

# AUTUMN NATIONALS 2015

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# **1 General**

1.1 The Autumn Nationals (AN) comprises eight events:

- AN Open Swiss Pairs (ANOSP)
- AN Seniors Swiss Pairs (ANSSP)
- AN Women's Swiss Pairs (ANWSP)
- AN Under Life Master Swiss Pairs (ANULMSP)
- AN Open Teams (ANOT)
- AN Under Life Master Teams (ANULMT)
- AN Consolation Teams (ANCT)
- AN Graded Pairs (ANGP)

The Swiss Pairs events will be held on 30 April - 1 May, the ANOT and ANULMT on 2 - 3 May, with the ANCT, ANGP and Final of the ANOT on 4 May. These events are conducted by the South Australian Bridge Federation Inc (SABF) under licence from the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The venue is the Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showgrounds, Goodwood Road, Wayville.

1.3 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or Tournament Organiser (TO). 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.

1.4 Smoking is not permitted in any area inside the Ridley Centre. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 6.3).

1.5 Mobile telephones, iPads, iPods and other electronic communication equipment must be switched off during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, after one warning (see 6.3).

1.6 Mobile telephones, iPads and other electronic communication equipment may not be consulted or used during the session, unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) in the first instance. In the case of further breaches by the same unit, the CTD will assess a more severe penalty, which may include forfeiture or disqualification.

1.7 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 is Jinny Fuss.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is David Anderson.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener is Michael Wilkinson.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are Laurie Kelso and David Lusk.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representatives are Bruce Neill and Laurie Kelso.
- 2.6 The Recorders are Linda Alexander and Phil Gallasch.

## **3 Eligibility, Augmentation and Substitutions**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 Overseas players may apply to enter events restricted by masterpoint status only if they are eligible to play in events with similar criteria within their own NBO. Entry to any such event will only be granted after the applicant's eligibility has been verified. The TO's decision in respect to such eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.
- 3.3 To be eligible to play in the ANSSP, both players must have been born before 1 January 1957.
- 3.4 To be eligible to play in the ANWSP, both members of the pair must be female.
- 3.5 To be eligible to play in the ANULMSP, neither member of the pair can have attained the rank of Life Master as at 1 January 2015.
- 3.6 To be eligible to play in the ANULMT, no more than one member of the team can have attained the rank of Life Master as at 1 January 2015. The remaining members of the team must be below the rank of Life Master as at 1 January 2015. Players who have attained the rank of Bronze Life Master as at 1 January 2015 are ineligible.
- 3.7 With the consent of the CTD, a team may augment until the conclusion of Round 5 up to a maximum of 6 players. Any player so added to the team must not have played previously in another team in the same event.
- 3.8 The CTD may approve a maximum of four substitutions per pair or team in any one event. In addition, the CTD may allow emergency substitutions for substantial cause and may impose any conditions in doing so and may take whatever other action is considered necessary to keep the tournament in motion.
- 3.9 To ensure the smooth running of the tournament, the TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in any event. 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/s" compete 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 only are permitted in the ANULMSP.

4.2 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in the ANOSP, ANSSP, ANWSP, ANOT, ANULMT, ANCT and ANGP.

4.3 In the ANSSP, ANWSP and ANULMT, 'Protected Pair' status may be claimed by eligible pairs in accordance with ABF System Regulation 2.9. Opponents of a 'Protected Pair' may not employ BROWN STICKER conventions during that round. Pairs seeking 'Protected Pair' status must advise the CTD at least 30 minutes before the start of the relevant event.

4.4 In addition, YELLOW systems will be allowed in the ANOT from Round 3 onwards, but may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up). Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the TO with an adequately completed ABF system card and a *bona fide* defence before 22 April 2015.

## **5 Seating**

5.1 Except in the Final of the ANOT, teams registering one or more YELLOW systems lose all seating rights in all stanzas against teams not employing a YELLOW system.

5.2 YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted within 10 minutes of the publication of the draw.

5.3 In other cases, seating rights for each match will be determined by toss of a coin.

## **6 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties**

6. In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.

6.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is included in the Appendices.

6.3 The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4) and mobile phones, etc (1.5, 1.6) is 3 VPs.

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

7.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each preliminary match expires 15 minutes after the scheduled conclusion of the following match. The Correction Period for the final match expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.

7.2 The Time for lodging an Appeal against a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for each match expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection, unless the next round or session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for the next match.

## **8 Fouled Boards**

8.1 In the Swiss Pairs and Graded pairs events, 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 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

8.2 In the ANOT, ANULMT and ANCT, the result of a fouled board is cancelled and a substitute board is played at both tables unless the result of the match is known or any of the players has left the table at the conclusion of that round. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides.

## **9 Ties**

9.1 Ties will be broken for qualification to and carry-over in the Final of the ANOT and in other circumstances for first place, in accordance with ABF TR 15, as detailed in the Appendices. Other ties will not be broken.

## **10 Event formats**

### *10.1 Swiss Pairs*

10.1.1 The ANOSP, ANSSP, ANWSP and ANULMSP will be played as distinct single field Swiss events consisting of 8 x 14 board matches, played over 4 sessions.

10.1.2 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 10.1.3, 10.1.4 and 10.1.5. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the 2013 WBF 10 board VP scale. Separate datums will be calculated for each event.

10.1.3 If there are fewer than 24 tables entered in an event, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables.

10.1.4 If 24 or more tables enter an event:

- a) for Matches 1-3, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables; and
- b) for Matches 4-6, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top  $n/2$  tables (0.5 rounded up), where  $n$  is the number of tables in play; and
- c) for Matches 7-8, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top 12 tables.

10.1.5 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores under consideration after eliminating the highest and lowest  $x/10$  scores (0.5 rounded up) where  $x$  is the number of scores under consideration.

## *10.2 Open and Under Life Master Teams*

10.2.1 The ANOT and ANULMT will be played as distinct 9 round single field Swiss events consisting of 12 board matches in Rounds 1 - 5 and 14 board matches in Rounds 6 - 9.

10.2.2 In each match, IMPs are converted to VPs using the appropriate 2013 WBF scale.

10.2.3 At the conclusion of Match 9, the two highest placed teams in the ANOT will qualify to the ANOT Final. The Final will be played over 4 x 14 board stanzas. The team finishing higher in the ANOT will carry-forward 0.1 IMPs to the Final.

## *10.3 Consolation Teams and Graded Pairs*

10.3.1 The ANCT and ANGP will be played as a Swiss Pairs event consisting of 6 rounds each of 8 boards. The number of sections and method of scoring will be announced once the total number of entries is known.

10.3.2 Entry to the ANCT and ANGP will be at a cost of \$10 per player for players who competed in any of the previous 2015 AN events, or at a cost of \$30 per player for others.

10.4 The time allowed per round will be announced by the CTD.

10.5 The match / session starting times are:

Thursday 30 April: 10.00 am, 12.00 noon, 2.30 pm and 4.30 pm

Friday 1 May: 9.30 am, 11.30 am, 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm

Saturday 2 May: 9.30 am, 11.15 am, 1.30 pm, 3.15 pm and 5.00 pm

Sunday 3 May: 9.00am, 11.00am, 1.15pm and 3.15pm

Monday 4 May: ANOT Final – 9.00am  
ANCT and ANGP – 9.30am.

## 11 Playoff Qualifying Points

11.1.1 In the ANOSP, Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player as below:

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	16	12	8	4

11.1.2 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 6 matches.

11.2.1 In the ANSSP and ANWSP, Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player as below:

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	32	24	16	8

11.2.2 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 4 matches.

11.3.1 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQPs) are awarded to each eligible player in the ANOT as below:

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

11.3.2 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 4 matches.

11.4 Players in tied pairs or teams share the available points.

## **APPENDICES**

### **A Penalties for Late Arrival or Slow Play**

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 at the director's discretion:

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

### **B Failure to enter or check scores**

Should the players leave the table, when they have failed to enter one or more scores into the scoring unit or when 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

### **C Tie-breaking**

Significant ties are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot.

### **D Anticipated finishing times**

The following times are provided solely as a guide to players and may change depending on event formats and other circumstances:

Swiss Pairs:	Friday 1 May, 5.45 pm
ANOT and ANULMT:	Sunday 3 May, 5.00 pm
ANCT and ANGP:	Monday 4 May, 4.30pm
ANOT Final:	Monday 4 May, 5.30pm