

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
AND
AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2011

1 June 2011

1 General

- 1.1 The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) is the regulating authority for the Australian National Championships (ANC) and Australian Butler Pairs Championships (ABPC). These events are conducted in cooperation with the Victorian Bridge Association (VBA) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations and appeals regulations as applicable.
- 1.2 The venue is the Powerhouse Function Centre, Albert Park, Melbourne, Victoria
- 1.3 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the CTD or Tournament Organiser. (Vugraph, Bridge Base On-Line web-cast, 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.
- 1.4 Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Tournament Organiser, the playing area and the scoreboard area and any other designated area.
- 1.5 Mobile telephones, pager 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 CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, after one warning (see 6.6)
- 1.6 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during the session times of the ABPC Final stages and the ANC Teams. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 6.6)

2 Officials

- 2.1.1 The Tournament Organiser is Jeannette Collins.
- 2.1.2 The Chief Tournament Director (CTD) for the ANC teams is Laurie Kelso.
The CTD for the ABPC is Sean Mullamphy
- 2.1.3 The Appeals Committee Convener/Chairman is Richard Grenside.
- 2.1.4 The Appeals Advisor TBA
- 2.1.5 The Tournament Committee Convener is Kim Morrison
- 2.1.6 The ABF on site representative is Richard Grenside.
- 2.1.7 The ABF Recorders are Jeannette Collins and Simon Hinge.

- 2.2.1 The Chairman appoints the Appeal or Tournament Committee members and is the sole judge of their quorum. In the absence of the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Appeals Committee, the Tournament Organiser acts as Convener of the Appeals Committee.
- 2.2.2 The ABF on site Representative has absolute discretion to enforce Regulations #4, #5, & #11.7 hereof and his/her decision is final and not subject to appeal.

3 Eligibility

- 3.1 Youth players, as defined in #3.4, may represent a Home State or an Adoptive State (in which they have resided continuously for a period of three months or for the majority of a discontinuous period of four months, provided that they are members of the ABF Youth Club or a club affiliated to that State.
- 3.2 Unless dispensation is granted by the ABF (which may be retrospective), no player shall represent a State in the Open, Women's or Senior category at an ANC who has not been:
 - (a) an active playing member of a club affiliated with or within the jurisdiction of that state during the previous year OR
 - (b) a bona fide resident of that state for a period of at least six months immediately prior to the commencement of the ANC in question.
- 3.3 When 3.1 or 3.2 results in a player being eligible to represent more than one state in any particular event at the ANC, that player is entitled to represent only that State in which he/she first entered a selection tournament for that event.
- 3.4 To be eligible for the ANC restricted events:
 - (a) Youth players must be born on or after 1-1-85, except as authorized by the Youth Committee.
 - (b) Senior Players must be born before 1-1-53
 - (c) MP for restricted events: The MP rankings published at 01-01-11
- 3.5 No substitutes are permitted in the ANC events, provided that the CTD is empowered to authorise emergency substitutes under such condition as he/she decides. #19 specifies the number of substitutes permitted in the ABPC subject to the General Conditions of ABF Tournament Regulation #4.
- 3.6 The Tournament Organiser may nominate a "house Contestant" for any purpose consistent with the movement. The Tournament Organiser makes every effort to nominate eligible players from a small group but, at the discretion of the Tournament Committee, a "house contestant" is eligible to place and scores its actual VP and IMP or is ineligible to place with its score limited to the equivalent of the maximum of 15 and a minimum of 11 VP on a WBF scale. The IMP is the minimum of the allocated range. Its opponents receive their actual VP and IMP, Masterpoints for "house contestant" matches are awarded according to actual VP.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 Pairs must classify their system(s) as GREEN, BLUE, RED, OR YELLOW and identify BROWN STICKER conventions using the ABF System Regulations as modified at April, 2009. Pairs in any doubt about the Classification of their system should submit a concise summary to the ANC Tournament Organiser
- 4.2 In the event of a dispute during the Tournament concerning the classification of a convention or system, the decision of the ABF on site Representative is final.

- 4.3 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events. YELLOW systems are permitted only in the ANC Teams and in the Final Stages of the ABPC.
- 4.4 During the auction, pairs may use notes of their defence or “defence against the defence” for YELLOW systems or BROWN STICKER conventions provided that they comply with regulations #5.4 and 5.5. During the play a player’s notes may be used only to answer a question from the opponents. (no player may refer to the written bidding after the conclusion of the first trick)

5 Notification and Disclosure of Systems and Defences

- 5.1 For the ABPC, Yellow systems, including those that are to be played only as a defence against pairs playing a YELLOW system, must be lodged with the Tournament Organiser by 6th July 2011. Pairs must lodge an adequate current ABF Standard system card with a maximum of 2 supplementary A4 sheets, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side. Pairs who fail to meet these deadlines may not be permitted to play a YELLOW system for some or all the event.
- 5.2 For the ANC Teams complete systems (except those in #5.3) must be received earlier than four weeks prior to the commencement of the ANC – 4.00 pm Friday 24th June 2011. These systems must be submitted by the State Secretary by e-mail to webmaster@abf.com.au . Complete and detailed notes with a bona fide defence must accompany any Yellow system. Each team is permitted a maximum of four systems classified as Yellow and/or including BROWN STICKER conventions. Each player must bring to the table a current ABF standard system card, printed, typed or written legibly in black ink.
- 5.3 For the ANC Teams a concise summary of a Yellow system that is to be used only against an opposing pair who play a Yellow system must be lodged with the ABF On-Site Representative before the Captain’s meeting. Two copies must be distributed at the captains meeting to each captain whose team includes a pair playing a Yellow system.
- 5.4 Defence or “defence against the defence” notes, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet, must be: lodged with and approved by the CTD 15 minutes before the scheduled session time; identical for each player; available to the opponents during the auction and play.
- 5.5 For defence against a Yellow system, pairs using GREEN, BLUE, RED systems or BROWN STICKER conventions may change any facet of their system but pairs using a YELLOW system may not change their opening calls. For “defence against the defence” pairs may not change any of the YELLOW system.

6 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

- 6.1 All penalties and penalties are applied to the unit.
- 6.2 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 6.3 The general provisions of ABF Tournament Regulation #10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply except as modified by #6.4 and #6.5 below.

- 6.4 Players must be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. For contestants not seated and ready to play at the scheduled starting time, procedural penalties are:

1 st offence, 0-5 min	Warning	10+-15 min late	2 VP
Subsequent, 0-5 min late	1 VP	15+-20 min late	3 VP
5+-10 min late	1 VP	20+-30 min late	5 VP

For arrival later than 30 minutes the CTD assesses a more severe penalty including forfeit or disqualification.

- 6.5 The time allotted is based on 7.5 minutes per board. In a Swiss movement and the ANC qualifying round robins, boards not started before a time specified by the CTD are not played and the contestants concerned score 0 IMP. The procedural penalty for slow play that results in removal of boards, applied after one warning, is 1 VP for the first board plus 2 VP for each additional board. After considering any monitor's reports and his own observations, the Director may apply slow play penalties according to the table in #6.4 whenever play is not completed at the expiry of the session time.
- 6.6 The disciplinary penalty, applied after one warning, for breach of #1.5 (mobile phones etc.) or #1.6 (consumption of alcohol) is 3 VP.

7 Correction Period and Time of Appeal

- 7.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expires at the later of 30 minutes after the score is available for inspection or 30 minutes before the commencement of the next session EXCEPT
- when the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within 30 minutes. In that case the Correction Period for the later session applies AND
 - for the last session when the Correction Period expires 30 minutes after the scores are available for inspection.
- 7.2 The Time of Appeal (Law 92B) for each session expires 30 minutes after the score is available for inspection unless the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for that next round/stanza/session.
- 7.3 All appeals or protests concerning the ANC events shall be lodged in person and in writing using the Appeal Form available from the Tournament Director.

8 Spectators

- 8.1 Subject to availability of space, spectators are permitted in Open, but not Closed Rooms. Regulation #20 of the ABF Tournament Regulations and Law 76 of the 2007 Laws apply to all spectators. When replicated boards are used, no spectator may watch play at more than one table during any stanza of any event.
- 8.2 Team members, except "playing captains" for matches in which they are not participating, are not permitted to watch their own team.

9 Dress Requirements

- 9.1 Players and kibitzers are expected to maintain a minimum standard of dress, described as “neat casual”.

ANC TEAMS

10 Partnership Alterations

- 10.1 A State may alter partnerships provided that the altered partnership plays a system which has been submitted pursuant to Regulation #5.2 or a system which the CTD in his absolute discretion considers is sufficiently natural as to cause no disadvantage to the opposition through lack of previous disclosure.

11 Round Robins

- 11.1 The qualifying round robin matches consist of 20 boards played without a break or change of pairs (except in cases of emergency).
- 11.2 Team numbers for the first Round Robin will be allotted by a sub-committee of the Management Committee.

OPEN							
QLD	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	ACT
3	4	1	8	6	2	7	5
WOMENS							
QLD	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	ACT
5	4	1	6	3	2	8	7
SENIORS							
QLD	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	BYE	ACT
1	3	6	2	5	7	8	4
YOUTH							
QLD	NSW	VIC		SA	WA		ACT
3	6	5		4	1		2

- 11.2.1 Teams will retain their team number throughout the qualifying stage. The draw for the final Round Robin will be based on the first Round Robin draw adjusted to reflect the team’s placing after the penultimate Round Robin. That is, the leading team will have the draw for number 1, second for number 2 etc.
- 11.2.2 For 5 or 6 teams and three Round Robins, the draw for the second Round Robin will be randomly determined by the CTD at the conclusion of the first Round Robin.
- 11.2.3 For 4 teams and four round robins, the draw for the second Round Robin will be the same as the first round robin. The draw for the third Round Robin will be randomly determined by the CTD at the conclusion of the second Round Robin

11.2.4 The draw for the final Round Robin will be determined irrespective of any outstanding appeals but including all penalties, posted after the last round of the previous Round Robin. Subsequent adjustments do not alter the team numbers or the draw

11.3 For 7 or 8 teams there are two qualifying Round Robins of 20- board matches.

11.3.1 The Draw is

RR1 & 1 & 2	1	8 v 1	5 v 2	6 v 3	7 v 4
	2	1 v 7	2 v 8	3 v 5	4 v 6
	3	6 v 1	7 v 2	8 v 3	5 v 4
	4	1 v 5	2 v 6	3 v 7	4 v 8
	5	4 v 1	3 v 2	8 v 5	7 v 6
	6	1 v 3	2 v 4	5 v 7	6 v 8
	7	2 v 1	4 v 3	6 v 5	8 v 7

11.3.2 In the first Round Robin the second numbered team sits first; In the second Round Robin the team that sat first against any team in the first Round Robin match sits last against that team.

11.4 For 5 or 6 teams there are three qualifying Round Robins of 20 board matches.

11.4.1 The draw is

Rounds	1, 6 & 11	6 v 2	4 v 1	5 v 3
	2, 7 & 12	5 v 2	1 v 3	4 v 6
	3, 8 & 13	2 v 4	1 v 5	6 v 3
	4, 9 & 14	3 v 2	6 v 1	4 v 5
	5, 10 & 15	1 v 2	3 v 4	5 v 6

11.4.2 For 5 teams the bye is numbered 4.

11.4.3 In the first Round Robin, the line ups will be blind, ie. Each captain will post their line-up without knowing the line-up of their opponents. The second numbered team sits first in the second Round Robin; In the last Round Robin the team which sat first against any team in the second Round Robin match sits last against that team.

11.4.4 The 15th round is played concurrent with the first session of the Finals subject to 12.2 below..

11.5 For 4 teams there are four qualifying Round Robins of 20 board matches.

11.5.1 The draw for four teams is

Rounds	1, 4,7 & 10	1 v 4	2 v 3
	2, 5, 8 & 11	3 v 1	4 v 2
	3, 6, 9 & 12	1 v 2	3 v 4

11.5.2 The first-numbered team places its pairs NS in the Open Room, EW in the Closed Room. The second-numbered team sits first in the first and third of four Round Robins; in the second and the last Round Robins the team which sat first against any team in the previous Round Robin match sits last against that team.

- 11.6 The team captain is responsible for posting the seating positions of the players on the line-up form with the system being played if more than one has been submitted. Posting must be completed at least 30 minutes and 20 minutes before the scheduled time of commencement of play, for the teams sitting first and last respectively. The CTD may alter posting times at his discretion. For non-compliance with this regulation, the penalties are:
Loss of seating rights AND a procedural penalty against the team total

1s offence	3 VP	2 nd offence	6 VP	3 rd & subsequent offence	9 VP
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- 11.7 A YELLOW system may be played only if the pairs are posted correctly within the posting period or, in any other circumstances, with the agreement of the opposing captain and the CTD.
- 11.8 Scoring for each 20-board segment in the Round Robins is IMP converted to VP as follows:
Margin of 30 IMP or less VP=IMP
Margin of 31 IMP or more VP = 30 + 1/10 (IMP margin minus 30)
Maximum win of 32.5 VP; maximum loss of 35 VP.
- 11.8.1 No score is awarded for a bye.
- 11.8.2 After a forfeit, the non-offenders receive 21.5 VP adjusted at the conclusion of each round robin to the higher of 21.5 VP or the team's score for completed rounds. The offenders score – 35 VP; their IMP are determined from the formula in #11.8.
- 11.8.3 Opposing captains shall agree to and sign the result sheet displayed by the scorer at the end of each match.
- 11.9 The time allotted for each set of 20 boards is 150 minutes.
- 11.10 Matches may be displayed using Bridge Base On-Line without prior notice.

12 Finals

- 12.1 The two leading teams in Open, Women's & Seniors' division play a 60 board final.
- 12.2 The Youth Final is reduced to 40 boards unless two teams that are scheduled to play each other in the 15th round are
- more than 35 VP ahead of the team that has a bye, or exactly 35 VP ahead and would win a relevant tiebreak irrespective of the result of the 15th round.
 - Both are more than 67.5 VP ahead of all other teams, or exactly 67.5 VP ahead and would win a relevant tiebreak irrespective of the result of the 15th round.
- In that case these two teams do not play the 15th round match and play a 60-board final with the carryover calculated using the VP scores at the conclusion of the 14th round.
- 12.3 At least 20 boards, drawn from one or more of the Finals, is displayed on Bridge Base and/or Vu-Graph.
- 12.4 The Finals are played in 10-board stanzas with screens. The captains draw for seating rights and the winner may elect to sit first or last for the first stanza. Seating rights for subsequent stanzas alternate.

- 12.5 The carryover into the Final is 10% of the VP margin between the teams at the conclusion of the Round Robin, rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 is reduced).
- 12.6 Scoring in the Finals is by VP with 1 IMP equivalent to 1 VP.
- 12.7 Opposing captains agree to and sign the result sheet after each 10-board stanza. The time allotted for each set of 10 boards is 80 minutes.

13 Ties

- 13.1 A Tie occurs when two or more teams have the exact number of VP.
- 13.2 Ties are broken after each round robin by the number of wins in VP then net IMP in the head to head match(es)
- 13.3 Ties in the final are broken by play of 4 boards then 1 board until broken.

AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (ABPC)

14 Tournament Structure

- 14.1 The ABF reserves the absolute right to alter the formats described in #14.2-6, without prior notice.
- 14.2 The Open ABPC is conducted in two stages.
The Women's ABPC is conducted in one or two stages according to the number of entries.
The Seniors ABPC is conducted in one or two stages according to the number of entries:

Preliminary Stage, 10 x 12 board-rounds of a Swiss movement to qualify 20 pairs.
Final Stage, 19 x 12 board-rounds.
- 14.3 Overseas players are permitted to enter the ABPC.
- 14.4 The ABF determines the seeding, scoring and movement for the Preliminary Stage without prior notice.
- 14.5 The first stage of the ABPC is scored by IMP against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-4) middle scores. Stage 2 will be scored by IMP against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-2) middle scores. IMP are converted to VP in accordance with the WBF 10-board scale. Pick up slips, table record cards and/or electronic scoring units are used but each pair must keep a score card, calculate the result of their match and confirm it with that posted by the Director/Scorer.
- 14.6 The ANC Swiss Pairs is a 12-round event scored in a manner similar to that described in #14.5. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.

- 14.7 The Restricted ABPC is a 9-round event scored in a manner similar to that described in #14.5. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.

15 Ties

- 15.1 A tie occurs when two or more units have the exact number of VP.
15.2 To determine a Swiss draw, ties are broken by net IMP then lot.
15.3 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Swiss format, ties are broken by VP of opponents then number of wins in VP then net IMP then lot.
15.4 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Round Robin format, ties are broken by number of wins in VP then net IMP then lot.

16 Carryover

- 16.1 There are no carryover scores.
16.2 Warnings carryover from stage to stage.

17 Withdrawal and Reserves

- 17.1 Pairs who withdraw at the end of the Preliminary Stage or are non-contending are replaced in a manner such that the numbers of pairs qualifying from each of the original fields do not differ by more than two.
17.2 When “n” pairs plus the best “n+1” pair qualify for the Final Stage, the best “n+1” is the pair with the highest VP.
17.3 Withdrawals within a stage are treated according to #14 of the ABF Tournament Regulations.

18 Fouled Boards

- 18.1 A ruling that a board is “fouled” must be sought within the correction period.
18.2 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”.
18.3 A “fouled” board is scored by:
a. Including one or more of its results in the calculation of the datum (described in #14.5) when the Director rules that the fouling was of no consequence.
b. Treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (3-6 results) or four (results >6) extreme scores, respectively.
c. Cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 3 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

19 Substitutes

- 19.1 A substitute may be permitted for cause, not convenience.

19.2 For each event the number of the number of rounds/sessions one player must play and for which the partnership must be intact is shown in the Table.

Event	Preliminary Stage	Final Stage	ANC Swiss	Restricted ABPC
One Player	85% (10/12)	16/19	8 rounds	6 rounds
Partnership	75% (9/12)	15.19	6 rounds	5 rounds

20 Playoff Points

20.1 Players must declare the basis upon which they are eligible to represent Australia.

20.2 The first nine eligible pairs in the Open, Womens & Senior ABPC receive playoff qualifying points.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PQP	65	60	55	35	30	25	15	10	5

20.3 Tied players share the available points.