



# NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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## Country Carnival 2015

December 2014

**For the attention of the Tournament Secretary, non-Metropolitan affiliated Clubs**

### Introduction

The competition will be run by the NSWBA and the tournament organiser will be Louis Koolen (phone: 43897203 and email: [koolen@bigpond.net.au](mailto:koolen@bigpond.net.au)). The intent is to hold the Final of the Country Carnival in a different major centre within NSW each year. For 2015, the Final will be hosted by the Port Macquarie-Hastings Bridge Club over the October long weekend, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> October.

### Structure

The Country Carnival is both a pairs event and an interzonal competition. It starts with Club Qualifying events, progresses to Regional Finals and culminates in the final, the Country Carnival.

There are three categories:

- Novice (<100MP)
- Restricted (<300MP)
- Open

Clubs can hold qualifying events (CQE), which can be Butler or matchpoint pairs, feeding into Regional Finals (RF). These are normal club sessions, using B4s grade (State red) masterpoints. Easiest format would be a flighted event, where you select the top pair in each category and direction. Clubs holding qualifying events should plan to raise sufficient monies to pay for the entry fees for their representative pairs into the Regional Final (see below). If pairs are nominated to the Regional Final, clubs should pay the entry fees. Each Club Qualifying could provide six or more pairs to the Regional Final, with each category represented where possible.

Each Region may provide up to six pairs to the Country Carnival Final: 2 in the Novice, 2 in the Restricted and 2 in the Open category. All category winners will receive prize money and medallions.

Zones will compete against each other for an overall zonal trophy, based on ranking results of their pairs and adjusted to take into account the number of pairs in each category from each zone. The Country Carnival Final will have two qualifying sessions, followed by final, plate and consolation per category, numbers permitting.

## Costs

The whole competition is intended to be revenue neutral, so that **club qualifying events raise the entry fees for their pairs to the Regional Final, and each Regional Final raises the entry fees for the region's pairs to the Country Carnival Final.**

The club hosting the Regional Final should plan to raise sufficient monies to pay for the entry fee for the pairs qualifying to the Country Carnival Final, set at \$120 per pair. This cost is only slightly higher than the State Open Pairs final, and this will cover the cost of the venue hire in the country.

For a two session Regional Final qualifying 6 pairs to the CC Final, the RF will need to pay:

Entry fee to the Final:	6 x \$120	\$ 720
Refreshments	(say)	\$ 180
Directing	(say)	\$ 180
TOTAL		<b>\$1080</b>

With 18 pairs in the RF, this comes to about \$60 entry fee per pair. (Alternatively you could charge each pair less and require the qualifying pairs to contribute something). If you have less than 18 pairs in the RF, it is recommended that you stay within the \$60 limit, whereas if you have significantly more, you charge less.

For a two session CQE qualifying 6 pairs to the Regional final, a club needs to pay:

Entry fee to the Regional Final:	6 x \$60	\$ 360
Refreshments	(say)	\$ 120
Directing	(say)	\$ 100
TOTAL		<b>\$ 580</b>

With 18 pairs in the CQE, this comes to about \$32 entry fee per pair. (Alternatively you could charge each pair less and require the qualifying pairs to contribute something). **So pairs entering the Country Carnival tournament will only pay \$32, which will cover all three stages**, unless clubs charge less and require qualifiers to the next stage to pay more.

## Subsidies

To start off this competition, the NSWBA has received a grant of \$10,000 from the ABF over three years, and will contribute up to twice this amount itself. These monies will be used to subsidise the competition for the first three years.

The NSWBA will ensure that each pair, residing more than 100 kilometres from the Final venue will receive \$120 to help with their accommodation costs. Travel subsidies for pairs travelling more than 100 kilometres are yet to be determined by the NSWBA Council.

## Masterpoints

Masterpoints are awarded at level B4s. These are part of the NSWBA's red masterpoint allowance – do not use your club's B4c vouchers. Clubs will be responsible for CQE masterpoint charges. The NSWBA will pay the costs of masterpoints in the Regional Finals and Country Carnival Final.

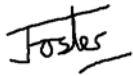
## **Trophy and prizes**

There will be a trophy awarded to the best performing Zone. There will also be prizes in each category. Pairs coming first in their category will receive \$300, as well as medallions. Second and third place getters will receive \$200 and \$100 respectively.

## **Supplementary Regulations**

These can be found on the NSWBA web site at <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/index.asp>.

I wish every participating club and pair the best of luck in this competition and look forward to welcoming as many pairs as possible to the finals.



Julian Foster  
Chairman  
NSWBA Council