

# SPRING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018 SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

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## 1 General

1.1 The Spring National Championships (SNC) comprise the following events:

- TBIB Spring National Open Teams (SNOT) – October 17-19,  
    Finals series – October 20-21;
- Two Men & A Truck Restricted Teams (TMAATRT) – October 17-18;
- Dick Cummings Open Pairs (DCOP) – October 20-21;
- Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs (TCRP) – October 20-21;
- Spring National Novice Pairs (SNNP) – October 20-21;
- Linda Stern Women’s Teams (LSWT) – October 22-24, Finals – October 25;
- Bobby Evans Seniors’ Teams (BEST) – October 22-24, Finals – October 25;
- Penline Matchpoint Pairs (PMP) – October 25.

These events are conducted by the New South Wales Bridge Association (NSWBA) in conjunction with the ABF in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The venues are the Sky High Room, the Guineas Restaurant and the Galaxies Room, Canterbury Park Racecourse, 96 King St, Ashbury.

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 only permitted in areas specifically designated by the TO as smoking areas. 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. In addition, any player leaving the table during the session

must leave any such device at the table. 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 consulted or 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.
- 1.8 The TO may grant permission for still or moving photographs to be taken during the course of the event. Players may only refuse to be photographed for religious or cultural reasons deemed valid by the TO or CTD.
- 1.9 In all events, if the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, the modified Swiss format may be implemented (see Appendices). 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.
- 1.10 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, 2017, 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 Michael Prescott.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Matthew McManus.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener is Hugh Grosvenor.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are Neville Francis and Mike Prescott.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representatives are David Morgan and Marcia Scudder.
- 2.6 The Recorders are Marilyn Chadwick and Kim Morrison.

## **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 To be eligible for the TMAATRT and TCRP:
  - all members of the team or pair must have fewer than 300 masterpoints at 30-6-18;
  - New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Master as at 1-6-18;
  - at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of 56% or below.
- 3.3 To be eligible for the SNNP:
  - all members of the team or pair must have fewer than 100 masterpoints at 30-6-18;

- New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Local Master as at 1-6-18;
- at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of less than 54%.

- 3.4 To be eligible for the LSWT, all members of the team must be female.
- 3.5 To be eligible for the BEST, all members of the team must have been born before 1-1-59.
- 3.6 All players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in events. This includes those events where players must be under the stated masterpoint range or age as of the dates specified. Masterpoints earned in another NCBO, irrespective of whether they have been transferred, shall be included for the purpose of determining a player's eligibility.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 In the SNOT, LSWT and BEST, to be eligible to play in the semi-finals or final, each team member, including those augmented, must have played at least three matches in the Qualifying Stage. To be eligible for a title, each team member must have played at least one stanza in the semi-final and final (SNOT) or final (LSWT and BEST).
- 3.9 With the consent of the CTD, a team may augment until the conclusion of Match 5 (SNOT, LSWT and BEST) or Match 3 (TMAATRT) up to a maximum of 6 players. Any player so added to the team must not have played previously in another team in the same event.
- 3.10 In the teams events, the CTD may approve a maximum of four substitutions per team in the SNOT, LSWT and BEST or a maximum of three substitutions per team in the TMAATRT. In the DCOP, TCRP and SNNP, the CTD may approve substitutes for any pair in a maximum of five rounds. 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.
- 3.11 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 RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events except for the TMAATRT, TCRP and SNNP.
- 4.3 YELLOW systems will be allowed in the SNOT and LSWT 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). Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the TO with an adequately completed ABF system card and a bona fide defence before October 14, 2018.

#### **5 Seating**

- 5.1 In the qualifying stage of the SNOT and LSWT and the semi-finals of the SNOT, teams registering one or more YELLOW systems lose all seating rights in all matches against teams not employing a YELLOW system.
- 5.2 YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted within 10 minutes of the publication of the draw.
- 5.3 Except as noted in 5.1, in the semi-finals and finals of the SNOT and the finals of the LSWT and BEST, the higher ranked team has seating rights and may elect to sit first in either the odd- or even-numbered stanzas.
- 5.4 In other cases should the need arise, 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) is 3 VPs.

## **7 Correction Period and Time of Appeal**

- 7.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for the matches in the qualifying rounds of the teams events and for the DCOP, TCRP and SNNP expires at the start of the first match on the following day, or, in cases of matches on the last day, 30 minutes after the scores for the last match have been made available for inspection. In teams semi-finals and finals, the Correction Period expires at the start of the following stanza, or, in the case of the final stanza, 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 expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection, unless the next match or stanza 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 or stanza.

## **8 Fouled and Unplayable Boards**

- 8.1 In matchpoint pairs events, where a single board is fouled, the assigned matchpoint score is 60% of the available matchpoints on the board awarded to both sides.
- 8.2 In teams events, 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 where a single board is cancelled, a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides.
- 8.3 In the case of multiple fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.





- 10.7.2 Semi-finals - The winner of each pool will play against the runner-up in the other pool over 40 boards, played in four stanzas of 10 boards. Captains will toss for the right to sit first in either the odd or even stanzas. The pool winners will have a carry forward of 0.1 IMPs.
- 10.7.3 Final - The two semi-final winners will progress to the final, played with the same format and session times as the BEST. If the teams played the qualifying round robin in the same pool, the pool winner will have a carry forward of 0.1 IMPs.
- 10.7.4 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) - If eligible, pairs in the losing semi-final matches will share the available PQPs.
- 10.8 **Penline Matchpoint Pairs** – The PMP will be played as a two session cumulative event with matchpoint scoring. The format and movement will be determined when final entries are known.
- 10.9 Teams Datum Prize: In each of the teams event, the highest placed pair on modified datums at the end of the Swiss will be awarded the Datum Prize. ABF Medallions will be awarded to both players in the partnership. The procedure for determining the modified datum is described in the Appendices. To be eligible for the Datum Prize, the pair must satisfy the following conditions:
- i) each member of the partnership must play at least two-thirds of the matches;
  - ii) the pair must play as a partnership for at least one half of the matches (fractions rounded up) including at least two of the last three matches.

## 11 Playoff Qualifying Points

- 11.1 Eligible teams (or pairs in the DCOP) are ranked for the award of Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP). Each eligible player in those teams (or pairs) receives an award as follows:

### 11.1.1 SNOT

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	48	24	12	6

### 11.1.2 BEST

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

### 11.1.3 LSWT

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

### 11.1.4 DCOP

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	32	24	16	8

- 11.2 To be eligible for PQP in the teams events, a player must have played in at least four matches in the qualifying and at least two stanzas in the final, and also the semi-finals for the SNOT.
- 11.3 Ties are not broken for PQP purposes. Any tied pairs or teams share the available points for the places involved in the ties.

## 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 at the director's discretion:

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

Significant ties are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot.

### Victory Point Scale for DCOP, TCRP and SNNP

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

Where  $x$  is greater than 70.0:  $VP = 20$

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:  $VP = (x-30)*2/5$

Where  $x$  is less than 30.0:  $VP = 0$

### Calculation of Modified Datums

For each pair  $x$ ,

$$D_m = tRD + 0.5 * (\text{sum}(\text{opDa}))$$

where

- $D_m$  is the modified datum of Pair  $x$
- $tRD$  is the total raw datum score for all matches played by Pair  $x$
- $\text{sum}(\text{opDa})$  is the sum of the average raw datum per match for all the opponents of Pair  $x$



For each match, if a pair's raw datum score is greater than 64, it will be limited to 64 plus one-tenth of any score greater than 64.

### **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. A unit may play another unit which it previously played in Rounds 1 to  $n/2$  (even number of rounds) or Rounds 1 to  $(n-1)/2$  (odd number of rounds). "n" represents the number of rounds in 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.

### **Calculation of multiple Average Plus awards during a session or match**

Where the Laws require the Director to award an artificial adjusted score of average plus on more than one board in a session or match (as in the case of fouled or otherwise unplayable boards), the score awarded per board shall be:

IMP scored Teams events: an IMP score of  $3\sqrt{N}/N$

IMP scored Pairs events: an IMP score of  $2\sqrt{N}/N$

Matchpoint scored events: a percentage score equal to  $50 + 10\sqrt{N}/N$   
where N is the number of unplayable boards.

In IMP scored events, the net IMPs in a match assigned due to these formulas will be rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 IMPs rounded up).

In matches with multiple fouled boards resulting in the number of direct comparisons available being fewer than one half the number of boards, the match will be scored as a forfeit treating both units as non-offending. Forfeited matches are scored as 13 VPs for each side (assuming a 20 point VP scale is being used). Further adjustments at the end of the event may be appropriate in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulation 15.

(<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFTournamentRegs2017.pdf>)

The following table lists the IMPs/percentage to be assigned for each successive board in the case of multiple average plus boards:

Number of fouled/unplayable bds	IMPs assigned (Teams)	IMPs assigned (Pairs)	Percentage assigned (matchpoints)
1	3	2	60.00
2	1	1	54.14
3	1	0	53.18
4	1	1	52.68
5	1	0	52.36
6	0	1	52.13
7	1	0	51.97
8	0	1	51.82
9	1	0	51.72
10	0	0	51.62

### Anticipated Finishing Times

The following times are provided solely as a guide to players and may change depending on event formats and other circumstances:

TMAATRT	Thursday, October 18, 6.30 pm
SNOT qualifying	Friday, October 19, 6.30 pm
SNOT Final	Sunday, October 21, 6.00pm
DCOP, TCRP and SNNP	Sunday, October 21, 6.15pm
LSWT and BEST qualifying	Wednesday, October 24, 6.30pm
LSWT and BEST Finals	Thursday, October 25, 6.30pm
PMP	Thursday, October 25, 5.30pm