

VICTOR CHAMPION CUP FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE 2017

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1 General

1.1 The Victor Champion Cup Festival of Bridge (VCCFB) comprises six events:

- Wally Scott Open Swiss Pairs (WSOSP)
- McCance Seniors' Swiss Pairs (MSSP),
- Sara Tishler Women's Swiss Pairs (STWSP),
- Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs (VMRSP),
- Frank Power Under 200 Masterpoints Swiss Pairs (FPSP),
- Victor Champion Cup Swiss Teams (VCC).

The Swiss Pairs events will be held on June 8-9, with the VCC and CSRT on June 10-12. These events are conducted by the Victorian Bridge Association (VBA) in conjunction with the ABF in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.2 The venue is the Bayview Eden, 6 Queens Road, South Melbourne.

1.3 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or Tournament Organiser (TO). Players must record the score for each board after it is played and before the commencement of the next board. It is an offence to leave the table at the conclusion of a match without first confirming the completeness and validity of the data entered into the scoring unit. Every player present at the table is equally responsible for the accuracy of the scores.

1.4 Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Tournament Organiser as the playing area and the scoreboard area, or any other designated area. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 6.3)

1.5 Mobile telephones, iPads, iPods and other electronic communication equipment must be switched off during session time. After one warning (see 6.3), breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty.

1.6 Mobile telephones, iPads and other electronic communication equipment may not be consulted or used during the session, unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) in the first

instance. In the case of further breaches by the same unit, the CTD will assess a more severe penalty, which may include forfeiture or disqualification.

- 1.7 The TO may grant permission for still or moving photographs to be taken during the course of the event. Players may only refuse to be photographed for religious or cultural reasons deemed valid by the TO or CTD.
- 1.8 Expressions used here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first to the ABF Tournament Regulations, thereafter to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2007, and finally to their ordinary English meaning. In the event of doubt or dispute, the decision of the CTD shall be final and conclusive.

2 Officials

- 2.1 The Tournament Organisers are Kim Frazer and Neil Ewart.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Laurie Kelso.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener is Neville Francis.
- 2.4 The Appeals Consultants are David Appleton and David Morgan.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representative is Matthew McManus.
- 2.6 The Recorders are Phillip Fent and Belinda Lindsay.

3 Eligibility, Augmentation and Substitutions

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 To be eligible for the MSSP, both players must have been born before 1-1-59.
- 3.3 To be eligible to play in the STWSP, both members of the partnership must be female.
- 3.4 To be eligible for the VMRSP, both members of the pair must have fewer than 300 masterpoints as at 31-12-16.
- 3.5 To be eligible for the FPSP, the combined masterpoint total of the two members of the partnership must be less than 200 as at 31-12-16.
- 3.6 Entries from members of the Foreign Players Club to the VMRSP or FPSP or to be eligible for the Charlie Snashall Trophy may be rejected at the discretion of the TO.
- 3.7 With the consent of the CTD, a team may augment until the conclusion of Round 5 to bring the number of team members up to a maximum of 6. A player so added to the team must not have played previously in another team in the same event.
- 3.8 The CTD may approve a maximum of two substitutions per pair or team in any one event. In addition, the CTD may allow emergency substitutions for substantial cause and may impose any conditions in doing so and may take whatever other action is considered necessary to keep the tournament in motion.

- 3.9 The TO may nominate a “house contestant” to compete in any event in order to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players, but is at liberty to nominate others in case of necessity. The conditions under which the “house contestant” competes will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 GREEN and BLUE systems are permitted without restriction.
- 4.2 RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are only permitted in the WSOSP, MSSP, STWSP and VCC.
- 4.3 YELLOW systems will be allowed in the WSOSP, STWSP and VCC from Round 3 onwards, but may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up). Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the TO with an adequately completed ABF standard system card and a bona fide defence before June 10, 2017.

5 Seating

- 5.1 Teams registering one or more YELLOW systems lose all seating rights in all stanzas against teams not employing a YELLOW system.
- 5.2 YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted within 10 minutes of the publication of the draw.
- 5.3 In other cases, seating rights for each match will be determined by toss of a coin.

6 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

- 6.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 6.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 6.3 The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4) and mobile phones (1.5, 1.6) is 3 VPs.

7 Correction Period and Time of Appeal

- 7.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each preliminary match expires 15 minutes after the scheduled conclusion of the following match. The Correction Period for the final match expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.
- 7.2 The Time for lodging an Appeal against a Director’s Ruling (Law 92B) for each match expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection, unless the next match is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for the next match.

8 Fouled Boards

- 8.1 In the Swiss Pairs events, a fouled board is scored by:
- (a) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (3-7 results) or four (results >7) extreme scores, respectively; or
 - (b) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 2 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.
- 8.2 In the Teams events, the result of a fouled board is cancelled and 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 round. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides.

9 Ties

- 9.1 Ties will be broken for first place only, in accordance with ABF TR 15.

10 Event formats

- 10.1 **Swiss Pairs** – The WSOSP, MSSP and STWSP will be played as distinct single field Swiss events consisting of 8 x 14 board matches, played over 4 sessions.
- 10.1.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 10.1.2, 10.1.3 and 10.1.4. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the WBF continuous 10 board VP scale. Separate datums will be calculated for each event.
- 10.1.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores under consideration after eliminating the highest x/10 scores and lowest x/10 scores (0.5 rounded up) where x is the number of scores under consideration.
- 10.1.3 If there are fewer than 24 tables entered in an event, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables.
- 10.1.4 If 24 or more tables enter an event:
- a) for Matches 1-2, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables;
 - b) for Matches 3-5, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top $n/2$ tables (0.5 rounded up), where n is the number of tables in play;
 - c) for Matches 6-8, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top 12 tables.
- 10.1.5 The format and scoring method for the VMRSP and FPSP will be determined when entries are known.
- 10.2 **Teams** – The VCC will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 10 x 14 board matches, played over 5 sessions.
- 10.2.1 Each match will be scored using the WBF continuous 14 board scale.
- 10.2.2 Eligibility for special category prizes:
- Best Women's Team: all team members must be female;
 - Best Victorian Team: all team members must be Victorian home-club members;
 - Best Senior Team: all team members must be born before 1-1-59;

Best Mixed Team: each team must include at least two females and at least two males.

Best Life Masters Team: all team members must have fewer than 1000 MPs as at 31-12-16;

Charlie Snashall Trophy for the Best Restricted Team: all team members must have fewer than 300 MPs as at 31-12-16.

10.3 The time allowed per round will be announced by the CTD.

10.4 The session starting times for all the Swiss Pairs events are 10.30 am and 3.00 pm. The session starting times for all the Teams events are 10.00 am and 2.30 pm, with the exception of Monday, June 12, when there is no 2.30 pm session. All sessions consist of two matches.

11 Playoff Qualifying Points

11.1 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player in the WSOSP as below:

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	16	12	8	4

11.2 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player in the MSSP or STWSP as below:

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	24	18	12	6

11.3 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player in the VCC as below:

Place	1	2	3
PQP	36	18	9

11.4 To be eligible for PQP, a player must have played in at least one-half of the matches in the relevant event.

11.5 Tied pairs share the available points.

Appendices

Penalties for Late Arrival or Slow Play

The penalties for Late Arrival and Slow Play under ABF TR 10 are:

0-5 mins	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5-10 mins	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10-15 mins	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15-20 mins	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20-30 mins	5 VPs (15 IMPs)

For late arrival in excess of 30 minutes, the CTD may assess a more severe penalty including forfeiture of the match and/or disqualification from the event.

When boards are cancelled by the director due to a failure to complete them on time, the following penalties may be applied at the director's discretion:

One board	1 VP (3 IMPs)
Subsequent boards	2 VPs (6 IMPs)

Should the players leave the table, when they have failed to enter one or more scores into the scoring unit or when an incorrect score has been entered and agreed, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	1 VP per occasion

Tie-breaking

Significant ties are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot.

Anticipated Finishing Times

The following times are provided solely as a guide to players and may change depending on event formats and other circumstances:

Swiss Pairs	Friday, June 9, 6.30 pm
Teams	Monday, June 12, 1.15 pm