

# GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS NATIONAL FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2019

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## 1 General

- 1.1** The Grand National Open Teams (GNOT) National Final and GNOT Pairs Championships (GNOTPC) are conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.
- 1.2** The venue is the Tweed Ultima, 20 Stuart Street, Tweed Heads, New South Wales.
- 1.3** Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the 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 inside the venue, nor within any area defined by NSW Law as a non-smoking area. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3). Note that the use of electronic cigarettes is not permitted.
- 1.5** Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3)
- 1.6** 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 5.3)
- 1.7** 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 5.3) 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.
- 1.8** Expressions used in these Regulations and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2017). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) shall be final and conclusive. Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the ABF TR shall have the same meaning for the purpose of these Supplementary Regulations.

## **2 Officials**

- 2.1** The Tournament Organiser is Ray Ellaway.
- 2.2** The Chief Tournament Director is Matthew McManus. Other Directors are Julie Jeffries, Jan Peach and Sebastian Yuen.
- 2.3** The Appeals Committee Convener is Bruce Neill.
- 2.4** The Appeals Consultant is Neville Francis.
- 2.5** The ABF on-site representative is Peter Reynolds.
- 2.6** The Recorder is Richard Ward.

## **3 Eligibility, Augmentation and Substitution**

- 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.
- 3.2** Teams in the GNOT National Final will have qualified *via* their Regional Playoff event(s).
- 3.3** The GNOTPC is open to all players who have participated in the GNOT National Final and have been eliminated (irrespective of origin), at no charge. In addition, players from the Northern Rivers and Gold Coast regions who have participated in GNOT 2019 qualifying events (i.e. Club Selections and/or Zonal Playoffs) or life partners of participants in the GNOT National Final are invited to play in the GNOT Pairs Championships on payment of an entry fee of \$30 per person. Members of teams which are competing in the Repechage Finals or the Semi-Finals of the GNOT are not eligible to play. Entries will close at 7.30pm on Saturday, November 30, or earlier if the maximum number of entries is reached.
- 3.4** After receipt of entries has been acknowledged by the National Coordinator (NC) but before play has commenced, a team from any Region may augment up to a maximum of 6 players, with the consent of the NC. Any player so added must be a member of a club located in that region.
- 3.5** In the GNOT, a substitute for cause, not convenience, may be allowed with prior approval of the CTD for a maximum of 44 boards in the Knock-out (KO) and Swiss repechage phases and a further 50% of the boards in each of the Repechage Finals, Semi-Finals and Final. A substitute need not be qualified to represent the team's Region but must not be an entrant in another team unless that team has been eliminated from the 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.
- 3.6** In the GNOTPC, the CTD may approve substitutes for a pair for cause, not convenience, for a maximum of 3 rounds
- 3.7** The TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in the GNOT and/or the GNOTPC in order to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players. The conditions under which the "house contestant" competes will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the TO.

## **4 Systems**

- 4.1** GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted throughout.
- 4.2** YELLOW systems are not permitted in the GNOT Swiss, KO Rounds 1 and 2, or in the GNOTPC.

- 4.3** YELLOW systems are permitted in the GNOT KO Rounds 3, 4 and 5, the Repechage Finals, the Semi-Finals and Final. Pairs wishing to play a YELLOW system must lodge a system summary and a bona fide defence with the TO before 9.30 am on Friday, November 29.

## **5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties**

- 5.1** In the GNOT Swiss and GNOTPC, 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 shall apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 5.3** The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4), consumption of alcohol (1.5) and mobile phones (1.6, 1.7) is 3 VPs, or 9 IMPs in head-to-head teams matches.

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

- 6.1** The Correction Period (Law 79C) for matches expires 30 minutes after the scores have been made available for inspection or at the start of the next round or stanza, whichever is earlier in the case of Knock-out matches and whichever is later in the case of matches in the Swiss Repechage. The CTD has the discretion to alter this period.
- 6.2** The time for lodging an Appeal against a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for all matches expires 30 minutes after the scheduled finishing time of the match in which the ruling was given or at the start of the next round or stanza, whichever is earlier.
- 6.3** Errors in scoring made by officials of the event may be corrected up until a time deemed appropriate by the TO.

## **7 Event Details – GNOT**

### **7.1 Format**

There are 60 teams representing the various regions as listed in the Appendices. The field will be seeded taking into account form, past performance, and region of origin. The draw for all matches in Knock-out (KO) rounds 1 to 5 is pre-determined.

- 7.1.1 KO Round 1:** Teams seeded one to four have a bye in the first round. The remaining play a head-to-head match over 16 boards. The 28 winning teams progress to KO Round 2 along with the top four seeded. The 28 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- 7.1.2 KO Round 2:** 32 teams play a head-to-head match over 2 stanzas of 12 boards. The 16 winning teams progress to KO Round 3. The 16 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- 7.1.3 KO Round 3:** 16 teams play a head-to-head match over 2 stanzas of 12 boards. The 8 winning teams progress to KO Round 4. The 8 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- 7.1.4 KO Round 4:** 8 teams play a head-to-head match over 2 stanzas of 12 boards. The 4 winning teams progress to KO Round 5. The 4 losing teams enter the Swiss repechage.
- 7.1.5 KO Round 5:** 4 teams play a head-to-head match over 3 stanzas of 12 boards. The 2 winning teams proceed directly to the semi-finals. The 2 losing teams proceed to the Repechage Finals.
- 7.1.6 Swiss Repechage:** The Swiss repechage comprises nine 12-board rounds.
- 7.1.7 Repechage Finals:** The repechage finals comprises 4 teams — the two losers from KO Round 5 and the two highest placed teams from the Swiss repechage. The repechage finals will be played over 24

boards in two 12-board stanzas. The two winning teams proceed to the semi-finals.

**7.1.8 Semi-Finals:** The semi-finals will be played over 40 boards in four 10-board stanzas. The two winning teams proceed to the final.

**7.1.9 Final:** The final will be played over 56 boards in four 14-board stanzas.

## 7.2 Session Times

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

*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 that Queensland time is one hour behind New South Wales time.*

Date	Time	KO Section	Swiss Repechage
Friday, November 29	9.30 am	Round 1	
	11.35 am	Round 2	Round 1
	2.00 pm	Round 2 (cont.)	Round 2
	3.35 pm	Round 3	Round 3
	5.10 pm	Round 3 (cont.)	Round 4
Saturday, November 30	10.00 am	Round 4	Round 5
	11.35 am	Round 4 (cont.)	Round 6
	2.00 pm	Round 5	Round 7
	3.35 pm	Round 5 (cont.)	Round 8
	5.10 pm	Round 5 (cont.)	Round 9
Sunday, December 1	9.00 am	Repechage Finals – Stanza 1	
	10.40 am	Repechage Finals – Stanza 2	
	1.00 pm	Semi-Finals – Stanza 1	
	2.25 pm	Semi-Finals – Stanza 2	
	3.50 pm	Semi-Finals – Stanza 3	
Monday, December 2	5.15 pm	Semi-Finals – Stanza 4	
	9.00 am	Final – Stanza 1	
	11.10 am	Final – Stanza 2	
	1.30 pm	Final – Stanza 3	
	3.30 pm	Final – Stanza 4	

## 7.3 Seating

**7.3.1** Except as provided in 7.3.2, team captains toss for seating rights. The captain winning the toss may elect to sit first or second. In matches involving multiple stanzas, the order of seating rights reverses for each subsequent stanza.

**7.3.2** Teams containing pairs that have registered a YELLOW system lose seating rights for all stanzas in all matches, up until the Final. Seating rights for the Final are determined as in 7.3.1.

## 7.4 Scoring and Draw

**7.4.1** KO and finals matches are scored by net IMPs.

**7.4.2** Matches in the Swiss repechage are scored by IMPs converted to VPs using the WBF scale for 12 board matches.

**7.4.3** Insofar as possible, in the Swiss repechage, Repechage Finals and Semi-Finals, no team shall play a team that it has played previously in any stage of the event. Notwithstanding, losers from KO Round 5 may not be drawn to play one another in the Repechage Finals, and winners from KO Round 5 may not be drawn to play one another in the Semi-Finals.

- 7.4.4** The draw for Swiss repechage Round 1 is random. The draw for subsequent rounds is according to rank. KO losers that enter the Swiss Repechage after KO Rounds 2, 3 and 4 will be ranked by lot.
- 7.4.5** Losers in KO Round 1 enter the Swiss repechage with a score of 0 VPs and 0 IMPs.  
Losers in KO Round 2 enter the Swiss repechage with a VP and IMP score equal to 90% of the Leader's score, but no more than 7.5 VPs less than the Leader's score.  
Losers in KO Round 3 enter the Swiss repechage with a VP and IMP score equal to 95% of the Leader's score, but no more than 4.5 VPs less than the Leader's score.  
Losers in KO Round 4 enter the Swiss repechage on the same VP and IMP score as the Leader.
- 7.4.6** Losers from KO Round 4 may not be drawn to play one another in Swiss repechage Round 7.
- 7.4.7** In the event that a team should forfeit its right to further participation after KO Round 5:  
a) If it is a losing team from KO Round 5, its place in the Repechage Finals shall be taken by the next-ranked team from the Swiss repechage;  
b) If it is a winning team from KO Round 5, its place in the Semi-Finals shall be taken by the team it defeated in KO Round 5.  
c) If it is a team from the Swiss repechage, its place in the Repechage Finals shall be taken by the next-ranked team from the Swiss repechage.
- 7.4.8** In the event that 7.4.3 fails to determine the draw for the Repechage Finals and/or Semi-Finals, the following processes will be employed in order:  
i) for the Repechage Finals, if a specific draw would, regardless of the result of the matches, allow for a possible Semi-Final draw which does not breach 7.4.3, it will be used;  
ii) if a team has already played both of its possible opponents, it will be drawn against the team which it previously played the fewer number of boards;  
iii) if a team has already played both of its possible opponents, it will be drawn against the team which it previously played earlier in the competition;  
iv) lot.

## **7.5 Tie-breaking and carry-over**

- 7.5.1** In the KO rounds, a tie shall be broken by (in order):  
a) using the board-a-match procedure;  
b) total points;  
c) lot.
- 7.5.2** In the Repechage Finals, the losing teams from KO round 5 will carry-forward 0.1 IMPs.
- 7.5.3** In the Semi-Finals, the winning teams from KO round 5 will carry-forward 0.1 IMPs.
- 7.5.4** Critical ties after the final round of the Swiss repechage are broken by (in order):  
a) the team which remained in the KO section for the greatest number of rounds will be ranked highest;  
b) calculating the mean total VP score of all the opponents of each team – the team with the highest total shall be ranked highest;  
c) calculating the mean total net IMP score of all the opponents of each team – the team with the highest total shall be ranked highest;  
d) lot.
- 7.5.5** Ties in the Final shall not be broken.

## 8 Event Details – GNOTPC

### 8.1 Format

- 8.1.1** The GNOTPC will be played in a stratified Swiss format over seven 8-board matches. The size of the field is limited to 80 pairs. This limit may be extended at the discretion of the TO.
- 8.1.2** Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 8.1.3. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the ABF Swiss Pairs VP Scale.
- 8.1.3** The datum will be the arithmetic mean (rounded to the closest 10) 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.
- a) for Matches 1-3, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables;
  - b) for Matches 4-5, 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;
  - c) for Matches 6-7, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top 12 tables.
- 8.1.4** The field will be stratified into three categories, viz. Metropolitan Pairs, Provincial Pairs and Country Pairs according to GNOT Regions. The Regions are detailed in the Appendices.
- 8.1.5** Pairs, irrespective of stratification, may be drawn against any other pair in the field.

### 8.2 Tie-breaking

- 8.2.1** During the Swiss, ties are broken by net IMPs, then by lot.
- 8.2.2** At the conclusion of the event, ties will be broken for first place overall and by category in accordance with ABF TR 15, as detailed in the Appendices. Ties for other places will not be broken.

### 8.3 Session Times

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

Sunday, December 1	9.15 am	Swiss round 1
	10.15 am	Swiss round 2
	11.15 am	Swiss round 3
	12.15 pm	Swiss round 4
	2.00 pm	Swiss round 5
	3.00 pm	Swiss round 6
	4.00 pm	Swiss round 7
	5.00 pm	Hospitality and presentation of medallions

## 9 Playoff Qualifying Points

9.1 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) in the GNOT National Final are awarded to each eligible player as below

Place	1	2	=3	=3
PQP	32	16	4	4

9.2 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 4 matches in the KO Phase and Swiss repechage combined, and at least two stanzas in the semi-final and final.

9.3 In the event of a tie for first, each eligible player will receive 24 PQP.

## Appendices

### 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 and a slow play warning has previously been issued to a pair, the following penalties may be applied at the director's discretion:

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

### GNOT National Final Qualified Teams

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



## GNOT Pairs Championship Stratification

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

## GNOT Swiss Repechage VP Scale

IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs
0	10.00 - 10.00	14	14.22 - 5.78	28	17.08 - 2.92	42	19.02 - 0.98
1	10.36 - 9.64	15	14.46 - 5.54	29	17.24 - 2.76	43	19.13 - 0.87
2	10.71 - 9.29	16	14.70 - 5.30	30	17.40 - 2.60	44	19.24 - 0.76
3	11.05 - 8.95	17	14.93 - 5.07	31	17.56 - 2.44	45	19.34 - 0.66
4	11.38 - 8.62	18	15.15 - 4.85	32	17.71 - 2.29	46	19.44 - 0.56
5	11.70 - 8.30	19	15.37 - 4.63	33	17.86 - 2.14	47	19.54 - 0.46
6	12.01 - 7.99	20	15.58 - 4.42	34	18.00 - 2.00	48	19.64 - 0.36
7	12.31 - 7.69	21	15.79 - 4.21	35	18.14 - 1.86	49	19.74 - 0.26
8	12.61 - 7.39	22	15.99 - 4.01	36	18.28 - 1.72	50	19.83 - 0.17
9	12.90 - 7.10	23	16.18 - 3.82	37	18.41 - 1.59	51	19.92 - 0.08
10	13.18 - 6.82	24	16.37 - 3.63	38	18.54 - 1.46	52+	20.00 - 0.00
11	13.45 - 6.55	25	16.55 - 3.45	39	18.66 - 1.34		
12	13.71 - 6.29	26	16.73 - 3.27	40	18.78 - 1.22		
13	13.97 - 6.03	27	16.91 - 3.09	41	18.90 - 1.10		

## GNOT Pairs Championship VP Scale

IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs	IMP diff.	VPs
0	10.00 - 10.00	8	13.12 - 6.88	16	15.74 - 4.26	24	18.04 - 1.96
1	10.39 - 9.61	9	13.51 - 6.49	17	16.03 - 3.97	25	18.32 - 1.68
2	10.78 - 9.22	10	13.90 - 6.10	18	16.32 - 3.68	26	18.60 - 1.40
3	11.17 - 8.83	11	14.29 - 5.71	19	16.61 - 3.39	27	18.88 - 1.12
4	11.56 - 8.44	12	14.58 - 5.42	20	16.90 - 3.10	28	19.16 - 0.84
5	11.95 - 8.05	13	14.87 - 5.13	21	17.19 - 2.81	29	19.44 - 0.56
6	12.34 - 7.66	14	15.16 - 4.84	22	17.48 - 2.52	30	19.72 - 0.28
7	12.73 - 7.27	15	15.45 - 4.55	23	17.76 - 2.24	31+	20.00 - 0.00

## Tie-breaking in GNOT Pairs Championship

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