

**UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION  
CONDITIONS OF CONTEST FOR  
THE 2024 MIXED UNITED STATES BRIDGE  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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

[Board of Directors of the United States Bridge Federation](#)

[International Team Trials Committee](#)

[Technical & Advisory Committee](#)

[USBC Conventions Committee](#)

[USBF Credentials Committee](#)

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**2024 Mixed USBC Conditions of Contest  
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## 2024 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 General Conditions of Contest for USBF events apply to this event but are subject to these Conditions of Contest.

The 2024 Mixed United States Bridge Championship (USBC) is held under the authority of the United States Bridge Federation (USBF). The USBF has agreed, unless special conditions arise, to nominate the winning team as USA for the 2024 Mixed Team at the World Bridge Games. This World Championship is scheduled to take place in Buenos Aires from October 21-Nov. 3, 2024.

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 team for the World Bridge Games, the Board will submit the name(s) of any players about whom the Board has questions to the Credentials Committee for its 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 USBC or information received after the USBC.

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 should it win the 2024 Mixed USBC.

### II. GENERAL INFORMATION

#### A. Registration

Teams enter the event by registering online on the USBF.org website. This link will only work if you are logged in to the USBF site.

##### 1. Guaranteed Entry Date

To assure entry in the 2024 Mixed USBC, teams must enter on or before 11:59 pm EDT on Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

##### 2. Late Entry Date

If fewer than 16 teams have entered by April 2, teams may continue to enter until 11:59 EDT on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, but only if it does not change the schedule for the event. Thus, if there are 8 teams entered on April 2, no additional entries will be accepted. If there are between 9 and 15, or fewer than 8 teams entered on April 2, additional entries will be accepted until there are 16 (or 8) teams entered.

Entries after April 2, 2024 will be accepted on a provisional basis, subject to review to determine whether they change the schedule. If all late entries cannot be accepted, later entries will be rejected before earlier ones.

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### B. Roster Changes

#### 1. Before Play Starts

Registered teams may add or subtract players as they wish, (advising the USBF by [sending an email to the USBF Secretary](#)), until April 8, 2024 if there is an online stage, or until May 8, 2024 if there is not an online stage.

#### 2. Between Online and Face-to-Face

After completion of the online stage, teams that are qualified for the Knockout stages of play may make roster changes only subject to the rules set forth in the General Conditions of Contest, and to the requirement that at least 2 men and 2 women remain on the team for the face-to-face stages.

#### 3. During the KO Stages

No roster changes are allowed after the KO has commenced. Substitutes may be allowed subject to the provisions of the General Conditions of Contest.

### C. Date, Schedule, and Length of Stages of Play

#### 1. Online Stages of Play

If more than 16 teams have entered, there will be an online stage to reduce the field to 16 teams. See Section III.A. for the format.

#### 2. Face-to-Face Stages of Play

If 9 or more teams have entered the event, there will be 4 face-to-face 2-day, 120-board stages of play: Round of 16, Quarterfinal, Semifinal, and Final. See Section III.B. for format of the Round of 16 with 9-15 teams.

In all cases, the 2024 Mixed USBC will end on May 17, 2024.

### D. Prepaid Entry and Fees

The advance entry fee for the 2024 Mixed USBC is \$500 per team, which covers any online stages as well as the start up costs for the face-to-face stages. The advance entry fee is due by April 2, 2024 and is fully refundable if a team withdraws before April 2, 2024 or if a team withdraws after April 2, 2024 and is replaced, or if a team withdraws after April 2, 2024 and that improves the format.

There will be a \$450 per team per day entry fee for the face-to-face Round of 16 and Quarterfinal stages of the event.

There will be a \$600 per team per day entry fee for the Semifinal and Final stages of the event.

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### E. Site and Hotel Reservations

The site of the 2024 Mixed USBC is the Hyatt Regency located in Schaumburg, IL. The room rate is \$141 plus tax per night and includes internet access. There is no charge for early departure. Reservation website is linked from the usbf.org website.

### F. Captain's Meeting(s)

The Director In Charge (DIC) or DIC's designee may convene a captain's meeting before the Online stage, the Round Robin stage, the Quarterfinal stage, and any other stage. Topics may include: use of electronic devices, conditions clarifications, seed selection, seating, system summary form, convention cards, tampering, reporting of scores, score corrections and slow play procedures. All Captain's Meetings will be held on Zoom.

## III. FORMAT

### A. Online Stage

If 1 team is to be eliminated, the bottom 2 teams based on seeding points will play a 64-board KO match on April 3rd.

If 2 teams are to be eliminated, the bottom 4 teams will play a double elimination KO with 32 board matches between April 3rd and April 10th. If the teams cannot agree on dates, the matches will be played on April 3, 4, and 5.

If more than 2 teams are to be eliminated, the bottom 10 teams will play a Round Robin to eliminate enough teams to leave 16.

### B. Face-to-face Stages

#### 1. Fewer than 8 teams enter

If fewer than 8 teams enter, the first 2 days of play will be a 2-day Round Robin. The top 4 teams will qualify for the Semifinal.

#### 2. Exactly 8 teams enter

If exactly 8 teams enter, the first 2 days of play are the Quarterfinal.

#### 3. 14-16 teams enter, or the field is reduced to 16 teams for face-to-face play

If 14-16 teams enter, or the field is reduced to 16 teams online, the first 2 days will be a KO Round of 16. If 14 teams enter, the top 2 teams (based on seeding points) will have a bye to the Quarterfinal. If 15 teams enter, the top team (based on seeding points) will have a bye to the Quarterfinal.

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### 4. 9-13 teams enter

If 9-13 teams are playing in the face-to-face stages, the first 2 days of play will be a 2-day Round Robin. The top 8 teams will qualify for the Quarterfinal; the remaining team(s) will be eliminated.

The format of the Round Robin will be:

9 or 10 teams, 9 matches of 11 boards each. With 9 teams, each team will have one sit out match;

11 or 12 teams, 11 matches of 9 boards each. With 11 teams, each team will have one sit out match;

13 teams, 12 matches of 8 boards each, scheduled as 13 matches; each team will have one sit out match;

In all cases, the 2024 Mixed USBC will end on May 17, 2024

### **C. Setting the Bracket for Knockout Rounds**

The bracket is set before the start of the first knockout round. The bracket is determined based on the procedures set forth in the USBC General Conditions of Contest

## **IV. INTERPRETATION**

### **A. Interpretation of Conditions**

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

1. Prior to March 23, 2024, the Conditions of Contest Committee and ITTC Technical & Advisory Committee (TAC) shall make determinations.
2. After March 22, 2024 but before May 10, 2024, the DIC shall make determinations after consulting with the TAC. Appeals from the DIC's decision may be made to the Tournament Appeals Committee.
3. Beginning May 10, 2024, the DIC shall make such determinations. Appeals from the DIC's decision may be made to the Tournament Appeals Committee.