

**AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2013**

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## **1 General**

1.1 The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) is the regulating authority for the Australian Butler Pairs Championships (ABPC). The ABPC consists of the:

- Open Butler Pairs
- Women's Butler Pairs
- Seniors' Butler Pairs
- Restricted Swiss Pairs
- ANC Swiss Pairs

These events are conducted by the South Australian Bridge Federation (SABF) as agent for the ABF in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The venue is the Adelaide Event and Exhibition Centre, Goodwood Road, Wayville, South Australia.

1.3 The ABPC will run from July 13-18, 2013.

1.4 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or Tournament Organiser (TO). Such methods and equipment may include but are not limited to: Vugraph, Bridge Base On Line web-cast, written bidding, bidding boxes, pick up slips, table record sheets and electronic scoring units. Players must record the score for each board after it is played and before the commencement of the next board. It is an offence to leave the table at the conclusion of a match without first confirming the completeness and validity of the data entered into the scoring unit. Every player present at the table is equally responsible for the accuracy of the scores.

1.5 Smoking is not permitted in the playing area, the scoreboard area and any other areas designated by the TO. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.4)

1.6 Mobile telephones, pager and other electronic equipment must be switched off during session time and may not be consulted or used unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. After one warning, breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.4).

- 1.7 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during the session times of the final stages of the ABPC. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.4)
- 1.8 Expressions used here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first to the ABF Tournament Regulations, thereafter to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2007, and finally to their ordinary English meaning. In the event of doubt or dispute, the decision of the CTD shall be final and conclusive.

## **2 Officials**

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser for the ABPC is Di Marler.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Sean Mullamphy.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener is Bruce Neill.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are David Lusk and David Beauchamp.
- 2.5 The Tournament Sub-Committee Convener is Kim Morrison.
- 2.6 The ABF on site representative for the ABPC is Simon Hinge.
- 2.7 The Recorders are Jeanette Collins and Tony Jackman.
- 2.8 The Convener appoints the Appeal Committee or Tournament Sub-Committee members. In the absence of the Convener of the Appeals Committee, the TO acts as Convener of the Appeals Committee.

## **3 Eligibility**

- 3.1 To be eligible for events restricted by age or masterpoint ranking:
  - (a) Senior players must be born before 1-1-55;
  - (b) both members of the partnership in the ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs must be below the rank of Life Master as at 1-1-13.
- 3.2 At the time of commencement of an event, each Australian resident entrant must be a financial member of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme and of an organisation affiliated to the ABF or to an Australian State Bridge Association. Overseas players become honorary members of the Foreign Players Club.
- 3.3 Entries from members of the Foreign Players Club to the ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs may be rejected at the discretion of the TO.
- 3.4 Section 19 hereunder specifies the number of substitutes permitted in the ABPC subject to the General Conditions of ABF TR 4.
- 3.5 The TO may nominate a “house contestant” to compete in any event in order to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players, but is at liberty to nominate others in case of necessity. The conditions under which the “house contestant” competes will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

## **4 Systems and Defences**

- 4.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events. YELLOW systems are permitted only in the Final Stages of the ABPC.
- 4.2 Yellow systems, including those that are to be played only as a defence against pairs playing a YELLOW system, must be lodged with the TO by 28th June 2013. Pairs must lodge an adequate current ABF Standard system card with a maximum of 2 supplementary A4 sheets, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side. Pairs who fail to meet these deadlines may not be permitted to play a YELLOW system for some or all the event.
- 4.3 Defence or “defence against the defence” notes, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet, must be:
  - (a) lodged with and approved by the CTD 15 minutes before the scheduled session time;
  - (b) identical for each player; and
  - (c) available to the opponents during the auction and play.

## **5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties**

- 5.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 5.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 5.3 Unless otherwise announced by the CTD, the time allotted is based on 7.5 minutes per board. In a Swiss movement, boards not started before a time specified by the CTD are not played and the contestants concerned score 0 IMPs.
- 5.4 The disciplinary penalty for breach of 1.5 (smoking) or 1.7 (consumption of alcohol) is 3 VPs. The disciplinary penalty for breach of 1.6 (mobile phones, etc), applied after one warning per pair or team, is 3 VPs.

## **6 Correction Period and Time of Appeal**

- 6.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expires at the later of 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection or at the commencement of the next session, except when the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within 30 minutes. In that case the Correction Period for the later session applies. For the last session of a stage of an event, the Correction Period expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.
- 6.2 The Time for lodging an Appeal of a Director’s Ruling (Law 92B) expires 30 minutes after the scheduled finishing time of the session (or 30 minutes after the parties are advised of the director’s ruling when the ruling is made after the session), unless the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for that next round/stanza/session.

## **7 Dress Requirements**

- 7.1 Players and kibitzers are expected to maintain a minimum standard of dress, described as “neat casual”.

## **8 Tournament Structure**

- 8.1 Dependent on entries, the ABF reserves the right to alter the formats described in 8.2-8.9, without prior notice.
- 8.2 The Open ABPC is conducted in two stages – the Preliminary Stage and the Final Stage.
- 8.3 The Women's ABPC is conducted in either one or two stages according to the number of entries. If more than 30 pairs enter, there will be a Preliminary Stage and the Final Stage, alongside and with the same format as the Open Stages. If there is an entry of 30 pairs or less, there will be a Final stage only, consisting of a complete round robin of 12 board matches. The first match will commence at the same time as Open Preliminary Stage Match 1. Subsequent session times will be advised when final entries are known.
- 8.4 The Seniors ABPC is conducted as one Final Stage, with the format dependent on entries.
- 8.5 The Preliminary Stage will consist of 10 x 12 board rounds to qualify 20 pairs. The Final Stage will be played as a Round Robin of 19 x 12 board rounds.
- 8.6 The ABF TC will determine the seeding, scoring and movement for the Preliminary Stage
- 8.7 The Preliminary Stage of the ABPC is scored by IMPs against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-4) middle scores. The Final Stage will be scored by IMPs against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-2) middle scores. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the WBF 10 board VP scale.
- 8.8 The ANC Swiss Pairs is a 12 round event scored in a manner similar to that described for the Final Stage in 8.7. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.
- 8.9 The ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs is a 9 round event scored in a manner similar to that described for the Final Stage in 8.7. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.

## **9 Ties**

- 9.1 A tie occurs when two or more pairs have the exact same number of VPs.
- 9.2 To determine a Swiss draw, ties are broken by net IMPs, then lot.
- 9.3 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Swiss format, ties are broken by the sum of VPs of opponents, then number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.
- 9.4 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Round Robin format, ties are broken by number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.

## **10 Carry-over**

- 10.1 In the Open ABPC, each qualifying pair will carry-over 25% of their VP score to the Final Stage.
- 10.2 Where a separate Preliminary Stage is held in the Women's APBC, each qualifying pair will carry-over 25% of their VP score to the Final Stage.
- 10.3 Warnings carry over from stage to stage.

## 11 Withdrawal and Replacements

- 11.1 Pairs who withdraw at the end of the Preliminary Stage or are non-contending are replaced in a manner such that the numbers of pairs qualifying from each of the original fields do not differ by more than two.
- 11.2 When “n” pairs plus the best “n+1” pair qualify for the Final Stage, the best “n+1” is the pair with the highest score in VPs.
- 11.3 Withdrawals within a stage are treated according to ABF TR 14.

## 12 Fouled Boards

- 12.1 A fouled board is scored by:
- (a) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (3-7 results) or four (results >7) extreme scores, respectively; or
  - (b) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 2 IMPs to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

## 13 Substitutes

- 13.1 A substitute may be permitted for cause, but not for convenience.
- 13.2 For each event, the number of rounds one player must play and for which the partnership must be intact is as follows:

	Preliminary stage	Final Stage	ANC Swiss Pairs	Restricted Swiss Pairs
Each player	10/12	16/19	8 rounds	6 rounds
Partnership	9/12	15/19	6 rounds	5 rounds

- 13.3 When an event format results in the number of rounds being other than 12 (Preliminary Stage) or 19 (Final Stage), each player must play at least 85% of the rounds and the partnership must be intact for at least 75% of the rounds (fractions rounded up).

## 14 Playoff Qualifying Points

- 14.1 Players must declare the basis upon which they are eligible to represent Australia.
- 14.2 The first nine eligible pairs in the Open & Women’s ABPC receive playoff qualifying points.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PQP	65	60	55	35	30	25	15	10	5

- 14.3 The first six eligible pairs in the Seniors’ ABPC receive playoff qualifying points.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6
PQP	50	45	40	20	15	10

- 14.4 Tied pairs share the available points.

## Appendices

### Penalties for Late Arrival or Slow Play

The penalties for Late Arrival and Slow Play under ABF TR 10 are:

0-5 mins	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5-10 mins	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10-15 mins	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15-20 mins	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20-30 mins	5 VPs (15 IMPs)

For late arrival in excess of 30 minutes, the CTD may assess a more severe penalty including forfeiture of the match and/or disqualification from the event.

When boards are cancelled by the director due to a failure to complete them on time, the following penalties may be applied:

One board	1 VP (3 IMPs)
Subsequent boards	2 VPs (6 IMPs)

When players fail to enter scores into the scoring unit before leaving the table, or where an incorrect score has been entered and agreed, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	1 VP per occasion

### Anticipated Finishing Times

The following times are provided solely as a guide to players and may change without notice depending on event formats and other circumstances:

Butler Pairs Preliminary Stage (Open, Women's – if held)	Sunday, July 14, 6.30 pm
Butler Pairs Final Stage (Open, Women's, Seniors')	Thursday, July 18, 4.45 pm Presentation at 5.00 pm
ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs	Sunday, July 14, 5.00 pm
ANC Swiss Pairs	Thursday, July 18, 4.45 pm