

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS - 2008
SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CLUBS QUALIFYING EVENT
SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. The Event

- 1.1 This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge (1997 or 2007 as appropriate), supplemented by the Tournament Regulations of the NSWBA as they stand at the time an issue arises. Clubs are to write their own set of regulations relating to conduct of the event, substitutions and qualification, but no such regulation may conflict with any subsequent regulations marked below with an asterisk (*). In the case of conflict, these Supplementary Regulations will apply. A default set of regulations is available from the NSWBA website for clubs that wish to use them.
- 1.2* Each Metropolitan club is invited to hold at least one event to qualify teams to a Metropolitan Final.
- 1.3* If a club holds two qualifying events, one must be held in the evening and the other must be held during the day.
In addition, a special 2 session Congress type event may be held on Sunday 9th March. The event should be advertised only within the participating club.
- 1.4* Clubs may run any type of IMP based teams or pairs competition, including but not limited to Swiss, Round Robin, Knock-out with Swiss repechage and Butler Pairs.
- 1.5* The minimum number of sessions allowed is two (2) and the maximum number of sessions is five (5).
- 1.6* Directors need only be qualified at the club level.
- 1.7* System regulations are to be set by the clubs. Note, however, that all systems will be permitted in the Metropolitan Final.
- 1.8* The number of teams to qualify to the Metropolitan Final for each club qualifying event is calculated as follows from the number of tables in play in the qualifying event. A maximum of one seventh (fractions rounded up) may qualify and a minimum of one seventh (fractions rounded down) must qualify. For 7 tables or fewer, 1 team must qualify.

2. Eligibility to Club Qualifying Events

- 2.1* No entry restrictions based on age, sex, masterpoint ranking, etc are permitted.
- 2.2 There are no eligibility restrictions on competitors in the club's qualifying competitions, but clubs and local organisers should be aware of the restrictions on players participating in the Metropolitan Final. (See Section 3 below.)
- 2.3 Clubs may require all competitors to be club members.
- 2.4* Players may enter in as many different club qualifying competitions as they like, provided they pay the specified table monies and/or tournament entry fees of the club and satisfy any other requirement the club imposes.

3. Composition of Teams Proceeding to and Participating in the Metropolitan Final

- 3.1* Teams submitted by clubs must consist of 4, 5 or 6 players.
- 3.2* All team members must be active player members of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme.
- 3.3* Each player must be a member of a Sydney metropolitan bridge club affiliated with the NSWBA.
- 3.4 Players do not need to be residents of the Sydney Metropolitan region nor a member of the club they are representing.
- 3.5 The NSWBA does not require players proceeding to the Metropolitan Final to have played in the qualifying competition, but clubs may impose such restrictions.
- 3.6 If a club's designated representative team becomes unavailable, the club's Executive Committee may take any action necessary to find a replacement team.
- 3.7* There is no minimum board requirement for competitors in the Metropolitan Final.
- 3.8* Players who have already qualified for the National Final via one of the 3 Direct Qualifying Events may not compete in the Metropolitan Final. This rule applies even if the player withdraws from the team that has qualified to the National Final.
- 3.9* No augmentation of teams will be permitted after play in the Metropolitan Final has begun, except in extreme and unforeseen circumstances (eg death or incapacity of team member).
- 3.10* No augmentation of teams will be permitted after play in the Metropolitan Final has finished, except in extreme and unforeseen circumstances (eg death or incapacity of team member). That is, the team entered in the Metropolitan Final is the team that qualifies to the National Final.

4. Fees

- 4.1* Each club will pay an entry fee of \$10 per table competing in the event, plus \$205 per team entered into the Metropolitan Final. In addition, \$1.10 per gold masterpoint awarded, will be charged to the club. All quoted charges include GST. Clubs should be aware of these fees when setting tournament entry fees and table monies for their qualifying events.
- 4.2* The NSWBA will pay all fees and expenses (including directing and masterpoint costs) associated with the Metropolitan Final. The NSWBA will pay all entry fees to the ABF for the National Final (to be held again this year in Banora Point – Tweed Heads, from Friday 28th to Monday 1st December).
- 4.3* The Double Bay Bridge Centre and the North Shore Bridge Club may levy an extra payment on the teams that qualify directly to the National Final from their events. The entry fee to the National Final is \$660 per team as before. Any such extra payment must be clearly advertised before the commencement of the event.

5. Masterpointing

- 5.1* The State Masterpoint Secretary or his representative will calculate all masterpoint awards.
- 5.2* Gold masterpoints will be available to the winners¹ of every match at the rate of 0.04 masterpoints per player per board per match. In the case of 5 or 6 person teams, the masterpoint awards per member will be 4/5 and 2/3 respectively unless the exact team composition is supplied for every match played.
- 5.3 Gold masterpoints will only be awarded for a club qualifying tournament if:
- The specified number of teams (#1.8) proceed to the Metropolitan Final.
 - The NSWBA receives all entry fees before October 4th 2008.

¹To qualify as winners for the purpose of masterpoint awards, the leading team must win by a margin greater than 0.2 IMP per board over the match. Note especially that for 10 board matches a final IMP difference of 2 IMPs counts as a draw.

6. Administration

- 6.1 The Convener of this event (on behalf of the NSWBA) is Tony Musgrove.
- 6.2 At the end of the qualifying event (and before Saturday 4th October) each club must provide the Convener with the following information:
- The format of the event, including the number of boards played in each match, and the number of wins and draws achieved by each member of each team. A check total of the total number of matches played should also be provided.
 - Either
 - A file on disk of the players and their ABF numbers in the same order that they occur on the tournament results sheet. This file may include gold point awards in standard format provided transparent paperwork which includes the total number of matches played, and the total points awarded is attached to allow checking.
 - or
 - Congress Award Forms, or a legible list of the players and their ABF numbers in the same order that they occur on the tournament results sheet(s)
 - A list of teams progressing to the Metropolitan Final.
- 6.3 The Convener will present each participating club with an invoice to cover masterpointing charges and entry fees to the Metropolitan Final. Please do not send your payment until an invoice has been issued. Your payment should be sent direct to the NSWBA with identifying paperwork.
- 6.4 All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to:

Tony Musgrove
Convener GNOT
c/- NSWBA,
First Floor, 162 Goulburn St, East Sydney,
NSW, 2010.

Or preferably via e-mail at ardelm@optusnet.com.au

or if desperate Phone: 9520 5651 (home)

Or via snail mail to 12 Kelton Place,
Engadine, NSW, 2233.