

2024 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

INTERSTATE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS INTERSTATE PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

1 General

- 1.1 The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) is the regulating authority for the Australian National Championships (ANC), incorporating, inter alia, the Interstate Teams Championships (ITC) and the Interstate Pairs Championship (IPC). These events are conducted in cooperation with the NSW Bridge Association (NSWBA) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR), Systems Regulations and Appeals Regulations as applicable, as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.
- 1.2 The venue is the Orange Ex Services Club, Anson Street, Orange, NSW.
- 1.3 ITC: July 7-11
Session times -
Qualifying:
 Sunday to Tuesday: 9.30am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 4.45pm
 Wednesday: 9.30am, 11.45am, 2.30pm (Youth only)
 Finals: Wednesday, 5.30pm, Thursday, 9.30am, 11.20am, 2.00pm, 3.50pm
IPC: July 11-12, 10.00am
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 Smoking is only permitted in the areas designated by the TO. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3)
- 1.6 In the ITC, players may not bring mobile phones or other electronic communication equipment, etc. into the playing area during session time. (see 5.3)
- 1.7 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during the session times of the ITC and the Final stages of the ABPC. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3).
- 1.8 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
- 1.9 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, 2017, 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 Organiser is Orange Bridge Club.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Matthew McManus.
- 2.3 The Reviewers are TBA.
- 2.4 The Review Consultants are TBA.
- 2.5 The ABF on-site representatives are TBA.
- 2.6 The Recorders are TBA.
- 2.7 The ABF on-site Representative has absolute discretion to enforce Supplementary Regulation 4 hereof. The decision is final and not subject to appeal.

3 Eligibility and Substitutes

- 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), a player is eligible to represent a State in the Open, Women's or Seniors' category in the ITC only if they have been either:
 - (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 the ITC, that player is entitled to represent only that State in which they first entered a selection tournament for that event.
- 3.4 In order to enter the IPC, both members of the pair must be eligible to represent the same state (as per 3.2).
- 3.5 To be eligible for events restricted by age or masterpoint ranking:
 - (a) Youth players must be born on or after 1-1-99, except as authorised by the ABF Youth Committee;
 - (b) Senior players must be born before 1-1-61, except as authorised by the ABF Tournament Committee.
- 3.6 All players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in events.
- 3.7 No substitutes are permitted in the ITC and IPC, excepting that the CTD is empowered to authorise emergency substitutes under such condition as they decide. Section 20 hereunder specifies the number of substitutes permitted in other events subject to the General Conditions of ABF TR 4.
- 3.8 To ensure the smooth running of the tournament, the TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in any event. 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/s" compete will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 For the ITC, complete system cards (except those parts noted in 4.2) must be submitted before 4.00pm AEST, Friday 7th June, 2024. These systems must be submitted as an electronic file uploaded to the ABF website (www.abfevents.com.au/events/ANC/2024). A maximum of four A4 pages of supplementary sheets may be included for any one system. Complete and detailed notes with a bona fide defence must accompany any YELLOW system. Each team is permitted a maximum of four systems. Any pair playing a YELLOW system must lodge an electronic copy of detailed system notes with the CTD before the Captains' Meeting.
- 4.2 For the ITC, 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 Captains' Meeting. Two copies must be distributed at the Captains' Meeting to each captain whose team includes a pair playing a YELLOW system.
- 4.3 In matches in the ITC, each player must bring to the table a ABF standard system card, identical to the one submitted in 4.1, unless any changes have been approved by the CTD and copies provided to other captains at the Captains' Meeting.
- 4.4 The Captains' Meeting will be held on Saturday, 6th July, commencing at 6.00pm.
- 4.5 Notes incorporating a pair's defence to BROWN STICKER conventions, defence to a YELLOW system or a YELLOW system pair's "defence against the defence" must be:
- (a) printed, typed or written in black ink on a maximum of two sides of an A4 sheet;
 - (b) lodged with and approved by the CTD 15 minutes before the scheduled session time in which they are first to be used;
 - (c) identical for each player; and
 - (d) available to the opponents during the auction and play.

5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

- 5.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 5.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 5.3 The disciplinary penalty for breach of 1.5 (smoking), 1.6 (mobile phones, etc), or 1.7 (consumption of alcohol) is as detailed below. (Penalties for breach of 1.6 will be applied after one warning per team):
- a) ITC Qualifying – 9 VPs;
 - b) ITC Teams Final – 9 IMPs;
 - c) IPC – 3 VPs.

6 Correction Period, Time for requesting a Review of a Director's Ruling and Timing of Draw

- 6.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expires at the later of 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection or at 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. For the last session of a stage of an event, the Correction Period expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.
- 6.2 The time to request a review of a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) expires 30 minutes after the scheduled finishing time of the session (or 30 minutes after the parties are advised of the director's ruling when the ruling is made after the session), 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.
- 6.3 In Swiss events, the draw for subsequent rounds will be made as soon as all results for an event have been submitted, or at some earlier time as determined by the CTD. Following the final match on a day, the CTD may set an alternative time at which the draw will be made to allow for the results of appeals, directors' rulings, and any other factors affecting results, to be included in the current scores. The CTD will have complete discretion in determining the timing of the draw.

7 Fouled and Unplayable Boards

- 7.1 In the ITC, 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 where a single board is cancelled, a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides. In the Finals Series of the ITC, the CTD may rule that a substitute board is to be played in the next stanza.
- 7.2 In the IPC, where a single board is fouled, the assigned matchpoint score is 60% of the available matchpoints on the board awarded to both sides.
- 7.3 In the case of multiple fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.
- 7.4 For boards on which a result is unable to be obtained and the Director awards an artificial adjusted score of average plus, the provisions of 7.1 to 7.3 will apply.
- 7.5 Where due to the fouling of multiple boards, direct comparisons are available on less than one-half the boards in the match, the match will be scored in accordance with ABF TR 15.1 (Forfeits), treating both units as non-offenders.
- 7.6 Where fewer than one half the boards are completed in a match, the match will be scored in accordance with ABF TR 15.1 (Forfeits).

8 Dress Requirements

- 8.1 Players and kibitzers are expected to maintain a minimum standard of dress, described as "neat casual".

INTERSTATE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS (ITC)

9 Partnership Alterations

9.1 A State may alter partnerships provided that the altered partnership plays a system which has been submitted pursuant to 4.2 or a system which the CTD considers is sufficiently natural as to cause no disadvantage to the opposition through lack of previous disclosure.

10 Qualifying Stage

10.1 The Qualifying Stage consists of two or three round robins of 16 board matches.

10.2 Team numbers:

Open							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
4	2	8	7	6	3	5	1
Women's							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
2	5	1	4	3	8	6	7
Seniors'							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
7	8	5	3	6	4	2	1
Youth							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
5	6	---	4	3	---	1	2

10.3 Teams will retain their team number throughout the Qualifying Stage. Subject to 10.4, the draw for the final round robin will be based on the draw for round robin 1 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. Once team numbers are set, they will not be altered by subsequent results of outstanding appeals, score corrections or adjustments.

10.4 In events where there are 7 teams with a bye and a team numbered 5, 6 or 7 finishes in first position after the first round robin, the draw for round robin 2 will be altered as follows:

- i) the round in which the highest-placed team from teams numbered 1 to 4 has a bye will be played as Round 8;
- ii) the order of all other rounds will remain unchanged.

10.5 In events where there are 5 teams with a bye and the round robin 3 draw would result in a team having two byes in the one day, the draw for round robin 3 will be adjusted in a similar manner as in 10.4 as determined by the CTD.

10.6 For 7 or 8 teams, there are two qualifying round robins of 16 board matches.

10.6.1 The Draw for 8 teams is as follows. If there are 7 teams, teams playing against Team 8 will have a bye.

Round	Round				
1	8	5 v 2	6 v 3	7 v 4	8 v 1
2	9	1 v 7	3 v 5	4 v 6	2 v 8
3	10	6 v 1	7 v 2	5 v 4	8 v 3
4	11	1 v 5	2 v 6	3 v 7	4 v 8
5	12	4 v 1	3 v 2	7 v 6	8 v 5
6	13	1 v 3	2 v 4	5 v 7	6 v 8
7	14	2 v 1	4 v 3	6 v 5	8 v 7

10.6.2 In the first round robin the second numbered team in the draw sits first. In the second round robin the team that sat first against its opponent in the first round robin match sits last against that team.

10.7 For 5 or 6 teams, there are three qualifying round robins of 16 board matches.

10.7.1 The Draw for 6 teams in Round Robin 1 and Round Robin 3 is as follows. If there are 5 teams, teams playing against Team 6 will have a bye.

Round	Round			
1	11	4 v 1	3 v 5	2 v 6
2	12	1 v 5	2 v 4	6 v 3
3	13	1 v 3	5 v 2	4 v 6
4	14	3 v 2	5 v 4	6 v 1
5	15	2 v 1	4 v 3	6 v 5

10.7.2 The Draw for Round Robin 2 is as follows. If there are 5 teams, teams playing against Team 6 will have a bye.

Round			
6	2 v 3	5 v 4	1 v 6
7	3 v 5	4 v 1	6 v 2
8	1 v 5	2 v 4	3 v 6
9	1 v 2	4 v 3	5 v 6
10	3 v 1	5 v 2	6 v 4

10.7.3 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 third Round Robin the team which sat first against its opponent in the second Round Robin match sits last against that team.

10.8 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. The first numbered team in the draw will sit NS in the Open Room and EW in the Closed Room. Posting must be completed at least 10 minutes and 5 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. Blind line-ups must be provided to the CTD at least 10 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play in each respective match.

For non-compliance with this regulation, the CTD may impose the following penalties:

- i) first offence, loss of seating rights;
- ii) second offence, 3 VPs;
- iii) third and subsequent offences, 6 VPs

- 10.9 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.
- 10.10 Scoring for each match in the round robins is net IMPs converted to VPs as follows:
margin of 30 IMPs or less VPs = 35 + net IMPs
margin of 31 IMPs or more VPs = 65 + 1/10*(net IMPs minus 30)
with a maximum win of 67.5 VPs and a maximum loss of 0 VPs.
- 10.11 35 VPs and 0 IMPs are awarded for a bye.
- 10.12 After a forfeit, the non-offenders receive 56.5 VPs, adjusted at the conclusion of each round robin to the highest of 56.5 VPs, the team's average VP score for completed other rounds, and the complement of the offender's average VP score for completed other rounds. The offenders score 0 VPs; IMPs scores are determined from the formula in 10.10.
- 10.13 Team captains must collect their copy of the result sheet from the official scorer as soon as possible after the conclusion of play at both tables. Requests to correct discrepancies must be agreed with the opposing captain and advised to the scorer within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the match.
- 10.14 The time allotted for each set of 16 boards is 120 minutes, or any other such time as determined by the CTD.
- 10.15 Matches may be displayed using online without prior notice.

11 Finals

- 11.1 To be eligible to play in the Final, a player must have played in at least four matches in the Qualifying Stage. To be eligible for classification of title-holder, a member of the winning team must have played at least one stanza in the Final
- 11.2 The higher placed team from the Qualifying Stage will have an IMP carry-over into the Final equal to 10% of the VP margin between the teams at the conclusion of the Qualifying Stage. The carry-over is not rounded.
- 11.3 The two leading teams play a 60 board final, played in five 12 board stanzas.
- 11.4 Seating rights: The higher placed team chooses the stanza in which they wish to have choice of opponents. The other team then chooses which two of the remaining stanzas in which they wish to have choice of opponents. This higher placed team has choice of opponents for the remaining stanzas.
- 11.5 The time allotted for each stanza is 96 minutes, or any other such time as determined by the CTD.
- 11.6 Opposing captains must agree the result after each stanza and confirm that it agrees with the result sheet provided by the official scorer.

12 Ties

- 12.1 A tie occurs when two or more teams have the exact same number of VPs.
- 12.2 Ties are broken after each round robin by the number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.
- 12.3 Ties in the Finals are broken by removal of carry-over. If still tied, the title will be shared.

13 Spectators

- 13.1 Subject to availability of space, spectators are permitted in the Open Room. Only Team Captains (watching their own team), and other personnel as authorised by the CTD are permitted to watch matches in the Closed Room. No spectator may watch play at more than one table during any stanza of any event.
- 13.2 Team members (except non-playing captains) are not permitted to watch their own team. Playing captains who are not playing in the match in question are exempt from this rule for that match.

14 Playoff Qualifying Points

- 14.1 Provided the provisions of 14.3 are satisfied, eligible members in the Open Teams receive 6 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP).
- 14.2 In addition, provided the provisions of 14.3 are satisfied, eligible members of the winning team in the Open Teams receive 20 PQP, and runners-up receive 12 PQP.
- 14.3 To qualify to receive PQP, a player must play at least seven matches in the Qualifying Stage and, if applicable, at least two stanzas in the Final.

INTERSTATE PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP (IPC)

15 Format

- 15.1 The IPC will be played as a single field Matchpoint Swiss Pairs event, played over 12 nine board matches. Final placegetters will be determined on the basis of the leading pairs in each of the Open, Women's, Seniors' and Youth categories. Pairs eligible for more than one category must nominate the category they wish to enter prior to the start of the event. A prize will be awarded to the highest placed Restricted pair - both players satisfying the eligibility criteria in 3.5(d) - provided there are at least 5 eligible pairs.
- 15.2 Each board will be scored using standard duplicate matchpoint scoring. Each pair's average percentage score for the match will be converted to Victory Points, using the VP scale detailed in the Appendices.

APPENDICES

Penalties for Late Arrival, Slow Play, Failure to enter or check scores

ITC

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

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	3 VPs (3 IMPs)
Subsequent boards	6 VPs (6 IMPs)

ABPC and Swiss Pairs

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)

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)

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.

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	3 VPs (ITC), 1 VP (IPC, ABPC) per occasion

Victory Point Scale for IPC

Where x is the pair's average percentage for the round (rounded to 2 decimal places - 0.005 rounded up):

Where x is greater than 70.0: VP = 20

Where x is between 57.5 and 70.0: $VP = (x-20)*2/5$

Where x is between 42.5 and 57.5: $VP = (x-35)*2/3$

Where x is between 30.0 and 42.5: $VP = (x-30)*2/5$

Where x is less than 30.0: VP = 0

Modified Swiss Format

In Swiss Pairs events where the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, a round-robin or modified Swiss format will be implemented.

If the numbers are appropriate, a full round robin movement will be implemented, with the possibility of a round or rounds to determine final placings.

Otherwise, a normal Swiss movement will be used up to and including Round $n/2 + 1$ (even number of rounds) or Round $(n+1)/2$ (odd number of rounds). In subsequent rounds, the Swiss movement continues with all scores retained, but a unit may play another unit which it previously played in the first $n/2$ rounds (fractions rounded down).

Examples:

* 9 rounds – standard Swiss up to and including the draw for Round 5. In rounds 6, 7, 8 and 9, the Swiss draw continues, but units may play a unit previously played in Rounds 1-4.

* 10 rounds – standard Swiss up to and including the draw for Round 6. In rounds 7 to 10, the Swiss draw continues, but units may play a unit previously played in Rounds 1-5.

Calculation of Multiple average plus awards during a session or match

Where the Laws require the Director to award an artificial adjusted score of average plus on more than one board in a session or match (as in the case of fouled or otherwise unplayable boards), the score awarded per board shall be:

IMP scored Teams events: an IMP score of $3\sqrt{N}/N$

Matchpoint scored events: a percentage score equal to $50 + 10\sqrt{N}/N$

where N is the number of unplayable boards.

In IMP scored events, the net IMPs in a match assigned due to these formulas will be rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 IMPs rounded up).

The following table lists the net IMPs/percentages to be assigned to units in the case of multiple average plus boards.

Number of fouled/unplayable bds	IMPs assigned (Teams)	Percentage assigned (matchpoints)
1	3	60.00
2	1	54.14
3	1	53.18
4	1	52.68
5	1	52.36
6	0	52.13
7	1	51.97