



New South Wales Bridge Association



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Dear Club Secretary,

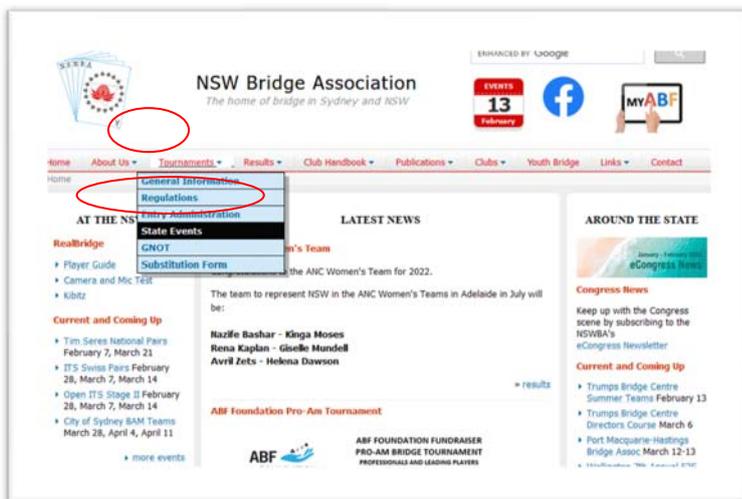
If you are not responsible for running events or bridge sessions in your club in 2022, please pass this letter to the person who is, viz. your Tournament Organiser, President or Chief Director.

COVID-19 and lockdowns over the last two years forced many clubs to play their sessions online or cease playing altogether. Players were offered a similar choice; play socially, online, or not at all. The ABF helped clubs by setting up the ABF Club Online Games on BBO whilst the NSWBA met the Covid-19 challenge with RealBridge. RealBridge has enabled players from all around the state to play in the NSWBA's regular Monday night events, resulting in a 50% increase in numbers. Most National events, including a very successful Spring Nationals, were held on RealBridge in 2021.

What does 2022 have in store for us? No one knows for sure, so the NSWBA is planning its events with as much flexibility as possible. All finals of the major State Championship are scheduled to be held as F2F events at the NSWBA in Sydney. It's possible that they will be forced onto RealBridge, but the dates won't change unless higher powers (the ABF and/or WBF) give us no other sensible option. Clubs will have the option of running their club qualifying events either F2F or online. Sessions held on BBO or StepBridge are restricted to red masterpoints with W=2.5. Sessions run on RealBridge get the F2F grade, generally W=5.0 for State Championship events.

The NSWBA wants to ensure all clubs are aware of all our State Championship events and the advantages of participating in them at the club level. Most importantly, participating in State events is the cheapest way for your club to award red masterpoints to your members. Not only are red masterpoints for F2F State Championships issued at twice the rate of Club Championships, these sessions are additional to your club's B4c entitlement. Apart from the Country Teams, there is no requirement for your club to send club representatives to the next stage of the event.

Most clubs have lost members and are going to have to work hard to get them back. Clubs holding qualifying rounds of the various NSW state championships and the [GNOT](#) may be able to use the red and gold masterpoints these events award to lure your players back to the bridge table.



Go to www.nswba.com.au. Hover over **Tournaments** and then choose **State Events** from the drop down menu that appears, as shown in the screen shot.

On the State Events page you will find links to each event, listed in chronological order. Full details for any particular event can be found by following the relevant link.

A short summary of each State Championship in which clubs can participate is given on the following two pages.

Warren Lazer (Chairman, NSWBA Events Committee)

The State Mixed Pairs Championship (incorporating the Country Mixed Pairs Championship)

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=smp

You can play up to 4 session of this event in your club. Red masterpoints are awarded with a weighting factor of 3.75 and the NSWBA pays for them if you send a pair to the State Final.

Online sessions are restricted to members of clubs affiliated with the NSWBA.

Qualifying rounds to be completed before Friday 20th May 2022.

There are travel & accommodation grants for representatives of country clubs attending the Finals at the NSWBA on 28th & 29th May, 2022.

Tournament Organiser: Wing Roberts office@nswba.com.au

The State Open Pairs Championship (incorporating the Country Pairs Championship)

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sop

You can play up to 4 session of this event in your club. Red masterpoints are awarded with a weighting factor of 5.00 and the NSWBA pays for them if you send a pair to the State Final. .

Online sessions are restricted to members of clubs affiliated with the NSWBA.

Qualifying rounds to be completed before Friday 11th November, 2022.

There are travel & accommodation grants for representatives of country clubs attending the Finals at the NSWBA on 19th & 20th November, 2022.

Tournament Organiser: Wing Roberts office@nswba.com.au

The State Wide Pairs

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=swp

This event is now a single session event played during the week of 1st - 7th August.

All pairs play the same hands and the results are scored across the state and the hand records include a short analysis of each deal.

Red masterpoints (paid by the NSWBA) are awarded at level B4s and there are generous prizes including cash, Bridge Shop Gift vouchers and certificates.

Organiser: Warren Lazer swp@nswba.com.au

The Under 100 Masterpoints Pairs Championships

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=uhmp

Red masterpoints awarded at level B4s (paid by the NSWBA).

Restricted to those players with fewer than 100 masterpoints.

Club sessions are held in your club during September and/or October.

Finals are held at multiple venues around the state during the week 21st - 27th November.

Short travel times and no accommodation costs associated with Finals.

Prizes (cash, subscriptions to the Novice Australian Bridge magazine and certificates) are awarded separately in each masterpoint division.

Organiser: Warren Lazer uhmp@nswba.com.au

The John Arkininstall State Teams Championship

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sot

Affiliated clubs qualify teams to the State Finals via Regional and Zonal Finals. See the Metropolitan Teams Championships below.

The Finals are held at the NSWBA on 9th – 11th December 2022.

Red masterpoints at Level B with a weighting factor of 5.0 are awarded. Sessional awards for the State Finals are increased by 50%.

The Metropolitan Teams Championship - part of the John Arkininstall State Teams Championship

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sotmetro

Red masterpoints awarded with weighting factor of 5.0. There is no longer a requirement that you must send a club representative team to the Metropolitan Final in order to receive red masterpoints.

The deadline for receipt of club entries to the Metropolitan Final is Monday 3rd October.

The Metropolitan Final is incorporated into the NSWBA Jacaranda Teams Congress on 16th October.

Teams entering at the club level and progressing to the Metropolitan Final pay just \$80. Teams entering the Metropolitan Final directly pay \$160.

Two teams progress from the Metropolitan Final to the State Final at the NSWBA. At least one of these teams will have qualified via a Club heat.

Tournament Organiser: Warren Lazer sotmetro@nswba.com.au

A summary of the significant dates for the 2022 Metropolitan Teams follows.

Mon 3rd October: Deadline for receipt of club entries to the Metropolitan Final.

Sun 16th October: Metropolitan Final at the NSWBA.

Fri 9th & Sat 10th December: Qualification rounds of John Arkininstall State Teams Finals at the NSWBA.

Sun 11th December: Final of the John Arkininstall State Teams Championship.