing other teams with similar point totals. It is extremely important for the event to draw as many teams as possible. As the number of brackets increases, it becomes much more feasible to limit each of them to teams of similar experience and ability.

In a perfect format, a bracket will have sixteen teams, each playing eight head-to-head matches in round 1, with eight winners then playing four head-to-head matches in round 2, leaving four teams to go on to the second day of the event. These four teams are all guaranteed overall positions/gold points. The third round will consist of two head-to-head matches with the two losing teams tied for 3/4th. The two winners will play a final match, with the winner being first overall in that bracket and the loser getting second overall.

Unfortunately, the number of teams entering is rarely evenly divisible by 16. Furthermore, the “perfect format” may create lopsided brackets. It is quite possible that, if 32 teams enter, the top 9 or 10 all have over 10,000 points, but the 11th, 12th, etc., top teams by points may have much less. So, rather than creating two sixteen-team brackets, we might create a nine-team bracket at the top, then an eleven-team bracket and a twelve-team bracket. Not only is this fairer to all the teams in that, as much as possible, no one is playing against teams with many more points, but it also means that twelve teams will get overall places and gold (four teams in each of three brackets) rather than just eight teams.

This brings up a very important point. While some players may prefer head-to-head matches, these occur most often in brackets with larger numbers of teams—16, 15, 14, etc. But, more teams in each bracket means fewer brackets and, therefore, fewer teams that can win gold points in the overalls. So, if directors divide the field into fewer brackets to create more head-to-head matches, each bracket has a wider range of total points for the teams, and fewer teams will be winning gold points.

Brackets with fewer than 16 teams generally have some 3-way matches in which each team plays a 12-board match against each of the other two teams in the 3-way. Each team still play 24 boards, but they aren't all against the same team. In a 3-way, two of the three teams will get to advance to the next round.

So, for example, in a bracket of 14 teams, six will play in two 3-ways, with two teams from each 3-way advancing to the second round as “winners.” The other eight teams will play in four head-to-head matches. This will produce 8 winners for the second round, to play in four head-to-head matches. In District 25 the decision of which teams are assigned to head-to-head or three-way matches is totally random; directors shuffle the teams in the bracket before assigning them to a head-to-head or three-way match.

Some people really like 3-ways, since their odds of winning and going on to the next round are 67% (2 out of 3) rather than 50% (1 out of 2) in a head-to-head match. Others don't like them as much because there is more “moving around” and the team doesn't play all 24 boards against one opponent. Both are standard knockout formats, and no one can ever be guaranteed to play in a head-to-head match or a 3-way before the event begins.

To allow for four full matches in a knockout, each bracket must have between 9 and 16 teams. It is almost impossible to have a bracket of 17 teams (that would mean something has gone “wrong” somewhere) and it is very unusual to have less than 9 teams except, sometimes, in the top bracket if enough very good teams do not enter the event, and we do not want to force teams with a lot fewer points to play “up” against top teams.

Regardless of the numbers of teams in the bracket, the 3rd round (first match of the 2nd day) will have four teams playing two head-to-head matches. The two losers will be knocked out, finishing 3rd/4th overall. The two winners will play one final head-to-head match, on the afternoon of the 2nd day, with the winner winning the bracket (1st overall) and the loser getting 2nd overall.

Number of Teams IN BRACKET	1st Round Format	2nd Round Format
9 teams	3 3-way matches with 6 “winners”	2 3-way matches with 4 “winners”
10 teams	2 3-way matches with 4 “winners” and 2 head-to-head matches with 2 winners	2 3-way matches with 4 “winners”
11 teams	1 3-way match with 2 “winners” and 4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners	2 3-way matches with 4 “winners”
12 teams	4 3-way matches with 8 “winners”	4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners
13 teams	3 3-way matches with 6 “winners” and 2 head-to-head matches with 2 winners	4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners
14 teams	2 3-way matches with 4 “winners” and 4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners	4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners
15 teams	1 3-way match with 2 “winners” and 6 head-to-head matches with 6 winners	4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners
16 TEAMS	8 head-to-head matches with 8 winners	4 head-to-head matches with 4 winners

New Format Used in the Thursday-Friday KO at the Cape

In 2018 the ACBL Board of Directors approved a new way to run knockout events. All the teams are still grouped into brackets based on total points. However, the first day is a Swiss or round-robin within each bracket. In Swiss teams each team plays 6-8 matches of 6, 7, or 8 boards against one team in its bracket. The score in IMPs is converted to Victory Points. Each team then plays another team with about the same number of Victory Points. A round-robin is basically the same with fewer teams, so each team plays every team in the bracket once and opponents for each match are not based on how many Victory Points each team has at that point.

Then, after an all-day Swiss or round-robin, the top four teams will progress to the second day semi-finals, where the four teams will play two head-to-head matches. The winners of those head-to-head matches will play a final match, with the winner 1st overall and the loser 2nd, and the two losers will play each other in the consolation match, where the winner will be 3rd overall and the loser 4th. But, all four teams, even the one that loses both matches on the 2nd day, will be in the overalls and will receive gold points.

This format has at least one big advantage: every team is guaranteed to play in the first two sessions, so each team is “in” the main event all day. No one gets knocked out after the first match and then has no chance for gold points in the 2nd session. Even if your team does badly in the first Swiss matches, the team can still make a comeback in the second session and finish among the top four teams at the end of the first day. Every team that finishes in the top four moves on to the second day, and everyone on the team is guaranteed gold points. Each of the top four teams is guaranteed to play all day on the second day. No one is knocked out with nothing to play in after the morning match of the second day. If your team isn't in the top four at the end of the first day, it can enter some other gold-point event for the second day.

Conclusion








Hopefully, this will help you understand how knockouts work, when (and why) you might be playing in a 3-way match and not a head-to-head match, and why, sometimes, it is to the advantage of all the players to play in smaller brackets, with more 3-ways, because the matches are more competitive and the chances for winning gold points are greater.

If you have any questions about how knockouts work, ask any tournament director. They can give you more information. Hopefully you will join us in these events and come to see that they are great fun and a really good way to win gold points.

If you need a primer on the mechanics and scoring of team games, look in the “Tips for Tournaments” tab on NEBridge.org.

Sunday

Last year's winners:

Event	Strat	Winners	
Morning 299er Pairs	A	William Fleissner, Vera Dodson	
	B	Jacob Zacharias, Robins Jacob	
Morning Open Pairs	A	Irina Kislitsyna, Nataly Goldin	
	B	Mary Jo and Mike Feeney	
Senior Swiss	A	Rich DeMartino, Pat McDevitt, Geoff Brod, Sheila Gabay, Victor King	
	X	Steve Diamond , Tom Seder, Ginny O'Toole, Sol Hartman	
	Y	Lucy Hulse, Marshall Thomas, Bud Leese, Sarah Widhu	
Gold Rush Plus Swiss	A & B	Robin Worcester, Stephen Kokkins, Ty Fox, Philip Tiff	
	C	Paul Adler, Hank Shulman, Paul Durda, Viswanath Khaitan	
Afternoon Open Pairs	A & B	Mary Jo and Mike Feeney	
	C	Lori Leopold, Peter Thurrell	

Sunday's Schedule

Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Swiss	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & TBA
Gold Rush Swiss	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & TBA
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Session: 10:00</i>

No meetings or special events.



"Make sure that you have all of your stuff, and have a safe trip home."

A Small
Voice in
Your Ear

Saturday

Last year's winners:

Event	Strat	Winners	
Morning 299er Pairs		Peter Thurell, Janet Ryan	
Morning Open Pairs	A	Irina Kislitsyna, Nataly Goldin	
	B & C	Kathy Gatewood, Barbara Pagos	
Senior Pairs	A	Sherry Spalding Fardie, Lynn Deas	
	X	Allen Bresler, BE Lacy	
	Y	Claude Danner, Pat Nye	
Gold Rush Plus Pairs	B	Rosemary Tator, Elizabeth Wood	
	C & D	Dan Hock, Roger Ketron	
Afternoon 299er Pairs		Peter Thurell, Janet Ryan	
Afternoon Open Pairs		Bob and Laurie Gervis	
Evening Open Pairs	A & B	Tom Floyd, Mike McDonald	
	C	Livingston Carroll, Ethan Wood	

Saturday's Schedule

Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Pairs	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & 2:15
Gold Rush Pairs	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & 2:15
299er Pairs	Sectional	0-299.99	300/100/50	Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30
Open Swiss	Sectional		Open/3000/750	10 & TBA
Super Point Pairs	Sectional		Open/3000/750	Single Session: 7:30

The Communications Committee will meet at 8:30 AM in the Highland Room.

The Executive Committee will meet at 5:30 PM in the Highland Room. Afterwards the NABC 21 Committee will meet.

The locations of the meetings will be posted at the Welcome Desk.



"Make the game as enjoyable as possible for your partner."

A Small
Voice in
Your Ear

Friday

Last year's winners:

Event	Strat	Winners	
Morning 299er Pairs	A & B	Nancy Mullen	
	C	Maureen and Bill Wacks	
Morning Open Pairs	A	Sabrina Miles, Darryl Legassie	
	B & C	Paul and Carol Caten	
Senior Pairs	A	Sharon and Roger Anderson	
	B	Barbara Besse, David Donald	
	C	Rita and Donald Whitney	
Senior Swiss	A & X	Steve Diamond , Tom Seder, Ginny O'Toole, Sol Hartman	
	Y	Joe Newhouse, Chuck Greenslit, Barbara McLagan, Mark Thompson	
Gold Rush Plus Swiss	A & B	Dick and Eleanor Phillips, Bernie Bendiksen, Connie Sweeney	
	C	Dennie and Carolyn Lyster, Don Tocher, Alice Field	
Afternoon 299er Pairs	A & B	Sheila Ryan, Peter Thurrell	
	C	Jacob Zacharias, Robins Jacob	
Afternoon Open Pairs	A & B	Sabrina Miles, Darryll Legassie	
	C	Brian and Lillian Richards	
Evening 299er Pairs		Mary Cox, Linda Aronsson	
Evening Open Pairs	A & B	Beverly Pogoda , Joseph Meyers	
	C	Susan Bethel, Don Tocher	

Friday's Schedule

Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Lecture by Dot Kelleher				9:15
Flighted Swiss	Senior		Open/4000/2000	10:00 & TBA
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
Gold Rush Swiss	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	10:00 & 2:15
Open Pairs	Senior		Open/3000/750	10:00 & 2:15
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30</i>
<i>Super Point Series</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Session: 7:30</i>

Dot Kelleher will present a lecture at 9:15 in the Nauset Center.

The Tournament Scheduling committee will meet at 6:00 PM in the Highland Room.

The locations of all events and meetings will be posted at the Welcome Desk.



"Nobody likes to deal with other people's garbage. Try to leave each table at least as clean as it was when you arrived."

A Small
Voice in
Your Ear

Thursday

Last year's winners:

Event	Strat	Winners	
Morning 299er Pairs	A & B	Sheila Ryan, Jackie Shahoud	
	C	Diane Drake, Lolly Hand	
Morning Open Pairs	A	Alex Bresler, B E Lacy	
	B & C	Teresa Downey, Sheila Pechinski	
Senior Pairs	A	Dick Budd, Mark Aquino	
	X	John Hrones, Cilla Borrás	
	Y	Mike Wavada, Trevor Reeves	
Gold Rush Pairs		Phyllis Benoit, Margaret Moore	
Senior Swiss	A	Rich DeMartino, Pat McDevitt, Geoff Brod, Sheila Gabay	
	B	Simon Streatfield, Edwin Elton , Cyndi Morrissey, Kathleen Lathrop	
	C	Rebecca Holmes, Joyce Levy, Judy Pollack, Millie Beer	
Afternoon 299er Pairs	A	Allen Barber, Howard Abrams	
	B	Sheila Ryan, Jackie Shahoud	
	C	Barbara and Ralph Hutchins	
Afternoon Open Pairs		Kathy Gatewood, Barbara Pagos	
Evening Open Pairs	A	Teri Smoot, Mary Ose	
	B & C	Allen Barber, Howard Abrams	

Thursday's Schedule

Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Knockout Qualifier	Senior	Brackets		10:00 & TBA; Finals on Friday at 10:00 & TBA
Open Pairs	Senior		Open/3000/750	10:00 & 2:15
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15, 7:30</i>
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 10:00, 2:15</i>
<i>Super Point Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Session: 7:30</i>

It's Knockout Day!

No meetings or special events today.



"Don't give tips or criticisms unless asked to do so."

A Small
Voice in
Your Ear

Wednesday

Last year's winners:

Event	Strat	Winners	
Senior Pairs	A	Pat McDevitt, Rich DeMartino	
	X & Y	Barbara Besse, David Donald	
Gold Rush Pairs		Diana Chirita, Alan Silver	
Afternoon Open Pairs	A & B	Helen Pawlowski, Sally Kirtley	
	C	Betsy Stegeman, Doris Lowry	
Evening Open Pairs	A	Sherry Spalding-Fardie, Lynn Deas	
	B	Dick Dugas, Steven Colman	
	C (tie)	Ann Ebeling, Teresa Downey Donald Murray, Ann Ebeling	
Afternoon 299er Pairs	A	Vera Dodson, William Fleissner	
	B	Tonja & Steve Curry	
	C	Gale Schultz, Elizabeth Bowen	

Wednesday's Schedule

Event & Flight	Tournament	Eligible	Strats	Times
Flighted Pairs	Senior		Open/4000/2000	1:00 & 6:00
<i>Open Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>		<i>Open/3000/750</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 1:00 & 6:00</i>
Gold Rush Pairs	Senior	0-750	750/500/300	1:00 & 6:00
<i>299er Pairs</i>	<i>Sectional</i>	<i>0-299.99</i>	<i>300/100/50</i>	<i>Single Sessions: 1:00 & 6:00</i>

Pick up your free sticker for the Cape Tournaments at the Welcome Desk!

The locations of all special events and meetings will be posted at the Welcome Desk.



"Call the director whenever an irregularity occurs at your table, and don't forget 'please' and 'thank you.'"

A Small
Voice in
Your Ear