

2025 NAGF Pro Qualification Tournament Rules

Overview

Dates:	Preliminary Round: August 17-19, 2025 Semi-final Round: August 20-21, 2025 Final Round 1-2: August 21-22, 2025
Venue:	The National Go Center, Washington DC
Tournament Director:	I-han Lui
Match Start Times:	Morning: 9:30 AM Afternoon: 2:30 PM (TD may decide to start a bit later if needed)
Time Limit:	75 minutes main time + 1 minute / 5 times byo-yomi
Game Rules:	AGA Rules, Komi 7.5 points

Preliminary Round (August 17-19)

- **Format:** Round-robin within each division (6 players per division, each player plays 5 games).
- **Advancement:** The top two players from each division advance to the semi-finals.
- **Tiebreaking:**
 - In the event of a two-player tie, the head-to-head result determines the winner.
 - For three or more players tied, resolution follows this order:
 1. Head-to-head results
 2. Random draw to select two players, followed by one tie-breaking match
- **Note:** Players are listed alphabetically.
- All games use nigiri to choose color.

Division A	Division B
Guanyu Song	Jeremiah Donley
Evan Tan	Qiyu Wu
Eric Yoder	Michael Xu
Edward Zhang	Aaron Ye
Daniel Zhou	Henry Zhang
Wanqi Zhu	Yuan Zhou

Semi-Final Round (August 20-21)

- At the conclusion of the preliminary stage, apply the official scoring and tie-breaking system to determine the **top two players** in each division.
 - From Division A: #1 and #2
 - From Division B: #1 and #2
- The semi-final pairings are as follows:
 - Semi-Final 1: Division A #1 vs. Division B #2
 - Semi-Final 2: Division B #1 vs. Division A #2
- Each match follows a best-of-three format to determine the winner. If rankings cannot be determined using tie-breaks, the Tournament Director (TD) may use a random method to assign seeding.
- The semi-final round will be played on **August 20-21**. The specific start time will be announced by the TD either on the day of or day before matches.
 - *Note: Depending on the outcome and pace of preliminary rounds, the semi-finals may be scheduled for the **afternoon of August 19**.*
- **Color assignment** will be determined by nigiri.

Final Round (August 21-22)

- The two winners from the semi-finals will advance to the final round and play a best-of-three match to determine the winner.
- The first game will be played on **August 21**. The exact timing will be determined depending on the outcome of semi-final rounds.
- **Previous match results** between the two finalists from the preliminary or semi-final rounds will not count toward the best-of-three final.
- Colors for Game 1 and Game 3 will be determined by nigiri.

Other notes

- **Triple Ko / Super Ko:** In the event of a Triple Ko or Super Ko, the game will be declared a draw by the Tournament Director (TD). The tournament will proceed with the draw result, and tie-breaking rules will be applied as necessary.
- **Nigiri Procedure:** In accordance with Go tradition, the **older player** will take **white** for the nigiri procedure. The winner of the nigiri guessing game will choose their color.
- **Meal Breaks:** No meal breaks are permitted during a game.
- **Unexpected Situations:** The TD reserves the right to make final decisions in any unforeseen circumstances.
- **Electronic Devices:** Players are strictly prohibited from carrying electronic devices (including phones, tablets, smartwatches, etc.) during matches. A designated area will be provided to store personal items. The venue may use a handheld metal detector to ensure compliance.

- **Observers:** Spectators are not allowed to communicate with players at any time during a match.

TD Notes

- **Ruleset:** AGA rules apply. Komi is 7.5 points. A player arriving 30 minutes late will forfeit the game.
- **Clock Policy:** Players may not pause the clock for bathroom breaks.
- **Bathroom Rule:** Electronic devices are not allowed in the bathroom under any circumstances.
- **Tie-break Games:** If an additional game is needed to resolve a tie, it will be played with a 45-minute main time and 30 seconds byo-yomi (5 periods).