

JOHN ARKINSTALL STATE TEAMS 2024
SYDNEY METROPOLITAN ZONE
CLUB QUALIFYING SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. The State Open Teams Championship is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017 and the Tournament Regulations of the New South Wales Bridge Association, as amended.
2. All Sydney clubs are eligible to run heats of the Metropolitan Teams. These club events qualify teams to the Metropolitan Teams Final, held in conjunction with the Pennant Hill Teams Congress on Sunday 13 October.
3. The Metropolitan Teams Final selects two teams to represent the Sydney Zone in the finals of the State Open Teams Championships held **online on the RealBridge platform** in November. (Ten teams, representing all zones in NSW, contest the Finals of the State Open Teams.)
4. Clubs may run one or two separate events, but the total maximum number of sessions a club can hold is **six**. Clubs may only run two separate qualifying events if each caters to different members (*e.g.* one is played during the day and the other at night, on a weekend or online).
5. Club qualifying events may be run as teams or IMP-scored pairs competitions.
6. Yellow Systems are not permitted in any stage, including the State Final.
7. Players do not have to be members of the club at which the qualifying competition is held, but must be resident in the Sydney Metropolitan area, or play a significant amount of bridge at one or more clubs located in the Sydney Metropolitan area.
8. Directors must be qualified at Club level (Grade D) or above.
9. If running a pairs event, Butler Pairs with match lengths of at least 5 boards should be preferred. This will maximise the award of red masterpoints which are awarded for every match won or drawn. A normal pairs movement with rounds of 2, 3 or 4 boards and employing IMP scoring is permissible, but will result in fewer masterpoints being issued, and these only to the top half of the field. One field movements (Howell or arrow-switch Mitchell) generate slightly more masterpoints than 2 field movements (Mitchell). Matchpoint scoring is not permitted.
10. Qualification to the Metropolitan Teams Final
 - 10.1 All teams participating in a club qualifying event are eligible to represent that club in the Metropolitan Final, provided they are *bona fide* competing teams. This means that each team must have entered and played the club qualifying event as a team - it is not allowable for players who have qualified in different teams to play together in the Final as club representatives, but see Clause 10.2 below.
 - 10.2 Teams may augment players at any time prior to Friday 22 November, *i.e.* either before or after the Metropolitan Teams Final. Augmented players must be members of the club conducting the qualifying event. Permission to augment after 22 November may be granted by the NSWBA Events Committee in exceptional circumstances.
 - 10.3 If holding an IMP-based pairs qualifying event, any 2 or 3 participating pairs may join together to form a team.
 - 10.4 The entry fee to the Metropolitan Final for all club representatives is \$160 per team.
 - 10.5 Clubs may hold club qualifying events and award red masterpoints without sending any representative teams to the Metropolitan Final.

11. Subsequent stages

- 11.1 The Metropolitan Teams Final will be held in conjunction with the Pennant Hills Congress on Sunday 13 October 2024.
- 11.2 The State Open Teams Finals will be held online on the RealBridge platform from Friday 29 November – Sunday 1 December 2024.
- 11.3 Further information about these stages of the State Teams (including prizes and the supplementary tournament regulations) can be found on the NSWBA website at www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=sot.

12. Masterpoints

- 12.1 Red masterpoints will be awarded. The event is run under the NSWBA's grade B (State Championship) allowance – do not use your club's B4c sessions.
- 12.2 Red masterpoints for club sessions have a weighting of W=5.0. They are awarded on a sessional basis only; *i.e.* there are NO outright (placing) awards. They are to be calculated by the scoring program or club masterpoint secretary.
- 12.3 **The red masterpoints awarded must be emailed to the Organiser as a .red file.** They must **not** be sent to the State Masterpoint Secretary nor uploaded to the ABF Masterpoint Centre.

13. Administration

- 13.1 An Excel file to assist hosting clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&E=sotmetro. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list. At the end of the qualifying event (and before **Monday 30 September**) the club needs to send the following to the Organiser by email:
 - The completed Excel coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above).
 - The format of the event, including the number of boards played in each match, the number of rounds played, and the number of teams (or pairs) in the event.
 - A complete copy of the results each session as pdf, text, html, Word or Excel files. This must include a list of all teams and their members and the number of matches they won, drew and lost.
 - Masterpoint information as a .red file, sent as an email attachment.
 - A complete list of team members (*i.e.* names and ABF numbers) of teams that will proceed to the Metropolitan Teams Final.
- 13.2 The NSWBA will send an invoice to cover the masterpoint costs and the team entry fees after the conclusion of the Metropolitan Teams Final. Do not send any money until you receive the invoice.
 - Masterpoint costs in 2024 are calculated at **\$1.39 per masterpoint**.
 - Entry fees are \$160 per team.

14. Timetable. Clubs should note the following dates:

Club results to be received by the Organiser by: **Monday 30 September 2024**

Metropolitan Teams Final in conjunction with the Pennant Hills Teams Congress on:
Sunday 13 October 2024.

State Open Teams Finals online **on RealBridge: Friday 29 Nov - Sunday 1 Dec 2024**

15. The Organiser of the Metropolitan Teams on behalf of the NSWBA is:

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