

SPRING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS, 2006

1. General

1.1 The 2006 Spring National Championships (SN) consist of the Spring National Open Teams Championship (SNOT), the Dick Cummings Open Pairs (DCOP), the Spring National Women's Teams Championship (SNWT) and the Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams Championship (BEST). The SN is conducted (as Sponsoring Organisation) by the NSW Bridge Association Limited (NSWBA) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations as modified by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The Tournament Convener is Kim Neale.

The Chief Tournament Director (CTD) is Matthew McManus.

The Appeals Organiser is Kim Neale.

The Appeals Consultant is Bruce Neill.....

The Tournament Committee is chaired by Kim Morrison.....

The Recorder is Neville Moses.....

The Appeals Organiser will post a list of Appeals Committee members on the notice board.

1.3 The venue is the Hakoah Club, 61 Hall St., Bondi, except for the finals of the SNWT & BEST for which the venue is the NSWBA, Level 1, 162 Goulbourn St.

1.4 Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Convener as the playing area and the scoreboard area and any other designated area. The smoking areas at the Hakoah Club & NSWBA are on the ground floor.

1.5 Mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment must be switched off during session time and may not be consulted or used unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty of 3 VPs or, in knock-out matches, 9 IMPs.

1.6 The Time of Appeal (Law 92B) and Correction Period (Law 79C) for each match/stanza is the later of 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection or 30 minutes before start of the next session/stanza (except for last match of the qualifying round).

2. Pairs and Teams

2.1 Pairs consist of 2 players.

2.2 Teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players. A team may be increased to 5 or 6 players at any time provided that no added player has played previously in another unit in the same event in 2006.

2.3 To be eligible for overall masterpoint awards or to qualify for the final, the minimum requirement for each player is three rounds of the qualifying Swiss and two stanzas of the (semi-)final (SNOT, SNWT, BEST) or nine rounds (DCOP).

2.4 The CTD may approve substitutes (not members of another unit in the same event) for cause, not convenience, and for a maximum of three rounds of the DCOP or two rounds of the qualifying and one stanza of the (semi-)final of the SNOT, SNWT & BEST. A substitution (allowed or disallowed) may be appealed only by the pairs or either of the two team captains involved directly.

2.5 The convener may nominate a "house unit" for any purposes consistent with the movement. The convener makes every effort to nominate eligible players from a small group but, at the discretion of the tournament committee, a "house unit" may consist of any number of players including ineligible players.

3. Systems

3.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted without restriction.

3.2 YELLOW (HUM) systems are prohibited in the DCOP & BEST. They are permitted in the SNWT & SNOT provided pairs lodge with the Convener before October 13th 2006:

◆ an adequate WBF or ABF standard system card (with not more than 2 supplementary A4 sheets, typed or written in black ink on one side) with

◆ a *bona fide* defence and

- ◆ seating is posted in accordance with these regulations.

A YELLOW (HUM) system employed only against an opposing pair playing a YELLOW system must be lodged with the CTD before the first round of the event in which they wish to use it. A team including a pair registering a YELLOW system loses seating rights in the qualifying rounds.

- 3.3 In the event of a dispute concerning the classification of a convention or system the decision of the on-site representative of the ABF Tournament Committee is final.
- 3.4 Coloured markers identify pairs employing complex systems and the system summaries, lodged with the CTD, are available for perusal.

4. Defences and Counter-Defences

- 4.1 For defence against a YELLOW system or BROWN STICKER conventions, a pair using a GREEN, BLUE, RED system or BROWN STICKER conventions may change any facet of its system, including opening calls, but may use a YELLOW system only if it has been submitted in accordance with #3 above.
- 4.2 During the auction, pairs may use written notes of their defence or counter-defence for YELLOW systems and defence for BROWN STICKER conventions provided they comply with the regulations below. During the play period, a player's own notes may be used only to answer a question from the opponents.
- 4.3 A written defence must be:
- ◆ typed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet
 - ◆ lodged with the Director and approved by at least 5 minutes before the scheduled round time
 - ◆ identical for each player
 - ◆ available to the opponents during the auction and play.
- 4.4 A written counter-defence must be approved by and lodged with the Director and two copies submitted to the opponents at the start of the session.
- 4.5 A pair using a YELLOW system is not permitted to change its opening calls for a defence or counter-defence.

5. Seating

- 5.1 The unit named second sits first.
- 5.2 Units registering one or more YELLOW systems lose all seating rights in all qualifying rounds against units not registering a YELLOW system.
- 5.3 YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted correctly within 10 minutes of the posting of the draw or, in any other circumstances, with the agreement of the opposing captain and the CTD.
- 5.4 In the final or a tie-break, captains toss for seating rights prior to the first session. The team that wins the toss may choose to sit first in either the odd-numbered stanzas or the even-numbered stanzas.

6. Movement and Sessions

- 6.1 The DCOP is a single-field Swiss-style pairs event of 12 rounds of 10 boards played on Sat, Oct 21st and Sun, Oct 22nd commencing at 10.00 am each day. Each match is allotted 65 minutes to the start of the last board.
- 6.2 The SNOT is a single field Swiss-style qualifying tournament of 20-board matches to qualify 4 teams to the (semi-)final of 64 boards played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each.
- 6.3 SNOT qualifying matches of 20 boards are played in one stanza allotted 145 minutes to the start of the last board and commencing:

Day	Sess.	Rd	Start	Day	Sess.	Rd	Start	Day	Sess.	Rd	Start
Wed Oct 18	1	1	10.00 am	Thu Oct 19	3	4	10.00 am	Fri Oct20	5	7	10.00 am
	2	2	1.30 pm		4	5	1.30 pm		6	8	1.30 pm
		3	4.30 pm			6	4.30 pm			9	4.30 pm

- 6.4 The SNOT (semi-)final of 64 boards is played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each. (Sat/Sun Oct 21/22 at 9.00 am, 11.30 am, 2.30 pm & 4.15 pm unless these times are varied by mutual consent of the CTD and all captains.)
- 6.5 The SNWT & BEST are single field Swiss-style qualifying tournaments of 20-board matches to qualify 2 teams to the final of 64 boards played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each.
- 6.6 SNWT & BEST qualifying matches of 20 boards are played in one stanza allotted 145 minutes to the start of the last board and commencing:

Day	Sess.	Rd	Start	Day	Sess.	Rd	Start	Day	Sess.	Rd	Start
Mon Oct 23	1	1	10.00 am	Tue Oct 24	3	4	10.00 am	Wed Oct 25	5	7	10.00 am
	2	2	1.30 pm		4	5	1.30 pm		6	8	1.30 pm
		3	4.30 pm			6	4.30 pm			9	4.30 pm

- 6.7 The SNWT & BEST finals of 64 boards are played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each: (Thu Oct 26 at 9.30 am, 12.00 pm, 3.00 pm & 4.30 pm unless these times are varied by mutual consent of the CTD and both captains).

7. Format

Teams events (SNOT, SNWT, BEST)

- 7.1 The fields shall be seeded. The draw for round 1 is of the form $1 \text{ v } n/2+1$. (Should one or both of the fields for the concurrent SNWT & BEST be too small to support 9 rounds of Swiss, #7.2 is to be applied.) The draw for subsequent rounds (made as soon as practicable) pairs the team having the highest rank by VPs (excluding all penalties) with the next highest team that it has not played previously and so on down the field.
- 7.2 If one or both of the fields for the concurrent SNWT & BEST is too small to support 9 rounds of Swiss, the fields are combined. The draw for Rounds 1-7 will be drawn according to #7.1. The draw for rounds 8 & 9 pairs the leading eight Women's (or Seniors') teams that have not played one another in a separate "mini-Swiss" while the remainder of the stratified field continues in the main Swiss movement.
- 7.3 Should the procedure of #7.2 prove impossible to implement, the CTD will take whatever action he deems necessary to keep the movement viable, observing as far as possible the "mini-Swiss" principle.
- 7.4 Until the commencement of play, a defective draw (as a result of appeals, correction of scoring errors, etc.) is corrected for the last round. For other rounds, and at the discretion of the CTD, a grossly-defective draw may be altered in a way that causes minimal disruption to the tournament.
- 7.5 At the conclusion of the Swiss, the top four teams in the SNOT will qualify to the semi-finals. The leading team has the choice of opponents from the teams finishing in second, third and fourth position, with the proviso that the team finishing second may opt not to be chosen.
- 7.6 At the conclusion of the Swiss, the top two teams in the SNWT and BEST will qualify to the finals.
- 7.7 For all semi-final and final matches, there will be a carry-over based upon the total Victory Point score of the teams at the conclusion of the Swiss. The carry-over will be one IMP for every difference of one VP, to a maximum of 16. Fractional VPs will be rounded to the nearest whole number, with 0.5 rounded up.

Pairs events (DCOP)

- 7.8 The field will be seeded into two groups, North-South and East-West. Each of these groups will then be seeded into a top half and bottom half. For the first round, a pair from the top half of the North-South group will be randomly matched with a pair from the bottom of the East-West group, and vice-versa.
- 7.9 Results on each board will be matchpointed using standard duplicate scoring. Each pair's average percentage score for the match will be converted to VPs (see #8.8.1).
- 7.10 The draw for subsequent rounds (made as soon as practicable) matches the pair having the highest rank by VPs (excluding all penalties) with the next highest pair that it has not played previously and so on down the field.
- 7.11 At odd numbered tables, the higher ranked pair will sit NS, while at even numbered tables the higher ranked pair will sit EW.
- 7.12 After Round 6 and prior to Round 7, players from the losing semi-final teams of the SNOT may join the DCOP. The partnership can only consist of players who were in the losing teams. They shall be added to the draw with a VP score equal to the average score of the top 10% of the field after Round 6. (For the

purposes of tie-breaking, the sum of opponents' VPs will be determined on the same basis.) Fractional VPs will be rounded to the nearest whole number, with 0.5 rounded up.

- 7.13 Should an even number of pairs join the event, for Round 7 they will be randomly matched against other pairs who have joined the event from the SNOT semi-finals.
- 7.14 If an odd number of pairs join the event, one of these pairs will be chosen at random. This pair will be added to the main draw in a position consistent with the score on which they enter. The other pairs entering will then be randomly matched against each other for Round 7. A house pair shall also be added to the field in last position.

8. Scoring

- 8.1 For the purposes of these regulations, for pairs events, the equivalent of 3 IMPs shall be 60% of the available matchpoints on a board.
- 8.2 Hands are pre-dealt by an ABF-approved computer program and hand records are available.
- 8.3 At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, a "house unit" is eligible to place and scores its actual VPs & IMPs or is ineligible to place and its score limited to a maximum of 15 and a minimum of 11 VPs with the minimum IMPs of the allocated range. Its opponents receive their actual VPs and IMPs. Masterpoints for "house unit" matches are awarded according to actual VPs.
- 8.4 The NS pair is responsible for completing the table record sheet. At the end of the round, the EW pair checks that the score sheet is correct, initials and delivers it to the collection point designated by the director. An incorrect score recorded by the players may be altered up until 30 minutes after the posting of the result(s) for the session or 30 minutes before start of the next session (except for last match) whichever is the later. A result recorded and/or posted incorrectly by the scorer can be altered until 30 minutes after the posting of the results for the last round.
- 8.5 Subject to the provisions of Law 12, a score of 0 IMPs is assigned for all boards not played.
- 8.6 In case of a forfeit the offenders score 0 VPs (with, for teams matches, an IMP score of -80). For the purpose of the draw, the non-offenders score 18VPs. After the last round the non-offenders score is adjusted to the highest of:

- ◆ 18 VPs or
- ◆ the mean VPs score of the non-offending unit for its completed matches.

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

8.7 Teams events (SNOT, SNWT, BEST)

- 8.7.1 Qualifying match IMPs are converted to VPs using the 20-board WBF scale (Appendix A).
- 8.7.2 Semi-Final and Final matches are scored by net IMPs - any IMP margin determines the winner.

8.8 Pairs events (DCOP)

- 8.8.1 The average percentage score of each pair in each match is converted to VPs using the scale listed in Appendix B.

9. Ties

- 9.1 Ties exist when units have the identical VPs score.
- 9.2 To perform the draw ties are broken by net IMP (teams), percentage(pairs). If still tied, then the lower numbered unit is ranked higher in even numbered rounds and lower in odd numbered rounds.
- 9.3 To determine qualification to the (semi-)final, ties are broken by play of matches of 4 boards, then successive play of 1 board matches until a result obtained. In the event of a three or four way tie, tie-breaking matches of 2 boards will be played. The winner will be determined on the basis of number of wins and then net IMPs. In the event of a tie involving more than four teams, the CTD will be responsible for determining an appropriate tie-breaking format.
- 9.4 Ties for second place in the SNOT are broken on the basis of:
- i) sum of opponents' VPs
 - ii) number of wins (15 VPs counting as a half win)
 - iii) result of head-to-head match (should it have occurred)
 - iv) lot

- 9.5 To determine the winner of the (semi-)final, ties are broken by play of matches of 4 boards, then successive play of 1 board matches until a result obtained.
- 9.6 Playoff Qualifying Points are shared between tied units.

10. Appeals

- 10.1 The CTD may reverse any of his or his assistants' decisions. Appeals must be made:
 - ◆ within the time of appeal
 - ◆ in person
 - ◆ on the approved format (available from the CTD)
 - ◆ signed by one player (DCOP) or the team captain (SNOT, SNWT, BEST).
- 10.2 When an appeals committee judges that an appeal is without merit it awards a procedural penalty on the scale specified in the Appeals Regulations against the appellant's score.

11. Fouled Boards

- 11.1 The director must be advised immediately an irregularity or misboard is suspected. A board that does not correspond to the hand-record is not considered fouled *ipso facto* if it is played in the same form at both tables in a teams match.
- 11.2 A ruling that a board is “fouled” (as defined in Law 87) must be sought within the Correction Period (Law 79C).
- 11.3 The result of a board fouled in a team match is cancelled and a substitute board is played at both tables unless the result of the stanza 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 IMPs assigned except for a match with multiple stanzas in which case the substitute board must be played in the next stanza if there is one.
- 11.4 When
 - a) an irregularity occurs such that no rectification will permit normal play of the board and
 - b) the team-mates of the players involved have not played the board and
 - c) neither or both teams have contributed to the error
 the Director substitutes a new board to be played at both tables.
 If the board has been played at one table the CTD should assign an artificial adjusted score (Law 12C1). In the event that only one team was at fault, the CTD, in determining the artificial adjusted score, takes into consideration any unusually favourable result obtained by a non-offending team.
- 11.5 In pairs events, the result on the fouled board is cancelled and an artificial adjusted score is assigned under Law 12C1.
- 11.6 The Director may penalise units responsible for misboards or irregularities.

12. Punctuality, Slow Play and Penalties

- 12.1 When applicable, a penalty of 1 VP converts to 3 IMPs.
- 12.2 Players must be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. For units not seated and ready to play at the scheduled starting time procedural penalties are:

1 st offence <4min	Warning	10+-15 min late	2 VPs
0--4 min late	0.5 VP	15+-20 min late	3 VPs
4+-10 min late	1 VP	>20 min late	More severe (CTD)

The more severe penalty assessed by the CTD may include forfeiture of the match or disqualification.

- 12.3 For qualifying matches, boards not started in the time allotted are not played. The procedural penalty for slow play that results in removal of boards, applied after one warning (which carries forward to any (semi-)final match), is 1 VP for the first board plus 2 VPs for each additional board applied at the director’s discretion..
- 12.4 For the final there is a warning for a first offence of 0-4 minutes and a procedural penalty of 1 IMP per minute or part thereof that the director assesses as that team's responsibility.

12.5 It is possible for a unit deemed responsible for sufficient slow play, to receive a procedural penalty for slow play even though the stanza finished within the allotted period.

13. Playoff Qualifying Points

13.1 Playoff Qualifying Points are awarded to each eligible player in an eligible team provided that the player complies with the minimum board rule as follows:

Event	Minimum Board Rule	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
SNWT	4 rounds Qualifying + 2 stanzas (semi-) Final	36	18	9	
SNOT	4 rounds Qualifying + 2 stanzas (semi-) Final	36	18	5(=3 rd)	5(=3 rd)
BEST	4 rounds Qualifying + 2 stanzas (semi-) Final	36	18	9	
DCOP	9 rounds	24	18	12	6

13.2 Players who wish to record PQP awarded for the SNOT or DCOP on the Senior list must register their date of birth with the CTD.

13.3 Detailed information about the mode of entry to the Playoff for Australian team selection is available only on the ABF website at www.abf.com.au. It is mailed only on receipt of a written request.

Appendix A

WBF VP Scale for 20 boards (SNOT, SNWT, and BEST)

IMP	VPs	IMP	VPs	IMP	VPs	IMP	VPs
0 – 2	15 / 15	17 – 21	19 / 11	37 – 41	23 / 7	60 – 65	25 / 3
3 – 8	16 / 14	22 – 26	20 / 10	42 – 47	24 / 6	66 – 72	25 / 2
9 – 12	17 / 13	27 – 31	21 / 9	48 – 53	25 / 5	73 – 79	25 / 1
13 – 16	18 / 12	32 – 36	22 / 8	54 – 59	25 / 4	80 +	25 / 0

Appendix B

VP Scale for DCOP

Percentage	VPs	Percentage	VPs	Percentage	VPs	Percentage	VPs
0.00 – 26.50	0	37.46 – 39.77	7	48.28 – 49.43	14	56.83 – 58.39	21
26.51 – 28.00	1	39.78 – 41.60	8	49.44 – 50.56	15	58.40 – 60.22	22
28.01 – 29.50	2	41.61 – 43.17	9	50.57 – 51.72	16	60.23 – 62.54	23
29.51 – 31.00	3	43.18 – 44.57	10	51.73 – 52.89	17	62.55 – 65.99	24
31.01 – 32.50	4	44.58 – 45.87	11	52.90 – 54.12	18	66.00 – 100.00	25
32.51 – 34.00	5	45.88 – 47.10	12	54.13 – 55.42	19		
34.01 – 37.45	6	47.11 – 48.27	13	55.43 – 56.82	20		

All percentages will be rounded to 2 decimal places, .005 being rounded up.