

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS – 2023
NSWBA DIRECT TO NATIONAL FINALS QUALIFYING EVENT
SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, supplemented by the Tournament Regulations of the NSWBA as amended and these Supplementary Regulations. In case of conflict between these Supplementary Regulations and the NSWBA Tournament Regulations, the Supplementary Regulations shall apply.

General Supplementary Regulations that apply to both Sydney Metropolitan Direct Qualifying Events can be found at <https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2023/gnot/metro.asp>.

1 The Event

1.1 The event will be held online using the RealBridge platform over five nights, as scheduled in the official NSWBA Program. It is a requirement that all players on RealBridge have working video and audio connections. Players may only turn off their camera with the permission of the Director. Players in breach of this regulation will not be eligible to progress to subsequent stages.

1.2 The event will be run as a single knockout with Swiss repechage.

1.3 Matches in the Knockout section are over 28 boards, played in two stanzas of 14. Opponents will be automatically switched for the second half of the match.

1.4 Matches in the Swiss are over 14 boards.

1.5 Yellow systems will not be permitted.

2 Entry and Eligibility

2.1 Every player must be an active member of the Australian Bridge Federation masterpoint system.

2.2 Players must be residents of the Metropolitan GNOT Region or a neighbouring GNOT region. Residency requirements are irrelevant for any House team included in the field.

3 Choice, Ranking and Draws in the Knockout Sections

Unless unavoidable, teams having already played one another in the KO may not be drawn to play again in the KO. The KO field each week will consist of the all the winning teams plus a certain number of lucky losers (those teams that lost by the smallest margins). The House team and any teams that have lost a match in a previous round are ineligible for lucky loser slots.

Week 1

3.1 The initial field will be seeded. The top 4 seeded teams will be randomly drawn to play the bottom 4 teams. The middle 10 teams will be randomly drawn to play each other. Opponents will be automatically swapped to play the other pair for the second half of the match.

Week 2

3.2 The field will consist of the 9 winning teams plus 5 lucky losers. The 9 winning teams will be ranked by the size of their winning margin. Ties will be broken (in order) by:

- i) IMP quotient;
- ii) higher net IMP score in the previous round;
- iii) lot.

3.3 The teams ranked first to sixth will have choice (in order) from teams ranked seventh to fourteenth.

3.4 Teams with choice of opponents will forfeit their choice if they do not respond within the time limit set by the Director. In such cases, they will be matched with the lowest ranked available choice.

Week 3

3.5 The field will consist of the 7 winning teams plus 1 lucky loser. Teams will be ranked by the size of their winning margin in week 2. The teams ranked first to third will have choice from teams ranked fourth to eighth. Ties will be broken as in #3.2.

Week 4

3.6 The field will consist of the 4 winning teams. Teams will be ranked by the size of their winning margin in week 3. The team ranked first will have choice from teams ranked third and fourth. Ties will be broken as in #3.2.

Week 5

3.7 The 2 winning teams will play each other. Both teams will proceed to National Final.

4 Swiss Repechage (weeks 2, 3, 4 & 5)

4.1 Results in the Swiss repechage will be converted to victory points using the WBF 14 board match IMP to VP conversion scale.

4.2 The draw for round 1 of the Swiss repechage (in week 2) will be random.

4.3 Drop-in score for losing teams from the KO section:

- a) at the start of Session 3, 90% of the Swiss leader's score after Swiss Match 2;
- b) at the start of Session 4, 95% of the Swiss leader's score after Swiss Match 4;
- c) at the start of Session 5, the Swiss leader's score after Swiss Match 6.

4.4 Teams entering the Swiss will be ranked on the basis of the loss suffered.

Rankings will be determined by:

- (a) loss of playoff (by smallest margin)
- (b) smallest IMP difference (winning score – losing score)
- (c) smallest IMP quotient (winning score / losing score)
- (d) lot

4.5 For each round of the Swiss, the top ranked team in the Swiss will play the lowest ranked team dropping into the Swiss, the second ranked team in the Swiss will play the second lowest ranked team dropping into the Swiss, etc.

4.6 Teams that have played in the knockout sections may meet again in the Swiss.

5 Tie Breaks

5.1 A tie in a KO Match Round 4 will be decided by a 4-board playoff arranged with the Director at a time suitable for both teams, preferably the same night. If the tie remains, single additional boards will be played until a result is obtained.

5.2 If necessary, other ties in a KO match will be broken (in order) by:

- i) rescoring the match at board a match scoring;
- ii) rescoring the match at total points;
- ii) lot.

5.3 Ties in the Swiss will be broken by net IMPs.

6 Qualification to subsequent stages

6.1 The two teams playing Round 5 in the KO section will qualify to the National Final.

6.3 The top three teams in the Swiss Repechage will qualify to the Metropolitan Regional Final.

6.4 Any team that qualifies for the National or Metropolitan Regional Final, but opts not to proceed, will be replaced by the next highest ranked team available, provided always that the replacement team finished above the middle-ranked team of the Swiss Repechage. The House team is ineligible to play in the Metropolitan Final.

6.5 The final ranking of teams is:

First: Winner of KO;

Second: Loser in round 5 of KO;

Third to fifth: Teams from the Swiss Repechage in finishing order (with ties broken as per #5.3).

7. Fees

7.1 The entry fee as specified must be paid in full before play begins.

7.2 Thereafter, all subsequent entry fees for teams that qualify to the Metropolitan and/or the National Final will be paid by the NSWBA.

8. Score Correction Period

The correction period ends at midday on the Wednesday immediately following each session.

9. Masterpoints

9.1 Each 14-board segment is treated as a separate match.

9.2 Winners of each match receive 0.56 gold MPs.

9.3 The MPs are shared if the winning margin is less than 3 IMPs.

9.4 Outright awards are made to the top third of the field, *i.e.* down to fourth place in the Swiss repechage.