

SPRING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

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 16-18,
 Finals series – October 19-20;
- Two Men & A Truck Restricted Teams (TMAATRT) – October 16-17;
- Dick Cummings Open Pairs (DCOP) – October 19-20;
- Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs (TCRP) – October 19-20;
- Spring National Novice Pairs (SNNP) – October 19-20;
- Linda Stern Women's Teams (LSWT) – October 21-23, Finals – October 24;
- Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams (BEST) – October 21-23, Finals – October 24;
- Penline Matchpoint Pairs (PMP) – October 24.

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 TBA.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are TBA.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representative is TBA.
- 2.6 The Recorders are TBA.

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:
 - i) all members of the team must have fewer than 300 masterpoints at 30-6-19;
 - ii) a player may not have won the TMAATRT in a previous year;
 - iii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction as the TMAATRT or higher. Notwithstanding a player who has already entered the TMAATRT at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible for the TMAATRT;

- iv) New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Master as at 1-6-19;
- v) at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of 56% or below.

3.3 To be eligible for the TCRP:

- i) both members of the partnership must have fewer than 300 masterpoints at 30-6-19;
- ii) a player may not have won the TCRP in a previous year;
- iii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction as the TCRP or higher. Notwithstanding a player who has already entered the TCRP at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible for the TCRP;
- iv) New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Master as at 1-6-19;
- v) at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of 56% or below.

3.4 To be eligible for the SNNP:

- i) both members of the partnership must have fewer than 100 masterpoints at 30-6-19;
- ii) a player may not have won the SNNP in a previous year;
- iii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction as the SNNP or higher. Notwithstanding a player who has already entered the SNNP at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible for the SNNP;
- iv) New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Local Master as at 1-6-19;
- v) at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of less than 54%.

3.5 To be eligible for the LSWT, all members of the team must be female.

3.6 To be eligible for the BEST, all members of the team must have been born before 1-1-60.

3.7 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.

3.8 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.

3.9 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).

3.10 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.

3.11 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.

3.12 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 Subject to 4.3, 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 In the TMAATRT, TCRP and SNNP, the CTD may also further restrict a pair from playing any method which the director judges may not be readily understood by a significant proportion of players in the field
- 4.4 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 13, 2019.

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.
- 8.4 Where due to the fouling of multiple boards, direct comparisons are available on less than one-half the boards in the match, the match will be scored in accordance with ABF TR 15.1 (Forfeits), treating both units as non-offenders.
- 8.5 For boards on which a result is unable to be obtained and the Director awards an artificial adjusted score of average plus, the provisions of 8.1 to 8.4 will apply.

9 Ties and Carry-overs

- 9.1 Ties for qualification to (semi-)finals of teams events and ranking of teams within the finals series will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.
- 9.2 Ties for first place only in the TMAATRT will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.
- 9.3 Ties for first place only in the DCOP, TCRP and SNNP will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15, unless drop-in pairs have been accepted as described in 10.5.2 in which case the tie will not be broken.
- 9.4 For all semi-final and final matches in the SNOT, LSWT and BEST, there will be a carry-over up to a maximum of 14.1 IMPs based upon the total Victory Point score of the teams at the conclusion of the Swiss qualifying. The higher ranked team will have a carry-over of 1 IMP for every 1 VP they finished ahead of their opponent after the qualifying, multiplied by x , where:
 $x = 1$, if the higher ranked team defeated the lower ranked team when they played in the qualifying;
 $x = 0.75$, if the teams tied when they played in the qualifying or if they did not play one another in the qualifying; or
 $x = 0.50$, if the higher ranked team lost to the lower ranked team when they played in the qualifying.
In the event of the carry-over being an exact whole number of IMPs, the team which finished in the higher position in the qualifying will carry forward an additional 0.1 IMPs.

10 Event formats

- 10.1 Note: Session times may be varied by the Tournament Organiser subject to reasonable notice being given to the participants.
- 10.2 The time allowed per match or stanza will be announced by the CTD.
- 10.3 **Spring National Open Teams** – The SNOT will be played as a single field Swiss qualifying consisting of 9 x 20 board matches, followed by semi-finals and final, each of 56 boards.
- 10.3.1 Each qualifying match will be scored using the WBF continuous VP scale for 20 board matches.
- 10.3.2 At the conclusion of the Swiss, the four highest placed teams will qualify to the semi-finals. The first placed team has the choice of opponents from amongst the other three teams, with the proviso that the second placed team may elect not to be chosen.
- 10.3.3 The semi-finals and finals will be played over 4 stanzas of 14 boards.
- 10.3.4 Session times: Qualifying rounds: 10.30am (1 match), 1.30pm (2 matches)
Semi-finals and Final: 9.30am, 11.30am, 2.00pm, 4.00pm
- 10.4 **Two Men & A Truck Restricted Teams** – The TMAATRT will be played as a single field Swiss event consisting of 6 x 20 board matches.
- 10.4.1 Each match will be scored using the WBF continuous VP scale for 20 board matches
- 10.4.2 Session times: 10.30am (1 match), 1.30pm (2 matches)
- 10.5 The **Dick Cummings Open Pairs**, **Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs** and **Spring National Novice Pairs** will each be played as a single field Swiss Pairs event, consisting of 12 x 10 board matches. The SNNP may be merged with the TCRP if fewer than 24 pairs enter either event.
- 10.5.1 Each match will be scored using standard duplicate matchpoint scoring. Each pair's average percentage score for the match will be converted to Victory Points, using the VP scale in the Appendices.
- 10.5.2 After Match 6 and prior to Match 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 6 pairs after Match 6, but no more than 10 VPs less than the leader's score.
- 10.5.3 Should an even number of pairs join the event, for Match 7 they will be randomly matched against other pairs who have joined the event from the SNOT semi-finals.
- 10.5.4 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 Match 7. If a house pair is already included in the field, this pair will not be required to continue. Otherwise, a house pair shall be added to the field in a position equal to $0.75 \times n$ (rounded down) where n is the number of pairs originally entered.
- 10.5.5 Session times: 10.00am and 2.15pm (3 matches each session)
- 10.6 **Linda Stern Women's Teams and Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams** – Subject to 10.6.4 to 10.6.6, the LSWT and BEST will be played as distinct single field Swiss qualifying consisting of 9 x 20 board matches, followed by finals of 56 boards.

- 10.6.7 Session times: Qualifying rounds: 10.30am (1 match), 1.30pm (2 matches)
Final: 10.00am, 12.00noon, 2.30pm, 4.30pm

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	48	24	12	6

- 11.1.2 In addition to any Open PQPs they may be awarded, 12 Women's PQPs will be awarded to the top three all-female pairs in the SNOT, provided that these pairs:
- i) met the PQP board rule;
 - ii) met the pairs board rule; and
 - iii) finished in the top 20% of the field on modified datum calculated as IMPs/board. (The field will be deemed to consist of all pairs who played four matches.)

11.1.3 BEST

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

11.1.4 LSWT

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

11.1.5 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 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.

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)	Percentage assigned (matchpoints)
1	3	60.00
2	1	54.14
3	1	53.18
4	1	52.68
5	1	52.36
6	0	52.13
7	1	51.97
8	0	51.82
9	1	51.72
10	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 17, 6.30 pm
SNOT qualifying	Friday, October 18, 6.30 pm
SNOT Final	Sunday, October 20, 6.00pm
DCOP, TCRP and SNNP	Sunday, October 20, 6.15pm
LSWT and BEST qualifying	Wednesday, October 23, 6.30pm
LSWT and BEST Finals	Thursday, October 24, 6.30pm
PMP	Thursday, October 24, 5.30pm