

# SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE - REGULATIONS

17/12/2008

## **A) GENERAL**

1. The Summer Festival is conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) as Regulating Authority (defined by Law 80) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations, Screen Regulations, Written Bidding & Bidding Box Regulations, System Regulations, Alerting Regulations and Appeals Regulations as applicable and the Supplementary Regulations of each separate event.
2. In these Regulations abbreviations include ABF, Australian Bridge Federation; AMPC, Australian Multi-Pairs Championship; IMP, International Match Points; LT, Last Train; LMT, Life Masters Teams; MP, masterpoints; NLM, National Non-Life Maters Teams; NNT, National Novice Teams; FP, Flighted Pairs; NOT, National Open Teams; NST, National Senior Teams; NWT, National Womens Teams; PQP, Playoff Qualifying Points; SFOB, Summer Festival of Bridge; SWPT, South West Pacific Teams; TDIC, Tournament Director-in-Charge VP, Victory Points; WBF, World Bridge Federation; XT, Australian Mixed Teams.
3. The ABF reserves the right to alter, without notice, the conditions of any event according to the number of entries received.
4. Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Tournament Organiser.
5. Mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment must be switched off during session time and may not be consulted or used unless a specific exception is permitted by the TDIC. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, applied after one warning per contestant per event, and determined by the Director to be equivalent to 3 VP, 9 IMP or 30% of the MP top on a board.
6. English is the official language of the SFOB. During a session players may converse only in English unless both captains (teams) or all four players at the table (pairs) agree to use some other common language at their own risk. If necessary, interpretation into English is the responsibility of the (team) captain. Appeals based on misunderstanding in a language other than English are not permitted.
7. Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the TDIC or Tournament Organiser (VuGraph, Bridge Base On-Line webcast, written bidding, bidding boxes, pick-up slips, table record sheets, electronic scoring units etc.). Players must record the score for each board after it is played and before the commencement of the next board.
8. The Time of Appeal (Law 92B) and Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expire 30 minutes after the score is available for inspection unless:
  - a) provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations for a particular event or
  - b) the team commences a tie-break or the next match of a knockout or
  - c) the next round/stanza is scheduled to commence within that period when the Correction Period for that round/stanza applies.
9. A score or result recorded officially that is in conflict with the table record may be altered until
  - ◆ the commencement of the last stanza of the stage for errors made previously
  - ◆ 30 minutes after posting of the scores for errors relating to the last stanza of that stage.

## **B) TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS**

1. The Tournament Organiser is Sean Mullamphy.
2. The TDIC are Arie Geursen and Laurie Kelso.
3. The Appeal Sub-Committee Chairman is Eric Ramshaw.
4. The Tournament Sub-Committee Chairman is Eric Ramshaw.
5. The representative of the ABF Tournament Committee and the ABF Tournament Unit is Eric Ramshaw.
6. The ABF Recorders are John Brockwell and Peter Grant.
7. The Convener of the Appeal or Tournament Sub-Committee appoints their members and is the sole judge of their quorum.

## **C) ELIGIBILITY, AUGMENTATION, PLAYOFF QUALIFYING POINTS (PQP)**

1. At the time of commencement of an event, each Australian resident entrant must be a financial member of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme and of an organisation affiliated to the ABF or to an Australian State Bridge Association. Overseas players become honorary members of the "Foreign Players Club".

2. For events restricted by master point holding or status, players not resident in Australia must supply evidence that they are eligible to play in events with similar restrictions in the NBO with which they are registered.
3. For restricted events with categories of 0-49, 0-99, 0-149 MP, a player's Grand Slam ranking must be less than 58%.
4. The Tournament Organiser may nominate a "house" contestant for any event. The Tournament Sub-Committee may determine that a "house" contestant consist of any number of players including ineligible players and may impose special conditions.
5. A "house" contestant is ineligible to place and its score is limited to a maximum of 15 VP and a minimum of 11 VP with the minimum IMP of the allocated range unless the Tournament Sub-Committee declares it eligible to place when it scores its actual VP & IMP. Opponents of the "house" contestant receive their actual VP and IMP score. Masterpoints for "house" contestant matches are awarded according to the actual result.

6. Minimum Board Requirement. Boards played to break ties are not counted in a player's quota.

Minimum Boards	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	Stage II	R20+R12	(Quarter-,Semi-)Final
Event	XT	NNT	LMT	SWPT	NST	NOT	NOT
		NLM	NWT/NST				
Format	10x12	8x20	9x20	14x20	5x14	4x16	4x16
Augmentation (before)	round 7	round 6	round 6	round 9	none	none	none
title/next stage eligibility	3 rounds	2 rounds	3 rounds	4 rounds	1 round	1 stanza	1 stanza =25%
MP eligibility	4 rounds	3 rounds	4 rounds	6 rounds	3 rounds	40%	2 stanzas
PQP			4 rounds	6 rounds	2 rounds	2 stanzas	2 stanzas=50%

7. A team-of-four or -five entered in the XT, NNT, NLM, LMT, NST, NWT or SWPT is permitted to augment to a team-of-five or -six during the qualifying Swiss before the round shown in #C6.
8. The teams that qualify through the Swiss to enter the final series of the NST & NWT and through the SWPT to enter the NOT are not permitted to augment. A team that qualifies to the final series or NOT without at least four members who satisfy the eligibility conditions in #C6 is deemed to have withdrawn.
9. To be eligible to play or continue to play in the round robin stage/final of the NST, the semifinal/final of the NWT or the knockout of the NOT a player must satisfy the board requirement as shown in #C6.
10. To receive PQP at least two members of the team must be eligible to represent Australia and, if required, the player must submit the declaration of eligibility after complying with all regulations concerning eligibility and board requirements as shown in #C6. Players who become ineligible receive 50% of the PQP to which their team became entitled before they became ineligible. Tied contestants share PQP even though the tie may be split for organizational reasons.
11. Detailed information about PQP and the mode of entry to the Playoff for Australian team selection is available only on the ABF website at abf.com.au.
12. Eligibility for restricted categories is:

Women	all team members female	
Mixed	at least one male and one female must play in every round	SWPT: Brian Rawson Trophy
Senior	all members born before 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1951	SWPT: Eva Hardy Trophy
Veteran	all members born before 1 <sup>st</sup> January 1944	
Country	all members Australian residents outside metropolitan Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney	
Youth	all members born on or after 1/1/1983	SWPT: Neil Mathieson
Novice	all team members have less than 150 MP at 30/09/08	
Zone 7	all team members eligible to represent a Zone 7 NBO other than Australia	NOT: New Zealand High Commissioner's Trophy
ACT	team assessed (recent ACT activity) by the trophy donor	NOT: Lew Thomson Trophy

13. In any one event a contestant with multiple qualifications is eligible to win the trophy/prize (or compete in the category final) only for the category ranked highest in the list shown in #C10 above. The successful contestant is deleted from other categories. Notwithstanding this regulation, the winners of the Zone 7 & ACT trophies are eligible to win one of the SWPT category trophies.
14. In case of a withdrawal, #14 of the ABF Tournament Regulations is applied.
15. In case of a disqualification, the Tournament Sub-Committee may declare all results obtained by the disqualified contestant prior to its disqualification void and determine that the score of their opponents be cancelled or varied.

## **D) SYSTEMS AND PROTECTED PAIRS**

1. The onus rests with all pairs to classify their system(s) as GREEN, BLUE, RED or YELLOW and their BROWN STICKER convention(s) according to the ABF System Regulations. A pair in doubt about these classifications should submit a concise summary to the Tournament Organiser.
2. The ABF System Regulations require each pair to disclose their system(s) by providing the opponents before the start of play with two identical system cards. A YELLOW system may be disclosed on either a WBF or an ABF system card; all others must use the appropriate ABF standard system cards.
3. A dispute during the SFOB concerning the classification of a convention or system is determined by the ABF Tournament Committee representative whose decision is final and not subject to appeal.
4. Failure to complete a system card adequately and classify the system correctly may result in system reclassification. Failure to comply with the submission requirements or reclassification may result in the adjustment of scores and/or disallowance of YELLOW systems and BROWN STICKER conventions for all or part of the event.
5. GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events. However BROWN STICKER conventions must not be used against pairs who advise that they have been accorded PROTECTED PAIR status as defined in #D6.
6. A pair that is playing a GREEN system throughout certain events with both of its players below National Master or one player below Local Master may apply to the TDIC for PROTECTED PAIR status for those events and be identified by an ORANGE sticker on the front of its system card. At the SFOB PROTECTED PAIR status is available for the NLM, NNT and all match-pointed pairs events.
7. YELLOW systems may be used, subject to the conditions provided in their Supplementary Regulations, only in the LMT, NWT, SWPT and NOT.
8. Pairs wishing to use a YELLOW system must submit a concise summary, printed or written in black ink on an ABF standard system card or a WBF system card plus a maximum of two supplementary A4 sheets, and a *bona fide* suggested defence. The submission, specifying the event(s) in which the YELLOW system is to be used, must reach the Festival Secretary before 4pm on 10<sup>th</sup> January.
9. Pairs wishing to use a YELLOW system but only as a defence to a YELLOW system must submit a concise summary, printed or written in black ink on an ABF standard system card plus a maximum of two supplementary A4 sheets, and a *bona fide* suggested counter-defence. This submission must be handed to the TDIC before the commencement of the event in which they wish to use the system.
10. For defence against a YELLOW system a pair using a GREEN, BLUE or RED system may change their system, including opening calls.
11. During the auction, pairs may use written notes of their defence or counter-defence for YELLOW systems and defence for convention(s) that make(s) a system BROWN STICKER provided that they comply with regulations #D12-14 below. During the play period, written notes of a defence or counter-defence may be consulted **only** to answer a question from the opponents.
12. A written defence must be: printed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet; identical for each player; approved by and lodged with the Director at least 15 minutes before the scheduled session time; submitted to the opponents at least 10 minutes before the scheduled session time; available to the opponents during the auction and play.
13. A written counter-defence must be approved by the Director and two copies submitted to the opponents at the start of play.
14. A pair using a YELLOW system must not change its opening calls for a defence or counter-defence.

## **E) RULINGS AND APPEALS**

1. Requests for a Director's ruling and Appeals against a Director's ruling must be made within the Time of Appeal provided in #A8.
2. Appeals must be notified to the one of
  - ◆ the Director who gave the ruling
  - ◆ the duty Director at the conclusion of the session
  - ◆ the TDIC at the venue.
3. Each appeal against a Director's ruling must be lodged in person on the approved Appeal Form.
4. When an Appeal Sub-Committee judges an appeal to be without merit, it awards a procedural penalty, on the scale specified in the Appeals Regulations, against the appellant's score.

## **F) FOULED BOARDS**

1. Hands are generated by computer using the ABF dealing program; the appropriate number of copies is replicated and hand records are provided. A board which does not correspond to the hand record is not necessarily “fouled”.
2. Law 87 determines that a board is fouled when “the Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board, in such a manner that contestants who should have a direct score comparison did not play the board in identical form”.
3. A ruling that a board was fouled must be sought within the Correction Period (#A8; Law 79C).
4. Fouled boards are scored as described in the sections below for the various types of event.
5. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations for a specific event, should it be proved, within the correction period, that a hand has been played previously in any tournament in Australia or has been reported in any magazine or newspaper article then the result of that hand is cancelled at all tables at which the hand was played. Such boards are not regarded as fouled and no additional boards are added to the session except in the case where every board in a session is cancelled in which case the session is replayed.

## **G) PROCEDURAL PENALTIES**

1. Late Arrival: It is the responsibility of the players to know the starting time of sessions and be seated ready to play five minutes before that time.
2. Slow Play: The duration of a session is based on 7.5 minutes per board or such other period as the TDIC announces.
  - ◆ In Swiss stages boards not started within 5 minutes of the scheduled finish of the session are removed and not played.
  - ◆ Where a stanza, round, session or match is not completed in the time allotted, both pairs at the offending table(s) are penalised unless the Director rules that the penalty be shared unequally. The Director may make such a ruling after being called to the table during the play period or as a result of his own observations or those of any appointed time-monitor.
3. Late submission of result sheets. When the TDIC so determines, contestants must agree the result and deliver a signed table record sheet/result slip to the Director/Scorer as soon as the result is agreed and no later than 5 minutes after the time scheduled for completion of the stanza.
4. Procedural penalties for late arrival or slow play are set out below for the various types of event.
5. Other procedural penalties are determined on a scale considered, in the absolute discretion of the TDIC, to be consistent with one of the scales shown below.
6. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, the calculation of carryover from stage to stage includes disciplinary penalties and procedural penalties. Warnings carry over from stage to stage.

## **H) SUBSTITUTES**

1. A substitute, approved in advance by the TDIC or his nominee, may be permitted for cause, not convenience, when a contestant does not have the minimum number of players available.
2. A substitute should be, as far as possible, of the same MP classification as the player replaced.
3. A substitute must not be an entrant in the current stage of the event but may be an entrant who was eliminated in a previous stage.
4. The extent of substitutions is:
 

Number of stanzas (n)	1	2, 3	4, 5	6	n>6	7-9	10	14
substitutes allowed (number of stanzas)	0	1	2	3	0.5n-1 (rounded down)	3	4	6
5. Notwithstanding clauses #1-4, ABF Tournament Regulation #4.1 authorises emergency substitutions and, in the last resort, the TDIC may approve any substitution to continue an event.

## **I) EVENTS SCORED BY IMP/VP**

### **DRAW AND SEATING**

1. The fields are seeded.

2. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations for a specific event, teams registering one or more YELLOW systems for that event
  - ◆ lose all seating rights for all stanzas against teams not registering a YELLOW system, even for stanzas in which no Yellow system is played
  - ◆ must declare their line-up within 10 minutes of the draw being posted for each stanza.
3. In knock out matches seating rights are determined by toss of a coin. The team winning the toss has the right to sit first or last for the first stanza and thereafter the order of seating reverses each stanza.
4. In all other circumstances the AWAY contestant sits first. HOME and AWAY is decided as equitably as possible.
5. The HOME contestant is shown first in the draw for each round and sits NS at the table with the blue numbers, EW at the table with the red numbers.
6. The draw for the next round is made as soon as practical after the previous round. Any score not received by the scorer within 20 minutes of the scheduled time for completion of the particular round is treated as a score of 20 VP/20 VP for the purposes of the draw.
7. Until the scheduled commencement of play a defective draw (as a result of appeals, correction of scoring errors etc.) is corrected for the last round. For other rounds, and at the (sole) discretion of the TDIC, a grossly-defective draw may be altered in a way that causes minimal disruption to the tournament.
8. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, the draw is performed according to the principles below.

### ***Swiss Events***

1. The draw for the first round is of the form  $1 \text{ v } 1 + 0.5n$ .
2. The draw for subsequent rounds is according to rank determined by VP excluding all penalties.
3. The contestant ranked highest plays the contestant ranked next that it has not played previously and so on.

### ***Round Robin***

1. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, the draw for the first round is random.
2. The draw for subsequent rounds is according to the schedule published at the commencement of the event.

### **SCORING**

1. Each contestant must complete a score card.
2. Swiss/Butler Pairs: Scoring is by IMP against a datum, converted to VP by the appropriate WBF scale. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, the datum is the arithmetic mean of the scores remaining after eliminating the two highest and the two lowest scores.
3. Swiss/Round Robin teams matches: Scoring is by VP converted from IMP by the WBF scale for the number of boards per match.
4. Teams, head-to-head matches: Scoring is by VP equivalent to IMP.
5. Final Placing: Except events with a final series, the final placing is the rankings after the last round.

### **FOULED BOARDS**

1. For head-to-head team matches the result of the fouled board is cancelled. A substitute board is played at both tables unless the result of the match is known or any of the players has left the table at the conclusion of that stanza. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 0 IMP assigned except for a match with multiple stanzas in which case the substitute board must be played in the next stanza.

For events where contestant's scores are compared against a datum, the Director's aim is to preserve the board if a meaningful result can be obtained. The Director determines that either

- ◆ the fouling was of no consequence and one or more of the results of the board be included in the datum calculation or
- ◆ the results on the board be treated in separate groups and datums be calculated for each group as above except that only two extreme scores (the highest and lowest) are eliminated for 3-6 results or
- ◆ one or more results be treated individually and the datum for each board be the actual result on that board (i.e. a score of 0 IMP is awarded to contestants who played these boards).

## TIES

A tie exists when more than one contestant (pair or team) has the identical number of VP. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event, ties are broken by serial application of the measures below. To determine the

1. Swiss draw by
  - ◆ net IMP
  - ◆ lot.
2. rankings after the last round of a Swiss by
  - ◆ the total of the VP scores of all their opponents
  - ◆ the number of wins in VP (15/15=0.5)
  - ◆ net IMP
  - ◆ lot.
3. rankings in a round robin by
  - ◆ the number of wins in VP (15/15=0.5)
  - ◆ net IMP in the round robin
  - ◆ lot.
4. winner of a knock-out match in the NOT by
  - ◆ placing in the SWPT
  - ◆ (2) above.
5. winner of a semi-final or final by playoff
  - ◆ play of four boards
  - ◆ play of one board, repeated
  - ◆ at the expiration of the scheduled time, lot.

## PROCEDURAL PENALTIES

1. Procedural penalties for late arrival in a match scored by IMP or a WBF VP scale, are:-

N minutes late	Procedural penalty
First offence < 5 min	warning
Subsequent offence < 5min	3 IMP or 1 VP
$5 \leq N < 10$	3 IMP or 1 VP
$10 \leq N < 15$	6 IMP or 2 VP
$15 \leq N < 20$	9 IMP or 3 VP
$20 \leq N < 30$	15 IMP or 5 VP

For arrival later than 30 minutes the penalty may be more severe (including disqualification).

An artificial adjusted score of offenders -3 IMP, non-offenders +3 IMP is awarded for every board withdrawn following late arrival.

2. Procedural penalties for slow play that results in removal of boards, applied to each contestant after one warning, are 1 VP for the first board plus 2 VP for each additional board.
3. Procedural penalties for slow play in a head-to-head match scored by IMP, for the time that the director assesses as that team's responsibility, are:

First offence (<10 min)	Warning
First offence ( $\geq 10$ min)	0.5 IMP per minute or part thereof beyond 10 min
Subsequent offences	1 IMP per minute or part thereof

4. Procedural penalties for late submission of results are 1 VP per offence, applied after one warning per contestant.

## FORFEITS

1. In the case of a forfeit in a match scored by a WBF VP scale, the score, for purposes of making the draw or calculating current placing, is:
  - ◆ Non-offenders 18 VP and the mean IMP of the 18-12 VP range
  - ◆ Offenders 0 VP and the IMP score assigned to 0 VP.
2. After the last round the score of the non-offending contestant is adjusted to the highest of:
  - ◆ 18 VP, or
  - ◆ its mean VP score for completed rounds, or

- ◆ 30 VP minus the mean VP score for completed rounds of the offending team (max. 25 VP).  
The non-offender's IMP score is the mean of the range of the VP allocated.  
The offender's score is 0 VP and the IMP score assigned to 0 VP.

## **J) EVENTS SCORED BY MATCHPOINTS**

### **SCORING**

1. There is no carryover from stage to stage.

### **FOULED BOARDS**

1. To score a fouled board the Director divides the scores into groups on the basis of the scores made in each form of the board; each contestant is awarded the match points calculated by the computer scoring program.

### **TIES**

A tie exists when the scores of more than one contestant differ by less than 0.01 of the unit of MP. Unless provided otherwise in the Supplementary Regulations of a specific event.

1. Every board which each tied contestant played is counted in breaking the tie, irrespective of whether the tied contestants played the same or different boards, or in the same or different sections. On the boards played by two or more tied contestants, 2 points are awarded to a tied contestant for each board on which his match-point score is higher than that of another tied contestant. (For example, if three tied contestants played the same board, they would be awarded 4, 2, and 0 points if each had a different match-point score on it; or 4, 1, and 1 points if one had the most match points on it and the other two an equal but inferior number.) On boards played by but one tied contestant, 2 points are awarded him for each one of his match-point scores above average, 1 point for average, and 0 point for below average. The tied contestant so awarded the greatest number of points is ranked first.

### **PROCEDURAL PENALTIES**

1. Procedural penalties in a match-pointed event for slow play (at the discretion of the Director) or late arrival expressed as a percentage of the maximum possible score on one board, are:-

First offence (<5 minutes)	warning
First offence (≥5minutes)	5%
Subsequent offences	10%

2. For every board withdrawn following late arrival offenders receive 0 MP and non-offenders receive the greater of 60% or their percentage earned on boards played in the stanza.