

**GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS - 2023**  
**SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CLUBS QUALIFYING EVENT**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

**1. The Event**

- 1.1 This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, supplemented by the Tournament Regulations of the NSWBA as they stand at the time an issue arises. Clubs are to write their own set of regulations relating to conduct of the event, substitutions and qualification, but no such regulation may conflict with any subsequent regulations marked below with an asterisk (\*). In the case of conflict, these Supplementary Regulations will apply. A default set of regulations is available from the NSWBA website for clubs that wish to use them.
- 1.2\* Each Metropolitan club is invited to hold one or two events to qualify teams to a Metropolitan Final.
- 1.3\* The minimum number of sessions allowed is 2 and the maximum number of sessions is 5.
- 1.4\* If a club holds two qualifying events, they must essentially cater for different clientele (*e.g.* one could be held in the evening and the other during the day or online).  
**In addition, a special weekend Congress type event may be held, subject to the approval of the date by the Metropolitan GNOT Organiser. The event should be advertised only within the participating club.**
- 1.5\* Sessions held face-to-face or on RealBridge award gold MPs with W=5.0. Sessions held on BBO or Stepbridge are not allowed.
- 1.6\* Clubs may run any type of IMP based teams or pairs competition, including but not limited to Swiss, Round Robin, Knock-out with Swiss repechage, Cross-IMP Pairs and Butler Pairs.
- 1.7\* If running a pairs event, all pairs that play (even if only one session) are considered part of the field and must be included in the final ranking of all pairs. Clubs must have a predetermined set of criteria to rank the field before the event starts.
- 1.8\* Directors need only be qualified at the club level.
- 1.9\* System regulations are to be set by the clubs. Note, however, that all systems will be permitted in the Metropolitan Final (unless it is played on RealBridge).
- 1.10\* The number of teams to qualify to the Metropolitan Final for each club qualifying event is calculated as follows from the number of tables in play in the qualifying event.  
For Teams events: A maximum of one seventh (fractions rounded up) may qualify and a minimum of one seventh (fractions rounded down) must qualify. For 7 tables or fewer, 1 team must qualify.  
For Pairs events: A maximum of one fourteenth (fractions rounded up) may qualify and a minimum of one fourteenth (fractions rounded down) must qualify. For 14 pairs or fewer, 1 team must qualify.

**2. Eligibility to Club Qualifying Events**

- 2.1\* No entry restrictions based on age, sex, masterpoint ranking, *etc.* are permitted.
- 2.2\* Players in online sessions must be residents of Sydney or a neighbouring GNOT region.
- 2.3 There are no eligibility restrictions on competitors in the club's qualifying competitions, but clubs and local organisers should be aware of the restrictions on players participating in the Metropolitan Final. (See Section 3 below.)
- 2.4 Clubs may require all competitors to be club members.
- 2.5\* Players may enter in as many different club qualifying competitions as they like, provided they pay the specified table monies and/or tournament entry fees of the club and satisfy any other requirement the club imposes.

**3. Composition of Teams Proceeding to and Participating in the Metropolitan Final**

- 3.1\* Teams submitted by clubs must consist of 4, 5 or 6 players.
- 3.2\* All team members must be active player members of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme.
- 3.3\* Each player must be a member of a Sydney metropolitan bridge club affiliated with the NSWBA.
- 3.4 Players must be *bona fide* residents of the Sydney metropolitan region or a neighbouring NSW country GNOT region, *viz*, Central Coast, Mountains or Tablelands-Illawarra.
- 3.5 The NSWBA does not require players proceeding to the Metropolitan Final to have played in the qualifying competition, but clubs may impose such restrictions.
- 3.6 If a club's designated representative team becomes unavailable, the club's Executive Committee may take any action necessary to find a replacement team.
- 3.7\* There is no minimum board requirement for competitors in the Metropolitan Final.

- 3.8\* Players who have already qualified for the National Final via one of the two Direct Qualifying Events held by the NSWBA and NSBC may not compete in the Metropolitan Final. This rule applies even if the player withdraws from the team that has qualified to the National Final.
- 3.9\* Players who have failed to qualify may form teams and enter the Metropolitan Final directly. Such entries must specify all team members and the club(s) at which they participated in a club qualifying event.

#### 4. Fees

- 4.1\* Each club will pay an entry fee of \$12 per team (or \$6 per pair) competing in the event, plus \$220 per team entered into the Metropolitan Final. In addition, \$1.31 per masterpoint awarded, will be charged to the club. All quoted charges include GST. Clubs should be aware of these fees when setting tournament entry fees and table monies for their qualifying events.
- 4.2\* Teams entering the Metropolitan Final directly (rather than qualifying via a club) will pay an entry fee of \$280.
- 4.3\* The NSWBA will pay all fees and expenses (including directing and masterpoint costs) associated with the Metropolitan Final. The NSWBA will pay all entry fees to the ABF for the National Final to be held from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. These are:  
\$750 per team for each Metropolitan Sydney team competing in the National Final, plus  
\$10 per team for every team entered in all Sydney Metropolitan qualifying tournaments.

#### 5. Masterpointing

- 5.1\* Gold masterpoints will be available to the winners<sup>1</sup> of every teams match at the rate of 0.04 MPs per player per board per match. In the case of 5 or 6 person teams, the masterpoint awards per member will be 4/5 and 2/3 respectively unless the exact team composition is supplied for every match played.
- 5.2\* Gold masterpoints will only be awarded for a club qualifying tournament if:  
(a) the club pays for the specified number of teams (#1.10) to proceed to the Metropolitan Final;  
(b) the NSWBA receives all entry fees before 29<sup>th</sup> July.
- 5.3 Clubs will be billed directly by the ABF Masterpoint Centre.

<sup>1</sup> To qualify as winners for the purpose of masterpoint awards, the leading team must win by a margin greater than 0.2 IMP per board over the match. Note especially that for 10 board matches a final IMP difference of 2 IMPs counts as a draw.

#### 6. Administration

- 6.1 The Organiser of this event (on behalf of the NSWBA) is Fraser Rew.
- 6.2 At the end of the qualifying event (and before Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July) each club must provide the Organiser with the following information **by e-mail**:
- The number of teams or pairs entered in the event
  - A list of teams progressing to the Metropolitan Final.
- 6.3 Clubs should send the following information directly to the State Masterpoint Secretary ([masterpoints@nswba.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@nswba.com.au)):
- A complete copy of the outright results including details of the format as a pdf, html or txt file;
  - The masterpoint file as a .gld file.
- 6.4 The Organiser will send each participating club an invoice to cover entry fees to the Metropolitan Final. Please do not send your payment until an invoice has been issued. Your payment should be sent direct to the NSWBA with identifying paperwork.
- 6.5 All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to:
- Fraser Rew  
GNOT Organiser  
c/- NSWBA,  
First Floor, 162 Goulburn St, East Sydney,  
NSW, 2010.

preferably via e-mail at [metrognot@nswba.com.au](mailto:metrognot@nswba.com.au) Mobile: 0416 670 393