Section 3 - 3

Bidding Process

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Bid Types

DEFAULT BID	CURRENT BID
• Can be modified at any time • Carries over from month to month • Erased if FA changes bases or has TDY • Will only be used if no current bid exists • Yellow background	• Can be modified from the 15th noon CST through the 20th noon CST only • Does not carry over • Erases each bid period • If created will always be read, even if a default bid exists • White Background

Current Default ⟵ **Bids**

Start Bid Group

Note: The logic does not read both bids and does not jump from one bid to the other. Default bid will be used only if no Current bid exists.

Bid Preference Editor

Use the Bid Preference Editor to enter your search criteria and add options to your bid.

- The **Home** button returns you back to this list, but it leaves your last selection checked. If you were adding a Prefer Off bid, you would come back here with it selected.

- The **Apply** button adds your bid preference. The **Apply** button remains gray until you have entered the proper criteria. The red text at the top of the bid explains what criteria you are missing to add a bid. On the pairing screen, the white text above the list of pairings explains what criteria you are missing to perform a search. For example, if you want to add Depart On dates and haven't entered any dates you cannot select the **Apply** button. When the **Apply** button is blue, you can click it to add your preferences to your bid.

- The **Close** button closes the Bid Preference Editor.

- The **Reset All** button returns you back to this list, but it removes all selections checked.

Bid Preferences

A single, numbered line of a bid group representing a Positive or Negative bid.

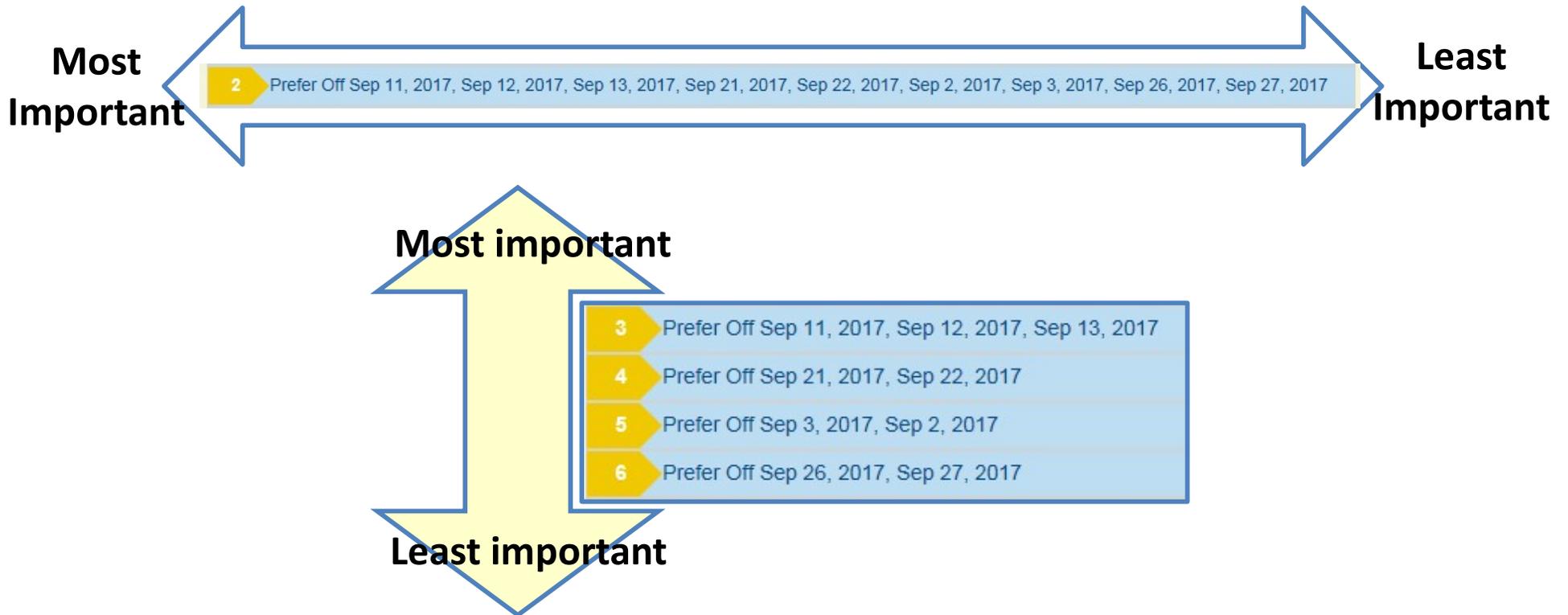| Negative Bids	Positive Bids
• Prefer Off • Avoid Pairings Negative bids remove pairings from the available pairing pool. With negative bids, only one instance of the bid attribute within the pairing must match the bid preference.	• Award Pairings Positive bids take pairings from the available pool and add them to your block. With positive bids, the PBS Scheduler looks for pairing attributes that match the bid preference. This is an all-inclusive preference. Therefore, the pairing must meet all criteria to be awarded from the pool of available pairings.

Prefer Off Bid Preferences
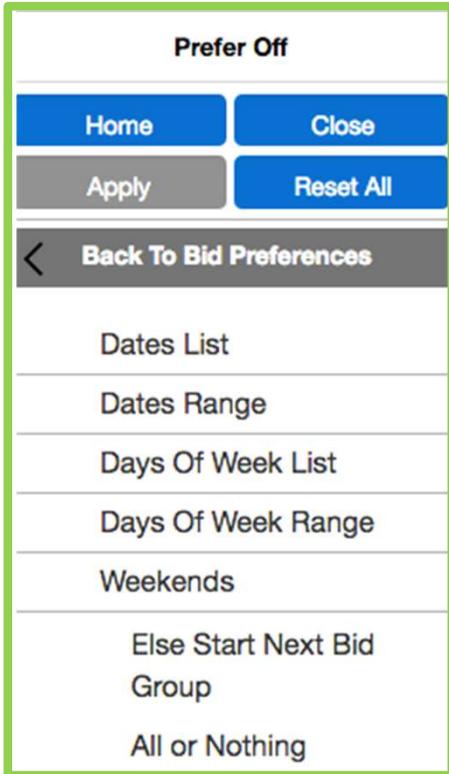
- Prefer Off bid preferences request dates or days off during the bid period. You can select days of the week, specific dates or ranges of days/dates, and times of day that you want to be free of duty.

- Prefer Off bid preferences are negative bids that exclude pairings from consideration.

- All Prefer Off bids can be modified with an **"All or Nothing"** or a **"Else Start Next Bid Group"** qualifier.

- **All or Nothing –** Tells the logic that if all days requested can't be honored then the prefer off bid should be ignored. The logic will continue to read the bid group.

- **Else Start Next Bid Group –** Tells the logic that if any of the days requested can't be honored, to ignore the bid group and move to the next bid group.

Prefer Off Bid Notes

The PBS Scheduler takes the listing order into consideration when honoring the Prefer Off Bid Preferences.

Most Important ← 2 Prefer Off Sep 11, 2017, Sep 12, 2017, Sep 13, 2017, Sep 21, 2017, Sep 22, 2017, Sep 2, 2017, Sep 3, 2017, Sep 26, 2017, Sep 27, 2017 → **Least Important**

Most important ↑

3	Prefer Off Sep 11, 2017, Sep 12, 2017, Sep 13, 2017
4	Prefer Off Sep 21, 2017, Sep 22, 2017
5	Prefer Off Sep 3, 2017, Sep 2, 2017
6	Prefer Off Sep 26, 2017, Sep 27, 2017

Least important ↓

Award Pairings Bid Preferences

Aircraft Type
Average Daily Block Time
Average Daily Credit
Carry Out
Deadhead Day
Deadhead Legs
Depart On
Duty Duration
Duty Legs
Duty On
Employee
Enroute Check-In Time
Enroute Check-Out Time
Flight Number
Landings In
Layover
Pairing Check-In Station
Pairing Check-In Time

Pairing Check-Out Time
Pairing Total Block Time
Pairing Total Credit
Pairing In-Period Credit
Pairing Carry-Out Credit
Pairing Length
Pairing Number
Pairing Number Departing On
Position
Sit Length
Total Legs In Pairing
Total Legs In First Duty
Total Legs In Last Duty
TAFB
Credit Per Time Away From Base
Time Off
Limit

- Award Pairings bid preferences identify the things that you want to do and your work preferences.

- Award Pairings bid preferences include options that identify particular characteristic of pairings that you like.

- Award Pairings bid preferences include pairings for consideration and add pairings to your block.

Any vs. Every Bid Preferences

Any or **Every** options are only available on some of the Award Pairing Bid Preferences.

- If you use **Any -** only one leg of the pairing has to contain the property for it to be awarded.

- If you use **Every** - every leg of the pairing has to contain the property for it to be awarded.

Note: Avoid is defaulted to **Any**. It will remove all pairings where **any** leg has the property that you want to avoid.

Limit Bid Preferences

- **Limit** is an instruction that may be used on Award bid preferences.

- **Limit** instructs the PBS Scheduler to award only a certain number of pairings meeting the bid preference criteria.

- **Limit** only applies to the bid preference on which it is added and will not influence any other Award or Avoid bid preferences within your bid.

- **Limit** is most effective when used in conjunction with a lower priority Avoid bid preference.

  Limit example bid:

  ```
  1. Award Pairings If Pairing Length = 4 days Limit 2
  2. Avoid Pairings If Pairing Length = 4 days
  3. Award Pairings
  ```

  With this bid, the PBS Scheduler will award you no more than two 4-day pairings, then fill the rest of your schedule with one, two, or three-day pairings.
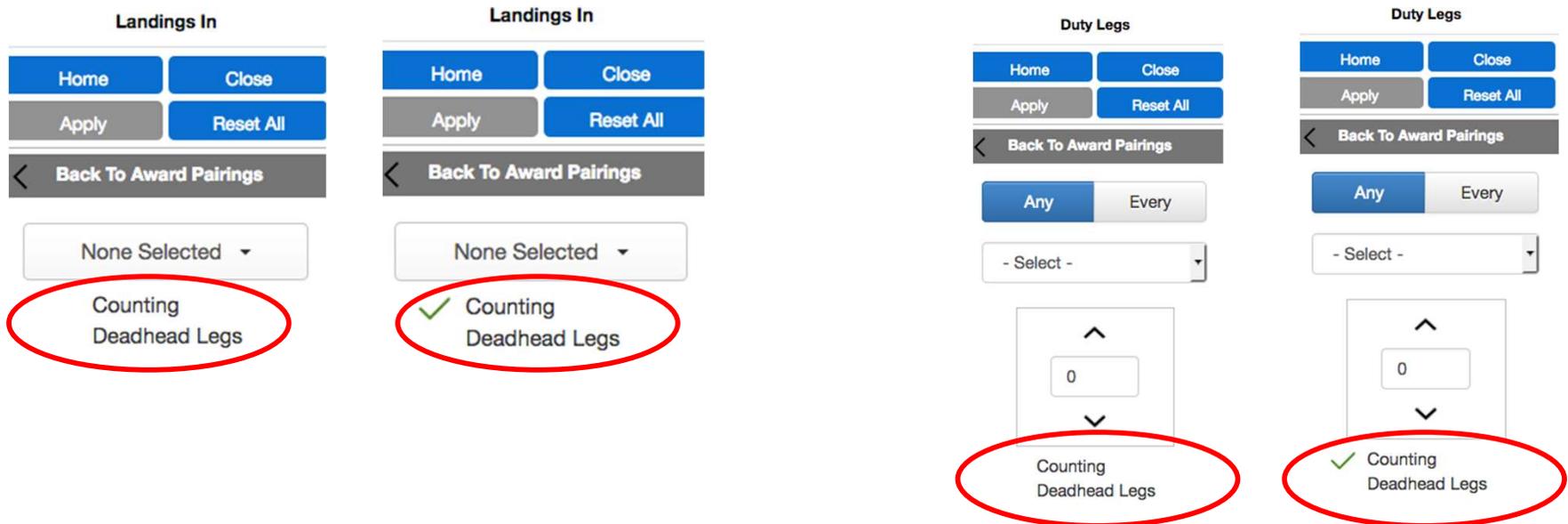
Avoid Bid Preferences

- Excludes pairings from consideration on any Award Pairings bid preferences that follow it in your bid.

- Include most of the same options available in Award Pairings bid preferences, so you can identify types of layovers, stations, duty length, etc., that you don't like.

- It is an All Inclusive option. If you include more than one Preference on the same bid line, it will only avoid pairing(s) that meet all preferences. For example, if you want to avoid all pairings that sign in before 12:00 and you want to avoid all pairings that sign out after 17:00, your bid should include two avoid bid lines (one for each avoid).

Avoid Pairings

Home	Close
Apply	Reset All

< Back To Bid Preferences

Aircraft Type

Average Daily Block Time

Average Daily Credit

Carry Out

Deadhead Day

Deadhead Legs

Depart On

Duty Duration

Duty Legs

Duty On

Employee

Enroute Check-In Time

Enroute Check-Out Time

Flight Number

Landings In

Layover

Pairing Check-In Station

Pairing Check-In Time

Pairing Check-Out Time

Pairing Total Block Time

Pairing Total Credit

Pairing In-Period Credit

Pairing Carry-Out Credit

Pairing Length

Pairing Number

Pairing Number Departing On

Position

Sit Length

Total Legs In Pairing

Total Legs In First Duty

Total Legs In Last Duty

TAFB

Credit Per Time Away From Base

Else Start Next Bid Group

Deadheads & Award/Avoid

- Deadhead legs, for Award and Avoid Bid Preferences, are ignored when determining whether a pairing meets the criteria, with a few **exceptions**:

  - "**Landings In**" and "**Duty Legs**" bid preferences will include deadheads only if you select the "Including Deadheads" checkbox. Click on "Counting Deadhead Legs" to activate the option – a green check mark will appear next to it.

  - "**Flight Number**" bid preferences will always include deadheads.

Deadheads & Award/Avoid
Examples

Bid Preference	Meaning
Avoid Pairings If Any Landings In YYZ	I don't want any pairings that have working legs into YYZ, but I don't mind deadheading there.
Avoid Pairings If Any Landings In **(Counting Deadhead Legs)** YYZ	I don't want to go to YYZ, even if it's just a deadhead.
Award Pairings If Every Duty Legs < 4 legs	I want to be awarded pairings that work no more than 3 legs per duty.
Award Pairings If Every Duty Legs **(Counting Deadhead Legs)** < 4 legs	I want to be awarded pairings that have no more than 3 legs per day, even if some of them are deadheads.
Award Pairings If Any Flight Number 3300	I want to be awarded pairings with flight number 3300. I understand this could be a working leg or a deadhead leg.
Award Pairings If Every Aircraft Type E7M	I want pairings where all the working legs are on the E7M. I understand I might get an E7M pairing that has deadheads on an EMJ or CRJ.

Instructions Bid Preferences
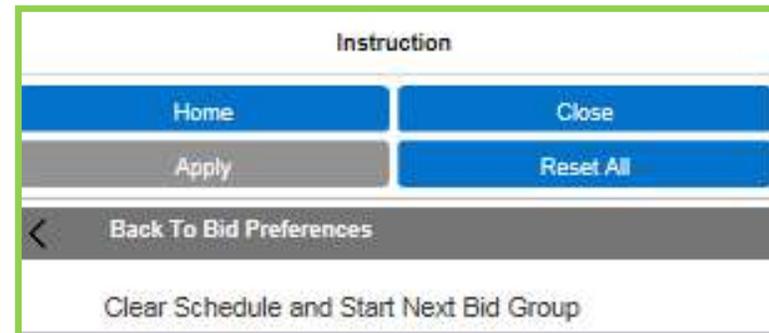## Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group

- This bid preference will instruct the PBS Scheduler to move to your next bid group if it has not reached line completion. This bid option is only available for use in "Pairing Bid Group".

- **Any bid group with this instruction must honor all your Avoid, Prefer Off, and Set Condition preferences within that bid group 100%.** The bid group will not reach the generic "Award Pairings" or enter denial mode; instead, the PBS Scheduler will continue to the next bid group.

- A Clear Schedule and Start Next bid is forced to the bottom of your bid group. Any bid preferences added to that bid group are forced above the Clear Schedule and Start Next bid preference.

Instructions Bid Preferences
Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group

Remember:

- Bid Groups are independent of each other.

- Bid Preferences are only relevant for the bid group they are contained in.

- Any Pairings awarded from previous bids are removed if a **Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group** is triggered.

Instructions Bid Preferences
Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group

Guidelines

If you use **Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group**, keep the following points in mind:

1. The PBS Scheduler only uses the specific bid preferences you provide in the bid group; optimization such as substitution and shuffling is performed to try to complete your schedule prior to executing the Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group command.

Instructions Bid Preferences
Clear Schedule and Start Next Bid Group

2. This means that if the bid has this option on the last Pairings Bid Group and the Clear Schedule must be used. PBS will award a Reserve block. If there is no bid group entered, the PBS Scheduler will attempt to build you a pairings block using the Award Pairings system-generated bid groups. If a complete block still cannot be built the PBS Scheduler attempts to build you a Reserve block using the system-generated reserve bid group.

3. A warning message will be displayed when a bidder submits a bid with a **Clear Schedule and Start Next (CSSN)** bid preference in a bid group without adding a bid group below it. The number in the square bracket indicates the bid group that has the CS or ESNBG, but no additional bid is below it.

Message from webpage

MIA-ALL-FA : User entered Pairing bid group [21] contains instruction ('Else Start Next Bid Group' or 'Clear Schedule Start Next') to go to the next bid group but next bid group wasn't added, do you still want to submit the bids ?

OK   Cancel

Set Condition Bid Preferences

- There are two ways that Set Condition bids are placed in the bid group:

  1. They are placed automatically at the top of the bid group, or

  2. They may be moved above or below Avoid and Prefer Off bid preferences.

  They are forced above Award bid preferences.

- Make sure you consider the order in which bid preferences are denied, particularly if some of your Avoid Pairings and Prefer Off bid preferences are more important to you than the Set Condition bid preferences.

Set Condition Bid Preferences

Set Condition bid preferences tell the PBS Scheduler something about your Line by setting a global condition of some type, such as:

Pattern	Maximum Days On In a Row	Minimum Days Off In a Row
Tells the system to create a line that follows a pattern of days on and days off. You can specify a range of days on, and a minimum number of days off between duty periods.	Tells the system to build a block with a set number of days on in a row.	Tells the system to build a block with a set number of days off in a row.

Maximum Credit Window	Minimum Credit Window	Minimum Base Layover
Tells the system to award you a line as close as possible to the maximum allowed credit window.	Tells the system to award you a line within the minimum credit window.	Tells the system to create a line that provides a minimum amount of layover time at your base.

Set Condition Bid Preferences

Consecutive Days Off in A Row

Tells the system to award a block with a number of consecutive days off in a row. You may assign a Date Range to this set condition.

Remember: if you request two or more blocks of the same range in the same bid group you will be required to specify a date range on each block.

Days Off With Employee

Tells the system to build a block with days off with a more senior crew member. A day off is defined as a day that contains no working activities. A non-working absence is considered a day off (this will apply to both FAs).

Days Off Opposite Employee

Tells the system to build a block with days off, within the bid period, opposite a more senior crew member. A day off is defined as a day that contains no working activities. A non-working absence is considered a day off (this will apply to both FAs).

Note: These two set condition bids may be partially honored in Denial Mode, unless conditioned with ESNBG.

ESNBG - Else Start Next Bid Group

- **Else Start Next Bid Group** is a conditional instruction to the PBS Scheduler. When using the **ESNBG** option, you are telling the PBS Scheduler that if a legal schedule cannot be created using this bid preference, you want it to continue to the next bid group. The PBS Scheduler will STOP processing the current bid group, and start processing the next group.

- **Else Start Next Bid Group** can be added to the end of all Prefer Off and Avoid bids along with certain Set Condition Bids in Pairing and Reserve bid groups.

- A warning message will be displayed when a bidder submits a bid with an **Else Start Next Bid Group** instruction in the last bid group without adding a bid group below it.

- If you use **ESNBG** in your last bid group, the PBS Scheduler will use the system-generated award pairings big group to complete your block. If a complete block still cannot be built, the PBS Scheduler attempts to build you a Reserve block using the system-generated Start Reserve bid group.

Credit Window Notes

- The lowest number of minimum credit lines awarded will never be less than 5% of the domicile population.

- The PBS Scheduler awards pairings normally until your total credit is above the Threshold Value for the applicable Credit Window. At this point, PBS will stop adding pairings and your block is complete.

- If the Threshold Value is not achieved, but the total credit is above the Minimum Value, your block is considered complete.

- If your block is not above the Minimum Value, the PBS Scheduler will utilize **Shuffle**, **Denial Mode,** and **SLG** to complete your block.

Minimum Credit Window	**Normal Credit Window**	**Maximum Credit Window**
Maximum Value (91:00)	Maximum Value (91:00)	Maximum Value (110:00)
Threshold Value (65:00)	Threshold Value (75:00)	Threshold Value (110:00)
Minimum Value (65:00)	Minimum Value (75:00)	Minimum Value (91:00)

Waive Bid Preferences

Waive bid preferences tell the PBS Scheduler that you want certain rules adjusted or disregarded to build your schedule. Some rules can be completely disregarded, while other rules can only be adjusted.

Waive

Apply	Reset

Back To Bid Preferences

Minimum 2 Days Off In A Row

No Same Day Pairings

1 Day Off in 7

Minimum 2 Days Off In a Row	Waive the required 2 days off every time you are awarded a day off. This reduces the minimum days off from 2 to 1.
No Same Day Pairings	Allows the PBS Scheduler to award a pairing beginning the same day another pairing ends, providing you meet all legalities.
1 Day Off in 7	Allow 24 hours free from duty in lieu of a calendar day in domicile per 7-day period.

Bid Preferences Example

- The PBS Scheduler reads the Prefer Off and Avoid Pairings preferences and immediately removes all pairings that work on Mondays and Tuesdays **(Bid 2)** and all pairings departing between 1:00 am and 6:00 am **(Bid 3)** from the pairing pool.

- The Scheduler then begins to look for pairings in the available pairing pool that contain at least one layover in Miami or Boston. You will not be awarded a pairing with layovers in Miami or Boston if it works on a Monday or Tuesday or departs between 1:00 am and 6:00 am.

- If the PBS Scheduler enters denial mode, Set Condition, Prefer Off, and Avoid Pairing bid preferences are all removed from your bid and your bid is reprocessed adding one by one. The Set Condition, Avoid, or Prefer off that was preventing the logic to complete the block will not be used.

Example:

1. **Pairing Bid Group**
2. **Prefer Off Monday, Tuesday**
3. **Avoid Pairings IF Departing on Between 01:00 and 06:00**
4. **Award Pairings IF Any Layover in MIA, BOS**

   Award Pairings