

**2012 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 0-2000 Flight (B) and a NLM Flight (C). Players may enter multiple flights if they are eligible. These CoCs apply to Flights A and B. Flight C has a separate CoC.

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. 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 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 first deadline will be March 15, the second April 26th, the third June 7th and the final must be played by June 28th. 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 RR Coordinator will set up the brackets and a Committee member will check the results. Teams will be placed in a normal 8 or 16 team bracket.

SEEDING: All teams will be seeded based on their results at the February 02 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 12 boards with cards plus;
- (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 Member's 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 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: There will be no choice of opponents during the first half. 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 to the Coordinator or Committee 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 sub is needed, the Coordinator's approval (which may be granted by Committee consultation) is required. If the Coordinator cannot be reached, a Committee member should be notified of the proposed substitution. The sub should not improve the team by partnership or ability. The sub should not substantially weaken the team if the result would affect a third team. A sub may not be a member of another team still playing in this Knockout. As a matter of courtesy, attempts should be made to notify the opposing team Captain. The opposing Captain may not appeal an approved 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.

FORFEITS: 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.

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 regional 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 should 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 may 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 reviews. 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 modify or interpret the rules in the best interest of the event.

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

Barbara Doran	barbd@starpower.net	301-608-0347	-- Chair
Steve Robinson	robinswr@erols.com	703-379-4371	
Richard Ferrin	rferrin@mac.com	202-265-0718 (h)	202-321-5288 (C)

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. 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.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Richard Ferrin	rferrin@hunton.com	202-321-5288
----------------	--	--------------

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

John Adams	kjadams@us.ibm.com	301-421-9615	W: 301-476-9393
Bill Cole	colebridge@aol.com	301-649-1350	C: 301-602-9024
Barbara Doran	barbd@starpower.net	301-608-0347	
Arnie Frankel	its27@verizon.net	301-490-6652	
Bryan Geer	bgeer@verizon.net	301-814-6064	
Earl Glickstein	earl.glick@gmail.com	301-977-1334	
Fred King	fredmking@gmail.com	703-536-1914	
Steve Robinson	robinswr@erols.com	703-379-4371	
Dave Ruderman	davidru_999@hotmail.com	301-384-8825	