



# NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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## STATE MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022 COUNTRY MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022

[www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp](http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp)

**Tournament Organiser: Wing Roberts**

January 2022

The NSWBA invites all affiliated clubs to conduct qualifying events for the 2022 State Mixed Pairs and Country Mixed Pairs Championships. Affiliated clubs can play qualifying sessions and award red masterpoints at state championship level ( $W = 3.75$ ) - **you do not need to send a club representative pair to the State Finals in order to award red masterpoints**. These sessions are part of an NSWBA State Championship, so they come with a higher weighting and are additional to your B4c allowance.

**This is a MIXED pairs event and must be programmed and advertised as such.** Non-mixed pairs may play in club qualifying sessions and are entitled to any red masterpoints won, but do not abuse this concession-to-practicality by rebranding normal sessions as a Mixed Pairs Qualifier and making no attempt to run a mixed pairs event. This would be unfair to all the mixed pairs that enter in good faith and have ineligible pairs “steal” their masterpoints. If you have a large number of non-mixed pairs wanting to play, run independent sections.

Clearly Covid-19 has changed the way we live and how many of us have played bridge over the last two years, and maybe in the future. The regulations now allow qualifying sessions to be played either online or f2f. Sessions played f2f or on the RealBridge platform attract masterpoints with full weighting of  $W = 3.75$ . Sessions played on the BBO or Stepbridge platforms are restricted to  $W = 2.5$ . Participation in online sessions is restricted to players who are members of a NSWBA-affiliated club.

The State Finals are scheduled to be played f2f at the NSWBA. It is currently a requirement that all players on the NSWBA premises have been doubly vaccinated and provide proof of their status. Announcements will be posted on the State Mixed Pairs webpage if the situation changes, so all organisers and representative pairs should check this site regularly.

The cost for pairs entering the Final directly is \$140 per pair, but this won't apply to club pairs. Clubs will pay \$120, a flat \$20 discount for every representative pair sent to the State Final. An additional benefit to clubs is that **the NSWBA will pick up the masterpoint costs if three conditions are met**. Firstly, you must send at least one pair to the State Final. Secondly, you must submit the relevant files by the specified date - if the NSWBA is charged a late fee by the Masterpoint Centre, the NSWBA will invoice the club for the full masterpoint costs plus the late fee. Lastly, you have run a mixed pairs qualifying event in good faith – see paragraph 2 above.

The Championship Finals will be held at the NSWBA on the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**Start time on the Saturday is 10.30 am.** The top 14 pairs on Saturday will qualify for the State Mixed Pairs Final on the Sunday. In addition, the top 14 pairs from non-metropolitan regions will qualify to a separate Country Mixed Pairs Final on the Sunday. Country pairs who qualify for the State Final may choose which Final they contend.

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The Country Mixed Pairs Final began in 2014 with barely enough pairs for a 7-table final. Since then, the numbers increased steadily each year and, before Covid, the Mixed Pairs was one of the most popular state championships on the NSWBA calendar. The NSWBA is well aware that pairs from country clubs invest a lot of time and money to come to Sydney for the Finals and we really want to see them get the maximum value from that investment. That is only possible if your representative pairs stay for both days, so please encourage them to do so.

We welcome your club's participation in these events and look forward to receiving as many entries as possible to the State and Country Mixed Pairs Finals weekend.

The details are contained overleaf and in the Supplementary Tournament Regulations available from the NSWBA website: [www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp](http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp)

***Please read both documents carefully!***

## State & Country Mixed Pairs Event Details

1. Clubs not wishing to run a qualifying competition may nominate one pair per 50 home club members or part thereof with a limit of 5 pairs.
2. Only players who are members of a club affiliated with the NSWBA can play in online sessions.
3. There is no upper limit to the number of pairs that may be sent - any pair in the qualifying field is eligible to proceed.
4. Clubs will be invoiced \$120 for each representative pair sent. (The cost for a pair entering directly is \$140.)
5. Affiliated clubs located outside the Sydney metropolitan region may apply to the NSWBA for financial assistance for pairs representing their clubs.
6. Timetable. Clubs should carefully note the following dates and times:

Club qualifying competitions must be completed and results and pair nominations must be sent to the Tournament Organiser by no later than **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022**.

Session times for the Championship Final are:

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022      10:30 am and 2.30 pm

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022      10.00 am and 2.00 pm

Those players who do not qualify to either the State or Country Pairs Final on Sunday will be granted free entry to the NSWBA Autumn Swiss Pairs Congress.

7. State Mixed Pairs prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$250 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$150.  
Country Mixed Pairs prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$400, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$200 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100.  
The Autumn Swiss Pairs Congress prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$150 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100.  
These amounts may be reduced if the number of entries is considerably below the pre-pandemic levels.
8. An Excel form to assist clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp>. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list and then emailed to the NSWBA. Participating clubs must send the following to the NSWBA by email:
  - The completed coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above) as an Excel file. This will include the names and ABF numbers of the clubs' representative pairs;
  - A complete copy of the results of **each qualifying session** as a pdf, html or txt file;
  - **The masterpoint file as a .red file. This is mandatory.**
9. Clubs should note that **red masterpoints** for the qualifying sessions will be submitted to the Masterpoint Centre after the Championship Final.
10. The Tournament Organiser will invoice each participating club. **Do not send any money until you receive the invoice.** Provided you send at least one pair to the Finals and all relevant files are received before the start of the Finals, the NSWBA will pay the costs of any red masterpoints issued. Clubs that do not send at least one representative pair to the final will be invoiced for the masterpoint costs.
11. All correspondence should be sent to:

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