

THE CHARTER OF THE WARHAMMER FANTASY NATIONAL GRAND TOURNAMENT ORGANIZATION

BE IT KNOWN...

THE Warhammer Fantasy National Grand Tournament Organization, heretoeafter referred to as the US Masters Committee, does, upon draft and approval of this CHARTER by the heads of each Region, confirm its establishment and endows upon those interested parties the following:

MISSION STATEMENT

1.1 This document outlines the fundamental rules, goals, and ambitions for the US Masters. The paramount goal for the US Masters is to hold an annual event to foster camaraderie, competition, and community.

1.2 The US Masters Committee and the US Masters Tournament (collectively “US Masters”) were created to unite warhammer fantasy battle players across the country to form a national community. The US Masters Tournament is an event created for the players, by the players. Those attending the US Masters Tournament and members of the US Masters Committee are expected to be aware of its content and to act in accordance therewith.

1.3 Ultimately, the US Masters Committee is responsible for creating and maintaining a national warhammer community, including fostering a healthy and positive grand tournament scene, and crowning an annual champion through the US Masters Tournament.

ORGANIZATION

2.1 Each year, the US Masters Tournament will be located in a suitable venue. The US Masters Tournament will be geographically located in a Region determined by annual Referendum beginning in the year 2015. The US Masters Tournament is run on a volunteer framework; no one is monetarily compensated for their time or effort.

The US Masters Committee consists of the following:

2.2 National Committee President. The National Committee President's (NCP) role is to act as the Chief Operating Officer of the US Masters. The principal duties of the NCP are to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of the US Masters Tournament and to facilitate the various Referenda that the US Masters Committee holds. The NCP is a non-voting member of the US Masters Committee. The NCP is expected to see to the continual participation of the Regions and maintain a cordial atmosphere between the various communities. The NCP may delegate his or her responsibilities, but the NCP may not delegate his accountability to the Committee or the Community. The NCP's responsibilities include:

- a. Ensuring that the US Masters Tournament occurs as scheduled;
- b. Addressing the reasonable concerns of each Region;
- c. Maintaining, hosting, mediating, and publishing to the Community all Referenda involving decisions by the US Masters Committee (but not necessarily any intra-Region referenda);
- d. Facilitating the organization of the budget, venue, and associated costs of the US Masters with the Host Region's elected US Masters Tournament Organizer;
- e. Assisting any Region that loses (through voluntary or involuntary action) one of the Region's Regional Representatives, and facilitate the selection of a new Regional Representative;
- f. Being available to the players of a Region in the event that the Regional Representatives of that Region are unavailable or have been impeached by a vote of no confidence; and
- g. Actively engaging the media to promote the hobby and the US Masters.

2.3 The NCP has veto power over any Regional Referendum that does not involve election of another official. As such, any passed Regional Referendum proposal may be overturned by the NCP. The overturned proposal will then return to the Regional Referendum for a one time Reconsideration Vote. Any proposal in a Reconsideration Vote may only be passed by a supermajority (greater than 75%) of Regions. The NCP may not exercise his veto power on the results of a Reconsideration Vote. The NCP may exercise his veto power on a Vote of No Confidence; even if the NCP is the subject..

2.4 The NCP is elected through a Regional Referendum for a term of 2 years. The newly elected NCP will begin their term of office on the day that the current NCP's term of office expires. Each NCP will be elected no later than February 1st of the year preceding the end of the current NCP's term of office. For example, if the current NCP's term of office expires on January 23rd, 2020, then a new NCP will need to have been elected no later than January 1st, 2019. The new NCP will then assume their office on January 23rd, 2020. This methodology allows the newly elected NCP to have an opportunity to shadow the current NCP.

2.5 National Committee Secretary. The National Committee Secretary's (NCS) role is to act as the backup for the NCP. The NCS is a non-voting member of the US Masters Committee. The NCS is to assume the duties of the NCP in the event that the NCP is unable to fulfill their duties due to illness, death, or other serious condition. Beyond that responsibility, the NCS is to act as treasurer for the US Masters. The NCS's responsibilities include:

- a. Maintaining and balancing financial books for the US Masters;
- b. Accepting, disbursing, and maintaining funds related to the US Masters; and
- c. Notifying the US Masters Committee of the financial state of the US Masters as necessary, but at least twice a year.

2.6 The NCS is elected through a Regional Referendum for a term of 2 years. Each NCS will be elected no later than January 1st of the **one** (1) year preceding the end of the current NCP's term of office. For example, if the current NCP's term of office expires on January 23rd, 2020, then a new NCS will need to have been elected no later than January 1st, 2019. This methodology aspires to the newly elected NCS having an opportunity to shadow the current NCS and also keeps an experienced staff member on the Committee.

2.7 The US Masters Committee acknowledges that individuals, most often US Masters Committee Members, will incur costs and minor expenses associated with maintaining the organization. The US Masters will make best efforts to reimburse the aforementioned amounts.

2.8 US Masters Tournament Organizer. The US Masters Tournament Organizer (USMTO) is the head of the team that organizes the US Masters Tournament. The USMTO is a non-voting member of the US Masters

Committee. The USMTO's authority is limited to the "boots on the ground" portions of each US Masters Tournament. It is imperative that the USMTO have ready access to the venue and is familiar with the scene in the host region. Candidates for the USMTO are preferred to have been a Tournament Organizer for at least 3 grand tournaments. The USMTO's responsibilities include:

- a. Executing a well-run US Masters Tournament on the year for which they are appointed;
- b. Carrying out venue negotiations, additional sponsorship for the event (to include player grab bags, food vendors, dealers, and other sponsorship as necessary);
- c. Providing trophies and prize support for the US Masters Tournament as needed;
- d. Submitting a finalized budget to the NCP, NCS, and US Masters Committee;
- e. Assisting the NCP with the procurement and distribution of general US Masters items, which may include regional T shirts, dice, or other items that are reasonably budgeted;
- f. Ethically managing funds entrusted to them by the NCS;
- g. Recording, organizing, and publishing the scores and data for the US Masters Tournament; and
- h. Ensuring round times are accurate and that the event is held under fair and balanced conditions.

2.9 The USMTO is selected through a Regional Referendum for a term of 1 year. USMTO's must have the backing of their host Region. Parties interested in applying to host the US Masters Tournament must submit a resume, preliminary budget, and detailed preliminary event plan (together "Application Package") to the US Masters Committee by November 30th of two (2) years before they wish to host the US Masters Tournament. For example, if an individual wishes to host the US Masters in February 2020, they will need to submit their Application Package to the US Masters Committee by October 31st, 2018. Applicants will be notified of their selection no later than December 31st of the year that they apply. Successful applicants are encouraged to contact previous USMTOs. Host Regions are required to check with the USMTO from time to time to ensure that preparation of the US Masters Tournament is proceeding appropriately.

2.10 Referees. Referees are the ruling body of officials at each US Masters Tournament. At least three (3) Referees, each representing a different region, must be present at each day of the US Masters Tournament. Their scope is not limited to the Warhammer ruleset. Referees may, after coming to a unanimous decision and with the approval of the USMTO, discipline a US Masters Tournament player. This discipline may include reprimand, score penalty, ejection, or other penalty as the Referees see fit. Referees do not have the authority to make decisions outside of the two day US Masters Tournament to which they are appointed. The Referee’s responsibilities include:

- a. Selecting a “Head Referee” from their number prior play commencing at the US Masters Tournament;
- b. Enforcing the timing between rounds at the behest of the USMTO;
- c. Holding themselves to a high standard of decorum, approaching each situation with a fresh and unbiased demeanor;
- d. Ruling in an unbiased and transparent way according to the rules, errata, and FAQ; and
- e. Abiding by the Masters FAQ as determined by the Rules Committee.

2.11 The Head Referee will operate as a tie breaker during rule disputes and have some degree of authority over the remaining Referees. Referees serve a term of one (1) event. Referees are selected in the following manner: at least one (1) is appointed by the USMTO, and two (2) are elected by the US Masters Committee by Referendum no later than three (3) weeks prior to the US Masters Tournament.

2.12 Individuals may be barred from participation as a Referee, if the US Masters National Rules Committee places that player on the Blacklist via Referendum. This Blacklisting may result from a Referee making biased rulings, engaging in unprofessional behavior, refusing to follow the US Masters FAQ, or other violation of the Referee responsibilities.

2.13 Regional Representatives. Regional Representatives consist of two (2) individuals, a Regional Chairman and a Regional Vice-Chairman. Each Region will have one (1) voting Regional Representative. The Regional Representative entitled to vote is the Regional Chairman. A Regional Vice-Chairman from the same region as the Regional Chairman may be entitled to vote instead of the Regional Chairman, if the Regional Chairman is unavailable

and reasonable attempts have been made to contact the Regional Chairman. Each voting Regional Chairman will have one (1) vote to cast during Referenda under this Charter. The Regional Chairman's responsibilities include:

- a. Representing their home Region to the best of their ability;
- b. Making regular inquiry to their home Region's player base to better understand how to best represent Regional interests;
- c. Actively and timely participating in US Masters Referenda, especially those hosted on www.usawargamers.com;
- d. Scrutinizing and Evaluating their home Region's method of selection of participants in the US Masters Tournament;
- e. Policing members of their home Region, both at US Masters Qualifying Tournaments and on wargaming websites; and
- f. Conducting themselves in a manner consistent with established US Masters values.

2.14 Regional Vice-Chairmen are to serve the Region needs, abide by all requirements that apply to Regional Chairmen, and assist the Regional Chairman as necessary for the sound operation of the Region. Every Regional Vice-Chairman should be able to assume the role of the Regional Chairman as necessary. Beyond assuming the duties of the Regional Chairmen as required by necessity, Regional Vice-Chairmen have no voting authority in Referenda.

2.15 Regional Representatives and other US Masters Committee members may be impeached by a successful Vote of No Confidence by the US Masters Committee. The US Masters Committee is obligated to hold a Vote of No Confidence if a representative sample of players from the target Region has voiced concern and an investigation by the US Masters Committee has yielded evidence of behavior inconsistent with US Masters policy. In the event that a Regional Chairman is impeached, the Chairman's voting rights and title will transfer to the present Regional Vice-Chairman. The US Masters Committee may dismiss the impeached Chairman and the National Committee President may appoint a new Regional Vice-Chairman upon recommendation of the target Region. In the event that a Regional Vice-Chairman is impeached, the US Masters Committee may dismiss the impeached Vice-Chairman and the National Committee President may appoint a new Regional Vice-Chairman upon recommendation of the target Region.

COMMITTEES

3.1 The US Masters Committee may establish, from time to time, subcommittees to handle delegable matters. Delegable matters include those matters which are not subject to Referendum.

3.2 Rules Committee. The Rules Committee will consist of a number of individuals appointed by the National Committee President. The National Committee President should take efforts to see that the composition of the Rules Committee reflects a cross-section of the National Community. The Rules Committee will:

- a. Select a Committee lead among themselves, who will annually publish and maintain a US Masters FAQ to address issues with the Fantasy rule set;
- b. Moderate the “rules questions” section of www.wargamersusa.com;
- c. Debate and discuss rulings in question and come to agreement within a reasonable time frame;
- d. Not make undue changes to the US Masters FAQ less than 30 days before the US Masters Tournament;
- e. Not have multiple Rules Committee members from the same Region, unless otherwise unavoidable;
- f. Regularly questioning their home Region’s player base to better understand how to best represent Regional interests; and
- g. Regularly communicate with the US Masters Committee to keep the US Masters Committee apprised of ongoing issues.

3.3 Comp Committee. The Comp Committee determines how to balance game play at the US Masters Tournament. A Comp Committee is only formed when an annual US Masters Tournament uses a comp that is neither Swedish Kompmallen or European Team Comp (ETC). The Comp Committee will:

- a. Determine, based on the chosen comp, how to categorize unit entries within the framework agreed upon by the National Committee;
- b. Be given the right to alter and adjust the units within the Comp, based off data submitted by regions, until up to one (1) month prior to the event;

- c. Establish regulations for army composition for the US Masters Format until the following years event; and
- d. Have a Committee structure such that no single Comp committee member may unilaterally make a decision on a unit choice without either the agreement of other members or a simple majority within the committee.

3.4 Subcommittee staff will serve a term of one (1) year, and are appointed by the National Committee Lead with input from the US Masters Committee.

REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 Presently, the US Masters is composed of 8 vested regions (herein “Region” or “Regions”), as follows:

Midwest
Mid-Atlantic
Mountain
Northeast
Pacific Northwest
South
Southeast
West Coast

- 4.2 Each Region is entitled to:
- a. Be represented on the US Masters National Committee by both a Regional Chairman and a Regional Advisor;
 - b. Annually qualify 8 players for participation in the US Masters Tournament;
 - c. Participate in referenda held by the US Masters National Committee from time to time through their Regional Representatives; and
 - d. Host the US Masters Tournament during a year in which it was selected to do so.

4.3 Each Region must:

- a. Elect and maintain a Regional Chairman;
- b. Elect and maintain a Regional Advisor;
- c. Keep the US Masters Committee informed of the Regional method of selection of Regional Representatives;
- d. Determine and maintain a fair system to qualify players for the Region's US Masters Tournament slots;
- e. Regionally Host at least 4 GTs deemed to be Masters Qualifiers (this requirement in effect from the year 2016 onward);
- f. Annually commit to send at least 6 players to the US Masters Tournament; and
- g. Support any selected USMTO designated to host the US Masters Tournament within the Region, including ensuring that the tournament takes place in the event of a failure on the part of the USMTO.

4.4 Suggested Method of Election of Regional Representatives

Regions are encouraged to use democratic procedures to meaningfully and ethically elect Regional Representatives. The US Masters Committee recommends that an online polling feature be used that is 1) hosted on a reputable wargaming website, 2) that leads to a healthy number of votes, 3) for more than two (2) individuals, 4) with publically available vote tracking, and 5) that results in the selection of two individuals: 6a) the Regional Chairman, who receives the most votes, and 6b) the Regional Advisor, who receives the second most votes. It is recommended that each Region have a policy that limits voting for Regional Representatives to only players who are geographically located in the Region and have a vested interest in the competitive community.

4.5 Until changed by a Region, the Regional Representatives serve a term of two (2) years and are elected by public referendum according to the procedure outlined in section 4.4. An updated thread of current Regional selection procedures must be maintained on the Wargamers website. Regional Representatives are required to keep the US Masters Committee abreast of changes to their Region's election procedures.

4.6 Regions may be added, removed, or modified by vote of the US Masters Committee, after period for public comment. Presently, addition or removal of a Region requires a supermajority (greater than 75%) of US Masters

Committee votes, with every current Region voting in the Referendum. Modification of a Region, including redrawing a Region's borders, requires a simple majority (greater than 50%) of US Masters Committee votes, with the requirement that any cartographically impacted regions be among those in favor of the change.

REFERENDA

5.1 Any Regional Representative can call for a Referendum. A Referendum is a vote on a single given issue that adheres to the following requirements:

- a. The subject matter of the Referendum covers a discrete issue;
- b. The Regional Representative that calls the Referendum posts a new thread with a subject title that describes the subject matter;
- c. The new thread provides a description of how the Regional Representative views the issue in the body of the post;
- d. The new thread provides a reasonable time (typically one week) for discussion before other Committee members are required to submit their vote;
- e. The new thread has a poll with all available options, which at a minimum typically include three options: for, against, or abstain; and
- f. Every Regional Chairman, or qualifying representative, has the opportunity to vote;

5.2 Referenda require a simple majority (greater than 50%) to pass unless otherwise provided for in this Charter.

5.3 If at least one (1) voting Regional Representative makes reasonable Motion of Objection that the proposed Referendum does not adhere to the above requirements, and that motion is supported and seconded by an additional two (2) voting Regional Representatives, then the Referendum will automatically be stayed until it can be narrowed in scope or otherwise satisfactorily revised by the original Regional Representative who brought the Referendum. Motions of Objection must be solely procedural in nature and cannot be made to challenge the substance of the Referendum.

5.4 Vote of No Confidence. A Vote of No Confidence (VNC) may be brought at any time by motion of a US Masters Committee Member. A VNC is a mechanism for removal of a US Masters Committee or Subcommittee Member. A VNC is a very serious allegation, and must be supported by concrete facts. Evidence, to include witness testimony, copies of relevant documentation, and relevant policy MUST be presented in the initial VNC. A VNC Referenda brought without reasonable cause will be sufficient evidence to support a VNC. To proceed to Committee, a VNC must have two (2) voting Regional Representatives second the motion. If properly seconded, the VNC proceeds to Committee where the National Committee President will appoint a single Constable to investigate the factual basis for the VNC. If the Constable finds the factual evidence to be meritorious, the National Committee President must bring the VNC to a full vote, which requires a supermajority (greater than 75%) to pass. A passed VNC results in impeachment of the member at issue. Impeached members may be removed from their duties by the National Committee President. Once a VNC has been called, the facts giving rise to that VNC can no longer serve as the basis for any other VNC against the same individual.

5.5 Should the National Committee President be the subject of a successful VNC, then the National Committee Vice-President will assume the duties given to the National Committee President.

5.6 Statute of Limitations. A VNC may not entirely rely on factual evidence that was available to the Committee more than 2 years prior to the VNC being brought.

5.7 Banning. Members of the US Masters Committee or Subcommittees may offer one (1) or more players to the US Masters Committee to be Banned. Banned players are not permitted to participate in the US Masters Tournament until their name is removed from the ban list. When a player's name is offered to the US Masters Committee, the National Committee President must appoint a Constable to investigate the factual circumstances underlying the events giving rise to the request unless the National Committee President doesn't believe the claim to be reasonable. The Constable must disclose to the Committee the results of his investigation. The Committee may then choose to either quash the matter from proceeding, or otherwise must then hold a

Referendum to determine whether or not the player(s) will be added to the ban list.

5.8 Players may be Banned indefinitely, or for a finite duration based on the recommendation at the time of Banning.

5.9 Players may annually appeal their spot on the Ban list through their Regional Representative.

5.10 The Ban list will be maintained by the NCS and published on the Wargamers forum.

5.11 Amendment. This Charter may be Amended as necessary by a Referendum requiring a supermajority (greater than 75%) to pass.

SELECTION OF VENUE

6.1 The US Masters Tournament will not be held in the same venue for consecutive years. Ideally, the US Masters Tournament will pass between regions each year. The Venue for the US Masters Tournament will be voted on via Referendum; final results no later than January 10th of the year before that US Masters Tournament is to be held. For example, if Applications Packages for the 2018 Tournament have been submitted by November 30th, 2016, then the US Masters Committee must select a proposed venue by January 10th, 2017.

6.2 The procedure for applying to host the US Masters Tournament is outlined in section 2.9.

PLAYER BILL OF RIGHTS

7.1 As members of the US Masters community, we strive to create a committed, prepared and competent team to ensure that the event attracts the highest caliber player, is representative of all major regions of the country, and is run as neatly and professionally as possible. Our goal is to ensure the USA Masters achieves everything the community expects. We desire to show case the country not only as gamers, but as true sportsmen too.

7.2 All players may participate in the US Masters qualification process regardless of location. No Region may materially retroactively change scoring systems, qualifying events, or take other actions designed to exclude players who legitimately qualify in any Region. Any player, who qualifies for the US Masters in more than one (1) region, must give preference to the Region in which he is domiciled.

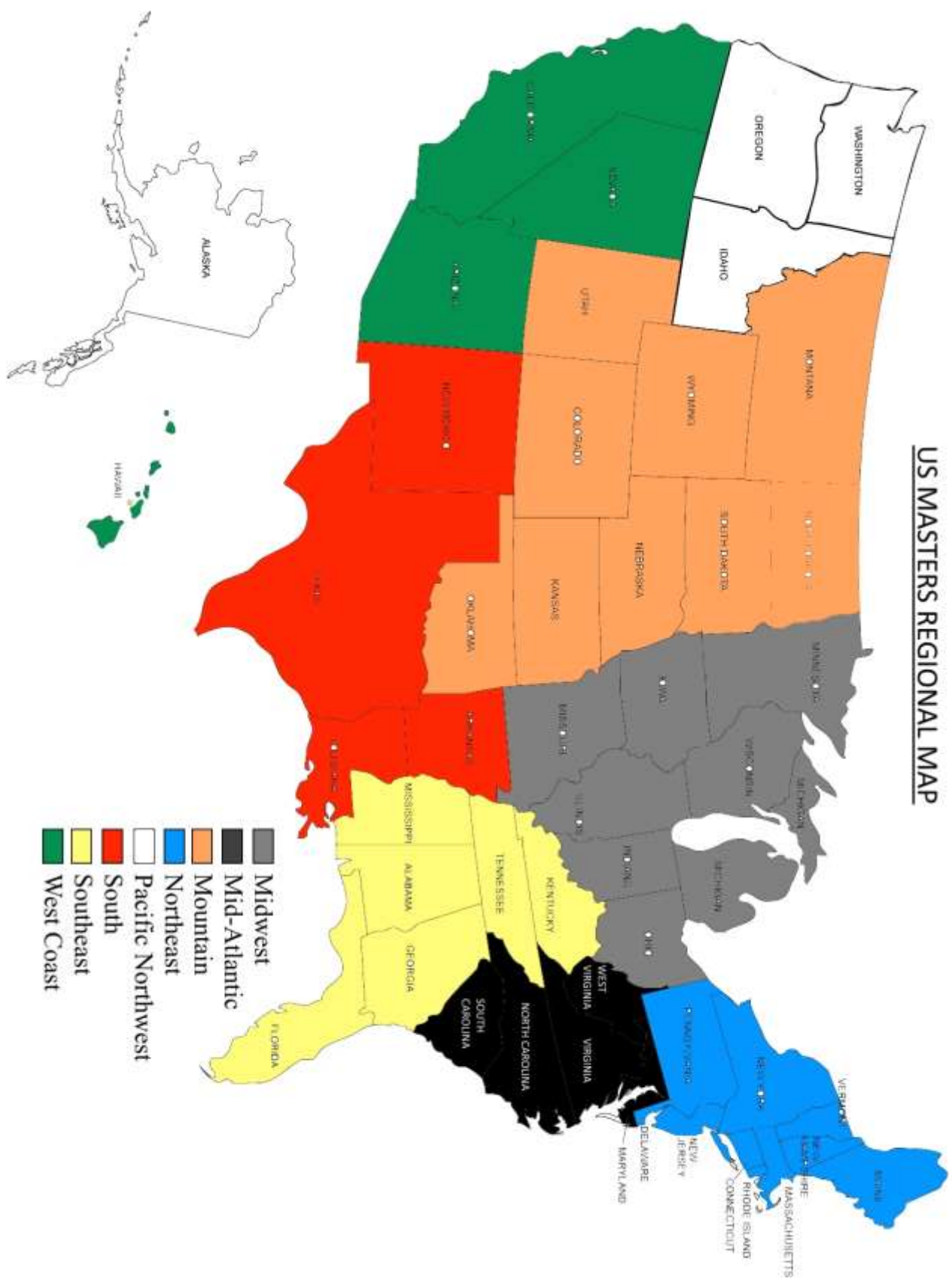
7.3 All players are to be reasonably kept up to date with the announcements, developments, and possible opportunities related to the US Masters.

7.4 All players have the right of vigorous debate, with the right to express their views on the hobby or the US Masters. However, this right does not extend to personal attacks or insults, or any calculated disruption that is made with the intent to destroy or seriously harm the national community. Violations of this policy can lead to the prohibition of the individual from participation from the US Masters Tournament.

7.5 All players have the right to be respected, and in turn each player is expected to be respectful of his peers, including on any social media; especially that which may paint the US Masters in an unduly negative light.

7.6 The key to this effort is compromise. The United States is a big place with lots of different perspectives on the hobby, and as such, US Masters Players must make extra effort to understand other's opinions and values on the hobby.

US MASTERS REGIONAL MAP



- Midwest
- Mid-Atlantic
- Mountain
- Northeast
- Pacific Northwest
- South
- Southeast
- West Coast