

## COMPETITION REGULATIONS

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## COMPETITION REGULATIONS

### Club Events

The Club holds the following pairs and team events throughout the year:

- a. Non Championship Pairs
- b. Non Championship Teams
- c. Club Pairs Championship comprising:
  - i. Open Club Pairs Championship, and
  - ii. Restricted Club Pairs Championship
- d. Open Club Team Championship
- e. Club Mixed Pairs Championship
- f. State qualifying events including:
  - i. State Pairs,
  - ii. Country Teams, and
  - iii. State Mixed Pairs
- g. Special events including:
  - i. Grand National Open Team (GNOT), and
  - ii. Graded Pairs

### Event Regulations

Events are conducted in accordance with:

- a. the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge 2017,
- b. the Tournament Regulations of the New South Wales Bridge Association (NSWBA) as amended, and
- c. Supplementary Tournament Regulations as detailed below.

A hyperlink to the NSWBA Tournament Regulations is provided at the end of this document.

## Supplementary Tournament Regulations

The following regulations supplement the NSWBA Tournament Regulations.

### General

When referred to in these regulations:

- a. the Director is the director nominated for a specific session of the event, and
- b. the Tournament Committee consists of the Tournament Director, the nominated Director and one other director who is appointed to the Committee by the Tournament Director.

### Non Championship Pairs

Pairs events are generally held over three Mitchell or Howell movement sessions. If Mitchell movements are played, the Director will arrow switch the movement for the appropriate number of rounds.

The event winner is the pair achieving the highest aggregate percentage score over the three sessions based on match points. Where more than six pairs are entered in the event, a prize will also be awarded to the best performing pair in the handicap results who did not win a major prize and where both players have a handicap of less than 50%. Third prize will only be awarded when there are six or more eligible pairs entered in an event.

### Non Championship Teams

Team events are scored by Victory Points (VPs) and are run as:

- a. Swiss Teams, or
- b. an American Whist or New England Relay movement.

If a triangle needs to be used in the event, the Director should attempt to avoid placing a team in the triangle more than once.

The event winner is the team with the most VPs. If the scores are tied between two teams, the result will be awarded to the winner of their head-to-head match. If the teams did not meet or their match was a draw, the result will be awarded to the team with the higher International Match Points (IMPs) score.

### Club Pairs Championship

#### Open Club Pairs Championship

The Open Club Pairs Championship will be held as a one-day event on a Sunday, on a date to be determined by the Committee. The Convener will be the Office Administrator in conjunction with the Tournament Director or his/her nominee.

There will be no qualifying rounds and entry is open to all players. If an odd number of entries are received, the Club Convener will exclude the last pair entered to ensure an even number of pairs for the event. If there are fewer than 8 entries, the event will not be held.

The event will be run over two sessions, morning and afternoon, with the format determined by the number of entries:

- a. For four to seven tables - a complete Howell movement in each session.
- b. For eight or more tables – a Scrambled Mitchell (arrow-switch) movement.

The event winner is the pair with the highest aggregate percentage score over the two sessions based on match points. If the scores are tied, the winner will be determined in accordance with NSWBA Regulations.

The event is also the qualifying event for the State Open Pairs. If the event is not run, the club will nominate up to four pairs to attend the State Pairs Final.

#### Restricted Club Pairs Championship

The Restricted Club Pairs Championship will be held on the same day as the Open Club Pairs Championship and will follow the same format and conditions.

The event is open to all players with less than 300 master points as at the end of the last quarter immediately prior to the scheduled date of the Championship.

#### Open Club Teams Championship

The Open Club Teams Championship will be held as a one-day event on a Sunday, on a date to be determined by the Committee. The Convener will be the Office Administrator in conjunction with the Tournament Director or his/her nominee.

There will be no qualifying rounds and entry is open to all players. It is preferable that teams are limited to four members. Teams of five will be accepted, but each team member must play in at least two of the scheduled matches. If there are fewer than six teams entered, the event will not be held.

The number of entries will determine the format of the Championship:

- a. For fewer than 12 teams – a head-to-head format as determined by the Director.
- b. For 12 or more teams – Swiss Teams

The event winner is the team with the highest IMPs. If the scores are tied, the winner will be determined in accordance with NSWBA Regulations.

The event is also the qualifying event for the Country Teams. If the event is not run, the club will nominate up to three teams to attend the Regional Final.

#### Club Mixed Pairs Championship

The Club Mixed Pairs Championship will be held as a one-day event on a Sunday, on a date to be determined by the Committee. The Convener will be the Office Administrator in conjunction with the Tournament Director or his/her nominee.

There will be no qualifying rounds and entry is open to all players. Each pair must consist of players of opposite genders. If an odd number of entries are received, the Club Convener will exclude the last pair entered to ensure an even number of pairs for the event. If there are fewer than 8 entries, the event will not be held.

The event will be run over two sessions, morning and afternoon, with the format determined by the number of entries:

- a. For four to seven tables - a complete Howell movement in each session.
- b. For eight or more tables – a Scrambled Mitchell (arrow-switch) movement.

The event winner is the pair with the highest aggregate percentage score over the two sessions based on match points. If the scores are tied, the winner will be determined in accordance with NSWBA Regulations.

The event is also the qualifying event for the State Mixed Pairs. If the event is not run, the club will nominate up to two pairs to attend the State Pairs Final.

#### State Pairs Qualifying

The Open Club Pairs Championship is the qualifying event for the State Pair.

#### Country Teams Qualifying

The Open Club Teams Championship is the qualifying event for the Country Teams.

At least 20% of the participating teams must subsequently compete in the Country Teams Regional to enable all participants at Club level to be awarded red points.

### State Mixed Pairs Qualifying

The Club Mixed Pairs Championship is the qualifying event for the State Mixed Pairs.

### GNOT

The GNOT is a Gold Point Event conducted under the auspices of the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF).

The GNOT qualifying will be held as a one-day event on a Sunday, on a date to be determined by the Committee. The Convener will be the Tournament Director or his/her nominee.

There will be no qualifying rounds and entry is open to all players. It is preferable that teams are limited to four members. Teams of five will be accepted, but each team member must play in at least two of the scheduled matches. If there are fewer than four teams entered, the event will not be held.

The number of entries will determine the format of the Championship:

- a. For fewer than 12 teams – a head-to-head format as determined by the Director.
- b. For 12 or more teams – Swiss Teams

The event winner is the team with the highest IMPs. If the scores are tied, the winner will be determined in accordance with NSWBA Regulations.

If the event is not run, the club will nominate up to three teams to attend the Regional Final.

### Graded Pairs

The Graded Pairs event is held over eight sessions conducted on the first Friday of the month from March to October inclusive.

The event winner is the pair achieving the highest aggregate percentage score based on their six best sessions during the tournament.

### Eligibility

To be eligible to win any of the Club Championship events, players must be financial members of the Newcastle Bridge Club and must have played a minimum of six sessions in the preceding 12 months, excluding Club Championships, GNOTs, Country Teams and State events.

Non-members may compete in Club events but will not be eligible to be placed in events where prizes are awarded. Non-members are not permitted to compete in the Club Team Championship or the Club Pairs Championship.

Entry to the Club Teams, Club Pairs and Mixed Pairs events close seven days prior to the scheduled date of the event's first session. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

### Substitutions

**Substitutes will not be allowed in multi-session events.** To be eligible to be a competitor in a competition, you must play with the same partner for all sessions of the competition. (Note: This will not prevent any players from playing in any session. It is purely a requirement for eligibility for a prize.)

### Correction of Scoring Errors

Scoring errors may be corrected up to 24 hours after the results have been posted on the Club's website, provided that the pair/team making the request can prove that their opponents have agreed to the change.

### Prizes

Prizes for events are set and regularly reviewed by the Club Committee.

### Subsidies for GNOTs and State Events

The Club encourages pairs/teams to participate in GNOTs and State events. Provided a pair or team satisfy the qualifying conditions, the Club may pay their entry fee for the GNOT Regional, State Country Teams Regional, State Mixed Pairs or State Pairs. The Club's payment of these entry fees is at the discretion of the Tournament Director and is subject to the following limitations:

- a. **GNOT Regional** – A maximum of six teams from the qualifying event will be subsidised, with teams selected on the basis of descending winning order.
- b. **Country Teams Regional** – To facilitate all participants at Club level being awarded red points, 20% of teams from across the qualifying events will be subsidised. Teams will be selected on the basis of descending winning order.
- c. **State Mixed Pairs** - A maximum of two pairs will be subsidised, with the pair(s) selected on the basis of descending winning order.
- d. **State Pairs** – A maximum of four pairs from the qualifying event will be subsidised, with the pair(s) selected on the basis of descending winning order.

It is Club policy not to provide any additional subsidies to other Members who qualify to represent the Club at State events. Other qualifying pairs or team may participate in these events but do so at their own expense.

Subsidies will only be paid for Members who have played a minimum of six sessions in the preceding 12 months, excluding Club Championships, GNOTs, Country Teams and State Events. Non-members do not qualify for subsidies.

## Convener Duties

Conveners who are assigned to competition events will be responsible for:

- a. familiarising themselves with the regulations governing the applicable event,
- b. placing, at least 28 days prior to the commencement of the event, a copy of the *Entry Form* on the Notice Board specifying the competition, date(s) and Convener,
- c. ensuring that the event is publicised on the club's web and Facebook pages,
- d. drawing Members' attention, via the session announcer, when the event is imminent,
- e. coordinating or arranging entries to the event,
- f. confirming the eligibility of entrants to the event,
- g. where applicable, ensuring a completed *Substitute Form* specifying the event, event session and the entrant who is being substituted and by whom is lodged and has been signed by the Director of that session,
- h. liaising with session Directors to facilitate the smooth running of the event and ensure it yields relevant evidence upon which to award results,
- i. ensuring the event is scored correctly,
- j. obtaining two copies of the results – one for the Notice Board and the other for the Results Register,
- k. on completion of the event, providing the Office Administrator with copies of the *Entry Form*, any *Substitute Forms* and a complete set of the results sheets,
- l. determining the competition winners,
- m. for State qualifying events, confirming with the winning pair/team its acceptance of the invitation to enter the event and providing the details of the winners and Club representatives, together with results sheets, to the Office Administrator, and
- n. for State qualifying events, where a qualifying pair/team forfeits its right to enter the competition, confirming with the team captain and other members as necessary, that the pair/team is in agreement before offering the forfeited entry to the next qualifying pair/team.



## New South Wales Bridge Association

NSWBA Tournament Regulations

<http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/regulations/Regulations2015January.pdf>

NSWBA Substitution Regulations

<http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/regulations/SubstitutionRegulations.pdf>