

# GNOT 2015 NATIONAL FINAL

## LETTER TO CAPTAINS

### A. GNOT NATIONAL FINAL

#### 1. VENUE

The GNOT 2015 National Final will be held at **Tweed Ultima**, 20 Stuart Street, Tweed Heads, New South Wales 2485. **Tweed Ultima** is in the centre of town, is 5 km from the Gold Coast (Coolangatta) airport, and is handy to accommodation, restaurants, coffee shops and a great pub.

#### 2. TRAVEL

Players are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. There are convenient direct flights from most capital cities to the Gold Coast (Coolangatta) airport. Players travelling from some other centres will find it more convenient, and perhaps cheaper, to fly to Brisbane and to travel to Tweed Heads by bus, train or rental car. Flight details can be found on airline websites.

Each team will receive the GNOT subsidy from the ABF for four players. The airfare component of the subsidy is based on a proportion (~80%) of the prices listed on airline websites (i) on 9 September or (ii) on the day following team selection in the relevant Regional Finals, whichever is the later date.

Details of subsidies payable appear on the ABF website

<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/gnot/2015/subsidies.asp> from 9 September. Players may choose whatever mode of travel they wish. The GNOT subsidy will remain the same whatever the mode of travel chosen.

Sometimes in the past, players have found that they cannot return home on the flights that they have booked because, perhaps unexpectedly, they qualify for the final, and that the airlines impose financial penalties for re-booking. The ABF will meet this contingency. Except for members of teams seeded 1-4, (Sydney 1, Sydney 2, Sydney 3, Adelaide 1), provided that a player's original return flight is scheduled not earlier than 6.30 pm on Sunday 29 November, the ABF will pay any extra cost of re-booking should that player's GNOT commitments make it impossible to catch the original flight. Such bookings **must** be made through the GNOT Treasurer (who will be present on site). Members of teams seeded 1-4 (Sydney 1, Sydney 2, Sydney 3, Adelaide 1) are expected to book their return flights no earlier than 6.30pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Should such players book an earlier return flight that they are unable to catch because of semi-final/final commitments, the ABF will **not** meet the cost of re-booking flights.

As a rule, the team captain will receive the GNOT subsidy for all four members of the team and will bear overall responsibility for travel arrangements. The preferred means of payment is by direct deposit to the captain's bank account. (Captains should bring the appropriate banking

details with them to Tweed Heads.) Otherwise, cheques will be distributed during Saturday 28 November at the venue. An exception may be made to these arrangements on the grounds of financial hardship and a cheque forwarded at an earlier date provided that the captain makes application to the ABF Secretariat ([secretariat@abf.com.au](mailto:secretariat@abf.com.au)) explaining the circumstances.

### 3. ACCOMMODATION

Players in the GNOT are expected to make their own arrangements about accommodation. There are literally scores of places – resorts, motels, bed and breakfasts, pubs – to stay in Tweed Heads. For details consult your travel agent, the NRMA accommodation guide or internet sites.

### 4. SCHEDULE FOR TIMES OF PLAY

Because the GNOT National Final is being played in New South Wales, the times given for playing schedules are **Eastern Standard Summer Time**. GNOT participants staying in Queensland should note well that Queensland time is one hour behind New South Wales time.

The event commences on Friday 27 November at 9.30 am (ESST). There will be a full complement of 64 teams. This means that no team will have a first-round bye.

The 64 teams are:

Far North Queensland	Hunter 1	Gippsland 2
North Queensland	Hunter 2	Mornington Peninsula
Whitsunday	Hunter 3	Northern Victoria
Capricornia	Central Coast	Barwon
Wide Bay	Tablelands-Illawarra	Melbourne 1
Sunshine Coast 1	South Coast	Melbourne 2
Sunshine Coast 2	Mountains 1	Melbourne 3
Sunshine Coast 3	Mountains 2	Melbourne 4
Gold Coast 1	Central Inland	Henty
Gold Coast 2	South-West NSW	Southern Tasmania
Gold Coast 3	Western NSW	Northern Tasmania
Gold Coast 4	Sydney 1	Adelaide 1
Darling Downs	Sydney 2	Adelaide 2
Brisbane 1	Sydney 3	Adelaide 3
Brisbane 2	Sydney 4	SA Provincial
Brisbane 3	Sydney 5	Northern Territory
Brisbane 4	Sydney 6	WA Country
Northern Rivers 1	Sydney 7	WA Provincial
Northern Rivers 2	Canberra 1	Perth 1
Mid-North Coast 1	Canberra 2	Perth 2
Mid-North Coast 2	ACT Provincial	Perth 3
	Gippsland 1	

## 5. **FORMAT**

- a. There are 64 teams. The field will be seeded taking into account recent form, past performance, and region of origin.
- b. The event (until the semi-final stage) will be played in 14-board sets.
- c. The event will commence as a knockout, the first round being of 14 boards. There will be 64 teams playing head-to-head in this first knockout round. The 32 winning teams progress to the second knockout round; the 32 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- d. The Swiss repechage comprises nine 14-board rounds.
- e. The second knockout round comprises 32 teams and will be played over 28 boards in two 14-board sets. The 16 winning teams progress to the third knockout round; the 16 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- f. The third knockout round comprises 16 teams and will be played over 28 boards in two 14-board sets. The eight winning teams progress to the fourth knockout round; the eight losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- g. The fourth knockout round comprises eight teams and will be played over 28 boards in two 14-board sets. The four winning teams progress to the fifth knockout round; the four losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- h. The fifth knockout round comprises four teams and will be played over 42 boards in three 14-board sets. The two winning teams proceed directly to the semi-finals; the two losing teams proceed to the repechage final (repechage playoff).
- i. The repechage final comprises four teams — the two losers from the fifth round knockout and the two top teams from the Swiss. The repechage final will be played over 20 boards in two 10-board sets. The two winning teams proceed to the semi-finals.
- j. The semi-finals will be played over 48 boards in four 12-board sets.
- k. The final will be played over 64 boards in four 16-board sets.

## 6. TIMETABLE (GNOT NATIONAL FINAL)

Friday 27 Nov.	9.30 am	Knockout round 1
	11.20 am	Knockout round 2 Repechage round 1
	2.00 pm	Knockout round 2 (cont.) Repechage round 2
	3.55 pm	Knockout round 3 Repechage round 3
	5.50pm	Knockout round 3 (cont.) Repechage round 4
	Saturday 28 Nov.	9.30 am
11.20 am		Knockout round 4(cont.) Repechage round 6
2.00 pm		Knockout round 5 Repechage round 7
3.55 pm		Knockout round 5 (cont.) Repechage round 8
5.50 pm		Knockout round 5 (cont.) Repechage round 9
7.35 pm		Hospitality
Sunday 29 Nov.	9.15 am	Repechage final — stanza 1
	10. 45 am	Repechage final — stanza 2
	12.45 pm	Semi-finals — stanza 1
	2.30 pm	Semi-finals — stanza 2
	4.15 pm	Semi-finals — stanza 3
Monday 30 Nov.	6.00 pm	Semi-finals — stanza 4
	9.15 am	Final — stanza 1
	11.15 am	Final — stanza 2
	1.30 pm	Final — stanza 3
	3.30 pm	Final — stanza 4

## 7. BBO

A semi-final and the final of the GNOT National Final will be broadcast on BBO. This means strict adherence to the playing schedules announced for these segments of the tournament.

## **8. SYSTEMS REGULATIONS**

Regulations pertaining to systems will be different depending upon whether your team is playing in the knockout phase of the event or in the Swiss repechage.

### **a. Knockout**

YELLOW systems will be permitted in all knockout phases except knockout rounds 1 and 2. Pairs playing YELLOW systems must submit a concise summary, typed or written in black ink on one side of one sheet of A4 paper to the Chief Tournament Director before 9.30am on Friday 27 November 2015. Failure to comply may result in disallowance of the system.

### **b. Repechage**

YELLOW systems will not be permitted in the Swiss repechage but will be permitted in the repechage final.

## **9. SCORING**

Knockout matches will be scored by IMP converted to VPs (on the pre-2013 WBF scale). The 32 first-round losers will enter the Swiss with a score of 0 VPs/0 IMPs. Teams subsequently entering the Swiss after being knocked out will be allocated the same score; that is, the score of the leading team, or 80% of the available VPs to date, whichever is the lower. Swiss matches will be scored by IMPs converted to VPs on the WBF 14-board scale.

## **10. HOSPITALITY**

There will be a small function at close of play on Saturday evening 28 November at which the Chris Diment Trophy (and medallions) for the top Country Team will be presented.

## B. GNOT PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS

### 1. Introduction

This 2-session stratified Swiss pairs event will be staged on Sunday 29 November starting at 9.15 am. **All players** who have participated in the GNOT National Final (irrespective of origin) and have been eliminated, are eligible to play free of charge. In addition, players from the Northern Rivers, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Darling Downs and Gold Coast Regions who have participated in GNOT 2015 qualifying events (i.e. Club Selections and/or Zonal Knockouts) are invited to play in the GNOT Pairs Championships.

### 2. Entry

Pre-entry is required for the GNOT Pairs Championships. Players should enter:

1. Through their club secretary,
2. *Via* email to [secretariat@abf.com.au](mailto:secretariat@abf.com.au) or by mail to PO Box 397, Fyshwick, ACT, 2609, or by
3. Direct entry on the entry sheet at the venue.

Entry fee \$10 per person, except for players who have participated in the 2015 GNOT National Final (free of charge). Entries close at 7.30pm on Saturday 28 November, or earlier if the field is full.

### 3. Stratification

The GNOT Pairs Championships will comprise three categories, *viz.* the Metropolitan Pairs, the Provincial Pairs and the Country Pairs. Categorisation will be according to GNOT regions as follows:

Metropolitan	Provincial	Country	
Brisbane	Gold Coast	Far North Queensland	North Queensland
Sydney	Hunter	Whitsunday	Capricornia
Canberra	ACT Provincial	Wide Bay	Sunshine Coast
Melbourne	Southern Tasmania	Darling Downs	Northern Rivers
Adelaide	SA Provincial	Central Coast	Mid-North Coast
Perth	Northern Territory	South Coast	Tablelands-Illawarra
	WA Provincial	Central Inland	Mountains
		South-West NSW	Western NSW
		Mornington Peninsula	Gippsland
		Barwon	Northern Victoria
		WA Country	Henty
		Northern Tasmania	

#### 4. Format

The GNOT Pairs Championships will be played as a stratified Swiss format over seven 8-board rounds. For round 1, the field will be seeded into two sections, viz. North/South and East/West. North/South and East/West will play a delayed draw Swiss movement in separate sections for rounds 1 through 4. Datums will be determined using the scores from the full field(s). After round 4, North/South and East/West will be merged into a single field. Rounds 5 through 7 will be played as a standard Swiss movement using “leaders’ Butler” to determine datums. Pairs, irrespective of categorisation, may be drawn according to the Swiss draw against any other pair in the field. At the conclusion of the event, pairs will be placed in finishing order (i) overall and (ii) according to category. Medallions will be awarded to the winning pair overall and to the winning pairs in each category.

#### 5. Hospitality

There will be a brief function at close of play on Sunday afternoon during which medallions will be presented.

#### 6. Timetable

Sunday 29 Nov	9.15 am	Swiss round 1
	10. 15 am	Swiss round 2 — delayed draw
	11.15 am	Swiss round 3 — delayed draw
	12.15 pm	Swiss round 4 — delayed draw
	2.00 pm	Swiss round 5 — real draw
	3.00 pm	Swiss round 6 — real draw
	4.00 pm	Swiss round 7 — real draw
	5.00 pm	Hospitality and awards

## C. AUSTRALIAN FLITCH CHAMPIONSHIP

### 1. Introduction

The ABF has approved a new pairs event to be played annually during the GNOT National Final weekend. The new event is called the Australian Flitch Championship and is open to all life partners. The Flitch will be staged on Sunday 29 November starting at 9.15am EEST

### 2. Eligibility

Eligible pairs are husbands and wives and all other couples in permanent relationships. (There is no requirement that contestants should have played in the 2015 GNOT.) Contestants will determine their own eligibility.

### 3. Entry

Pre-entry is required for the Australian Flitch Championship. Players should enter (i) by email to [secretariat@abf.com.au](mailto:secretariat@abf.com.au) ; (ii) by mail to Australian Flitch, PO Box 397, Fyshwick, ACT 2609; or (iii) by direct entry on the entry sheet at the venue.

Entry fee is \$10 per person collected at the table. Entries close at 7.30pm on Saturday 28 November, or earlier if the field is full.

### 4. Format

#### 4.1 *If fewer than 8 pairs:*

The field will be stratified within the GNOT Pairs Championships. See (above) format for the GNOT Pairs.

#### 4.2 *If 8-12 pairs:*

The field will be seeded and the event will be played as a truncated round-robin.

#### 4.3 *If 14 pairs or more:*

The event will be played in Swiss format over seven 8-board rounds. For round 1, the field will be seeded into two sections, viz. North/South and East/West. North/South and East/West will play a delayed-draw Swiss movement in separate sections from round 1 through round 4. After round 4, the North/South and the East/West fields will be merged into a single field. Rounds 5 through 7 will be played as a standard Swiss movement. Throughout the event, datums will be calculated in standard fashion.



## 5. Hospitality and awards

There will be a brief function at close of play on Sunday afternoon 29 November during awards will be made.

A trophy will be presented to the winning pair, and there will be ABF medallions for first and second places.

Gold Masterpoints will be awarded.

## 6. Timetable

Sunday 29 Nov	9.15 am	Round 1
	10. 15 am	Round 2
	11.15 am	Round 3
	12.15 pm	Round 4
	2.00 pm	Round 5
	3.00 pm	Round 6
	4.00 pm	Round 7
	5.00 pm	Hospitality and awards

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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