ABF GNOT TRAVEL SUBSIDIES IN 2018

For 2018, the ABF has listened to feedback from players and is changing the arrangements for travel subsidies used in 2017 for players on competing GNOT teams at the National Final from 30 November to 3 December 2018. The ABF wishes to keep the benefits from providing four return best available economy air tickets for the 44 teams travelling more than 700km to the Gold Coast. These benefits include the guarantee of a return ticket whenever the team qualifies; the ABF meeting its duty of care to get players to the event in the safest, most efficient way possible; and coverage under the ABF's Corporate Travel Insurance Policy.

Most importantly, however, the ABF is:

- introducing more flexible direct booking arrangements through Canberra-based staff (not using an external travel service);
- bookings will be made in consultation with team captains who will consult with their team members thus giving players more control over the timing of their travel;
- after consultation, tickets will be issued promptly. Subsequent changes will be permitted; however, the traveller will bear the cost of alterations, not the ABF.
- team members who wish to make their own arrangements (including driving) will be permitted to do so, subject to certain limitations;
- the 16 teams not normally travelling by air will continue to receive a cash subsidy for ground transport of their choice.

How the process will work?

Once a regional or metropolitan final has been held and the names of the players in any team (s) are known, it is the responsibility of the GNOT Regional/Metropolitan Coordinator for that zone to send an email with the Captain/player names, ABF numbers, mobile contacts and emails for all team members to the following persons:

Ray Ellaway, Tournament Organiser, GNOT National Final Tel: (07) 3351 8602 (w), 0466 288 365 (m)

Email: ray.ellaway@abf.com.au

AND

Roy Nixon, ABF Treasurer Tel: 0423 043 220

Email: roy.nixon@live.com.au

The ABF Treasurer will promptly consult with Team Captains to discuss team member travel preferences. ABF subsidy/travel support will be provided to a maximum of **four** team members and in the case of teams with more than four members, it will be the responsibility of the team to co-ordinate the distribution of subsidies within the team. The ABF preferred offer is to book four return economy airfares per team at best available fare on the day of booking. Ground transport costs to and from metropolitan/regional airport of choice are at the players own cost not the ABF.

For those team members opting out of the above ABF preferred return flight offer to make their own travel arrangements (including booking their own flights, ground transport or driving), the following conditions will apply:

- Players will receive the cash equivalent to the best available return economy airfare
 of the day as at September 1 2018 less 10%.
- Players fully accept that responsibility:
 - for any costs which might arise due to cancellations or changes is theirs and not the ABF; and
 - o for taking out adequate travel insurance is theirs and the ABF corporate travel insurance will not cover them in any circumstance.
- Once players have indicated they are opting out, they cannot change their minds later for the ABF purchased air ticket.

Team captains should notify the ABF Treasurer of their team's required travel arrangements no later than 10 days after the Treasurer first established contact with the Captain. Failure to do so assumes team members are opting out and are subject to the above opt-out terms and conditions.

Payment of cash subsidies

All cash subsidies (including those who opt-out of the ABF air ticket purchase) will be paid to player bank accounts by direct bank deposit on Friday 30 November.

More information

Please go to http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/gnot/2018/