

# Summer Festival Survey Comments

## Collected during Week 1

- No night play
- Night play and back to Rydges
- Shorter matches finishing Thursday evening
- Computer admin is appalling
- Deko with Swiss repechage
- No Monday play less rounds
- Home table is much better
- Quarterfinal should be 64 boards
- 14 board matches with longer lunch break
- Shorter time between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> match, time allowed per match is too long
- Shorter break between sessions
- Shorter matches, more matches
- 8 x 14 Swiss, final on Sunday
- Earlier start and longer gaps between matches
- Cash prizes for 1,2,3 in Swiss and sectional prizes to encourage newer/weaker players
- As per current format for Womens, Seniors etc.
- Get a decent scoring program, proper datums to be published, quicker scores on website
- Day 1 groups of 4, 3 matches, top 2 progress, remainder to bowl, top teams into groups, play round robin – top 2 progress losers into cup etc, have winner in each category
- Divide the field into 12 seeded groups. On Monday/Tuesday AM play 5 or 6 rounds of Swiss within each group (say 5 x 16 or 6 x 14). At lunch time Tuesday the top 3 or 4 from each group form a field of 36 or 48 to a second stage. The next 3 or 4 in each group form a secondary field of 36 or 48 – a second stage ‘plate’. The rest of each group form a third field – the consolation. The 3 separate groups play a 8 to10 round Swiss within each group starting Tues pm until Thurs pm to qualify finalists within each group – thus 3 final groups. In the Premier group the top 16 continue whilst only 8 in the plate and consolation. In this stage the Swiss in 8 x 16 or 10 x 14. Alternately, top 14 of Premier group plus 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of plate comprise final 16. Hence after stage I all 72 or 96 teams are still capable of winning the event. Premier group of 16 have ro16, QF on Friday, Semi on Saturday, Final on Sunday.

Consolation and plate groups of 8 have QF and SF on Friday, final on Saturday. New tournament on Friday – say mixed pairs and mixed teams on Sat/Sun for non-finalists. This format means the top 36/48 play 8-10 rounds of quality opponents with a final on Sunday, not Monday – less Swissing in. People outside the top 36/48 are playing to actually win something other than Masterpoints on Wed/Thurs. They also may experience ‘finals’ bridge. As things stand people at over 100 tables are playing meaningless bridge for virtually 3 days. Also people need to plan to stay until Sat night in case they make a final. More players for the mixed or a new tournament.

- Played in the seniors teams this year. The quality of the scoring process i.e the accuracy of the scores, the time to post results, the correction of errors, the display of the results on TV screens (scrolled far too quickly and suggestions to slow it down were ignored), the time it took to put up draws and time to get scores/draws onto the internet all left a lot to be desired and detracted from enjoyment of the event (how can the results of match be reversed when bridgmate units are used??). Also the demeanour of some of the scoring staff was poor to lay the least. If this experience is translated to the SWPT it would be a significant minus for the event.
- Longer between sessions – change the dates so it does not clash with Aust. Open Tennis.
- Less time between sessions please
- I don't care what the format is so long as there are not such long periods for lunch and the afternoon break.
- Too long allocated per board.
- I don't like 20 board matches – prefer 16 or 14.
- I would prefer 4 sessions of 14 boards.
- Too many events to choose from, so some events have very small fields. Reduce events and increase fields.
- Much prefer the home table format.
- Chance to improve bridge skills/technique, meet like minded people improve partnerships, possibilities, experiences.
- More clubs should be encouraged to provide free entry to a 4-6 member team as a prize for winning a club event.

### **Collected during Week 2**

- A new point a board tournament for half the week then a knockout for the other half of the week, 2 separate events in total.
- Australia should have a serious match point event calls the Australian Open pairs, perhaps on wed/Thu/Fri with format c above.

- Lots of 15 board matches.
- First stage a 6 round Swiss amongst 12 groups to qualify top 4 (i.e. 48) to stage 2 is an 8 round Swiss to qualify top 16, then knockout.
- Finish earlier in the evening with smaller break between afternoon sessions.
- Cut the field sooner to get into playing better opponents, Swiss far too long. Format as knockout, but start a new event instead of continuing Swiss. Also more caddies, less directors (seem to stand around all the time doing nothing), like playing conditions of convention centre but no real bar. You also need to get more effort into working out why numbers are dropping, maybe not just format.
- Bring back Vu-Graph – great night for everyone.
- I prefer 1.5 hours for lunch and 2.5 for dinner.
- Short qualifying (max 2 days) to a straight 64 team KO with final on Sunday. Lots of 2-session stand-alone events, possibly modelled on ACBL NABC. Also structure the SF to run for 3 sessions per day, with, for example, evening 2-session pairs event run over 2 consecutive days.
- Total lack of ambiance at ugly NCC.
- Finish Sunday, start maybe Sunday.
- 20 qualifiers is too many. Bring back night play.
- Prefer Wednesday free, or ½ day free.
- Current format with 3 fewer matches ending 3:30 on Thursday. Regarding earlier start Monday – but then it would be better if the Swiss pairs finished a little earlier previous night.
- Don't like bidding boxes, the almost total failure/refusal to use alert card properly and difficulties in following auctions when alerts (if made) then disappear.
- Enjoy the challenge of meeting and playing against competitors you don't know.
- Suggest that an additional category be introduced "Provincial" so that inland players have a better chance in the "Country" category.
- Why is no clock showing local time available when you want mobile phones off.

#### **Collected at the Gold Coast**

- Gold Coast is my first congress, will try Canberra next year, perhaps.
- Don't change the format.
- Real \$ prizes as in GC, and extra \$10 per player would resolve.

- Too heavy timetable, aircon terrible in Rydges.
- Canberra is an ordinary venue.
- Only play GC, mother plays the rest
- Would prefer SWPT format/timetable at GC
- Far too many rounds for number of teams. Nine rounds Monday to Wednesday more than enough. Then people who miss out can i) watch finalists, ii) go home, iii) play golf, iv) play some more teams or pairs, v) go to the opera house (sic).
- Need to fix the scoring – use McManus.
- We did not come this year, as we did not like the venue, food bad and too expensive. No piano available.
- Like the format – daytime play, free at night, dinner afterwards – good for the GC too.
- Prefer rosenblum style KO
- Played in ~30 NOT's – not particularly interested.
- Too intense, not enough leisure time.
- I want competitive matches. No need for prestige. The fact that it is 'Open' is great.
- I would prefer 14 board matches – like the GC format, would give a little more time for lunch.
- Main event finished when all have gone home – no final dinner.
- Previous times much better, i.e. morning, afternoon, evening.
- 3 sessions per day too much.
- Too hot, no transport, no life/culture/charm etc. Canberra is a desert – wrong time of year.
- 16 board matches, 12 rounds M/T/W, 16 qualify to KO, 64 boards T/F/S/S. Sunday final with Vugraph. Rest play a new team event with gold points/money.
- Prefer 14 board matches, same as GC, but not so many at night.
- Enjoy playing in Canberra and have a jolly good time.

## SWPT Survey results

### Do you play in the SWPT?

	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Total				
<b>week 2 SWPT</b>	155	31	15	5	<b>206</b>				
<b>week 1 NWT etc</b>	111	19	19	39	<b>188</b>				
<b>gold coast</b>	98	35	30	70	<b>233</b>				
				178	<b>627</b>				
	Wrong time of year	SWPT is too long	SWPT venue	Canberra location	SWPT entry cost	Overall Cost	I prefer to play week 1 of the SF	I prefer to play at the Gold Coast	Other
week 2	0	0	0	2	7	0	1	3	0
week 1	0	7	0	3	17	0	34	11	7
gc	23	3	0	27	16	0	5	58	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>14</b>

## How do you rate these criteria?

		1 (Not important)			5 (Important)	
week 2	Gold Masterpoints	65	26	31	26	44
	qualifying for the NOT	90	31	22	17	40
	prestigious event with competitive matches	11	9	40	57	82
	playing matches against strong opponents	12	16	42	60	67
	Social reasons / Holiday	43	21	40	50	28
	PQPs	107	23	25	14	19
week 1	Gold Masterpoints	39	13	29	24	33
	qualifying for the NOT	57	21	23	12	22
	prestigious event with competitive matches	9	8	26	37	58
	playing matches against strong opponents	8	3	13	51	58
	Social reasons / Holiday	37	16	37	28	24
	PQPs	86	18	9	9	9
gc	Gold Masterpoints	53	17	32	13	23
	qualifying for the NOT	42	9	29	20	34
	prestigious event with competitive matches	7	7	23	43	60
	playing matches against strong opponents	6	6	18	43	65
	Social reasons / Holiday	33	22	28	30	24
	PQPs	61	15	13	15	13

## What are your feelings on the SWPT format?

week 2	Current Swiss format	15	21	45	26	82
	2 fewer Swiss matches	60	23	42	33	32
	Knock-Out with Swiss Repechage	63	18	37	30	29
week 1	Current Swiss format	8	10	38	31	56
	2 fewer Swiss matches	55	17	36	15	18
	Knock-Out with Swiss Repechage	47	26	44	11	12
gc	Current Swiss format	20	12	28	21	36
	2 fewer Swiss matches	32	16	28	16	19
	Knock-Out with Swiss Repechage	31	11	28	14	20

## Overall summary

### Incentives

<b>Totals</b>	<b>Gold Masterpoints</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>
	<b>qualifying for the NOT prestigious event with competitive matches playing matches against strong opponents</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>96</b>
	<b>Social reasons / Holiday PQPs</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>200</b>
		<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>190</b>
		<b>113</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>76</b>
		<b>254</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41</b>

### Format

<b>Current Swiss format</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>174</b>
<b>2 fewer Swiss matches</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Knock-Out with Swiss Repechage</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>