

**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION  
CONDITIONS OF PLAY FOR  
2019 MIXED UNITED STATES BRIDGE  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

*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**  
**Tournament Appeals Coordinators**  
**Tournament Appeals Committee Panel**  
**Tournament Planning Committee**  
**Grievance & Appeals Committee**  
**USBF Recorder**  
**Hospitality Committee**  
**Vugraph Committee**

2019 Mixed USBC  
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**I.**

## **II. 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 Sept. 14-28 in Wuhan, 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 MUSBC 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.

## **III. 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. No player who has qualified for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl is eligible, however players who have qualified for the 2019 Venice Cup are eligible.

**B. Dates**

The 2019 MUSBC will begin Wednesday, May 22, 2019 and end Wednesday, May 29, 2019, unless exactly 4 teams enter, in which case it will end on Monday, May 27, 2019.

**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, or if a team's membership is reduced to fewer than 4 because players qualified for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl or Venice Cup. The advance payment of session fees is refundable if a team withdraws at any time prior to the start of play.

**D. Site and Hotel**

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

**E. 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 May 22nd. Further Captain's meetings will be held at the discretion of the DIC.

**F. Conditions of Contest**

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

**IV. SIZE OF FIELD AND EVENT FORMAT**

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 (teams will be assigned bracket positions in accordance with Section VI.A. below); USA2 Semifinal (USA1 losing finalist chooses its Semifinal opponent); and USA2 Final.

## **V. FORMAT FOR SELECTING USA1**

### **A. Setting the Bracket for USA 1**

The winner of the Round Robin will be assigned bracket position 1 and the second place team will be assigned bracket position 2.

### **B. Carryover**

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

## **VI. FORMAT FOR SELECTING USA2**

### **A. General Format**

The first stage of USA2 will be KO matches. The USA2 Quarterfinal will have 6 teams.

### **B. Pairings for USA 2 KO matches**

USA2 starts with a one-match KO Quarterfinal (there were 8 entrants in the MUSBC), the team that finished third in the Round Robin will be assigned bracket position 3, the team that finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Round Robin will be assigned bracket position 4, the team that finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Round Robin will be assigned bracket position 5 (positions 1 and 2 are taken by USA1); the remaining teams will be randomly assigned to bracket positions 6, 7 and 8.

USA2 Semifinal pairings are determined by the USA1 losing finalist selecting its opponent.

## **VII. 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 May 14th, the MITTC Conditions of Contest Committee shall make determinations.
2. From May 14th 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.