

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS - 2015
SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CLUBS QUALIFYING EVENT
SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. The Event

- 1.1 This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, 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 weekend Congress type event may be held, subject to the approval of the date by the Metropolitan GNOT Convener. 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 must be *bona fide* residents of the Sydney metropolitan region or a neighbouring NSW country GNOT region, viz, Central Coast, Mountains or Tablelands-Illawarra.
- 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 2 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* Players who have failed to qualify may form teams and enter the Metropolitan Final directly. Such entries must specify all team members and the club(s) at which they participated in a club qualifying event.

4. Augmentation of Teams that Qualify to the National Final

- 4.1* Teams of 4 or 5 players that qualify from the Metropolitan Final to the National Final may augment players provided:
- (a) A request to augment is received in writing by the Chairman of the NSWBA Tournament Committee before Saturday 17th October.
 - (b) The players being augmented are judged to be of equivalent standard to the rest of the team.
 - (c) Each augmented player is an active player member of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme and also a member of a Sydney metropolitan bridge club affiliated with the NSWBA.
 - (d) The players being augmented have not previously qualified to the National Final.
 - (e) The team did not qualify to the Metropolitan Final from a DQE.

5. Fees

- 5.1* Each club will pay an entry fee of \$12 per table competing in the event, plus \$220 per team entered into the Metropolitan Final. In addition, \$1.20 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.
- 5.2* Teams entering the Metropolitan Final directly (rather than qualifying via a club) will pay an entry fee of \$280.
- 5.3* 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 in Tweed Heads from Friday 27th to Monday 30th November. These are:
\$750 per team for each Metropolitan Sydney team competing in the National Final, plus
\$10 per team for every team entered in all Sydney Metropolitan qualifying tournaments.
- 5.4* The North Shore Bridge Club may levy an extra payment on the team that qualifies directly to the National Final from its DQE. (The entry fee to the National Final is \$750 per team.) Any such extra payment must be clearly advertised before the commencement of the event.

6. Masterpointing

- 6.1* 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.
- 6.2* Gold masterpoints will only be awarded for a club qualifying tournament if:
(a) the specified number of teams (#1.8) proceed to the Metropolitan Final;
(b) the NSWBA receives all entry fees before October 10th 2015.
- 6.3 Clubs will be billed directly by the ABF Masterpoint Centre.

¹ To 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.

7. Administration

- 7.1 The Convener of this event (on behalf of the NSWBA) is Michael Wilkinson.
- 7.2 At the end of the qualifying event (and before Saturday 3rd October) each club must provide the Convener with the following information **by e-mail**:
- The number of teams entered in the event
 - A list of teams progressing to the Metropolitan Final.
- 7.3 Clubs should send the following information directly to the State Masterpoint Secretary (masterpoints@nswba.com.au):
- A complete copy of the outright results including details of the format as a pdf, html or txt file;
 - The masterpoint file as a .gld file;
- 7.4 The Convener will present each participating club with an invoice to cover 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.
- 7.5 All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to:
Michael Wilkinson
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c/- NSWBA,
First Floor, 162 Goulburn St, East Sydney,
NSW, 2010.
- preferably via e-mail at gnot@nswba.com.au Mobile: 0459 981 124