

## Playoff Adjustments

The dates for the 2009 PABF event (previously 7 June -17 June 2009) have been changed (to 18 June – 28 June 2009). This occurred after some players who had nominated for the Australian Playoffs had arranged their annual calendars to allow them to be in Macau on the previously announced dates. At least some of the players involved are now unable to make themselves available for the event and/or to compete for the Zone 7 Championship at the end of the PABF.

In these circumstances the ABF Management Committee has decided that for this year only:

1. All teams competing in the Playoffs will be asked to subscribe to a declaration before the Playoff commences. In this team declaration, the team is to indicate the designated event(s) in which they desire to play. This declaration replaces the clause in the individual declarations as to designated event and may nominate different events.
2. Teams that win the right to represent Australia at the PABF may replace one or two players who are not available for their designated event(s). The substituting players must have qualified for the respective Playoff panel, but there is no requirement for the players to have won PQPs with any other member of the team.
3. The players who may need to be replaced must be named in the team declaration. The fact that the replacement will occur and the names of the replacement(s) must be provided with the Formal Acceptance of the right to represent.

## Zone 7 Championship

4. In the event that there are no more than two teams in a division (Open, Women's or Seniors), the teams representing Australia in the PABF will play in the Zone 7 Championship in Macau, but the team selected via the Australian Playoff will represent Australia at the world event.
5. In the event that there are more than two teams in a division, the ABF will attempt to organise a playoff for Zone 7 to be held in Australia on a mutually acceptable date.
6. To facilitate this playoff the ABF will offer to provide financial assistance with the traveling costs for all participants including those from the other Zone 7 nations.
7. The ABF will make an announcement about the success of this attempt as soon as possible.
8. In the event that this attempt to rearrange the Zone 7 Championship is unsuccessful, a team which qualifies but has difficulty with the timing of the playoff :
  - i. may put in substitutes for one or two players (not subject to the conditions in clause 2; such substitutes do not acquire rights in relation to the World Championship);
  - ii. may play as a team of 4 or 5 for this event, but not for the World Championship;or
  - iii. may elect to have the Australian PABF team represent Australia in the Zone 7 Championship while retaining the right to play in the World Championship.

If these measures do not resolve the problems the MC will consider whether any other measures are possible.