

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE – 2012 REGULATIONS

05/01/2012

1 GENERAL

- a) *The Summer Festival is conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) as Regulating Authority (defined by Law 80) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations, Screen Regulations, Written Bidding & Bidding Box Regulations, System Regulations, Alerting Regulations and Appeals Regulations as applicable and the Supplementary Regulations of each separate event.*
- b) *In these Regulations abbreviations include ABF, Australian Bridge Federation; AMPC, Australian Multi-Pairs Championship; BRP, Blue Ribbon Pairs; FP, Flighted Pairs; IMP, International Match Points; LT, Last Train; LMT, Life Masters Teams; MP, masterpoints; NLM, National Non-Life Masters Teams; NNT, National Novice Teams; NOSP, National Open Swiss Pairs; NRSP, National Restricted Swiss Pairs; NOT, National Open Teams; NST, National Senior Teams; NWT, National Womens Teams; PQP, Playoff Qualifying Points; SFOB, Summer Festival of Bridge; SWPT, South-West Pacific Teams; CTD, Chief Tournament Director; VP, Victory Points; WBF, World Bridge Federation; XT, Australian Mixed Teams.*
- c) *The ABF reserves the right to alter, without notice, the conditions of any event according to the number of entries received.*
- d) *English is the official language of the SFOB. During a session players and spectators may converse only in English unless both captains (teams) or all four players at the table (pairs) agree to use some other language understood by both contestants, at their own risk. If necessary, interpretation into English is the responsibility of the (team) captain. Appeals based on misunderstanding in a language other than English are not permitted.*
- e) *Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the CTD or Tournament Organiser (VuGraph, Bridge Base On-Line webcast, written bidding, bidding boxes, pick-up slips, table record sheets, electronic scoring units etc.). Players must record the official score for each board immediately after it is played and before the commencement of the next board. It is the player's responsibility to check entry into and results from electronic scorers.*
- f) *The Time of Appeal (Law 92B) for each session expires 30 minutes after the time calculated for its duration as described in #G2 unless:*
 - g) *provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations* or
 - h) *the team commences a tie-break or the next match of a knockout*
 - i) *The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expires 30 minutes after the score is available for inspection unless:*
 - j) *provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations* or
 - k) *the team commences a tie-break or the next match of a knockout*
 - l) *A score or result recorded by an official that is in conflict with the table record may be altered until*
 - m) *the commencement of the last stanza of the stage for errors made previously*
 - n) *30 minutes after posting of the scores for errors relating to the last stanza of that stage.*

2 TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

- a) *The Tournament Organiser is Sean Mullamphy.*
- b) *The CTD is Sean Mullamphy.*
- c) *The Appeal Sub-Committee Convener is Eric Ramshaw.*
- d) *The Tournament Sub-Committee Convener is Eric Ramshaw.*
- e) *The representative of the ABF Tournament Committee is Eric Ramshaw.*
- f) *The ABF Recorders are John Brockwell and Peter Grant.*
- g) *The Convener of the Appeal or Tournament Sub-Committee appoints its members and is the sole judge of its quorum.*

3 ELIGIBILITY, AUGMENTATION, PLAYOFF QUALIFYING POINTS (PQP)

- a) 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".
- b) For events restricted by MP holding or status, players not resident in Australia must supply evidence that they are eligible to play in events with similar restrictions in the NBO with which they are registered.
- c) For restricted categories 0-49, 0-99, 0-149 MP, a player's Grand Slam ranking must be less than 58%.
- d) The Tournament Organiser may nominate a "house" contestant for any event. Unless the Tournament Sub-Committee determines otherwise a "house contestant"
 - I. consists of any number of players including ineligible players
 - II. is ineligible to place
 - III. and its opponents receive IMP, VP & MP according to the actual result

e) Requirements for Augmentation, Continuation and Eligibility for titles, MP & PQP

Minimum Requirements*/Event	XT	NNT	LMT	SWPT	N(S)WT
* Tie-break boards are not included		NLM	N(S)WT		NOT
Format	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	Final Series
	10x10	8x20	9x20	12x20	4x16
Augmentation (before round)	7	6	6	8	none
title/next stage eligibility (stanza)	3	2	3	3	1=25%
MP eligibility (stanza)	4	3	4	6	2=50%
PQP (stanza)			4	6	2=50%

- I. A team-of-four or -five entered in the NNT, NLM, LMT, NST, NWT, SWPT or XT is permitted to augment to a team-of-five or -six during the qualifying Swiss before the round shown.
- II. Teams that qualify through the Swiss or SWPT are not permitted to augment for the final series of the NST & NWT or the NOT respectively.
- III. To be eligible to enter a final series (the semifinal/final of the NST or NWT and the NOT) a team must warrant its availability for all sessions of that final series.
- IV. A team that qualifies for a final series or the NOT without at least four members who satisfy the eligibility conditions is replaced by the team ranked next in the qualifying event.
- V. To receive PQP at least one member of the team must be eligible to represent Australia and, if required, the player must submit the declaration of eligibility after complying with all regulations concerning eligibility and board requirements.
 1. Players who become ineligible receive 50% of the PQP to which their team became entitled before they became ineligible.
 2. Tied contestants share PQP even though the tie may be split for organizational reasons.
 3. Detailed information about PQP and the mode of entry to the Playoff for Australian team selection is available only on the ABF website at abf.com.au.

f) Restricted categories. Contestants must complete the relevant entry form. Eligibility is:

Overall	all members	Event: Trophy
Veteran	all members born before 1 st January 1948	
Senior	all members born before 1 st January 1954	SWPT: Eva Hardy Trophy
Women	all team members female	
Mixed	at least one male and one female must play in every round	SWPT: Brian Rawson Trophy
Country	all members Australian residents outside metropolitan Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney	
Youth	all members born on or after 1/1/1986	SWPT: Neil Mathieson
Novice	all team members have less than 150 MP at 30/09/11	
Zone 7	all team members eligible to represent a Zone 7 NBO other than Australia	NOT: New Zealand High Commissioner's Trophy
ACT	recent ACT activity (assessed by the trophy donor)	NOT: Lew Thomson Trophy

- g) *In any one event a contestant with multiple qualifications is eligible to win the trophy/prize (or compete in the category final) only for the category ranked highest in the list shown in #C6 above. The successful contestant is deleted from other categories. Notwithstanding this regulation, the winners of the Zone 7 & ACT trophies are eligible to win one of the SWPT category trophies.*
- h) *In case of a withdrawal, #14 of the ABF Tournament Regulations is applied.*
- i) *In case of a disqualification, the Tournament Sub-Committee may declare all results obtained by the disqualified contestant prior to its disqualification void and determine that the score of their opponents be cancelled or varied.*

4 SYSTEMS AND PROTECTED PAIRS

- a) *The onus rests with all pairs to classify their system(s) as GREEN, BLUE, RED or YELLOW and their BROWN STICKER convention(s) according to the ABF System Regulations. A pair in doubt about these classifications should submit a concise summary to the Tournament Organiser.*
- b) *The ABF System Regulations require each pair to disclose their system(s) by providing the opponents before the start of play with two identical system cards. A pair may disclose a YELLOW system on either a WBF or an ABF system card; all others must use the relevant ABF standard system cards.*
- c) *A dispute during the SFOB concerning the classification of a convention or system is determined by the ABF Tournament Committee representative whose decision is final and not subject to appeal.*
- d) *Failure to complete a system card adequately and classify the system correctly may result in system reclassification. Failure to comply with the submission requirements or reclassification may result in the adjustment of scores and/or disallowance of YELLOW systems and BROWN STICKER conventions for all or part of the event.*
- e) *GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events. However BROWN STICKER conventions must not be used against pairs who advise that they have been accorded PROTECTED PAIR status as defined in #D6 & 7.*
- f) *A pair that is playing a GREEN system throughout certain events with both of its players below Life Master or one player below State Master may apply to the CTD for PROTECTED PAIR status for those events and be identified by an ORANGE sticker on the front of its system card.*
- g) *At the SFOB PROTECTED PAIR status is available for the NLM, NNT NSRP and the first stage (qualifying) of the BRP.*
- h) *YELLOW systems may be used, subject to the conditions provided in their Supplementary Regulations, only in the LMT, NWT, SWPT and NOT.*
- i) *Pairs wishing to use a YELLOW system must submit a concise summary, printed or written in black ink on an ABF standard system card or a WBF system card plus a maximum of two supplementary A4 sheets, and a bona fide suggested defence. The submission, specifying the event(s) in which the YELLOW system is to be used, must reach the Festival Secretary before 4pm on 3rd January.*
- j) *Pairs wishing to use a YELLOW system but only as a defence to a YELLOW system must submit a concise summary, printed or written in black ink on an ABF standard system card plus a maximum of two supplementary A4 sheets, and a bona fide suggested counter-defence. This submission must be handed to the CTD before the commencement of the event in which they wish to use the system.*
- k) *For defence against a YELLOW system a pair using a GREEN, BLUE or RED system may change their system, including opening calls.*
- l) *During the auction, pairs may use written notes of their defence or counter-defence for YELLOW systems and defence for convention(s) that make(s) a system BROWN STICKER provided that they comply with regulations #D13-15 below. During the play period, written notes of a pair's defence or counter-defence may be consulted **only** to answer a question from the opponents.*
- m) *A written defence must be: printed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet; identical for each player; approved by and lodged with the Director at least 15 minutes before the scheduled session time; submitted to the opponents at least 10 minutes before the scheduled session time; available to the opponents during the auction and play.*
- n) *A written counter-defence must be approved by the Director and two copies submitted to the opponents at the start of play.*

- o) A pair using a YELLOW system must not change its opening calls for a defence or counter-defence.

5 RULINGS AND APPEALS

- a) Requests for a Director's ruling and Appeals against a Director's ruling must be made within the Time of Appeal provided in #A6. A Director's ruling must be communicated to the players before the conclusion of the next session.
- b) Appeals must be notified to one of
1. the Director who gave the ruling
 2. the duty Director at the conclusion of the session
 3. the CTD at the venue.
- c) Each appeal against a Director's ruling must be lodged in person on the approved Appeal Form.
- d) When an Appeal Sub-Committee judges an appeal to be without merit, it awards a procedural penalty, on the scale specified in the Appeals Regulations, against the appellant's score.

6 FOULED BOARDS

- a) Hands are generated by computer using the ABF dealing program; the appropriate number of copies is replicated and hand records are provided. A board which does not correspond to the hand record is not necessarily "fouled".
- b) Law 87 determines that a board is fouled when "the Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board, in such a manner that contestants who should have a direct score comparison did not play the board in identical form".
- c) A ruling that a board was fouled must be sought within the Correction Period (#A7; Law 79C).
- d) Fouled boards are scored as described in the sections below for the various types of event.
- e) Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations for a specific event, should it be proved, within the correction period, that a hand has been played previously in any tournament in Australia or has been reported in any magazine or newspaper article then the result of that hand is cancelled at all tables at which the hand was played. Such boards are not regarded as fouled and no additional boards are added to the session except in the case where every board in a session is cancelled in which case the session is replayed.

7 PROCEDURAL PENALTIES

- a) **Late Arrival:** It is the responsibility of the players to know the starting time of sessions and be seated ready to play five minutes before that time.
- b) **Slow Play:** Unless the CTD announces some other period, the duration of a session is based on 7.5 minutes per board without screens and 8.0 minutes per board with screens.
4. In Swiss stanzas boards not started within 5 minutes of the scheduled finish of the session are removed and not played.
 5. Where a stanza, round, session or match is not completed in the time allotted, both contestants at the offending table(s) are penalised unless the Director rules otherwise. The Director may make such a ruling after being called to the table during the play period or as a result of his own observations or those of any appointed time-monitor.
- c) **Submission of result sheets.** When the CTD so determines, contestants must agree the result and deliver a signed table record sheet/result slip to the Director/Scorer as soon as the result is agreed and no later than 5 minutes after the time scheduled for completion of the stanza.
- d) Procedural penalties for late arrival or slow play are set out below for the various types of event.
- e) Other procedural penalties are determined on a scale considered, in the absolute discretion of the CTD, to be consistent with one of the scales shown below.
- f) Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, the calculation of carryover from stage to stage includes disciplinary penalties and procedural penalties. Warnings carryover from stage to stage.

8 SUBSTITUTES

- a) A substitute, approved in advance by the CTD or his nominee, may be permitted for cause, not convenience, when a contestant does not have the minimum number of players available.
- b) A substitute should be, as far as possible, of the same MP classification as the player replaced.
- c) A substitute must not be an entrant in the current stage of the event but may be an entrant who was eliminated in a previous stage.
- d) The extent of substitutions is:

Number of stanzas (n)	1	2, 3	4, 5	6	n>6	7-9	10	14
substitutes allowed (number of stanzas)	0	1	2	3	0.5n-1 (rounded down)	3	4	6

- e) Notwithstanding clauses #1-4, ABF Tournament Regulation #4.1.2 authorises emergency substitutions and, in the last resort, the CTD may approve any substitution to continue an event.

9 EVENTS SCORED BY IMP/VP

a) DRAW AND SEATING

Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations for a specific event

- I. The fields are seeded.
- II. Teams registering one or more YELLOW systems for that event
- III. lose all seating rights for all stanzas against teams not registering a YELLOW system, even for stanzas in which no Yellow system is played
- IV. must declare their line-up within 5 minutes of the draw being posted for each stanza.
- V. In knockout matches seating rights are determined by toss of a coin. The team winning the toss has the right to sit first or last for the first stanza and thereafter the order of seating reverses each stanza.
- VI. In all other circumstances the AWAY contestant sits first. HOME and AWAY is decided as equitably as possible.
- VII. The HOME contestant, shown first in the draw for each round, sits NS at its HOME table and EW at the opponent's table.
- VIII. When data from the electronic scoring units is used the draw is made at the time specified in the Supplementary Regulations. When data from results slips is used, any score not received by the scorer within 20 minutes of the scheduled time for completion of the particular round is treated as a score of 20 VP/20 VP for the purposes of the draw.
- IX. Until the scheduled commencement of play in the last round a grossly-defective draw (as a result of appeals, correction of scoring errors etc.) is corrected. For other rounds, and at the (sole) discretion of the CTD, a grossly-defective draw may be altered in a manner that causes minimal disruption.
- X. The draw is performed according to the principles below.

b) Swiss Events

- I. The draw for the first round is of the form $1 \text{ v } 1 + 0.5n$.
- II. The draw for subsequent rounds is according to rank determined by VP excluding all penalties.
- III. The contestant ranked highest plays the contestant ranked next that it has not played previously and so on.

c) Round Robin

- I. The draw for the first round is random.
- II. The draw for subsequent rounds published in a schedule at the commencement of the event.

d) SCORING

- I. Each contestant must complete a score card.
- II. Scoring is by VP.
- III. Swiss Teams and Butler Pairs: IMP against a datum, calculated as the arithmetic mean of the scores remaining after eliminating the two highest and the two lowest scores, are converted to VP by the appropriate WBF scale.
- IV. Round Robin and Knockout Teams matches: VP equivalent to IMP.
- V. Final Placing: Except events with a final series, the final placing is the rankings after the last round.

e) FOULED BOARDS

- I. For head-to-head team matches the result of the fouled board is cancelled. 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 stanza. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 3 IMP assigned unless the match has a subsequent stanzas in which case the substitute board must be played in that next stanza.
- II. For events where contestant's scores are compared against a datum, the Director's aim is to preserve the board if a meaningful result can be obtained. The Director determines that either
 1. fouling was of no consequence and one or more of the results of the board be included in the datum calculation or
 2. results on the board be treated in separate groups and datums be calculated for each group as above except that only the highest and lowest scores are eliminated for 3-6 results or
 3. one or more results be treated individually and the datum for each board be the actual result on that board (i.e. a score of 2 IMP is awarded to contestants who played these boards).

f) TIES

A tie exists when more than one contestant (pair or team) has the identical number of VP. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, ties are broken by serial application of the measures below. To determine the

- I. Swiss draw for
 - ◆ the first six rounds by
 - net IMP
 - lot
 - ◆ subsequent rounds by
 - the total of the VP scores of all their opponents
 - lot.
- II. rankings after the last round of a Swiss by
 - ◆ the total of the VP scores of all their opponents
 - ◆ the number of wins in VP (15/15=0.5)
 - ◆ net IMP
 - ◆ lot.
- III. rankings in a round robin by
 - ◆ the number of wins in VP (15/15=0.5)
 - ◆ net IMP in the round robin
 - ◆ lot.
- IV. winner of a semi-final or final by playoff
 - ◆ play of four boards
 - ◆ play of one board, repeated
 - ◆ at the expiration of the scheduled time, lot.

g) PROCEDURAL PENALTIES

- I. Procedural penalties for late arrival in a match scored by IMP or a WBF VP scale, are:-

N minutes late	Procedural penalty	N minutes late	Procedural penalty
First offence < 5 min	warning	10 ≤ N < 15	6 IMP or 2 VP
Subsequent offence < 5 min	3 IMP or 1 VP	15 ≤ N < 20	9 IMP or 3 VP
5 ≤ N < 10	3 IMP or 1 VP	20 ≤ N < 30	15 IMP or 5 VP

For arrival later than 30 minutes the penalty may be more severe (including disqualification).

For every board withdrawn following late arrival an artificial adjusted score is awarded

offenders -3 IMP non-offenders +3 IMP

- II. Procedural penalties for slow play that results in removal of boards, applied to each contestant after one warning, are 1 VP for the first board plus 2 VP for each subsequent board in the same event.
- III. Procedural penalties for slow play in a head-to-head match scored by IMP, for the time that the director assesses as that team's responsibility, are:

First offence (<10 min)	Warning
First offence (≥10 min)	0.5 IMP per minute or part thereof beyond 10 min
Subsequent offences	1 IMP per minute or part thereof

- IV. Procedural penalties for late submission of results are 1 VP per offence, applied after one warning per contestant.

- V. Procedural penalties for late submission of line-ups are

- ♦ loss of seating rights
AND
- ♦ loss of the right to play a YELLOW system without approval from both the opposing captain and the CTD
AND
- ♦ a procedural penalty against the team total:

1 st offence	3 VP	2 nd offence	6 VP	3 rd & subsequent offences	9 VP
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h) FORFEITS

- I. In the case of a forfeit in a match scored by a WBF VP scale, the score, for purposes of making the draw or calculating current placing, is:
- ♦ Non-offenders 18 VP and the mean IMP of the 18-12 VP range
 - ♦ Offenders 0 VP and the IMP score assigned to 0 VP.
- II. After the last round the score of the non-offending contestant is adjusted to the highest of:
- ♦ 18 VP, or
 - ♦ its mean VP score for completed rounds, or
 - ♦ 30 VP less the mean VP score for completed rounds of the offending team (max. 25 VP).

The non-offender's IMP score is the mean of the range of the VP allocated.

The offender's score is 0 VP and the IMP score assigned to 0 VP.

10 EVENTS SCORED BY MATCHPOINTS

a) SCORING

- I. A score or result recorded that is in conflict with the table record may be altered within the earlier of commencement of the next session or the Correction Period (#A8) for the last round/stanza of that stage.
- II. There is no carryover from stage to stage.

b) FOULED BOARDS

- I. To score a fouled board the Director divides the scores into groups on the basis of the scores made in each form of the board; each contestant is awarded the match point units calculated by the computer scoring program.

c) TIES

- I. Ties in any stage are broken by applying ABF Tournament Regulation #15 to that stage.

d) PROCEDURAL PENALTIES

- I. Procedural penalties for late arrival in a match-pointed event, expressed as a percentage of the maximum possible score on one board, are:-

<i>N minutes late</i>	<i>Procedural penalty</i>
<i>$5 \leq N < 10$</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>$10 \leq N < 15$</i>	<i>20%</i>

Non-offenders are awarded the greater of 60% or their percentage earned on boards played in the stanza for every board withdrawn following late arrival.

When a number of boards are unable to be played due to late arrival, a non-offending unit is awarded the greater of 60% or its session average for every board not played.

- II. Procedural penalties, at the discretion of the Director, for slow play in a match-pointed event, expressed as a percentage of the maximum possible score on one board, are:-

<i>First offence (<5 minutes)</i>	<i>Warning</i>
<i>First offence (≥ 5 minutes)</i>	<i>5%</i>
<i>Subsequent offences</i>	<i>10%.</i>

11 SUBSTITUTION

1. A pair may be permitted a substitute for one session in each stage of the event.