

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE 2017 SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

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1 General

1.1 The Summer Festival of Bridge (SFOB) comprises the following events:

- National Women's Teams (NWT) – Jan 11-13; Finals series – Jan 14-15;
- National Seniors' Teams (NST) – Jan 11-13; Finals series – Jan 14-15;
- National Red Plum Life Masters Teams (NLMT) – Jan 11-13;
- Pianola Plus National Non-Life Masters Teams (NNLMT) – Jan 11-13;
- National Novice Teams (NNT) – Jan 11-13;
- Penline One-Day Swiss Pairs (PSP) – Jan 11;
- National Super Novice Pairs (SNP) – Jan 11;
- National Rising Star Pairs (RSP) – Jan 11;
- National Super Novice Teams (SNT) – Jan 12-13;
- National Rising Star Teams (RST) – Jan 12-13;
- Chris Diment Matchpoint Swiss Pairs (CDP) – Jan 12-13;
- TBIB National Open Swiss Pairs (NOSP) – Jan 14-15;
- Penline 500 Swiss Pairs (P500SP) – Jan 14-15;
- Novice Swiss Pairs (NSP) – Jan 14-15;
- South West Pacific Teams (SWPT) – Jan 16-19;
- National Open Teams (NOT) – Jan 20-22;
- Bridge for Brain Research Flighted Swiss Pairs (FSP) – Jan 20.

These events are conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations. The subsidiary document, 2017 SFOB Event Details, forms part of these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The venue is QT Canberra, London Circuit, Canberra.

1.3 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or 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 in the playing areas or in any other area designated by the TO as a non-smoking area. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 6.3)

- 1.5 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 6.3)
- 1.6 Mobile telephones, iPads and other electronic communication equipment may not be used during the session, unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) 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.
- 1.7 Players in the semi-final and finals of Teams events must lodge any mobile phone or other electronic communication device in their possession with the TO during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) 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 here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first to the ABF Tournament Regulations, thereafter to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2007, and finally to their ordinary English meaning. In the event of doubt or dispute, the decision of the CTD shall be final and conclusive.

2 Officials

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser is Roy Nixon.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Laurie Kelso.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener are Peter Reynolds and Michael Wilkinson.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are David Appleton and David Beauchamp.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representatives are Marcia Scudder and Matthew McManus.
- 2.6 The Recorders are Pam Crichton and Peter Grant.

3 Eligibility, Augmentation and Substitutions

- 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. Overseas players become honorary members of the Foreign Players Club.
- 3.2 Overseas players may apply to enter events restricted by masterpoint status only if they are eligible to play in events with similar criteria within their own NBO. Entry to any such event will only be granted after the applicant's eligibility has been verified. The TO's decision in respect to such eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.
- 3.3 Other eligibility conditions are set out in the document, 2017 SFOB Event Details.
- 3.4 With the consent of the CTD, a team may augment to a maximum of 6 players up until the end of the Augmentation Time. The Augmentation Time for an event expires at the commencement of Match $n/2 + 1$ (rounded down), where n is the number of matches to be played. Any player so added to the team must not have played previously in another team in the same event. No augmentation is permitted in the NOT.

- 3.5 The CTD may approve substitutions in any event. The maximum number of substitutions will be equal to one-half the number of matches, stanzas or sessions (fractions rounded down) in the stage of the event in which the substitution is requested. 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 To ensure the smooth running of the tournament, the TO may nominate a “house contestant” to compete in any event. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players, but is at liberty to nominate others in case of necessity. The conditions under which the “house contestant/s” compete will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 GREEN and BLUE systems are permitted without restriction.
- 4.2 BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events except for the SNP, RSP, SNT and RST.
- 4.3 Eligible pairs may claim Protected Pair status in the NNLMT, NNT, CDP, P500SP, NSP and FSP.
- 4.4 RED systems that employ artificial 1-level opening bids in either or both of the majors are not permitted in the SNP, SNT, RSP, RST, NNLMT, NT, CDP, P500SP, NSP and FSP.
- 4.5 Provided 4.6 has been complied with, YELLOW systems will be allowed in the NWT and SWPT from Round 2 onwards, but may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up). In addition, YELLOW systems may be played in all matches of the NOT.
- 4.6 Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the TO with an adequately completed ABF system card and a bona fide defence before January 11, 2017.

5 Seating

- 5.1 In all matches or stanzas where YELLOW systems are permitted, teams registering one or more YELLOW systems for that event lose all seating rights in matches or stanzas against a team not employing a YELLOW system.
- Exceptions:
- i) Matches and stanzas when both teams have registered one or more YELLOW systems.
 - ii) In all stanzas in the NOT or in the final of the NWT.
- 5.2 Apart from in Knockout matches where 5.3 applies and subject to 5.1, YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted within 10 minutes of the publication of the draw.
- 5.3 In Knockout matches, the team finishing higher in the qualifying stage chooses whether to sit first or last in the first stanza. Seating rights alternate in subsequent stanzas. The team sitting first must post their line-up on the designated line-up sheet at least 10 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play. Provided the team sitting first has satisfied the requirement of this provision, their opponents must post their line-up at least 5 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play.
- 5.4 In other cases, seating rights for each match will be determined by toss of a coin.

6 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

- 6.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 6.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 6.3 The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4) and mobile phones (1.5, 1.6, 1.7) is 3 VPs or 9 IMPs.

7 Correction Period and Time of Appeal

- 7.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) in Swiss Pairs and Teams events expires at the starting time of the next but one match or stanza. For the penultimate and final matches or stanzas in a stage it expires 30 minutes after the scores for the final match or stanza are made available for inspection. In Pairs events, the Correction Period for all sessions expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.
- 7.2 The Time for lodging an Appeal against a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for each match or stanza (Teams or Swiss Pairs) or session (Pairs) expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection, unless the next match, stanza or session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for the next match, stanza or session.

8 Fouled Boards

- 8.1 In Teams events with matches of greater than 10 boards, the result of a fouled board is cancelled and 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 round. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides.
- 8.2 In IMP scored Swiss Pairs events and Teams events with matches of 10 boards or less, the assigned IMP score is 2 IMPs for both sides.

9 Tie-breaking, carry-overs and scoring

- 9.1 Ties for qualification to semi-finals of the NWT or NST or to the NOT will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.
- 9.2 In each quarter-final, semi-final or final match, the team placed higher in the Swiss qualifying will have a carry-over of 0.1 IMPs. For the determination of carry-overs, ties on VPs at the conclusion of the Swiss will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1.
- 9.3 Ties for first place will only be broken in the NOSP, P500SP, NSP and FSP in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1.
- 9.4 Unless otherwise noted, the net IMP result in all qualifying matches in Teams events will be converted to Victory Points (VP) using the continuous WBF VP Scale for the number of boards in play.
- 9.5 In Swiss Pairs and Teams events, the draw for subsequent matches will be made 10 minutes after the scheduled finishing time of the prior match, or at some other time as determined by the CTD, based on the results available at that time.

10 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP)

10.1 To be eligible for PQP, a player must play in at least one-half of the matches in the Swiss qualifying (fractions rounded down) and at least 2 stanzas in each match in a finals series (quarter-final, semi-final, final).

10.2 Tied teams share the available points, rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded up).

Appendices

Penalties for Late Arrival, Slow Play, Failure to enter or check scores

The penalties for Late Arrival and Slow Play under ABF TR 10 are:

0-5 mins	warning for first offence, then 1 VP for each subsequent offence
5-10 mins	1 VP
10-15 mins	2 VPs
15-20 mins	3 VPs
20-30 mins	5 VPs

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, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

One board	1 VP
Subsequent boards	2 VPs

Should the players leave the table, when they have failed to enter one or more scores into the scoring unit or when an incorrect score has been entered and agreed, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	1 VP per occasion

Tie-breaking in Swiss

Unless otherwise noted, significant ties in Swiss events are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot. (ABF TR 15.4.1)

Victory Point Scale for CDP

Where x is the pair's average percentage for the round (rounded to 2 decimal places - 0.005 rounded up):

Where x is between 57.5 and 70.0: $VP = (x-20)*2/5$

Where x is between 42.5 and 57.5: $VP = (x-35)*2/3$

Where x is between 30.0 and 42.5: $VP = (x-30)*2/5$

Modified Swiss format

In Swiss Pairs or Swiss Teams events where the number of number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, a round-robin or modified Swiss format will be implemented.

If the numbers are appropriate, a full round robin movement will be implemented, with the possibility of a round or rounds to determine final placings.

Otherwise, a normal Swiss movement will be used up to and including Round $n/2 + 1$ (even number of rounds) or Round $(n+1)/2$ (odd number of rounds). In subsequent rounds, the Swiss movement continues with all scores retained, but a unit may play another unit which it previously played in the first “half” of the event.

Examples:

* 8 rounds – standard Swiss up to and including the draw for Round 5. In rounds 6, 7 and 8, the Swiss draw continues, but units may play a unit previously played in Rounds 1-4.

* 9 rounds – standard Swiss up to and including the draw for Round 5. In rounds 6, 7, 8 and 9, the Swiss draw continues, but units may play a unit previously played in Rounds 1-4.

2017 SFOB EVENT DETAILS

Note: In all Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams events, if the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, the modified Swiss format will be implemented. Alternatively or in addition to, the TO may elect to combine fields in concurrently running events to ensure the efficacy of the movement and the validity of the competitions.

National Women's Teams (NWT) – Jan 11-13; Finals series – Jan 14-15

Eligibility: all players must be female. To be eligible to play in any stanza of the final series, a player must have played in at least three matches of the qualifying.

Format: single field Swiss, 9 x 20 board matches

Session start times: 10:00am each day

Anticipated finishing time: 7.00pm, Jan 13

Qualification to final series:

* leading four teams qualify to semi-finals (Leading team chooses opponents from teams 2nd to 4th, with the proviso that 2nd may elect not to be chosen) – 4 x 16 board stanzas

* final – 4 x 16 board stanzas

Semi-Final start time: Jan 14, 10.00am

Final start time: Jan 15, 9.00am

Anticipated final finishing time: Jan 15, 6.30pm

PQP: Swiss – 1st: 24, 2nd: 12, 3rd: 6

Finalists – 1st: 48; 2nd: 24, 3rd: 12; 4th: 6

National Seniors' Teams (NST) – Jan 11-13; Finals series – Jan 14-15

Eligibility: all players must be born before January 1, 1959. To be eligible to play in any stanza of the final series, a player must have played in at least three matches of the qualifying.

Format, session times and qualification: as for National Women's Teams

PQP: Swiss – 1st: 24, 2nd: 12, 3rd: 6

Finalists – 1st: 48; 2nd: 24, 3rd: 12; 4th: 6

National Life Masters Teams (NLMT) – Jan 11-13

Eligibility: each player must be below the rank of Grand Master as at September 30, 2016

Format: single field Swiss, 9 x 20 board matches

Session start times: 10:00am each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 7.00pm

Pianola Plus National Non-Life Masters Teams (NNLMT) – Jan 11-13

Eligibility: each player must be below the rank of Life Master as at September 30, 2016

Format: single field Swiss, 8 x 20 board matches

Session start times: 10:00am each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 4.00pm

National Novice Teams (NT) – Jan 11-13

Eligibility: each player must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints as at September 30, 2016

Category prizes will be determined on the basis of Masterpoints held as at Sept 30, 2016

Grand Slam players must have a rating under 58%

Format: single field Swiss, 8 x 20 board matches

Winners will be declared in categories, 0-49, 0-99 and 0-149. (All players must fall within the category to be eligible.) Matches may pair teams from different categories.

Session start times: 10:00am each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 4.00pm

Penline One-Day Swiss Pairs (PSP) – Jan 11

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss Pairs, 6 x 8 board matches

If fewer than 24 tables enter, the score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as the average of all scores after eliminating the highest and lowest $n/10$ scores, where n is the number of tables in play (rounded to the nearest whole number with 0.5 rounded up).

Otherwise, the score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as follows:

- i) in Rounds 1 and 2, the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%
- ii) in Rounds 3 and 4, the average of all scores obtained at the leading $n/2$ tables (rounded down) where n is the number of tables in play after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10% of the scores being included.
- iii) in Rounds 5 and 6, the average of all scores obtained at the leading 12 tables after eliminating the top and bottom score.

Net IMPs are converted to VPs using the continuous WBF scale for 6 board matches.

Session start time: 10:00am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 5.00pm

National Super Novice Pairs (SNP) – Jan 11

Eligibility: each player must have 20 Masterpoints or fewer as at September 30, 2016

Format: determined when entries are known

Session start time: 10:00am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 11, 5.00pm

National Rising Star Pairs (RSP) – Jan 11

Eligibility: each player must have 50 Masterpoints or fewer as at September 30, 2016

Format: determined when entries are known

Session start time: 10:00am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 5.00pm

National Super Novice Teams (SNT) – Jan 12-13

Eligibility: each player must have 20 Masterpoints or fewer as at September 30, 2016

Format: 5 x 16 board matches, further details determined when entries are known

Session start times: 10:00am, Jan 14, subsequent session times determined when entries are known

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 3.30pm

National Rising Star Teams (SNT) – Jan 12-13

Eligibility: each player must have 50 Masterpoints or fewer as at September 30, 2016

Format: 5 x 16 board matches, further details determined when entries are known

Session start times: 10:00am, Jan 12, subsequent session times determined when entries are known

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 3.30pm

Chris Diment Pairs (CDP) – Jan 12-13

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Matchpoint Swiss Pairs, 7 x 16 board matches, converted to Victory Points according to the formula in the Appendices.

Session start times: 10:00am, Jan 12, 4 matches on Jan 14, 3 matches on Jan 15 - subsequent session times to be advised

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 13, 5.30pm

TBIB National Open Swiss Pairs (NOSP) – Jan 14-15

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss Pairs, 11 x 9 board matches

The score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as follows:

- i) in Rounds 1-3, the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%

- ii) in Rounds 4-7, the average of all scores obtained at the leading $n/2$ tables (rounded down) where n is the number of tables in play after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10% of the scores being included.
- iii) in Rounds 8-11, the average of all scores obtained at the leading 12 tables after eliminating the top and bottom score.

Net IMPs are converted to VPs using the continuous WBF scale for 7 board matches.

Losing semi-finalists from the NWT and NST may join the event after Match 6. Players so joining the event may only enter with another player who was a losing semi-finalist in either the NWT or NST. The drop-in score for these pairs will be the average score of the top 20 pairs after Match 6, with the proviso that the drop-in score is no more than 8 VPs less than the score of the second-placed pair after Round 6. If the drop-in VP score is varied due to these provisions, the drop-in IMP score will be varied proportionally. In the event of a tie for first, the drop-in score for these pairs will be reduced by 0.1 VPs before applying the tie-break procedures.

Session start times: 10:00am and 2.30pm, both days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 15, 5.00pm

Penline 500 Swiss Pairs (P500SP) – Jan 14-15

Eligibility: both players must have fewer than 500 Masterpoints as at September 30, 2016

Format: as for TBIB National Open Swiss Pairs (except that if there are fewer than 24 tables, the datum on each board in all rounds will be calculated as the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%,)

Session start times: 10:00am and 2.30pm, both days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 15, 5.00pm

Novice Swiss Pairs (NSP) – Jan 14-15

Eligibility: both players must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints as at September 30, 2016

Format: as for Penline 500 Swiss Pairs

Session start times: 10:00am and 2.30pm, both days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 15, 5.00pm

South West Pacific Teams (SWPT) – Jan 16-19

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss, 12 x 20 board matches

Session start times: Jan 16-17: 10:00am, 1.30pm and 4.30pm

Jan 19: 9:30am, 1.00pm and 4.00pm

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 19, 6.30pm

PQP: 1st: 36, 2nd: 18, 3rd: 9

Categories: Note: Category prizes are awarded to teams that do not qualify to the NOT. A team which finishes in the top eight positions but chooses not to contest the NOT are not eligible for category prizes. Prize will only be awarded if there are at least 3 entries received in a category.

Women's – all member of the team must be female

Mixed – the team must contain at least one player of each gender in every match

Seniors – all members of the team must be born before January 1, 1959

Veterans – all members of the team must be born before January 16, 1947

Country – all members of the team must be Australian residents who do not reside in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney

Youth – all members of the team must be born after January 1, 1992

Novice – all members of the team must have fewer than 100 MPs as at Sept 30, 2016

* Teams must nominate a single category they wish to contend for prior to the nomination closing time as advised by the TO at the start of the event.

National Open Teams (NOT) – Jan 20-22

Eligibility: The 8 highest ranked teams from the SWPT that warrant their availability for all sessions of the NOT. To be eligible to play in any stanza of the NOT, a player must have played in at least three matches in the SWPT.

Format: quarter-finals, semi-finals and final of 64 board matches, played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards

** Draw for quarter-finals (determined by choice at captains' meeting to be held at approximately 7.30pm, on January 19):

- Qualifiers are ranked by placing in SWPT (ties broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1)
- Teams choose in order from the remaining teams, with the proviso that teams ranked 2 to 4 may elect not to be chosen at any time during the choosing process

** Draw for semi-finals (determined immediately the result of all quarter-finals are finalised):

- Qualifiers are ranked by placing in SWPT (ties broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1)
- Team 1 chooses opponent, with the proviso that Team 2 may elect not to be chosen

Session start times: 10:00am, all days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 22, 7.30pm

PQP: 1st: 72, 2nd: 36, 3rd: 22, 4th: 14, 5th: 12, 6th: 10, 7th: 8, 8th: 6.

Bridge for Brain Research Flighted Swiss Pairs (FSP) – Jan 20

Eligibility: open

Format: as for Penline One-Day Swiss Pairs. Depending on entries the field may be graded into up to three separate events.

Session start times: 10:00am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 20, 4.30pm