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2019 Mixed USBC

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*Adopted by the Board of Directors
of the United States Bridge Federation*

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2019 Mixed USBC Conditions of Contest

I. AUTHORITY AND OVERVIEW

These Conditions of Contest may not be changed after commencement of play except for emergency changes.

The 2019 Mixed United States Bridge Championship (MUSBC) is held under the authority of the United States Bridge Federation (USBF). The USBF has agreed to nominate the winning team and the winner of the USA2 Bracket as the USA representatives to compete in the 2019 World Mixed Team Championship. They will be referred to as USA1 and USA2. This World Championship is scheduled to take place from October 19 to November 2, in China.

Under current USBF procedures, if the USBF Board of Directors believes there is any reason not to nominate all of the players on the winning teams to represent the USA, the Board will submit the name(s) of any players about whom the Board has questions to the Credentials Committee for review. The Credentials Committee review shall be limited to the players' ethics, conduct, deportment and hygiene and shall not take into consideration their bridge ability. Normally, the USBF Board will only follow this procedure based on behavior at or after the SUSBC or information received after the MUSBC.

A team with a player who is later not invited or approved by the WBF and/or the USBF for any reason (such as residency, conduct, ethics, hygiene, etc.) may be disqualified.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Eligibility

Teams may consist of 4, 5, or 6 members, with no more than 3 players of each gender, and may have a designated non-playing captain. Each pair must consist of one woman and one man.

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B. Registration.

Teams must register by midnight EDT on Tuesday, May 21, 2019. You must be logged in to the USBF site to register a team. Additional entries will be accepted until midnight EDT on Tuesday, June 4rd, 2019 if it improves the event format.

Teams may add or subtract players as they wish (advising the USBF by sending [email to the USBF Secretary](#)) until June 6, 2019.

Any team that is reduced to fewer than four players because of qualification for the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, or Senior Bowl may withdraw from the MUSBC and receive a refund of both the event fee and the advance payment of session fees

C. Fees.

Fees are an event entry fee of \$360 per team and session fees of \$150 per team per session (\$300 per day). Payment of \$960 is due by the guaranteed entry date; that payment consists of the event fee plus advance payment of session fees for the first 4 sessions of play. The event fee is refundable only if a team withdraws before the guaranteed entry date, or if a team that has entered the MUSBC qualifies for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, or Senior Bowl, or if a team's membership is reduced to fewer than 4 because players qualified for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, or Senior Bowl. The advance payment of session fees is refundable if a team withdraws at any time prior to the start of play.

D. Dates

The 2019 MUSBC will begin Saturday, June 8, 2019 and end Saturday, June 15, 2019.

E. Site and Hotel

The site of the 2019 SUSBC is the Hyatt Regency located in Schaumburg, IL. The room rate is \$136 per night and includes internet access.

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F. Captain's Meetings and Schedule of Play

Play will commence at 10:00 AM on each day with the further schedule to be determined by the DIC. There will be a Captain's Meeting at 9:45 AM on June 8th. Further Captain's meetings will be held at the discretion of the DIC.

G. Conditions of Contest

The event is governed by this document and by the [USBF General Conditions of Contest](#).

H. SEEDING

If the event starts with a Round Robin, there will be no seeding. If exactly 4 teams enter and the event starts with KO, teams will be seeded based on ACBL Vanderbilt/Spingold Seeding Points.

III. SIZE OF FIELD AND EVENT FORMAT

If there are exactly 4 teams entered, the event will consist of 2 day knockout matches: USA1 Semifinal; USA1 Final and USA2 Semifinal; and USA2 Final.

If there are 5 to 7 teams entered, the event will start with a 2 day Round Robin, which will reduce the field to 4 teams. Teams that finish lower than 4th will be eliminated. The event will continue with of 2 day knockout matches: USA1 Semifinal; USA1 Final and USA2 Semifinal; and USA2 Final.

If there are 8 teams entered, the event will start with a 2 day Round Robin. The top 2 teams will qualify for the USA1 Final. The remaining 6 teams will play in the USA2 Quarterfinal. The event will continue with 2 day Knockout matches: USA1 Final & USA2 Quarterfinal; USA2 Semifinal (USA1 losing finalist chooses its Semifinal opponent); and USA2 Final.

If there are 9-12 teams entered, the event will start with a 2 day Round Robin. The top 4 teams will advance to USA1, the remaining teams to USA2. The event will continue with 1-1/2 day Knockout matches: USA1 Semifinal & USA2 R16 (USA2 R16 will be a Round Robin to select 4 teams if USA2 starts with fewer

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than 8 teams); USA1 Final & USA2 Quarterfinal; USA2 Semifinal (USA1 losing finalist chooses its Semifinal opponent); and USA2 Final.

IV. FORMAT FOR SELECTING USA1

A. Setting the Bracket for USA 1

The Round Robin winner will choose its USA1 Semifinal opponent from the teams finishing 3rd and 4th in the Round Robin.

B. Carryover

There will be no carryover from the Round Robin to Knockout matches, except to break ties in matches before the USA2 Final.

V. FORMAT FOR SELECTING USA2

The USA2 format will consist of either KO matches or Round Robins as set forth below. The exact number of boards in each Round Robin match and whether they are played in one continuous set or as two halves will be determined after entries have closed.

A. Setting the Bracket for USA 2

The highest placed Round Robin team advancing to USA2 will choose its USA2 first round opponent from the teams finishing in the bottom half of teams advancing to USA2. If 6 or 8 teams advanced to USA2, the second-highest placed Round Robin team advancing to USA2 will then choose its first round opponent from the remaining teams in the bottom half of teams advancing to USA2. The remaining teams will be ranked in Round Robin finish order and then assigned bracket positions by random draw in 2 team groups.

The losing USA 1 finalist will choose their opponent for the USA2 Semi-finals.

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VI. INTERPRETATION OF CONDITIONS.

A. Interpretation of Conditions

On matters involving the interpretation of these conditions or treatments of matters not included in these conditions:

1. Prior to June 1st, the MITTC Conditions of Contest Committee shall make determinations.
2. From June 1st through the end of the event, the DIC shall make any necessary interpretations after consultation with the MITTC Conditions of Contest Committee.

B. Headings for Convenience.

Headings are for convenience only and are not to be considered for purposes of interpreting the conditions.

C. Conditions Interpreted in Entirety.

These Conditions of Contest are to be interpreted in their entirety, which includes the USBF General Conditions of Contest. No section or appendix of these conditions shall be interpreted in such a manner as to render any other section or appendix to be meaningless.

D. Omissions.

The omission of a condition, restriction, rule, or regulation in one section or paragraph of the conditions which condition, restriction, rule, or regulation is expressly stated in another section of the conditions is deemed intentional.

Decision makers shall be guided by similar WBF and ACBL policies, procedures, regulations and the Laws of Duplicate Bridge when ruling on any issues not expressly addressed in these conditions.