



# NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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ABN 61 000 438 648

## STATE OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2017 COUNTRY PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2017

**Tournament Organiser: Wing Roberts**

Dear Club Secretary

Three big changes to the organisation of these events are happening in 2017. Read on - the first change may be a big benefit for your club.

- All affiliated clubs can play qualifying sessions and award red masterpoints at state championship level (weighting of 5.0) as **the longstanding regulation that a club representative pair must attend the finals in order to award red masterpoints has been scrapped**. If your club hasn't participated previously, that's up to 4 extra red point sessions per year that you can run. These sessions are part of an NSWBA State Championship, so they do not come out of your B4c allowance. They are also cheaper than B4c masterpoints and come with a higher weighting.
- After many years of faithful service, Liz Fanos has retired. Wing Roberts has been appointed as the new NSWBA Office Manager and she will thus be the State Open Pairs Organiser for 2017.
- The start time for the Finals on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November has been brought forward to 10.30 am.

The NSWBA invites all affiliated clubs to conduct qualifying events for the 2017 State Open Pairs and Country Pairs Championships. The Championship Finals will be held at the NSWBA on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

The top 14 pairs on Saturday will qualify for the Open Pairs Final on the Sunday.

In addition, the top 14 pairs from non-metropolitan regions will qualify to a separate Country Pairs Final on the Sunday. Country pairs who qualify for the Open Final may choose which Final they contend.

The idea of the Country Pairs Finals was introduced in 2013 as a direct consequence of discussions at the annual Regional Representatives meeting. 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 country pairs 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.

Please note the graduated scale of entry fees to the finals – the more pairs you send, the less your club is charged for each pair!

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

The details are contained below and in the Supplementary Tournament Regulations available from the NSWBA website: <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2017&E=sop>

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

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. The upper limit to the number of pairs that may be sent is the entire qualifying field.

(see over)

3. Costs for pairs attending the Championship final are due as follows:

Number of pairs sent to the final	Cost per pair	Total charge to the club
1	\$120	\$120
2	\$110	\$220
3	\$100	\$300
4	\$90	\$360
5	\$80	\$400
6	\$70	\$420
7 and more	\$60	\$420+

4. Affiliated clubs located outside the Sydney metropolitan region may apply to the NSWBA for financial assistance for pairs representing their clubs in the Championship Final. Only one subsidy per club will be allowed.

5. Timetable. Clubs and their representatives should carefully note the following dates and times:

Club qualifying competitions must be completed and results and pair nominations must be sent to the Convener by no later than **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017**.

Session times for the Championship Finals are:

Saturday 18 November 2017 10:30 am and 2.30 pm

Sunday 19 November 2017 10.00 am and 2.00 pm (supper provided at end of play)

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

6. State Open Pairs prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$480, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$240 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$120.  
Country Pairs prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$360, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$180 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100.  
The Spring Swiss Pairs Congress prize money is 1<sup>st</sup> \$240, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$120 & 3<sup>rd</sup> \$60.
7. An Excel form to assist clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2017&E=sop>. 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 nominated 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 if you score using a computer.**
8. Clubs should note that **red masterpoints** for the qualifying sessions will be awarded after the Championship Final.
9. The Tournament Organiser will issue each participating club with an invoice to cover the entry fees of representative pairs and the costs of any red masterpoints issued. **Do not send any money until you receive the invoice.**
10. All correspondence should be sent to:

Wing Roberts

C/- NSWBA

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East Sydney 2010.

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