

ASSOCIAÇÃO DE BRIDGE DE MACAU

46th PABF Bridge Championships

Date : 18th June, 2009 to 28th June, 2009

Venue : Forum de Macau

Hotels : Casa Real Hotel

Hotel Golden Dragon

Organizing NBO : Associação de Bridge De Macau

Organizing Committee :

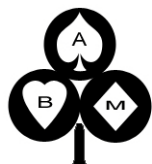
Chairman : Asvezes Tsang

Secretary : S S Bux

Treasurer : Raymond Kok

Committee Members: Antonio Pedro do Rosario

Lawrence Lau

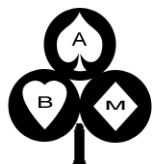


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46th PABF Bridge Championships, 2009

Tentative Schedule

18 th June	Opening Ceremony Delegates' Meeting, Captains' Meeting
19 th June	Round Robin
20 th June	Round Robin
21 st June	Round Robin
22 nd June	Round Robin
23 rd June	Round Robin
24 th June	Round Robin
25 th June	Round Robin
26 th June	Round Robin
27 th June	Open Pairs Qualifying
	Zone 6 Selection (2 nd Berth)
	Zone 7 Selection Play-off
28 th June	Open Pairs Final & Consolation Pairs
	Zone 6 Selection (3 rd Berth)
	Zone 7 Selection Play-off
	Victory Dinner



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Invitation

We would like to invite your NBO to send a maximum of 1 Open Team, 1 Ladies Team, 1 Under-26 Team, 1 Under-21 Team, and 4 Senior Teams. The 2nd to 4th teams in the Senior Category can be transnational teams.

Eligibility

All teams must register through their NBO. All invited NBOs must be members of the PABF. Please refer to the PABF General Conditions of Contest (November 2008) for further details.

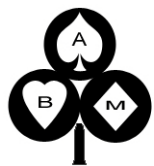
Entry Fees

Open Team	US\$1,000 per team
Ladies Team	US\$1,000 per Team
Senior Team	US\$600 per team
Under-26 Team	US\$400 per team
Under -21 Team	US\$200 per team
Open Pairs	US\$100 per pair for non-participants of the team events

Deadline for Registration

NCBOs are required to register their teams on or before 31st March, 2009. Please send registration to info@macauabm.com.

Full team member list and system are to be sent to the Chief Tournament Director, Anthony Ching, on or before 17th May, 2009 at awching@netvigator.com.



ABOUT MACAU



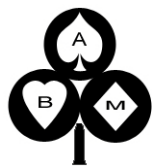
A Brief History

Fishermen from Fujian and farmers from Guangdong were the first known settlers in Macau, when it was known as Ou Mun, or "trading gate", because of its location at the mouth of the Pearl River downstream from Guangzhou (Canton). During ancient times port city was part of the Silk Road with ships loading here with silk for Rome.

Even after China ceased to be a world trade centre, Guangzhou prospered from seaborne business with the countries of Southeast Asia, so the local entrepreneurs welcomed the arrival of Portuguese merchant-explorers. They followed in the wake of Jorge Alvares, who landed in southern China in 1513, and set about finding suitable trading posts.

In the early 1550s the Portuguese reached Ou Mun, which the locals also called A Ma Gao, "place of A Ma", in honour of the Goddess of Seafarers, whose temple stood at the entrance to the sheltered Inner Harbour. The Portuguese adopted the name, which gradually changes into the name Macau, and with the permission of Guangdong's mandarins, established a city that within a short time had become a major entrepot for trade between China, Japan, India and Europe.

It also became the perfect crossroad for the meeting of East and West cultures. The Roman Catholic church sent some of its greatest missionaries to continue the work of St Francis Xavier, (who died nearby after making many converts in Japan). A Christian college was built, beside what is now today's Ruins of St Paul's, where students such as Matteo Ricci prepared for their



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work as Christian scholars at the Imperial Court in Beijing. Other churches were built, as well as fortresses, which gave the city an historical European appearance that distinguishes it to this day.

Portugal's golden age in Asia faded as rivals like the Dutch and British took over their trade. However the Chinese chose to continue to do business through the Portuguese in Macau, so for over a century the British East India Company and others set up shop here in rented houses like the elegant Casa Garden. As Europe's trade with China grew, the European merchants spent part of the year in Guangzhou, buying tea and Chinese luxuries at the bi-annual fairs, using Macau as a recreational retreat.

Following the Opium War in 1841, Hong Kong was established by Britain and most of the foreign merchants left Macau, which became a quaint, quiet backwater. Nevertheless it has continued to enjoy a leisurely multicultural existence and make daily, practical use of its historical buildings, in the process becoming a favourite stopover for international travellers, writers and artists.

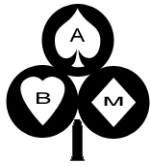
In modern times Macau has developed industries such as textiles, electronics and toys, as well as building up a world class tourist industry with a wide choice of hotels, resorts, sports facilities, restaurants and casinos. As in the past, Macau's economy is closely linked to that of Hong Kong and Guangdong Province, in particular the Pearl River Delta region, which qualifies as one of Asia's "little tigers". Macau provides financial and banking services, staff training, transport and communications support.

Macau is a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China since 20 December 1999, and, like Hong Kong, benefits from the principle of "one country, two systems". The tiny SAR is growing in size - with more buildings on reclaimed land - and in the number and diversity of its attractions. The greatest of these continues to be Macau's unique society, with communities from the East and West complementing each other, and the many people who come to visit.

Location and Area

The Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) is a part of China's territory. It is located on the Southeast coast of China to the western bank of the Pearl River Delta. Bordering on Guangdong Province, it locates 60km from Hong Kong and 145km from the city of Guangzhou.

The Macau Special Administrative Region has an area of 29.2 sq. km, comprised of the Macau Peninsula (with 9.3 sq. km and connected to Mainland China), the islands of Taipa (6.5 sq. km) and Coloane (7.6 sq. km) and the reclaimed area COTAI (5.2 sq. km). The three bridges connecting Macau to Taipa are Nobre de Carvalho (2.5 km long), the Friendship Bridge (4.5 km long) and Sai Van Bridge (2.2 km long). The longest one (Friendship Bridge) leads directly to



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Macau International Airport located on the Island of Taipa. The Sai Van Bridge, which was opened on 9 January 2005, is the first cable-stayed bridge in Macau. The double deck bridge has six lanes in the upper deck and four in the lower, which will open when a typhoon hits the city. The islands are connected by a causeway which is 2.2 km long.

Besides the Barrier Gate (Portas do Cerco), the visitor can access Mainland China through the COTAI Frontier Post. Immigration and Customs are located in the reclaimed area between the islands of Taipa and Coloane.

Time

Macau is eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Same as Hong Kong

Population

The total population was estimated to be 543,000. About 94% are ethnic Chinese, from different provinces, namely Guangdong and Fujian. The remaining 6% includes Portuguese and other regions.

Language

Chinese and Portuguese are the official languages, Cantonese being most widely spoken. The official languages are used in government departments in all official documents and communications. English is generally used in trade, tourism and commerce.

Currency

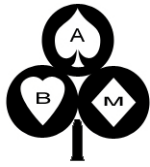
The Pataca (MOP\$) is Macau's official currency.

By the decision of the Government the Pataca is linked to the Hong Kong dollar (HK\$) which is accepted as currency in Macau. The exchange rate is MOP\$103.20 = HK\$100.00. There is an acceptable variation up to 10%. Roughly 10 Patacas is equivalent to 1 EURO and 8 Patacas is equivalent to 1 US Dollar.

There are no restrictions on the amount of currency, which can be brought in or taken out of the territory

Climate

Macau located at the west bank of Pearl River Delta in South China, is the intersection of Mainland China and South China Sea. It is also located at the south of tropic of Cancer. The winds directions in winter and summer are opposite. Therefore, Macau is in the monsoon region and from the climate classification is considered mild and rainy in summer. The most comfortable period begins from the middle of October to December.



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The winter season in Macau covers the months January and February. The cold air from north Siberia continuously passes through the Mid and South China into Macau region and brings us cold and dry northerly winds. The urban temperature sometimes drops below 10°C. Therefore, the annual minimum temperature is generally recorded in these two months. When the precipitation and rainy days are less it is because there is lack of water vapour in the atmosphere.

March and April is the seasonal interchange period. The wind direction along the coastal region of South China is mainly easterly to southeasterly, which will increase the temperature and humidity. Beside some occasional wet weather, fog, drizzle and low visibility days, the weather is mainly fine in spring.

The summer in Macau is longer than the other seasons. Because of hot and wet conditions, the bad weather such as thunderstorm and heavy rain always occur from May to September. Waterspout can be seen occasionally.

Meanwhile from May to October, tropical cyclones occur frequently which make the highest records of precipitation, temperature, rainy days and thunderstorms. As local tropical cyclones number 8 typhoon signal is hoisted the sea and air transports are suspended.

The autumn begins at October, at that time the mainland China becomes cool. The autumn season in Macau is very short, the weather is stable and comfortable with clear sky. It finally returns to the cool and dry November. The cold air from the north will intrude periodically in December.

HOTELS

Casa Real Hotel

www.casarealhotel.com.mo

Hotel Golden Dragon

www.goldendragon.com.mo