

2012 Australian Youth Championships

Supplementary Regulations

The Championships will consist of four events:

1. Australian Youth Pairs Championship;
2. Australian Youth Teams Championship;
3. Australian Junior Squad Selection;
4. Supplementary competitions: NZ vs Australian Barbarians Challenge Match, Consolation Butler, Consolation Pairs.

The Tournament Organiser is Griff Ware.

The Chief Tournament Director is Matthew McManus.

The Appeals Committee Convener is David Thompson.

The ABF Youth Committee representative is Griff Ware.

The Recorder is David Thompson.

The ABF Tournament Regulations shall apply. To the extent that matters are not covered either within the ABF Regulations or these regulations then the decision of the ABF Youth Committee (ABFYC) shall be binding on the participants. Subject to these regulations being posted at the venue throughout the tournament, all participants in the Australian Youth Championships (AYC) shall be deemed to be aware of and agree to be bound by the contents of these regulations.

Systems

No yellow systems (as defined by the ABF Systems Regulations) will be permitted. Brown Sticker conventions will only be permitted in the Australian Youth Pairs Championship and the Australian Youth Teams Championship. Eligible pairs may claim “protected pair” status against Brown Sticker conventions in accordance with the ABF System Regulations.

Appeals

Requests for rulings or appeals against the Director’s ruling must be submitted to the Director within 30 minutes of the posting of scores for that session.

Correction of scores

The period for correction of scores under Law 78C shall expire at the start of the first session on the following day of the AYC, with the following exceptions. The period for correction of scores for the current session and all prior sessions of the corresponding event shall expire 30 minutes after the posting of the scores for the session in the following instances:

- a) qualifying session 2 of the Australian Youth Pairs Championship;
- b) the final session of the Australian Youth Teams Championship (for corrections in the Australian Youth Teams Championship affecting qualification to the Australian Junior Squad Selection);
- c) the final session of Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 1;
- d) the final session of Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 2A;
- e) the final session of Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 2B.

Substitutes

In exceptional circumstances, the Director may, in his absolute discretion, permit emergency substitutes for substantial cause. The Director may allow a substitute to preserve the movement and may, in such cases, also disqualify the pair or team involved.

Subject to the above, the following substitution rules will apply:

1. In the Australian Youth Teams Championship, each team must play as a unit for at least 66% of the rounds to be played (fractions rounded down).
2. No substitutions will be permitted in the final of the Pairs Championship or in the Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 2.
3. In the Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 1, each pair must play as a partnership in at least 14 of the 18 matches.
4. For other events, one substitute will be permitted for one session of the event.

Substitutes should be of equivalent standard. Should the Director deem that a substitute is not of equivalent standard to the player being substituted, he may award an altered score for the session in which the substitution took place.

Forfeits

Scores to be awarded in the event of forfeits in IMP-scored events are detailed in Appendix 2.

Masterpoints

Gold masterpoints will be awarded for the Australian Youth Pairs, the Australian Youth Teams and the Australian Junior Squad Selection. Red Masterpoints will be awarded for other events.

Other

Smoking or drinking of alcoholic beverages will not be permitted in the playing area at any time. The playing area is defined to also include any area set aside for score-up and/or the display of results. Contravention of this regulation may result in disciplinary score penalties and possible exclusion from the Championships.

The ABFYC and those appointed to conduct the Championships reserve the right to regulate player behaviour and attire both in and around the playing rooms during the ABF Youth Week. This regulation applies both to sessions of play and periods between sessions.

1. All participants are expected to treat others with courtesy appropriate to ABF tournaments.
2. The organisers and director(s) will have the right to sanction players who abuse alcohol or other intoxicating drugs. This includes:
 - players who present to playing sessions in an evident state of intoxication,
 - players who present offensive behaviour as a result of being intoxicated in or around the playing area between sessions,
 - players under 18 who consume alcohol or other intoxicants,
 - any players who consume alcohol or other intoxicants in the playing area,
 - players who provide alcohol to players under 18.
3. Sanctions for breaches of this code can include (but are not restricted to):
 - removal from the session of play in question,
 - suspension for one or more sessions of play,
 - longer term suspension from Youth or other ABF events.

Events

1. Australian Youth Pairs Championship

Sessions 1 & 2 (January 14) - Qualifying

The qualifying will be played as one field with all pairs playing as many of the other contestants as possible. Depending on entries, either ten or twelve pairs will qualify to the final, the remainder to the Consolation. Ties for positions qualifying for the final will be broken according to the procedures outlined in Appendix 1.

Should a pair be unavailable to compete in the final for whatever reason, that pair shall be replaced by the next placed pair.

There will be a carryover to the Final, only, based on the total matchpoint score obtained in the qualifying, according to the following formula:

$$C = (M * fp * ft) / (2 * qp * qt), \text{ -- rounded to the nearest 0.1 MPs}$$

where:

C = the pair's carryover score to the final in matchpoints

M = the pairs' total MP score in the qualifying

fp = the number of pairs in the qualifying

ft = the value of a top in matchpoints in the final

qp = the number of pairs in the qualifying

qt = the value of a top in matchpoints in the qualifying

Sessions 3 & 4 (January 15) – Final and Consolation

The Final will consist of either 5 tables playing 6 boards against all other pairs or 6 tables playing 5 boards against all other pairs - with Barometer style scoring.

The size of the Consolation(s) will be dependent on withdrawals and additional entrants, which will be permitted for Sessions 3 & 4. The Consolation will be conducted over the same number of rounds as the final.

2. Australian Youth Teams Championship

January 16-17

A round-robin will be played over 5 or 6 sessions.

For 9 or 10 teams, the format will be 9 x 14 board matches, with a bye if necessary. Teams with a bye will receive a Victory Point score for that round equivalent to an IMPs score of 0-0.

The IMP result in each match will be converted to Victory Points, using the formula in Appendix 4.

The winner of the round-robin shall be the Australian Youth Teams Champion. Ties shall be broken by successive four-board playoffs. (Ties involving more than two teams shall be broken by successive playoffs of at least two boards against other tying teams. In such a tie-break, the result will be based upon the number of matches won.)

The draw shall be made so that, as far as possible, teams eligible for the Australian Junior Squad Selection will be drawn to play against each other in the later rounds of this event.

Prior to session 3 of the Teams Championship, pairs eligible for the Australian Junior Squad Selection will be required to indicate whether they are contending. Pairs who indicate their intention to be contending are committed to participate in the Australian Junior Squad Selection should they so qualify.

3. Australian Junior Squad Selection

Phase 1 January 17-20

Qualification

The qualifiers will be determined on the basis of results from the Australian Youth Teams Championship. Results against teams of more than four players will not be counted in determining qualification.

In order to be eligible for qualification, both members of the partnership must have been born on or after 1-1-87, and both must satisfy the ABF residency requirements for international representation.

Criterion 1: The winner of the 2011 Youth Triathlon shall have the option of taking a position with a partner of their choice, provided that the partner is eligible for qualification and that they play as a partnership in the Australian Youth Teams Championship. Such nomination must be made prior to the commencement of the AYC Youth Teams.

Criterion 2: The six pairs from the three highest placed eligible teams shall qualify. Eligible teams shall be teams of four players, all of whom are eligible for qualification. At the conclusion of the Australian Youth Teams Championship, qualifying teams must nominate the partnerships who will contest the Australian Junior Squad Selection.

Criterion 3: In order to complete the field of 10 pairs, the four highest placed pairs who have not qualified via Criterion 1 will qualify to the Australian Junior Squad Selection. Ranking will be determined on the basis of Butler Datum results from the Australian Youth Teams Championship, modified to take into account variations in standards of opponents. The formula to be used to calculate the Modified Datums is described in Appendix 3. To be eligible, they must satisfy the qualification eligibility requirements and the pair must have played as a partnership in all matches of the Australian Youth Teams Championship, apart from matches in which substitutes were permitted in accordance with these regulations. To be eligible for qualification under this criterion, it is not necessary that the pair's teammates also be eligible for the Australian Junior Squad Selection.

Tie-breaks in qualifying

Ties for qualifying positions under Criterion 1 will be broken in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations, viz:

The team scoring highest in the following criteria (in order) will be ranked higher:

- (a) greatest number of wins in VPs (a draw is equal to half a win);
- (b) greatest number of net IMPs;
- (c) results of the head-to-head match in IMPs.

If still unbroken, the tie will be resolved by lot.

Ties for qualifying positions under Criterion 2 will be broken by successively deleting the result obtained against each of the tying pairs' lowest-placed opponents.

Replacement of unavailable or withdrawing pairs

In the event of a qualifying pair being unavailable or withdrawing prior to the Australian Junior Squad Selection, they will be replaced by the next highest placed pair, based on the modified Butler results. Should no such pair be available, the ABF Youth Committee or its representative can choose to fill the vacancy as they see fit; it is also the Committee's choice as to whether any such replacement pair will be considered as contending for a place on the 2012 Australian Junior Squad.

ABF Declaration of Availability

Players in the National Youth Selection Phase 1 must sign an ABF Declaration of Availability prior to the commencement of Phase 1. This will declare the player's availability and agreement to play (a) in designated training sessions should he or she be selected to the Australian Junior Squad and (b) in the designated event(s) should he or she be selected to the Australian Junior Team. Should there be more than one designated event, the

player must advise on the declaration of availability if he or she will be unavailable for a particular event. Any player failing to complete the Declaration of Availability prior to the commencement of National Youth Selection Phase 1 will be deemed to have withdrawn from the event and that pair will be replaced by the next eligible pair.

Format

If sufficient eligible entrants are available, then the format will be a 5-Table IMP-scored Pairs, with a double round-robin of 10-board matches. If fewer pairs are available, then they will be formed into a similar movement as determined by the Director.

The draw will be balanced so that each pair has every other pair as teammates on the same number of boards. Teammates from the Australian Youth Teams Championship will be drawn to play each other in the first match of each round-robin.

Scoring

Each pair's score on a board is IMP'ed against the results at each of the other four tables. If the event has at least five tables, then each pair's highest and lowest IMP scores are then discarded with the remaining sum being the pair's score on that board. Otherwise, the sum of all of the pair's IMP scores will be their score on the board.

Victory Points

The IMPs in each 10 board match are totalled and converted to Victory Points as follows:

Winner's VPs = 70 + IMP difference (to a maximum of 140)

Loser's VPs = 70 – IMP difference (no minimum)

Fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores

See Appendix 4

Tie-breaks

At the conclusion of Phase 1, ties shall be broken according to (in order):

- i) number of wins (tie = half-win);
- ii) total net IMPs;
- iii) total score (in IMPs) of head-to-head matches;
- iv) recalculating totals by successively deleting each tying pair's worst result(s);
- v) lot.

Phase 2 January 21-22

Qualification

At the end of Phase 1, the pairs finishing in first, second and third place will qualify to the Australian Junior Squad. The pairs finishing in fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh positions will proceed to Phase 2.

Format and Session Times

Phase 2 will be played as an IMP-scored pairs event compared against a pre-determined datum on each board.

Phase 2A

Session 1	January 21	10.00 am	16 boards
Session 2	January 21	1.30 pm	16 boards
Session 3	January 21	4.20 pm	16 boards

Phase 2B

Session 4	January 22	10.00 am	16 boards
Session 5	January 22	1.30 pm	16 boards
Session 6	January 22	4.00 pm	16 boards

Pairs will be numbered 1 to 4 based on their standing after Phase 1. Seating will be as follows (the first numbered pair will sit NS):

Session 1	Table 1	4 v 1	Table 2	3 v 2
Session 2	Table 1	1 v 3	Table 2	2 v 4
Session 3	Table 1	1 v 2	Table 2	4 v 3

For Phase 2B, the second placed pair after Session 3 will be renumbered as Pair 1: the third placed pair, Pair 2.

Session 4	Table 1	1 v 2
Session 5	Table 1	2 v 1
Session 6	Table 1	1 v 2

Phase 2A

Scoring

For sessions 1-3, scoring will be by total IMPs, converted to Victory Points for each 16 board comparison.

Winner's VPs = 45 + IMP difference (to a maximum of 100)

Loser's VPs = 45 – IMP difference (no minimum)

Carry-forward

Each pair in Phase 2 will carry forward one-half of their final Victory Point Score from Phase 1, subject to the following restriction. Should the difference in carry-forward between the pair finishing fifth in Phase 1 and the pair finishing seventh in Phase 1 be greater than 96.5, then all pairs' carry-overs shall be multiplied by a factor of $96.5/(C_3-C_5)$, where C_3 is the original carry-forward of the fifth placed pair and C_5 is the original carry-forward of the seventh placed pair.

At the conclusion of Session 3, the highest-ranked pair will qualify to the squad, while the lowest-ranked pair is eliminated.

Phase 2B

Scoring

For sessions 4-6, scoring will be by total IMPs.

Carry-forward

Each of the pairs in Phase 2B will carry forward:

- i) 50% of their carry-over from Phase 1 to Phase 2; plus
 - ii) 50% of their score in the Phase 2A match against their Phase 2B opponents; plus
 - iii) 25% of their score in the other two matches in Phase 2A,
- all converted to IMPs.

The total carry forward to Phase 2B is capped at a maximum of 64.5 IMPs.

At the conclusion of Session 6, the higher-ranked pair will qualify to the squad.

Tie-breaks

At the conclusion of Phase 2A and Phase 2B, ties shall be broken according to (in order):

- i) removal of carry-forward;
- ii) total score (in IMPs) of head-to-head matches in Phase 2;
- iii) total net IMPs in Phase 2;
- iv) lot.

Qualification for the Australian Junior Team

The pairs finishing first, second and third in Phase 1 plus the two pairs qualifying from Phase 2 will form the Australian Junior (Under 26) Squad for 2012. This squad will be coached by Alex Smirnov. The squad will be required to take part in ongoing training activities prior to the designated events for 2012, including those detailed on the Declarations of Availability.

Selection of the two or three pairs to take part in designated events as the Australian Junior (Under 26) Team will take place at a later date, according to the following guidelines:

1. Approximately eight-weeks prior to the target event, the Youth Coach will put forward reasoned recommendations as to the preferred three pairs to form the under-26 team to a selection panel comprised of Youth Committee members free of any conflict of interest (i.e. excluding active youth players or relatives of contending players).
2. The selected under-26 team will then be put forward to the ABF Management Committee for ratification.
3. Any under-21 players in mixed u26/u21 partnerships who are not selected to the under-26 team will be encouraged to declare their availability for under-21 selection and subject to demonstration of the required level of commitment to preparation and training activities, will be strongly considered for selection to the under-21 team.

Wildcard entries to the Australian Junior Squad

In exceptional circumstances, the ABF Youth Committee has the right to increase the size of the Squad by adding 'wildcard' pairs. Such pairs would gain the right to be considered for selection to the 2012 Australian Junior (Under 26) Team.

Process for Wildcard Entry:

Any pair seeking wildcard entry to the 2012 under 26 squad must apply in writing to the ABF Youth Committee not later than 31 January 2012 and in that application address each of the selection criteria below. The ABF Youth Committee is to consider each application on its own merits applying the selection criteria as objectively as possible giving appropriate weight to each element.

Selection Criteria:

1. At least one player in the proposed partnership, and preferably both, participated in the 2012 Youth Teams.
2. Attendance and/or performance in the Youth Butler by one or both players in the proposed partnership was affected by illness, bereavement or other unforeseen circumstances.
3. The partnership in which a player otherwise qualified for the squad via the Youth Butler has since broken-up in non-premeditated circumstances.
4. Both players in the proposed partnership demonstrate a commitment to other youth events in the 2012 calendar including availability for state selection for the ANC.
5. Both players in the proposed partnership demonstrate a commitment to partnership development including a detailed statement as to intended open events to be contested in 2012.
6. Both players in the proposed partnership are of comparable and/or superior bridge ability to the other members of the squad with a good track record in representative bridge.
7. Both players in the proposed partnership are willing to take on mentoring roles with up-and-coming players and/or U21 pairs.

Under 21 Team

To be eligible for the Under 21 team, both players in the pair must have been born on or after 1-1-92. From the field which qualified to the Australian Junior Squad Selection, the highest-placed Under 21 pair will become

presumptive selectees for the Australian Under 21 team, unless they subsequently are selected for the Australian Under 26 Team. If that pair is not already part of the Australian Junior Squad, they will be invited to participate in squad activities but will not be deemed to have acquired the right to be selected for the Australian Under 26 Team as a result of such an invitation. Remaining pair(s) for the Under 21 team will be determined by a method to be decided upon by the ABFYC and may also be invited to participate in Junior Squad activities.

Where an individual who has been selected in an Under 26 or Under 21 Australian team withdraws because that individual is subsequently selected in the Australian Open or Women's team whose international events are

- a) held simultaneously to those of the Under 26 or Under 21 team; or
- b) such that participation in all events would cause undue hardship to that individual,

then the remaining member of that partnership will have the right to nominate an alternative eligible partner and submit that newly formed pair for consideration to the ABFYC as an eligible replacement pair in the Under 26 or Under 21 team. The ABFYC however retains sole discretion to accept such nomination or reject the revised partnership and may take any of the following alternatives in no specific order:

- a) call for the remaining player to make an alternative and perhaps more acceptable nomination; or
- b) select the next highest placed pair in the final stage of a selection event if such selection event was run as a pairs event; or
- c) select a pair within the next higher finishing team in the final stage of a selection event if such selection event was run as a team event.

For clarity, a player who plays with a partner who also intends to trial for the Open or Women's team bears the risk that his partner may become unavailable for the youth event if selected and the final resolution rests solely with the ABF Management Committee in conjunction with the ABFYC.

4. Supplementary Competitions

The format of these competitions will be determined when the number of entries is known. They are open to all players born on or after 1/1/1982.

1. New Zealand vs Australian Barbarians Challenge Match–
Wednesday, January 18, session times TBA
2. Consolation Butler –
Thursday January 19, 2:15 pm
Friday January 20, 10:15 am
Friday January 20, 1:45 pm
3. Consolation Pairs – Thursday, January 19, 7.15 pm

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Tie-breaking in pairs' events

The following tie-breaks will be applied in order:

- 1) Any procedural or disciplinary penalties imposed by the Director shall be deleted;
- 2) Where an incomplete movement was used, the total matchpoints of all the tying pairs' opponents shall be determined. The pair with the highest total shall be ranked highest;
- 3) a) The scores of each of the tying pairs shall be compared on all boards which they played in the same direction. Each pair shall be awarded two matchpoints for each (tying) pair whose score they have beaten, and one matchpoint for each (tying) pair whose score they have equalled,
b) On boards where the pairs played in opposite directions or only one pair played the board, they shall be awarded two matchpoints for a score above the average on the board, one matchpoint for an average score, and zero otherwise,
The scores obtained by means of (a) and (b) shall be added, with the highest scoring pair ranked highest;
- 4) In the case of two-way ties, the pair scoring higher in the round between the two pairs (should it have occurred) shall be ranked higher;
- 5) The pair with the best score against the highest placed pair in the field against whom they played shall be ranked highest, then successively to the second-highest placed pair, *etc*;
- 6) Lot.

Appendix 2 - Forfeits in IMP-scored events

In the case of a forfeit in the Australian Youth Teams Championship, the offenders will be given a score of 0 VP.

The non-offending team's score will be adjusted, at the end of the event, to the highest of:

- i) 72 VPs,
- ii) the mean VP score of the non-offending team for its completed matches, and
- iii) the mean VP score of the opponents of the offending team in completed matches (not including forfeited matches of the offending team).

In the case of a forfeit in the Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 1, the offenders will be given a score of 0 VP.

The non-offending pair's score will be adjusted, at the end of the event, to the highest of:

- i) 115 VPs,
- ii) the score of the non-offending pair in its other match against the offending pair,
- iii) the mean VP score of the non-offending pair for its completed matches, and
- iv) the mean VP score of the opponents of the offending pair in completed matches (not including forfeited matches of the offending pair).

Appendix 3 - Australian Junior Squad Selection Qualifying: Modified Datums

For the Australian Youth Teams Championship, the datum score on each board will be calculated by averaging the scores obtained after deleting the two extremes. Each pair's score will be compared to this score to obtain their net IMPs on the board. At the end of the match, the net IMPs for each pair will be totalled. The "Match Datum" will be calculated as the positive net IMPs to a maximum of +50, plus one-tenth of any IMPs in excess of 50, or, in the case of the "losing" pair, the negative net IMPs to a minimum of -50, minus one tenth of any IMPs in excess of 50.

In determining the Modified Datums, the following will be calculated for each pair:

CD_n = the Modified Datum of Pair n

MD_n = the total of all Match Datums of Pair n

AD_n = the average Match Datum of Pair n (equal to MD_n divided by the number of matches played by Pair n)

$CD_n = MD_n + (AD_a/2 + AD_b/2 + \dots + AD_z/2)$

where AD_a, AD_b, \dots are the average Match Datums of Pair n's opponents

Appendix 4 - Fouled boards and artificial adjusted scores in Australian Junior Squad Selection Phase 1

Where the Director awards an artificial adjusted score under Law 12C1:

- a pair awarded average plus shall score + 6 IMPs on the board;
- a pair awarded average shall score 0 IMPs on the board;
- a pair awarded average minus shall score - 6 IMPs on the board.

If a complete set of North-South or East-West scores are available, they will be scored normally, otherwise the following provisions will be applied to either or both of those sets accordingly.

For tables at which actual results were achieved:

- 1) Where an artificial score has been awarded at one table: Let the four tables under comparison be designated A, B, C and D and the table scores for those table be indicated by w_A , w_B , w_C and w_D . The (signed) IMP score for a pair at table A with respect to the result from table D (for example), will be designated $IMP(w_A, w_D)$. An artificial IMP score for each pair with hypothetical "average" teammates will be found from an arithmetic mean of the IMP scores for that pair with respect to the results from all four tables. Let the cross-IMP scores for the pairs at tables A through D be designated by x_A , x_B , x_C and x_D . The cross-IMP score for (for example) a pair at table A will be given by the sum of the middle two of the three normal and one artificial IMP score for that pair. Thus, x_A is the sum of the middle two of $IMP(w_A, w_B)$, $IMP(w_A, w_C)$, $IMP(w_A, w_D)$ and $(IMP(w_A, w_B) + IMP(w_A, w_C) + IMP(w_A, w_D)) / 4$.

Let the absolute average deviation of cross-IMP scores for (for example) the pair at table A be designated y_A and be the absolute value (magnitude) of the arithmetic mean of the differences between this cross-IMP score and the other three cross-IMP scores. Thus $y_A = ABS((x_A - x_B) + (x_A - x_C) + (x_A - x_D)) / 3$.

The final score to be applied at each table (z_n) is given by the formula, $z_n = x_n * s_n$, where s_n is the ratio of the minimum of the absolute average deviation for that pair and 24, and the minimum of 24 and the maximum of the magnitudes of the average deviations for all four pairs. That is, $s_n = MIN(24, y_n) / MIN(24, MAX(y_A, y_B, y_C, y_D))$ which may take any value from 0 to 1 inclusive.

- 2) Where an artificial adjusted score has been awarded at two tables: the score achieved at each table will be IMP'ed against the score of the other two tables' at which a result was achieved. These two scores will be totalled and then multiplied by a factor of 0.75 to determine the IMP score to be applied for that table.
- 3) Where an artificial adjusted score has been awarded at three tables: the scores achieved at the two tables which played the board will be IMP'ed against each other. This score will be multiplied by a factor of 0.5 to determine the IMP score to be applied for those tables.

For each board on which the director awards an artificial adjusted score, the final adjusted IMPs for each pair at every table will be rounded to the nearest integer (0.5 rounded up, -0.5 rounded down).

Appendix 4 – Victory Point Scale for Australian Youth Teams (14 boards)

A drawn match is scored as 60-60.

For matches with a IMP difference of 1-40:

Winner's VPs = 60 + IMP difference

Loser's VPs = 60 – IMP difference

For matches with an IMP difference of 41-50:

Winner's VPs = 100

Loser's VPs = 60 – IMP difference

For matches with an IMP difference of 51-70:

Winner's VPs = 100

Loser's VPs = 10 – (IMP difference-50)/2

For matches with an IMP difference of 71 +:

Winner's VPs = 100

Loser's VPs = 0

Appendix 5 - Information on International Participation and Declaration of Availability

Information relevant to participation as a member of the Australian Representative Junior Squad for 2012

By signing this document you state that you intend to play in the Playoff to become a member of the Australian Junior Squad and subsequently be available for selection as a member of the the Australian Representative Junior Team for 2012 and will abide by the terms outlined below.

You accept the conditions under which the selection event is conducted including ABF Supplementary Regulations and agree that you will comply with the minimum board requirements. These are available from the Convener and will be posted in the playing area.

Before competing in the playoffs, you may elect to participate in any or all of the events designated in the Appendix and should indicate your elections below.

It will be necessary for both you and your partner to make the same elections in relation to the designated events. In the event that one partner omits to indicate a designated event the pair will be considered ineligible for that event.

You undertake to be available to represent Australia in any or all of the following events (check the boxes). You understand that if you do not here indicate availability for an event the organisers are not later bound to accept your nomination for that event.

In some instances the ABF may elect to make available additional subsidies to those outlined above to meet accommodation and other expenses. To the extent that such additional subsidies are made available they should be regarded as ex-gratia on an event by event basis. There is no certainty of such payments for designated events either in this year or in the future and you will be responsible for the remainder of your expenses.

If selected, you agree to be bound by standards of behaviour and discipline normal to the participation of Australian Teams at international tournaments and events.

You acknowledge that the ABF reserves the right to withdraw the Australian Junior Team from participating in any event whose venue, in the reasonable opinion of the ABF, may represent security or other risks especially having regard to the participation of youth players. As a minimum the ABF and ABF Youth Committee will have regard to travel advisories issued by the Australian Government.

By signing this declaration you release the ABF and the ABF Youth committee from any liability whatsoever resulting from a decision either to participate or not participate in any designated event including but not limited to personal or property damage that may result from attending the event.

In the event of a decision by the ABF not to participate in a designated event the ABF is not obligated to offer an alternative event but will make reasonable efforts to ensure that the team will participate in at least one event during the ensuing 12 months.

If selected to represent Australia at an ABF designated event and in you have in good faith booked an airfare for a designated event and the ABF subsequently elects not to send a team then:

- to the extent that you have taken out travel insurance then the proceeds of any insurance claim less the costs of the travel insurance policy will be refunded to the ABF; and/or
- to the extent that the ticket is non-refundable and no refund is available from the vendor or no claim is possible from any travel insurance policy then the ABF undertakes that it will not make unreasonable demands for the return of the subsidy;
- if however the ABF, after considering the risks of the attending the designated event, elects to send a team and you subsequently elect, for whatever reason, not to attend, then you will be liable in all cases for the return of the subsidy to the ABF.
- if you qualify, have accepted a subsidy and subsequently do not attend and play in the designated event for personal reasons then you will be required to return the subsidy in full. This would apply even in the event of sickness or accident and you are therefore urged to understand this when considering travel insurance issues.

The ABF strongly recommends the purchase of Travel Insurance for all participants in any representative team.

Declaration of Availability: Australian Junior Squad and Team 2012

I, of (address)

HEREBY DECLARE that I will be available to attend the training sessions listed in Appendix A (overleaf) and to represent Australia in the event(s) I have designated in Appendix B (overleaf).

I understand that the Australian Bridge Federation provides a subsidy to defray some of my expenses but I understand that I will be responsible for the remainder of my expenses. I understand that if any representation has been made by any person that I might receive more than the nominated amount, that representation is null and void.

I agree to refund the subsidy paid to me by the Australian Bridge Federation, less any non-refundable expenses, if the projected travel in respect of which the subsidy is paid does not occur.

I agree to provide a head-and-shoulders photograph and a copy of my partnership's system, completed as according to the instructions of the sponsoring organisation, to my captain by the date that will be stipulated.

I state that I have no objection to any

- audio, video or photographic recording for whatever reason during the event or for publicity prior to the event,
- drug testing conducted as one of the requirements of International Olympic Committee, or to ensure that those requirements will be complied with.

I undertake as a representative of Australia to maintain the highest standard of behaviour in public, both at and away from the bridge table, and in particular I agree that I will:

- comply with all proper directives given to me as a member of the team by my team captain and by any team manager appointed by the Australian Bridge Federation,
- treat with respect all persons involved in any capacity in the event,
- lodge objections to rulings and appeals only through my team captain,
- not appear in any venue used by the Championships or approach any official or bridge player involved in the Championships while appreciably under the influence of alcohol or other stimulant,
- appear dressed appropriately for the occasion at all bridge events and associated social events. Minimum requirement includes: shirt with collar, trousers or skirt/dress, and shoes (smart casual),
- not bring the game of bridge into disrepute by anything I may say or write as a representative of Australian bridge.

My ABF Number is _____

My 2011/12 capitation fee has been paid to the following club

Dated this 17th day of January 2012

Signed _____

NAME: (Block Capitals)

Appendix A: Designated Youth Training Sessions 2012

First training weekend with Coach Alex Smirnov: 14th-15th April 2012

Second training weekend with Coach Alex Smirnov: 21st-22nd April 2012

The location of the training weekends is yet to be confirmed.

Training is not limited to only the currently scheduled events above. In making this declaration, players also commit to taking part in further training activities including:

- a mentoring program; and
- designated online practice

Appendix B: Designated Youth Events 2012

1. **World Junior (Under 26) Teams Championship** scheduled for 25 July – 4 August 2012 in Taicang, China (60 km from Shanghai).

For eligible Under 21 players only:

2. **World Youngsters (Under 21) Teams Championship** scheduled for 25 July – 4 August 2012 in Taicang, China (60 km from Shanghai).

For each championship attended, the ABF agrees to subsidise the cost of the cheapest airfare from your home city to the venue plus an allowance to assist with accommodation expenses.