

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

FOR THE CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Revised 2026 (general revision)

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1. PREAMBLE

The Canadian National Team Championships (CNTC) consist of six separate events:

- The CNTC-Open with no master point limit
- The CNTC-B with an upper limit of 3500 Masterpoints
- The CNTC-C with an upper limit of 1000 Masterpoints
- The Canadian Women's Teams Championship
- The Canadian Mixed Teams Championship
- The Canadian Senior Teams Championship

The road to the championship consists of:

i. **The club qualifying stage**, which occurs before the championship
ii. **The championship stage:**
    i. A Round Robin, followed by
    ii. The Play-Offs, typically starting with quarterfinals or semi-finals

These General Conditions of Contest (CoC) are the standard regulations which apply to all Canadian National Team Championships held by the Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF)

The CBF policies, which can be found on the CBF website at www.cbf.ca, are part of the CoC for every Canadian Teams Championships.

The CBF also issues Supplemental Conditions of Contest to further regulate each Canadian Team Championships.

In the event of any inconsistency between these General CoC and the Supplemental CoC, the Supplemental CoC shall prevail.

The CNTC-B and CNTC-C have some differences from the Open event. These differences are highlighted in purple.

2. DEFINITIONS

Expressions used in these General CoC and not defined in **Appendix A** shall have their ordinary meaning in duplicate bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Championship Committee shall be final and conclusive. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa and reference to one gender shall include the other.

3. GENERAL

3.1. SPONSORSHIP

The Canadian National Team Championships (CNTC) are conducted under the auspices of the CBF, and all events designated as part of the CNTC shall be played in accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017. These CoC, and any Supplemental CoC, supplement the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017 as required.

The Championships will be run under the overall control of a National Coordinator appointed by, and responsible to, the Board of Directors.

3.2. SANCTION

The ACBL is the sanctioning organization for the CNTC and shall issue ACBL Masterpoint® awards to participants in accordance with the latest ACBL Masterpoint Awards handbook.

3.3. PROCEDURAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

i. The CBF schedules the CNTC yearly. However, the CBF makes no warranty to any participating team, pair or person, that any particular Team Championship event will take place as scheduled and accepts no responsibility for any loss or expense should it not do so.

ii. By participating in any CNTC event, each player agrees to abide by these General CoC, the applicable Supplemental CoC, CBF policies, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and amendments applicable to the event, the regulations of the sanctioning body, the WBF Eligibility Code, and, when screens are used, the WBF regulations entitled Using Bidding Boxes with Screens. The applicable edition of the Laws shall be specified in the Supplemental CoC.

iii. The CBF, or its delegate, the National Coordinator or the Championship Committee, reserves the authority to modify or supplement these General CoC, and/or the Supplemental CoC, at any time after their publication and before the beginning of the championships (i.e. before the first Round Robin). After the start of the CNTC, changes proposed by the National Coordinator must be approved by the Championship Committee.

iv. The interpretation of these General CoC or any Supplemental CoC is a matter to be referred to the Championship Committee. The Committee's decisions shall be final.

v. The CBF reserves the authority to cancel any event if fewer than two teams have submitted an entry by the pre-registration deadline. Any higher minimum number of entries required for an event to proceed will be stated in the applicable Supplemental Conditions of Contest. If an event is cancelled, the CBF will notify registered teams by email as soon as reasonably possible. Each registered team will be entitled to a full refund of its entry fee. Instead of a refund, a team may request that its entry fee be transferred to another Canadian Team Championship that has not yet taken place, subject to eligibility and space being available. The team must request the transfer within two weeks of the cancellation notice. If no transfer is requested within that period, the CBF will issue a full refund. If the entry fee for the other championship is higher, the team must pay the difference; if it is lower, the CBF will refund the difference. Entry fees cannot be transferred to a championship that has already taken place.

vi. Should a team, pair or individual player be disqualified from any Canadian Team Championship event no refund of the entry fees, either in part or in whole, will be made.

vii. Procedural and legal matters including questions of eligibility under these General Conditions of Contest or the applicable Supplemental Conditions of Contest, are the responsibility of the Championship Committee, except for matters assigned to an appeal committee under these Conditions. The Championship Committee’s decisions during the event are binding, subject to any appeal process set out in these Conditions. Questions involving exceptional circumstances that require the exercise of the Board of Directors’ discretion, including extraordinary residency or health circumstances, may be referred to the Board.

viii. ACBL duplicate laws apply for appeals except when specified differently in the CoC.

- For the club qualifying stage, there is no appeals committee. Appeals shall be handled by the Director.

- For the Round-Robin, the Championship Committee will serve as the appeals committee.
- For the Play-Offs, each team captain will designate one member of their team as an appeals representative. For each appeal, three available representatives who are not involved in the dispute will be selected at random to form the appeals committee. If fewer than three eligible representatives are available, the Championship Committee will serve as the appeals committee for that appeal.

3.4. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Canadian Team Championships. During a match, the players may converse only in English unless all players at the table agree to use some other common language at their own risk.

The Laws printed in English will be used by the TDs to adjudicate irregularities. No review due to misunderstanding in a language other than English will be heard.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

4.1. CBF MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible to participate in any CNTC event, a player must be a paid-up CBF member in good standing.

4.2. CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

To be eligible to play in the CNTC-Open, CNTC-B, CNTC-C, CMTC, CSTC or CWTC a player must be eligible to represent Canada under the WBF Eligibility Code. This means the player must be:

i. a Canadian citizen; or

ii. a bona fide resident of Canada according to the WBF Eligibility Code.

A player relying on bona fide residence must provide supporting documentation to the National Coordinator before the championship stage begins. Eligibility under this section must be maintained throughout the championship. Eligibility to represent Canada internationally is subject to the additional requirements of Section 4.3 and Section 15.

4.3 Other National Bridge Organizations

A player who has represented another country in a WBF Representative Event may not represent Canada in a WBF Representative Event until at least two subsequent calendar years (January 1 to December 31) have passed since the player last represented that country, except where an exception is approved under the WBF Eligibility Code.

Players must disclose to the National Coordinator, at registration, any prior representation of another country in a WBF Representative Event, including any qualifying event that led to a WBF Representative Event. The CBF will refer eligibility questions to the WBF Credentials Committee where required.

4.4. SUSPENDED PLAYERS

Any person who is under suspension by the CBF, WBF, ACBL, or any other NBO is not eligible to participate in any Canadian National Team Championship event. Should the suspension take place after registration, the player is immediately disqualified and will not be refunded.

4.5. DISQUALIFICATION

A team that registers an ineligible player must remove or replace that player as directed by the National Coordinator. If the team cannot do so, or if the ineligible player has already participated and the ineligibility cannot be remedied, the team will be disqualified, and its entry fee will be forfeited.

4.6. CLUB QUALIFYING

i. A player is required to qualify at the club stage to become eligible to play in the CNTC.
ii. Club qualifying games are held at sanctioned clubs across Canada typically during the period September 1st – December 31 immediately preceding the CNTC. The CBF Board may designate other games as qualifying games from time to time.
iii. A player qualifies as an individual.
iv. An eligible player may enter qualifying club games as often as he/she wishes, with the same or different partners or teammates.
v. A player qualifies for the following events: CNTC-Open, CWTC, CMTC, CSTC, if he or she played at least the equivalent of one session for a team that wins at least 50% of its matches or finishes in the top half of the field. A qualification is valid for all of the Team Events.
vi. Flight B and Flight C players are **NOT** required to qualify at the club level: they proceed directly to the championship stage.
vii. Any player meeting all the eligibility criteria who has not qualified at the club level for any reason, may purchase club round qualification upon payment of an administrative fee ("Qualifying Fee") as follows:

Scenario	Buy-in Fee	Notes
Attempted Qualifying (Unsuccessful)	$50	Tried to qualify but did not succeed
No attempt, team meets minimum Q	$50	Team has 3/4, 4/5 or 4/6 qualified members
No attempt, team does not meet minimum Q	$100	Neither attempted nor has enough qualified teammates

For the most up-to-date eligibility requirements and entry conditions, please refer to the Supplemental CoC.

4.7. PRE-REGISTRATION

i. Teams wishing to compete in any CNTC event must register and pay the Round Robin entry fee by the specified deadline.

ii. At the discretion of the National Coordinator, late entries may be accepted but only to improve the movement (e.g., if an odd number of teams have entered by the deadline), or to avoid the cancellation of the event.

4.8. TEAM CAPTAIN

Every team that enters a CNTC event must name a Team Captain, who shall represent the team in all official capacities.

4.9. TEAM COMPOSITION

i. A team competing in any CNTC event may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players.
ii. To participate in the CSTC, a player must meet the WBF minimum age criteria for participation in the Senior event, as set out in the WBF Championships CoC.
iii. To participate in the CMTC a team must include at least two female players and two male players. In each match, every pair must consist of one female player and one male player.
iv. The CBF follows WBF policies regarding eligibility for gender-based events. At present, the WBF policy states that participant gender is the gender shown on their passport.

4.10. MINIMUM BOARD REQUIREMENT

For all CNTC events, each team member must play at least 40% of the boards in each stage of the championship: the Round Robin and each Play-Off round.

If it becomes impossible for a player to meet this requirement at any stage, the player will be deemed to have withdrawn from the team at that point and may not play further in that stage or any subsequent stage.

In the exceptional case of “force majeure” during the championship, the National Coordinator may permit a player to continue, even if the player has not met the 40% requirement for a stage.

4.11. COMPLIANCE WITH WBF REQUIREMENTS

By entering the CNTC-Open, CMTC, CSTC or CWTC, each player agrees to comply with the WBF requirements for any WBF Championship in which they represent Canada.

These requirements may include drug testing. Players may also be videotaped during a WBF Championship and agree that video footage and photographs may be used by the WBF to publicize the championship or for other reasonable purposes.

5. DEADLINES FOR CNTCs

5.1. PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Teams wishing to compete in any Canadian Team Championship event must register and pay the **non-refundable** entry fee for that event, as outlined in the Supplemental CoC.

5.2. ROSTER CHANGES DEADLINE

See Section 11.

5.3. PRE-ALERTS DEADLINE

Pairs using a method that requires advance submission must provide a complete description of the method, together with any required suggested defence, by the applicable deadline:

- **Round Robin:** at least one week before the stage begins.
- **Play-Offs:** at least two weeks before the stage begins.

The submission procedure and the person responsible for submitting the materials will be specified in the applicable Supplemental CoC.

6. GENERAL REGULATIONS

i. **Screens:** Screens and bidding boxes will be used for the Play-Offs.

ii. **Kibitzers:** Non-playing team members may kibitz only at tables at least two tables away from their team's match. They should sit facing away from their teammates. The Director may allow closer kibitzing if there is enough space between the tables.

iii. **Alerts and Explanations:** Pairs are expected to know their methods. Procedural penalties may be given to pairs who do not give substantially the same explanation on both sides of the screen. The penalties will be automatic if the opponents may have been damaged by the differing explanations. These penalties will not be appealable.

iv. **Revokes:** There will be no penalty for an established revoke unless attention is first drawn to it before a member of the non-offending side has made a call on the next board played at the table (or as provided in Law 64). For the last board of a match, the round will be deemed to have ended when the non-offending side leaves the table, or their partners arrive at the table.

v. **Lateness:** Any team not seated and ready to play at the announced starting time of a match, or a session of a match, will be assessed a penalty according to the following scale *(the assignment of a penalty for tardiness does not preclude the application of a further adjustment in accordance with the CBF Slow Play Regulations)*:

<u>During the Round Robin</u>

Up to 5 minutes	Warning. After the second warning, the penalty for being 5 or more minutes late applies.
5 to 10 minutes	1 VP
10 to 15 minutes	2 VPs
15 to 20 minutes	3 VPs
20+ minutes	5 VPs; the match is cancelled and considered a forfeit The DIC may also recommend that the Championship Committee consider more severe action.

Should a team be penalized for tardiness, no indemnity points are to be awarded to the nonoffending team. Victory Points assigned to the non-offending team are computed as though there had been no penalty imposed on their opponents.

<u>During the Play-Offs</u>

Up to 5 minutes	Warning. After the second warning, the penalty for being 5+ minutes late applies.
6 to 20 minutes	1 IMP plus an additional 1 IMP for each full minute or part thereof beyond 5 minutes

21 to 30 minutes	20 IMPs plus an additional 2 IMPs for each minute thereafter
31+ minutes	The match is cancelled and considered a forfeit

a. Seating: In the event that two teams in a match fail to seat themselves properly, and no result is possible for the match (i.e., sitting in the same direction), both teams receive zero Victory Points for the match.

b. **Carry-over:** The winner of the Round Robin receives a 0.1 IMP carry-over in each Play-Off match for as long as the team remains in the event. If the Round Robin is divided into more than one pool, there is no carry-over from the Round Robin to the Play-Offs.

c. **VP scale:** During the Round Robin, all matches will be scored using the WBF 20-point VP Scale.

d. **Slow Play:** The CBF slow play regulations can be found on the CBF website.

7. SYSTEMS POLICY

7.1. APPLICABLE CONVENTION CHARTS

The ACBL Open+ Chart will apply in all stages of the **CNTC-Open, CWTC, CSTC and CMTC.**
The ACBL Open Chart will apply in all stages of the **CNTC-B**.
The ACBL Basic+ Chart will apply in all stages of the **CNTC-C**.

7.2. PRE-ALERTS

Pairs using a convention for which a pre-alert is required must submit the required materials in advance as described in Section 5.3.

7.3. CONVENTION CARD

i. **Requirements**

Contestants are required to make a full written disclosure of their System and to disclose the meaning of any call or play in response to a proper question at the table from an opponent.

The full written disclosure referred to in the above paragraph is made by the completion in due form of an ACBL sanctioned Convention Card, including necessary supplementary sheets.

A Convention Card will not be regarded as having been completed in due form for the purposes of this section unless:

a. All sections of the Card have been accurately and legibly completed, in English.

b. The Card shall contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System used, including, without limitation, all competitive agreements and understandings, it being accepted by the CBF that the full particulars of some sequences (such as relays) which occur in later rounds of the auction, may be omitted from the Card without such omission constituting a breach of the requirement that the Card contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the System.

ii. **Supplementary Sheets**

The Convention Card may be supplemented by the addition of supplementary sheets to facilitate the full disclosure of Systems. The relationship of material on a supplementary sheet to material on a Card should be clearly indicated by corresponding numbers on both the Card and the supplementary sheet(s).

iii. **Online Submission**
The team captain must upload the team's completed Convention Cards and any supplementary sheets to the CBF website no later than three days before the start of the applicable championship stage. Failure to do so will result in penalties. The penalty will be 2VPs for the Round Robin stage and 6 IMPs for the playoffs stage. If the issue is still not resolved at the beginning of a championship stage, the penalties will apply each session until the issue is resolved satisfactorily.

iv. **Use of Convention Cards at the Table**
Each player must provide a duly completed Convention Card and any supplementary sheets to an opponent at the table at the start of each session. The documents must be returned at the end of the session. Failure to provide them may result in a procedural penalty.
After withdrawing their cards from the board and until play is complete, players may not consult their own Convention Card or supplementary sheets.

7.4. FULL DISCLOSURE

If a player makes use of any conventional call not sufficiently described on his Card (including supplementary sheets), or if a partnership is found to be using agreements not permitted at that particular event, that player's partnership may be subject to a procedural penalty (Law 90) for the infraction and/or to disciplinary penalty as well as to score adjustments to redress any damage.

In addition, if a pair is found to be playing a system not permitted within the regulations for the event in question as detailed in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest, penalties may be applied. Furthermore, that player will not be permitted to continue using their system until it has been altered to the full satisfaction of the Championship Committee.

7.5. ALERTS AND EXPLANATIONS

Calls requiring an alert or announcement are determined by the ACBL Alert Procedures, subject to the provisions of the WBF regulations regarding the use of screens. When playing with screens, the player making an alertable call must alert their screenmate. Their partner must alert the opponent on the other side when the bidding tray arrives. Questions and explanations must be communicated in writing in accordance with the WBF regulations entitled Using Bidding Boxes with Screens. For online play, players must follow the alerting and explanation procedures specified in the Supplemental CoC for the platform and playing mode being used.

Players are responsible for ensuring that their alerts are clearly communicated. Except where an announcement or an online explanation is required, explanations should be given only when requested by an opponent. Questions may be deferred until a later opportunity permitted by Law 20 and the applicable playing procedures.

8. TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS FORMAT

8.1. FORMAT

The CBF will strive to make a full Round Robin whenever possible.

i. The national finals of the CNTC-Open, CNTC-B, CNTC-C, CWTC, CSTC and CMTC consist of a Round Robin stage followed by a Play-Off stage, except where these Conditions provide for teams to proceed directly to the Play-Offs.

Round Robin Stage:

- Should fewer than 5 teams enter an event, there will be no Round Robin. The teams will proceed directly to the Play-Off stage. The Play-Off draw will be made at random no later than two weeks before the Championship begins and will be posted online. From the registration deadline onward, teams may not add or substitute players or otherwise change their registered roster
- 5 or 6 teams entered – The teams will play a double round robin over two days.
- 7 to 18 teams entered - The teams will play a single round robin over two or three days.
- Should 19 or more teams register, the Championship Committee may divide the field into two seeded sections, using the combined masterpoint total of each team's four highest masterpoint holders. Each team will play every team in the other section. The top four teams from each section will advance to the Play-Off stage.

The table below shows the Round Robin format and the number of teams advancing to the Play-Offs.

Teams	Matches per team	Days	Advance	Boards per match
5	4 x 2	2	4	15
6	5 x 2	2	4	12
7	6	2	4	20
8	7	2	4	15
9	8	2	4	15
10	9	2	4	12
11	10	2	8	12
12	11	2	8	10
13	12	3	8	15
14	13	3	8	12
15	14	3	8	12
16	15	3	8	12
17	16	3	8	10
18	17	3	8	10
19+	TBD	TBD	8	TBD

Play-Off Stage

If 11 or more teams enter the event, the top eight teams at the end of the Round Robin shall advance to the quarter-finals. If five to ten teams enter, the top four teams shall advance directly from the Round Robin to the semi-finals. Events with fewer than five teams shall proceed directly to the Play-Off stage as described above.

The number of boards for each Play-Off stage will be specified in the supplemental CoC.

8.2. DETERMINING MATCHUPS IN THE PLAY-OFF STAGE

i. In the case where four teams advance from the Round Robin to the semi finals, the team finishing 1st in the Round Robin chooses its semi final opponent from the teams finishing 3rd and 4th.

ii. In the case where eight teams advance to the quarter finals, and there was only one group in the Round Robin, the team finishing 1st in the Round Robin chooses its quarter final opponent from the teams finishing 5th thru 8th. The team finishing 2nd in the Round Robin will have second pick and the team finishing 3rd will have third pick. For the semi final matches, the team advancing to the semi final with the highest standing in the Round Robin chooses its opponent from the other three teams.

iii. If the field was originally divided into two groups, the quarter final matches will be as follows:

- *QF Match A1* - The team finishing 1st in group A may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 3rd and 4th in group A.
- *QF Match B1* - The team finishing 1st in group B may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 3rd and 4th in group B.
- QF Match A2 - The team finishing 2nd in group A will play the remaining team in group A.
- QF Match B2 - The team finishing 2nd in group B will play the remaining team in group B.

For the semi final matches, the winner of QF Match A1 plays the winner of QF Match A2, and the winner of QF Match B1 plays the winner of QF Match B2.

The losers of the semi-final matches will have a playoff to determine the third-place team. That match will not exceed one day.

9. DURATION OF MATCHES

Online play: 7 minutes per board.

In-person play: 8 minutes per board.

Teams responsible for slow play will be subject to penalties in accordance with the CBF Slow Play Regulations, available on the CBF website. Additional time will not be allowed for teams playing on Vu-Graph, nor will extra time be granted because of the use of bidding boxes, screens, discussions of systems or similar reasons.

10. SEATING RIGHTS

10.1. ROUND ROBIN MATCHES (Online)

There are no seating rights in Round Robin matches. Lineups are blind. Each team must submit its lineup for each match to the Director-in-Charge (DIC) at least three days before the start of the Round Robin, otherwise the DIC will randomly assign seating. The lineups will be posted 2 days before the first match.

10.2. PLAY-OFF MATCHES (In Person)

For each segment of a Play-Off match, there is an Away team, which seats its players first, and a Home team which seats its players second.

Immediately after the teams are known, the higher ranked team (the seeded team) chooses the match segments in which it will be the Home team from among the following choices:

In a 4-segment match, the team may choose segments 1 and 4, or segments 2 and 3.

In a 6-segment match, the team may choose segments 1, 4 and 5, or segments 2, 3 and 6.

In an 8-segment match, the team may choose segments 1, 4, 6 and 7, or segments 2, 3, 5 and 8.

The unseeded team then becomes the Home team in the segments not chosen by the higher ranked team.

In the case of a 3-segment match, each team chooses one of the three segments in which it will be the Home team (with the higher ranked team choosing first). A coin flip is then used to determine the Home team in the segment not yet chosen by either team.

Teams are encouraged to exchange their line-ups in a timely fashion. A member of the Away team must be in the playing area with its line-up no later than ten minutes before the start of a segment. A member of the Home team must advise the Away team of its line-up no later than five minutes before the start of a segment.

11. ROSTER CHANGES

Roster changes made before the applicable roster-change deadline do not count toward the replacement limit. For this purpose, the original team roster is the roster recorded at that deadline.

Replacements are permanent. Each replacement player must meet the eligibility requirements in Sections 4.1 through 4.4. The total number of replacements must not exceed half the original team roster.

Substitutions are temporary. Each substitute must meet the eligibility requirements in Sections 4.1 through 4.4.

11.1. THE ROSTER CHANGE DEADLINE

Changes to a team's roster may be made for any reason up until the roster change deadline**.** The deadline is three days before the start of the Round Robin or, if the event has no Round Robin, two weeks before the start of the Play-Offs. A player is deemed to be a member of a team **only** if they are listed on the team's entry before the Roster Changes deadline.

11.2. SUBSTITUTIONS

If, for any reason, a team is unable to produce four players, either at the start of a Session or because of a "force majeure" that develops during the Session, the DIC, in consultation with the team captain, may designate a substitute to **temporarily** complete the team.

A substitute must not be a player from another team and may not be a male in the case of an event restricted to women. In a Mixed event a man may not substitute for a woman, nor a woman for a man.

The DIC, having designated a substitute, shall inform the National Coordinator as soon as practicable. The results obtained by the substitute shall stand unless the Championship Committee judges that the substitute's bridge skills were considerably greater than those of the player replaced, in which case an adjusted score may be determined. Whether or not the result stands, the Championship Committee may impose appropriate penalties when it judges a team to be at fault.

The original player is deemed to have played the boards played by the substitute.

Substitutes must meet the eligibility criteria defined in Sections 4.1 through 4.4.

11.3. REPLACEMENTS

A team may request approval for a replacement only in exceptional circumstances involving force majeure. The request must be submitted to the National Coordinator with documents supporting the reason for the player's unavailability. Workload, cost, partnership issues and travel arrangements, including plane tickets, are not valid reasons.

If, during the Round Robin or Play-Off stage, a team is unable to field four players because of force majeure, the National Coordinator may approve a replacement during the Round Robin. During the Play-Offs, approval must be given by the Championship Committee.

The replacement has to meet the following criteria:

- must not be a player from another team;
- must not have considerably greater bridge skills than the player being replaced;
- must not be male in an event restricted to women; and
- in a Mixed event, must be the same gender as the player being replaced.

Once approved, the replacement becomes a member of the team for all purposes, and the player being replaced is removed from the team roster.

12. FORFEITS IN TEAM EVENTS

If a team is unable to play or complete a match, the Championship Committee may find that team to be in default and declare the match forfeited. The team in forfeit shall score zero Victory Points and zero IMPs for that match. The team winning the forfeited match will receive the highest of the following Victory Point scores:

i. 60% of the maximum VPs available; or
ii. The average number of VPs per match won by the team, excluding the forfeited match; or
iii. The average number of Victory Points won against the forfeiting team in all matches, excluding forfeited matches.

A second forfeit by the same team will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee which may apply further sanctions including disqualification of the team. If it is, or becomes, necessary also to assign

an IMP score for tie-breaking or carryover purposes, the winning team shall be credited with the average number of IMPs, rounded up, which earn the assigned Victory Point score.

13. SCORE CORRECTIONS

Score corrections may be made as sanctioned in Law 79 and in Laws 69 and 71. An agreed-upon score that is proven to be erroneous to the complete satisfaction of the DIC may be corrected.

13.1. APPEAL PERIOD

In team events, the appeal period expires:

- at the start of play of the next match in the Round Robin, or 30 minutes after the completion of the final Round Robin match of the day, whichever is earlier.
- at the start of play at either table in the next segment of a Play-Off match, or 30 minutes after the completion of the final segment of the day of a Play-Off match, whichever is earlier.

14. TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

14.1. PLAY-OFF MATCH

If a tie exists at the end of a Play-Off match, it will be resolved by playing six additional boards. Should a tie still exist, six more boards will be played. If a tie still exists, one board “sudden death” matches will determine the winner. There are no seating rights for the additional play-off boards. Before the start of play of the additional boards, each captain will submit their line-up to the DIC without knowing the line-up of their opponents.

14.2. AT THE END OF THE ROUND ROBIN PHASE

The following tie-breaking formula will apply to ties at the end of the Round Robin phase of any Canadian Team Championship, and solely for the purpose of deciding the qualifiers’ spot(s).

1. A two-way tie is broken by:
   a) All matches played will be scored based on:
      WIN - 1 point; TIE - ½ point; LOSS - 0 points.
   b) The result of the match between the tied teams.
   c) A playoff between the tied teams.
      The playoff must be five boards.
      If still tied after five boards, continuing sets of five boards will be played until the tie is broken.
2. A multi-tie is broken by:
   a) All matches played will be scored based on:
      WIN - 1 point; TIE - ½ point; LOSS - 0 points.
   b) Matches played between all tied teams will be scored based on 2a.
   c) Victory Points of matches between all tied teams.

In the event a multi-tie is reduced in number by one of the foregoing steps, only the remaining teams should be considered in tie-breaking procedures for succeeding steps. In the event a multi-tie is reduced to two teams, the procedures for two team ties are applied.

15. ELIGIBILITY TO REPRESENT CANADA

All players meeting the requirements of the conditions of contest for a Canadian team championship may enter the competition as a matter of right. However, selection to represent Canada internationally is not a right, but a privilege, which may be extended or denied.

The CBF reserves its option to declare any player, pair, or team, regardless of its tournament record, ineligible to represent Canada in international competition, for reasons of personal hygiene, dress, deportment, CBF membership status or ethics. By participating in the Canadian Team Championships, a player implicitly agrees to abide by the CBF decision on these matters.

15.1 CBF Membership Condition

To be eligible to represent Canada internationally, a player must meet the following membership conditions:

a. The player must be a member in good standing of the CBF.
b. The player's CBF membership must not have lapsed more than six months in the preceding 12 months.
c. A player who does not meet the membership continuity requirement in Section 15.1(b) may nevertheless be approved to represent Canada internationally, at the sole discretion of the CBF Board of Directors.

15.2 Team composition for the World Championships (Augmentation)

Teams representing Canada in the World Teams Championships or the World Bridge Games must consist of six players.

A non-playing captain (NPC) is recommended but is not required. If a team of four or five players qualifies to represent Canada at either championship, or if any member of the original team will not participate, the team must add players to reach six.

Except in exceptional circumstances approved by the CBF Board of Directors, each added player must meet at least one of the following criteria:

a. Have played in the Play-Off stage of one of the four major Canadian team championships—CNTC-Open, CWTC, CSTC or CMTC—that qualifies teams for the applicable WBF Championship; or

b. Have played in the Play-Off stage of one of those four major Canadian team championships in at least two of the previous five Canadian Bridge Championships.

15.3 Team Composition for the world championship (Replacement)

Teams representing Canada in the World Team Championships or the World Bridge Games must consist of six players.

The team must retain at least:

- Four original players if the qualifying team consisted of six players;

- Four original players if the qualifying team consisted of five players; or
- Three original players if the qualifying team consisted of four players.

Additional players required to complete the six-player roster must meet the augmentation requirements in Section 15.2.

15.4 Zonal Play-Offs

To represent Canada at the World Championships, some years may require a zonal Play-Off with Mexico. By deciding to represent Canada, players of the winning team agree that they will participate in the zonal Play-Off if required.

Appendix A - Definitions

Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, the following expressions used in these General Conditions of Contest shall have the following meanings:

ACBL

means the American Contract Bridge League.

Board of Directors

means the CBF Board of Directors established under the Constitution and By-Laws of the CBF.

Canadian Championship

means the national final stage (Round Robin and Playoffs) of any of the Canadian team (CMTC, CNTC-A, CSTC, CWTC).

CBF

means the Canadian Bridge Federation, a National Bridge Organization, recognised by the WBF.

Championship Committee

means a committee constituted by the CBF Board of Directors either generally or for a Canadian National Team Championship.

CMTC

means the Canadian Mixed Team Championship.

CNTC-Open

means the Canadian Open Team Championship Flight A.

CNTC-B

means the Canadian Open Team Championship Flight B (restricted to players with 3,500 masterpoints or fewer as of the preceding September ACBL masterpoint cycle).

CNTC-C

means the Canadian Open Team Championship Flight C (restricted to players with 1,000 masterpoints or fewer as of the preceding September ACBL masterpoint cycle).

Convention Card or Card

means the Convention Card authorized by the ACBL or WBF for the disclosure of Systems by contestants in a Bridge Championship.

CSTC

means the Canadian Senior Team Championship.

CWTC

means the Canadian Women's Team Championship.

DIC

means the Director in Charge or Head Director appointed by the Canadian Bridge Federation.

Force majeure

means an exceptional event or circumstance beyond a player's reasonable control that could not reasonably have been foreseen or avoided and that makes the player unable to participate. Examples may include a sudden serious illness or injury, a family emergency, or a

major and unforeseeable travel disruption.

Law

means a Law contained in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017.

Member in Good Standing

means a player who is a current CBF member and who is not suspended, barred, or otherwise ineligible under ACBL or CBF disciplinary regulations (including those barred by EDGAR for online ethical violations).

National Coordinator

means the individual assigned by the Board of Directors to coordinate communications during the championships.

NBO

means a National Bridge Organization as defined by the WBF.

Playing Area

means the area defined by the CBF, which may include the lobby in the immediate vicinity of the actual playing rooms, the toilets adjoining the playing rooms which are designated for the use of the players, and any other rooms/lobby areas to be decided on site.

Schedule of Play

means the schedule for the play of a Canadian National Bridge Championship, either as contained in the Supplemental Conditions of Contest or as subsequently determined by the CBF.

Session

means:

- one or more segments of play in a playoff match as prescribed by the Schedule of Play; or
- one or more matches in the Round Robin stage of a team event as prescribed by the Schedule of Play.

Supplemental Conditions of Contest

means the additional Conditions of Contest issued from time to time by the CBF for the further regulation of a Canadian National Bridge Championship.

System

means all agreements and understandings a pair has as to the meaning of any call or play as those respective expressions are defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017.

Tournament Director or TD

means a tournament director appointed by the Canadian Bridge Federation.

WBF

means the World Bridge Federation, an International Sport Federation, recognised by the International Olympic Committee and incorporated in Switzerland.

WBF Championships

means the World Bridge Team Championships, the World Bridge Games and the World Bridge Series.

WBF Eligibility Code

means the Code, issued by the WBF from time to time, that regulates participant eligibility in a WBF event.

WBF Events

means WBF Championship or Competition collectively referred to as “WBF Events”.

WBF Representative Event

means World Team Championships, the World Bridge games and the Zonal playoffs, in which the selected team will represent Canada.

WBF Screen Regulations

means the regulations, issued by the WBF from time to time, that regulate the use of screens in a World Bridge Championship.

WBF VP Scale

means the WBF Continuous Victory Point Scale used in WBF World Championships.