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To ALL GNOT CAPTAINS
From Val Brockwell, ABF Secretariat
Date 27 September 1999
Subject GNOT Final - Sydney - 12-15 November 1999

TRAVEL

Each team captain will receive a travel subsidy from the ABF for four players.

For teams travelling to Sydney from interstate, from the Northern Rivers of NSW and from Broken Hill, the subsidy will be 100% of the cheapest economy class airfare for four adults.

For teams travelling to Sydney from elsewhere in non-metropolitan New South Wales or ACT, the subsidy will be 100% of the standard bus fare for four adults.

Sometimes in the past, players have found that they cannot return home on the flights they have booked because, perhaps unexpectedly, they qualify for the semi-finals or final, and that the airlines impose financial penalties for re-booking. The ABF will now meet this contingency. Provided that a player's original return flight is the last scheduled flight from Sydney on Sunday evening 15 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.

The team captain will receive the subsidy by ABF cheque and will be responsible for making the travel arrangements. The cheques will be distributed during the Saturday of the GNOT at the venue by the GNOT Convenor. However, exceptions may be made on the grounds of financial hardship and the cheque forwarded at an earlier date provided the captain makes application to the ABF Secretariat explaining the circumstances.

ACCOMMODATION

Players in the GNOT are expected to make their own arrangements about accommodation.

PLACE

The event will be held at the Wynyard Vista Hotel situated very close to Wynyard station in York Street, Sydney.

TIME

The event commences on Friday 12 November. There are two starting times, viz. 10.45am (for the 24 teams that **do not** have a first-round bye) and 1.30pm (for the 20 teams that **do** have a first-round bye).

The teams that have a first round bye (and thus start play at 1.30pm) are:

Adelaide 1	Sydney 6	Sunshine Coast
Adelaide 2	Melbourne 1	Wide Bay
Sydney 1	Melbourne 2	Far North Queensland
Sydney 2	ACT 1	Darling Downs
Sydney 3	ACT 2	Northern Rivers
Sydney 4	Brisbane 1	Northern Victoria
Sydney 5	Perth 1	

The teams that do not have a first round bye (and thus start play at 10.45am) are:

Adelaide 3	Tasmania 1	Hunter 2
Sydney 7	Tasmania 2	North Coast
Sydney 8	Northern Territory	Central Coast
Melbourne 3	Gold Coast	Tablelands-South Coast
Brisbane 2	Capricornia	Central-Northern
Brisbane 3	Gippsland	South-West NSW
Perth 2	SA Provincial	Western NSW
Perth 3	Hunter 1	WA Country

FORMAT

1. There are 44 teams. The field will be seeded taking into account form, past performance, and region of origin.
2. The event (until the semi-final stage) will be played in 16-board sets.
3. The event will commence as a knockout, the first round being of 16 boards. From each of the matches, the 12 winning teams will progress to the second knockout round and the 12 losing teams will enter the Swiss repechage.
4. The second knockout round will comprise 32 teams and will be played over 32 boards. The losers will enter the Swiss repechage.
5. The third knockout round will comprise 16 teams and will be played over 32 boards. The losers will enter the Swiss repechage.
6. The fourth knockout round will comprise eight teams and will be played over 32 boards. The losers will enter the Swiss repechage.
7. The fifth knockout round will comprise four teams and will be played over 48 boards. The winners will proceed directly to the semi-finals and the losers will proceed to the repechage playoff.
8. The repechage playoff will comprise four teams, the two losers from the fifth-round knockout and the two top teams from the Swiss. The repechage playoff will be over 20 boards and the two winning teams will proceed to the semi-finals.

9. The semi-finals will be played over 48 boards, in four 12-board sets.
10. The final will be played over 64 boards in four 16-board sets.

TIMETABLE Friday-Monday 12-15 November 1999

FRIDAY	10.45	Knockout Round 1	Set 1
	1.30	Knockout Round 2	Sets 1 & 2
		Swiss repechage	Rnds 1 & 2
	7.30	Knockout Round 3	Sets 1 & 2
		Swiss repechage	Rnds 3 & 4
SATURDAY	10.00	Knockout Round 4	Set 1
		Swiss Repechage	Rnd 5
	1.30	Knockout Round 4	Set 2
		Swiss repechage	Rnd 6
	3.45	Knockout Round 5	Set 1
	Swiss repechage	Rnd 7	
	7.30	Knockout Round 5	Sets 2 & 3
		Swiss repechage	Rnds 8 & 9
SUNDAY	10.00	Repechage Playoff	Boards 1-20
	1.30	Semi-finals	Boards 1-24
	7.30	Semi-finals	Boards 25-48
MONDAY	10.00	Final	Boards 1-16
	by agreement	Final	Boards 17-48
		Final	Boards 49-64

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.

1. Knockout regulations. YELLOW systems will be permitted in all the 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 (Richard Grenside) by 1.30pm on 12 November 1999. Failure to comply may result in disallowance of the system.
2. Repechage regulations. YELLOW systems will not be permitted in this phase of the event.

SCORING

Knockout matches will be scored by IMPs. The 12 first-round losers will enter the Swiss with a score of 0 VPs. 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 lower.

HOSPITALITY

There will be a small function at close of play on Saturday evening 13 November.

AUSTRALIAN PROVINCIAL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

This event will be staged on Sunday 14 November commencing at 10.00am. It will be a 2-session pairs event finishing about 5.15pm. Pairs that have played in the GNOT representing country regions, the Northern Territory and Tasmania, and have been eliminated, are eligible for the Australian Provincial Pairs Championship. There is no entry fee. There will be pre-dealt boards and hand records. Masterpoints will be awarded at the A3 level. A trophy will be awarded to the winning pair. Entries will be taken at close of play on Saturday 13 November.

