



2011 U.S. National Kubb Championship Team Group Pairings & Play-off Format

Teams will be grouped in a way that does its best to create a fair and enjoyable experience for all levels of play. The goals are: 1) not have a Group of Death where three or four teams have previously finished high at the U.S. Championship, 2) make sure teams that have finished high in the past are rewarded and separated in the round-robin group play stage, and 3) reduce the chance that teams that travel together play each other in the round-robin group play, 1st Round, and hopefully the 2nd Round of the play-offs.

TEAM GROUP PAIRINGS

There are 84 teams registered for the 2011 U.S. National Kubb Championship. The 84 teams are grouped in 21 four-team groups (all quarters have five groups, except quarter #2 which has six groups). Each team will play one best-of-three match against each of the other three teams in their group during the round-robin group play stage. After the round-robin group play, all teams will advance to the play-offs. The four teams in a group will be placed in separate quarters of the play-off bracket (except groups L and P, see below*). The team that finishes 1st will be placed in the same half as 4th, and 2nd and 3rd will be in the opposite half of the play-off bracket.

The top eight teams from the previous year are placed in opposite halves of each quarter. Teams that finished 1-4 are placed in the top half of the four different quarters (1st and 4th in one half and 2nd and 3rd in the other half) and teams that finished 5-8 are placed in the bottom half of different quarters. If it is possible, all teams that won their group the previous year will not be placed together in groups, in groups with top eight teams, and/or with teams that have previously won in the Eau Claire kubb tournament since 2007. This will be done randomly. In 2011, seven of the eight quarterfinalists are registered for the tournament. (In the future, teams that finish high in other tournaments may also fall into this category as well.) If a three-person team meets the above criteria and becomes a two-person team in a subsequent year (e.g. Peanut Butter Root Beer), the two-person team will be allowed to be placed as described above. This will not be allowed for a single player who plays with a new teammate.

To the best possible extent, team group pairings will be created to limit the chance of teams that travel together from competing against each other in group play and the 1st and 2nd rounds of the play-offs. This cannot be guaranteed, especially if a team does not finish in the top three of their group. All these teams will be treated equally in placement.

All other teams will be treated equally in placement.

*Due to uneven groups (21), teams L2 and L3 are placed in the 2nd quarterfinal group and teams P2 and P3 are placed in the 1st quarterfinal group. This was done to make quarter #2 as fair as the other quarters. The teams were placed in each group in a way to provide the longest distance until they would meet again (quarterfinals).

PLAY-OFF FORMAT

In the play-offs, 40 teams will play in the 1st Round and 48 teams will receive byes into the 2nd Round of the play-offs. The 20 teams that lose in the 1st Round will enter the 2nd Consolation Bracket (this will be played best-of-one). In the 2nd Consolation Bracket, eight teams will play against each other, and 12 teams will have a bye to reduce the 2nd Consolation Bracket down to 16 teams.

The 32 teams that lose in the 64-team 2nd Round of the Championship Bracket will enter the Consolation Bracket (this will be played best-of-one). The 32 winning teams will continue on in the Championship Bracket (this will continue to be played as best-of-three).

Once any team loses in the 2nd Consolation Bracket, Consolation Bracket, and the 32-team 3rd Round of the Championship Bracket, they are eliminated from the tournament. Medals will be given to the top three teams in the 2nd Consolation Bracket and Consolation Bracket, and medals and trophies will be given to the top four teams in the Championship Bracket.