



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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January 7th 2014

Attention: Club Secretaries, Congress Organisers, Holiday and Cruise Conveners

The way licence fees are calculated for congresses and bridge holidays in NSW has changed.

Significant dissatisfaction had been expressed by a number of people as the previous formula was quite complicated, depending on factors such as table numbers and distance from Sydney. The major inequities and inconsistencies were:

- A larger attendance did not necessarily result in a higher fee.
- No distinction was made between high level (*e.g.* Supercongress) and low level (*e.g.* restricted) congresses.
- Bridge cruises and holidays are part of the system and were meant to pay licence fees as well. In reality some did and some do not, which was clearly unfair.

The NSWBA Council thus reviewed the scheme in the latter part of 2013 and found that it was not working well. The Council endorsed a number of changes with simplicity and fairness as its main features.

From 1st January 2014, the congress licence fee will now be a simple charge based on masterpoints awarded. **The rate will be \$0.80 per masterpoint issued.** For some congresses this may amount to a small increase in the fee paid, but for others it will be a decrease. The rate has been set to result in no significant change in overall licence fee revenue.

The procedure will be quite simple. Payments will be calculated on the basis of a simple congress report form available at <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2014/calendar/14CongressReport.pdf>. This form includes masterpoint awards as estimated by the Congress Director or Holiday Organiser. No masterpoints will be awarded by the State Masterpoint Secretary until the appropriate fee has been paid, either by cheque or by direct bank transfer. We do not expect any substantial differences between awards estimated by the Director and those calculated by the SMP.

Questions on the administration of the scheme should be directed to Liz Fanos, NSWBA Office Manager (office@nswba.com.au)

Julian Foster
Chairman
NSWBA Council