

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

UNIT 125 Summer Imp LEAGUE 2017

I. TYPE OF EVENT

The Summer Imp League is an annual team event played between June and August with four sessions. The format will be adjusted as needed to accommodate the total number of teams. This will be done without byes if at all possible. If the number of teams makes byes absolutely necessary, then any team having a bye will receive victory points equal to the number of victory points per match averaged in matches in which they have actually played.

The event will be conducted as a round robin, but may include knock-out matches to choose a winner. The team in each group with the highest victory point total will be the winner unless a knock-out format is used. Ties will be broken based on the winner of the head-to-head match played between tied teams. If the tied teams tied their match, the tie will not be broken.

Each match will consist of 12 to 28 boards depending on number of teams and number of brackets. It is possible that 2 teams would play only against each other but scored as 2 separate matches in a given night. Matches will be scored according to the IMP scale published by the ACBL and then converted to victory points in accordance with Section VII. A victory of one IMP or more will be considered a win for purposes of master point awards. In the case of late play, the number of boards may be adjusted. See Section III.

Prior to beginning of the match, if team captains cannot agree on which pairs will oppose each other, then the director will conduct a coin flip. If one team wants to switch at the half and the other does not, then the trailing team has the option. If the teams are tied, the director will conduct a coin flip.

Players will compare scores at the halfway point in each match.

II. TEAM COMPOSITION

Each team must consist of four, five or six members. Teams will be placed in groups based on ACBL and ABA master points of its members. The Committee reserves the right to assign experienced teams to higher or lower flights than their master point holdings suggest.

All bridge players (ACBL members and non-members) are welcome to play, except persons under suspension by ACBL. This stipulation applies to both team members and substitutes. Non-members are encouraged to join ACBL so that their master points can be recorded.

A player may be a member of only one team in this event. Subs may play on any team as approved by the Chairperson of the event based on their master point holding.

III. TIME AND PLACE

All regularly scheduled matches will be played at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 1900 Carlton Rd. Parma, Ohio on specifically scheduled Wednesday nights. Play starts promptly **at 7:00pm** and **ends at 10:45pm**. In order to respect those teams who are available and ready to play, and to make the playing area quiet for those who do start on time, the following rule will be enforced:

Upon notification to the Director by the Team Captain of the team who is ready to play whose opponent has not arrived **by 7:15pm**, a penalty of five (5) IMPS and an additional one (1) IMP penalty for each two-minute interval thereafter, will be assessed against the late team. A team not available to play **by 7:30pm** will be presumed to have forfeited the match. The forfeit deadline may be extended at the director's discretion but the IMP penalties will continue. The number of boards will be reduced to meet the deadline of no board being started after **10:30pm**.

If all boards in the first half of the match have not been completed by 9:00pm, the team captains should notify the Director who will make a provisional adjustment in the number of boards for the second half so that all boards may be completed at both tables. If teams catch up, missed boards will be restored.

IV. SMOKING

St. John's is a non-smoking building. This includes rest-rooms.

V. AWARDS

To be eligible for overall awards, a player must play at least fifty percent of the matches in the event as well as fifty percent of the boards in order to be eligible for overall masterpoint awards.

Master points will be issued for each winning match, or on the basis of overall rank, whichever is higher. Points will be based on ACBL schedules and will come directly from ACBL headquarters.

Prizes will be awarded based on the number of teams entered in the event and the number of flights.

VI. REGISTRATION AND FEES

All teams must designate a captain and be registered with the Committee prior to the first scheduled match. Registration must include name, ACBL number, master point total of each member, as well as the captain's address and phone number.

Card fees are \$8.00 per player, \$32.00 per team. Fees are to be paid even if team forfeits.

VI. DUTIES OF TEAM CAPTAIN

1. Properly register his/her team prior to the published deadline and check the published roster. Any corrections to the roster are to be given to the Summer Imp League Chairperson before the beginning of the first match.
2. Field his/her team punctually on the scheduled date.
3. Inform the Chairperson of a desired substitution as provided in Section IX.
4. Make payment of team fees, including all forfeited matches prior to start of the session
5. Make sure team entry containing names of all players and subs who are participating in the match are completed and given to the caddies to pick up at beginning of session. ACBL numbers should be given for all subs.
6. Verify the score with the opposing team captain. Winning captain must turn in both score tickets at the conclusion of each match, designating total IMP'S won by each team
7. Verify the accuracy of posted scores. Scores will be posted prior to the next scheduled match. Any correction must be given to a member of the Committee prior to the completion of the next match following the posting of the score, at which time all scores will be final.

VII. SCORING CALCULATIONS

Net IMP's will be converted to victory points according to an ACBL approved scale which will be posted at the event.

If handicapping is necessary due to disparity of teams master point totals, the ACBL method of assigning handicaps will be utilized.

Forfeits will be provisionally scored at 20 VP for the non-forfeiting team and zero for the forfeiting team. At the end of the event, the non-forfeiting team will have the value of each winning forfeit recalculated based upon the highest of the following: (a) 20 victory points, (b) the average of the team's victory points for all non-forfeited matches, or (c) the reciprocal of each of the forfeiting team's average victory points in all non-forfeited matches. The "reciprocal" is calculated as thirty minus the forfeiting team's average victory

points in non-forfeited matches. Losing forfeits will retain the value of zero victory points. (Note that non-forfeited matches do not include byes.)

POSTPONEMENTS, PREPONEMENTS, AND FORFEITS

Postponements and preponements are **NOT permitted**. Captains are obligated to obtain substitutes (see Section IX) in lieu of forfeiting matches. Any exceptions to this rule must be by permission of the Chairperson. Repeated or unnecessary forfeits may result in disciplinary action.

VIII. SUBSTITUTES, REPLACEMENTS, AND ADDITIONS

Team captains shall determine, well in advance of scheduled games, whether four players will be available. If not, the captain will make every effort promptly to obtain a substitute.

The team captain must notify the Chairperson in advance of the game the name(s) of any proposed sub(s). The Chairperson will approve or disapprove of the substitution and notify the opposing team's captain of the change; this decision is final and not subject to any further appeal. To maintain team identity, captains are encouraged to field as few subs as possible. Three or four subs can only be used in case of extreme emergency.

No team may use a sub in lieu of a regular team member who is available to play.

Any team that permanently loses a player, due to unforeseeable or unavoidable circumstances, may, subject to approval of the Chairperson, designate a replacement member. Such designation may occur at any point during the season.

Subs may play on any team as approved by the Chairperson of the event based on their master point holding.

No sub or replacement player will be approved that would, in the opinion of the Summer Imp Chairperson, substantially improve the caliber of the team.

No team member may sub for another team in the same or lower bracket and no member may change teams after the first match has been played. However an existing team member, who is not playing with his/her team is "on hand" during the regular even night, may fill-in for a member of a team in a higher bracket. To do this requires:

- An unusual situation causing a team member from one or both teams to not be present

- Agreement of both team captains, such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld.
- Approval of the Chairperson if available, or otherwise the Whist Club President
- No master point will be earned by the substitute, only by the regular members or a non- team substitute

Additional players may not be added to the team after the first match unless such additions would bring a team to the minimum complement of four players. Additions that would have affected the flight assignment are not permitted.

IX. APPEALS OF DIRECTOR RULINGS Any team Captain who believes a ruling by the director needs further review or discussion must inform both the director and the opposing team's captain prior to the end of that night's session that he/she is appealing and ideally should make the notification as soon as a ruling is made. The director will inform the Chairperson and President if an appeals committee is needed. The Chairperson, or in the absence of a Chairperson the President, will select at least three, but not more than five, qualified people playing that night to act as an appeals committee. The Chairperson and President may participate in the appeal process as non-voting members of the appeals committee. The appeals committee will make a decision the night of the match unless it determines that due to the unusual nature of the appeal no decision should be reached without consulting the appropriate person at the ACBL. If the ACBL is consulted, a Chairperson, and at least one member of the appeals committee, will contact the appropriate person at the ACBL to assist with the final decision. The Chairperson will notify the captains of the decision if it is not made the night of the match.

Revised June 5, 2017 Bill Hogsett