

# 2012 AUSTRALIAN OPEN AND WOMEN'S TEAMS PLAYOFFS SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

## 1) GENERAL

- a. **The Open and Women's Playoffs** will each be comprised of two divisions, entries permitting.
- b. The Regulating Authority (Law 80) for the 2012 Open and Women's Playoffs is the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF). The Playoffs are conducted in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations and these supplementary regulations. In the case of conflict the ABF Tournament Regulations prevail.
- c. The Playoff Venue is the University of Sydney Village Conference Centre, 90 Carillon Avenue, Newtown, Sydney (adjacent to the Medical Centre, corner of Missenden Rd and Carillon Ave).
- d. The dates of the Playoffs are

Open:	Saturday 31st March – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2012
Women:	Saturday 31st March – Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2012
- e. The official website for the Playoffs is [www.abf.com.au/events/playoffs](http://www.abf.com.au/events/playoffs).
- f. Information pertaining to the Playoffs is found on that website and players are deemed to be aware of all information contained thereon.
- g. The Tournament Organiser (TO) may vary the session times as shown if reasonable notice is given.
- h. The TO has discretion to determine what is reasonable notice but will have regard to the needs of participants.
- i. Smoking is prohibited within the venue.
- j. Mobile telephones, pagers and other electronic devices are prohibited in the playing area, however they may be deposited with the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or TO before each session.
- k. Players in the (semi-) finals of all events will be required to lodge their mobile phones and other electronic means of communication with the Tournament Staff for safekeeping during each play period.
- l. Alcohol is not permitted in the playing area during session times.
- m. The TO may designate any table for the purposes of BBO presentation, prior notice to the players is not required.

## 2) PERSONNEL

- a. The Tournament Organiser is David Stern.
- b. The Chief Tournament Director is Sean Mullamphy.
- c. The Official Scorer is Matthew McManus.
- d. The Tournament Sub-Committee Convener is Kim Morrison.
- e. The Tournament Sub-Committee members are Kim Morrison, Bruce Neill, Peter Reynolds and Marcia Scudder.
- f. The Appeals Sub-Committee Convener is David Stern.
- g. The ABF on-site representative is Matthew McManus.
- h. The Recorder will be announced prior to the commencement of play.

## 3) TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

- a. The format of the Open & Women's Playoff events is dependent upon entries. If there are six or less entries in a category, then there will be only one division. Should the number of entries exceed six, there will be two divisions.
- b. If there are two divisions within a category, then Division One will consist of four teams with the remainder in Division Two.
- c. The final of both Open & Women's Playoffs will consist of 96 boards.
- d. The duration of a match or stanza will be calculated on the basis of;
  - i. No screens 7.5 minutes per board.
  - ii. Screens 8.0 minutes per board.
  - iii. Finals 8.75 minutes per board.

## 4) EQUIPMENT, DEALING AND HAND RECORDS

- a. Boards are pre-dealt by the ABF-approved computer program. Hand records with Deep Finesse analysis will be provided.
- b. Players must use all equipment (which may include, but is not limited to, screens, written bidding, bidding boxes, pick up slips, table record sheets, electronic scoring units, VuGraph, webcast) in the manner specified by the CTD.
- c. Players must record the score for each board immediately after it is played and before commencement of the next board.

## 5) ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO THE OPEN & WOMEN'S PLAYOFFS

- a. Only teams containing either 4 or 6 members will be accepted.
- b. Only players who have 1+ Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) in their category, as shown on the ABF Website, are eligible to enter Division 1 of the Open or Women's Playoffs. Should there be less than four eligible teams, then the 'category proviso' will be relaxed to permit four teams to qualify.
- c. Each nominating team must designate a captain. However the following are specifically excluded from accepting the role of non-playing captain:
  - i. Members of the ABF Management committee;
  - ii. Members of the ABF Tournament Committee;
  - iii. Any person holding an official role at the event.
- d. No player may nominate for more than one team.
- e. Nominations for the Women's and Open Playoffs must be submitted via the ABF Webpage before 6.00 pm ESDT, Fri 9<sup>th</sup> March 2012.
- f. Nominating teams are ranked according to the total PQP of their designated players discounted by 50% for each Player's PQPs not earned in the same unit. Ties are broken according to the number of PQP obtained from events in category A, then B, then C and then D.
- g. If still tied the procedure above is repeated using PQPs from the previous year, then by lot.

- h. The Division One Women teams, Division Two Women's Teams, Division One Open teams and Division Two Open Teams will be listed and ranked in their divisions on the official website on Sat 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

## 6) PAYMENT OF ENTRY FEES

- a. Entry fees MUST be paid by direct deposit into the ABF Account (BSB: 082968; A/c: 641482644).
- b. The entry fee is \$1560.00 per team for Division One entrants.
- c. Division 2:  
\$480.00 for teams who have more than 50% of their members holding 1 or more PQPs.  
\$600.00 for teams who do not have more than 50% of their members holding 1 or more PQPs.
- d. Teams advancing from Division Two to the Repechage are required to pay an additional entry fee equal to \$1,560 less the entry fee paid to date.  
Initial Entry fees must be paid by direct bank deposit on March 12, 2012.  
Subsequent entry fees must be paid to the TO at the venue.
- e. The ABF policy on entry fees paid by Juniors applies to this event.

## 7) TRAVEL SUBSIDIES

- a. Travel subsidies are available for players (but not non-playing captains) in the teams accepted into the Women's and Open Division One Playoffs, and to the two successful teams from Division Two that qualify for the repechage.
- b. Subsidies will be paid at the commencement of the Playoff's by direct bank transfer into a nominated bank account. In exceptional circumstances, the subsidy will be paid by a cheque sent by post at the conclusion of the Playoffs.

Origin	SA	QLD	ACT	TAS	NT	VIC	WA	NSW
Subsidy\$	\$520	\$440	\$220	\$520	\$800	\$440	\$840	0

## 8) SYSTEMS

- a. Green, Blue and Red systems are permitted, provided that the ABF CCE (Edwards) standard system card is posted on the web page before the due date 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012.
- b. Players may not refer to their own system cards or notes.
- c. Players may alter part or all of their system only with the consent of the CTD who may, at his discretion disallow the change or permit it, or part only of it, or permit it only after a period of time has elapsed sufficient to allow the opponents to prepare fresh defences
- d. It is the responsibility of ALL players to arrive for play with properly completed ABF standard system cards and appropriate supplementary sheets. The CTD, in his sole discretion, may insist that pairs who arrive without adequate system cards or supplementary sheets play a totally natural system until the necessary paperwork has been completed.

## 9) SEATING, SCORING, TIES

- a) In the round robin matches with 2 stanzas, the team numbered first has choice in the first stanza while the team numbered second has the choice in the second stanza. Seating rights for any match in the second round robin are the reverse of those in the match between the same teams in the first round robin. In a head-to-head match the winner of a draw for seating rights may elect to sit first or last for the first stanza.
- b) For subsequent stanzas, seating rights alternate. Teams sit their players North/South at their home table.
- c) In round robin matches with 1 stanza only, blind seating line-ups will apply.

- d) The team captain is responsible for posting the seating positions of the players on the Line-up Form together with the system being played if more than one has been submitted. Posting must be completed at least 10 minutes and 5 minutes before the scheduled time of commencement of play, for the teams sitting first and last respectively. The CTD may alter posting times at his discretion.
- e) The penalties for failure to post seating as required are loss of seating rights AND 1<sup>ST</sup> offence – warning, 2<sup>nd</sup> offence – 1 VP penalty, 3<sup>rd</sup> & subsequent offences – 2 VP penalty per offence.
- f) Round robin matches are scored by IMP converted to VP using the appropriate WBF scale, which will be announced after the format has been determined.
- g) Swiss matches are scored by IMP converted to VP, using the relevant WBF scale announced, after the format has been determined.
- h) Head-to-head matches (repechage, semi-final, final) are scored by VP, with 1 IMP equivalent to 1 VP. Any fraction of a VP constitutes a win.
- i) Ties occur when two or more teams are on exactly the same VP score and herein are broken according to ABF Tournament Regulation #15 [i. number of wins in VP (15-15 = ½ win); ii. net IMP; iii. lot].

## 10 SESSION TIMES

- a) Session One of both the Open & Women's Playoffs commences at 9.00 am on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.
- b) Other session times will be available after final acceptance of entries.
- c) Where possible Open & Women's Playoff session times will be concurrent.

## 11 BOARD RULE

- a. There are no minimum board requirements for tie-break matches.
- b. Fouled boards are deemed to have been played in the scheduled segment, whether cancelled altogether or replayed in the following stanza.
- c. A team is eligible to progress to the next stage and to represent Australia only if each player in the team plays the minimum number of stanzas which are in;
  - i. Round robin events, 50% of the stanzas, fractions rounded down.
  - ii. Swiss events, 50% of the matches rounded down.
  - iii. In each of the repechage, semi-final and final – 2 of 4 or 3 of 6.
- d. If a player is unavailable due to illness or injury, the CTD in his sole discretion may deem that player and his nominated partner have fulfilled the board rule. The CTD may ask for medical certificates or other documentary evidence to satisfy himself as to the nature and severity of the illness or injury.
- e. When a player fails to satisfy the board rule, the ABF Management Committee, in its absolute discretion, following a report from the CTD and ABF Tournament Committee determines the eligibility of the player, the pair, and the team. Consideration is given first to disqualification of the entire team. This decision is made subsequent to the completion of the event and does not change the format of the event.
- f. For the purpose of the Board Rule, where a match is conceded, players who have not yet satisfied the Board Rule are in fact deemed to have played every remaining stanza of the match.

## 12 SUBSTITUTION

- a. Substitution is not a right but a privilege allowed for cause when a team is reduced to less than four players.
- b. All substitutes must be approved in advance by the CTD who may permit a substitute judged by the CTD to be of equivalent standard.
- c. Either of the teams in the match may appeal this judgment of equivalence to the Tournament – Sub-Committee, such appeal must be notified before the commencement of the match/stanza in question.
- d. A player may have a substitute for cause for a maximum of;
  - i. Round robin – 50% of the stanzas.
  - ii. Swiss – half the total number of rounds.

- iii. In each of the repechage, semi-final and final – 2 of 4 or 3 of 6.
- e. Boards played by an approved substitute count towards fulfilment of the minimum board requirement of the original player.
- f. Any unauthorised substitution or substitution in excess of those allowed results in ineligibility of the team to represent Australia but will not affect the structure or progression of the event.

### 13 CORRECTION PERIOD AND APPEALS

- a. The correction Period (Law 79C) expires
  - I. For the last session of a stage, 30 minutes after the score and hand records for the last stanza of that stage are made available for inspection.
  - II. For other sessions, 30 minutes before the commencement of the next session.
- b. Scoring errors made by the Official Scorer may be rectified
  - I. For the last stanza of a stage: within the Correction Period.
  - II. For other stanzas: until the commencement of the last stanza of that stage.
- c. The Time of Appeal (Law 92B) expires 30 minutes after the conclusion of the session.
- d. The CTD must be notified of a team's intention to request, or appeal, a director's ruling within the Time of Appeal.
- e. In normal circumstances, the Appeals Sub-Committee Convener appoints a committee of not less than three members from among available experienced players or other such persons conversant with the Laws of Bridge and appoints a Chairman. Appeals are heard at the first convenient opportunity, not necessarily immediately following the match from which the appeal arose, unless the appeal has a direct bearing on the next stage of the event. In general every effort will be made to hear appeals, up to and including the penultimate round of a stage, before the commencement of the final round.
- f. No competitor in the 2012 Open Playoffs shall sit on the Appeals Sub-Committee for the Open event and no competitor in the 2012 Women's Playoffs shall sit on an appeal for the Women's event. An Open player may sit on a Women's appeal and vice versa.
- g. An Appeals Sub-Committee may award a penalty of 2.5 VP in a Swiss or round robin match and 10 IMP in a knockout match where it considers the appeal to be substantially without merit.

### 14 FOULED BOARDS

- a. A ruling that a board is "fouled" must be sought within the correction period.
- b. A board that does not tally with the hand record is not ipso facto "fouled".
- c. Law 87 determines that a board is "fouled" when "the Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board, in such a manner that contestants who should have a direct score comparison did not play the board in identical form".
- d. The result of the fouled board is cancelled and a substitute board is played immediately unless any of the players have left the table at the conclusion of that stanza. In that case no substitute board is played if the match has been completed; otherwise the substitute board is played in the next stanza.
- e. The CTD may issue a procedural penalty (1 VP or 3 IMP) to pairs who are reasonably determined to be responsible for fouling a board.

### 15 FORFEITS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

- a. In the case of a forfeit in a round robin, the score for the non-offending team at the end of that round robin is adjusted to the highest of:

- 18VP
  - Its mean VP score for completed rounds
  - 30 VP minus the mean VP score for completed rounds of the forfeiting team (maximum 25-5 VP).
- b. The non-offender's IMP score is the mean (rounded, 0.5 down) of the range of the VP allocated.
- c. The offender's score is 0 VP and -67 IMP.
- d. A team that forfeits two matches in the double round robin or Swiss is treated as a withdrawal and scores adjusted according to ABF Tournament Regulation 14.

## 16 PENALTIES

- a. Procedural and disciplinary penalties are not subject to appeal, but the CTD may be requested to review the assessment.
- b. There is NO grace period for late arrival. Procedural penalties are:
- | Lateness (minutes)                  | Round Robin or Swiss | Knock-Out |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| i. 1 <sup>st</sup> offence, 0+ to 5 | warning              | warning   |
| ii. Subsequent, 0+to 5              | 1 VP                 | 3 IMP     |
| iii. 5+ to 10                       | 1 VP                 | 3 IMP     |
| iv. 10+ to 15                       | 2 VP                 | 6 IMP     |
| v. 15+ to 20                        | 3 VP                 | 9 IMP     |
| vi. 20+ to 30                       | 5 VP                 | 15 IMP    |
- c. If a contestant is more than 30 minutes late, a more severe penalty, including disqualification is assessed by the CTD. The CTD at his discretion may allow the match to be played.
- d. If a number of boards are unable to be played because one contestant is late, the non-offending team is awarded a score of 2 IMP per unplayed board in a match of <11 boards and 3 IMP per unplayed board in other matches.
- e. In cases of slow play in the round robin or Swiss, the procedural penalty is 1 VP for each 5-minute period (or part thereof) that elapses after the scheduled end of session and before the end of play. The CTD decides how this is allocated between the teams involved, based on any monitor's reports, his own observations and any statements from the players involved.
- f. In cases of slow play in the repechage, semi-final or final, the procedural penalty is 1 IMP for each minute (or part thereof) that elapses after the scheduled end of session and before the end of play. The CTD decides how this is allocated between the teams involved, based on any monitor's reports, his own observations and any statements from the players involved.
- g. It is possible for a pair considered responsible for excessive slow play to be penalised in a session that finished within the allotted period. Any such penalty is at the discretion of the CTD.
- h. Where a pair is penalised for late arrival as well as slow play the team is assessed the greater of the two penalties.
- i. Contravention of regulation 1.j (re electronic devices) will incur a procedural penalty of 3 VP per offence or 9 IMP during the final stages.
- j. Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during session time. Violation of this prohibition incurs a disciplinary penalty of 3 VP or 9 IMP.

## 17 DESIGNATED EVENTS

- a. In 2012 the Target event is The World Mind Sports Games: Dates and Location are yet to be confirmed.
- b. The team placed first in the 2012 Playoffs will be offered the right to represent Australia at Target events. If only two pairs from Team 1 wish to attend a Target event those players may make an ordered short list of additional pairs to be drawn from those pairs that played in the Semi-finals or Finals of the Playoffs. The MC will have the right to choose the third pair from that submitted list. If there are not 2 pairs from Team 1 willing to attend a Target event, the right to represent Australia will pass to Team 2. If Team 2 only has 2 pairs willing to attend the Target event, they must augment a third pair. In the first instance they may elect to accept augmentation by a pair from Team 1, the other finalists. The right to represent Australia will pass down the teams with the two losing semi-finalists being ranked on their PQP on entry to the Playoffs.

- c. Teams winning and/or accepting a place to play in WBF events confirm through such acceptance their knowledge and understanding of the WBF Dress and Drug Codes and regulations and the severe penalties for breaches of such regulations and codes. In summary this code requires players to be dressed in team uniforms for all formal occasions and all play sessions.

## 18 FORMATS

### Open Division 1

The Open Division 1 will be played as a single round robin of 32 board matches played in two 16 board stanzas. Net IMP for the two 16 board stanzas combined are converted to Victory Points using the WBF Victory Point scale for 32 board matches. At the conclusion of the round robin, the two highest placed teams will qualify to the semi-finals. The remaining two teams qualify to the Repechage.

### Open Division 2

The Open Division 2 will be played as a single round robin of 16 board matches with a bye. Net IMP for each match will be converted to Victory Points using the WBF Victory Point scale for 16 board matches. Teams with the bye will be allocated 15 VP for that round. At the conclusion of the round robin, the two highest placed teams will qualify to the repechage.

### Women's Division 1

The Women's Division 1 will be played as a double round robin of 16 board matches with byes. Net IMP for each match will be converted to Victory Points using the WBF Victory Point scale for 16 board matches. Teams with the bye will be allocated 15 VP for that round. The draw for Round 2 will be based on the finishing position after Round Robin 1. At the conclusion of the round robin, the two highest placed teams will qualify to the Final.

### Open Repechage

The Open Repechage will be played over 64 boards in four stanzas of 16. Scoring will be by net IMP. The team finishing third in Open Division 1 will choose their opponent from the teams which qualified to the repechage from Open Division 2. The two winning teams will qualify to the Open Semi-Finals.

### Open Semi-Finals

The Open Semi-Finals will be played over 64 boards in four stanzas of 16. Scoring will be by net IMP. The team finishing first in Open Division 1 will choose their opponent from the two teams which qualified from the repechage. The two winning teams will qualify to the Open Final.

### Open Final

The Open Final will be played over 96 boards in six stanzas of 16. Scoring will be by net IMP.

### Women's Final

The Women's Final will be played over 96 boards in six stanzas of 16. Scoring will be by net IMP.



## 19 DRAWS AND TEAM NUMBERS

### Open Teams Playoff - Division 1

Time	Round	First numbered team has choice	
Sat 9.00 am	1	4 v 1	3 v 2
Sat 11.15 am	2	1 v 4	2 v 3
Sat 2.00 pm	3	1 v 3	2 v 4
Sun 10.00 am	4	3 v 1	4 v 2
Sun 12.15 pm	5	2 v 1	4 v 3
Sun 3.15 pm	6	1 v 2	3 v 4

#### Team Numbers

- 1 Braithwaite
- 2 T Brown
- 3 Hans
- 4 Hinge

The first numbered team has choice of opponents in that stanza.

### Open Teams Playoff - Division 2

Time	Round	Blind line-ups			Bye
Sat 9.00 am	1	15 v 12	16 v 13	17 v 14	11
Sat 11.15 am	2	11 v 17	13 v 15	14 v 16	12
Sat 2.00 pm	3	16 v 11	17 v 12	15 v 14	13
Sun 10.00 am	4	11 v 15	12 v 16	13 v 17	14
Sun 12.15 pm	5	14 v 11	13 v 12	17 v 16	15
Sun 3.15 pm	6	11 v 13	12 v 14	15 v 17	16
Sun 5.30 pm	7	12 v 11	14 v 13	16 v 15	17

#### Team Numbers

- 11 Harper
- 12 Reynolds
- 13 Beauchamp
- 14 Ebery
- 15 Lazer
- 16 Nixon
- 17 V Brown

There will be blind seating for all rounds

### Women's Teams Playoff – Division 1

Time	Round	First numbered team has choice		Bye
Sat 9.00 am	1	23 v 22	25 v 24	21
Sat 11.15 am	2	23 v 25	24 v 21	22
Sat 2.00 pm	3	21 v 25	22 v 24	23
Sun 10.00 am	4	25 v 22	21 v 23	24
Sun 12.15 pm	5	22 v 21	24 v 23	25
Sun 3.15 pm	6			
Sun 5.30 pm	7			

Mon 10.00 am	8
Mon 12.15 pm	9
Mon 3.15 pm	10

#### Team Numbers

21 Willcox	24 Travis
22 Hoffman	25 Evans
23 Wilkinson	

The draw for Round 6-10 will be based on the teams respective finishing positions after Round 5 - the end of the first round robin (RR1). Teams will retain their team number, but the draw will be varied as necessary. The first placed team will follow the RR1 draw for Team 21, the second placed team will follow the RR1 draw for Team 22, etc. Exception: Should Team 24 and/or Team 25 finish in first or second position after RR1, then the order of rounds for RR2 may be swapped to avoid a team having 2 byes on the one day.

The first numbered team has choice of opponents in that round. For each match in RR2, the choice will lie with the team that sat first in the corresponding match in RR1.

## 20 VICTORY POINT SCALES

WBF Victory Point Scale for 16 board matches

VP	IMP diff	VP	IMP diff
15-15	0-2	23-7	32-36
16-14	3-7	24-6	37-41
17-13	8-11	25-5	42-46
18-12	12-15	25-4	47-52
19-11	16-19	25-3	53-58
20-10	20-23	25-2	59-64
21-9	24-27	25-1	65-71
22-8	28-31	25-0	72+

WBF Victory Point Scale for 32 board matches

VP	IMP diff	VP	IMP diff
15-15	0-3	23-7	47-52
16-14	4-10	24-6	53-58
17-13	11-16	25-5	59-65
18-12	17-22	25-4	66-73
19-11	23-28	25-3	74-82
20-10	29-34	25-2	83-91
21-9	35-40	25-1	92-100
22-8	41-46	25-0	101+