

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS - 2024
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 BNSW 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 three Direct Qualifying Events held by BNSW, SBC 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 \$15 per team (or \$7.50 per pair) competing in the event, plus \$200 per team entered into the Metropolitan Final. In addition, \$1.39 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 \$260.
- 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 on RealBridge from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd September. These are:
\$300 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 winners¹ 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) BNSW receives all entry fees before 7 September.

¹ 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 BNSW) is David Wiltshire.
- 6.2 An Excel file to assist hosting clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website <https://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2024/gnot/metro.asp>. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list.
- 6.3 At the end of the qualifying event (and before Monday 2nd September) each club must provide the Organiser with the following information **by e-mail**:
- The completed Excel coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above).
 - The format of the event, including the number of boards played in each match, the number of rounds played, and the number of teams (or pairs) in the event.
 - A complete copy of the results each session as pdf, text, html, Word or Excel files. This must include a list of all teams and their members and the number of matches they won, drew and lost.
 - Masterpoint information as a .gold file, sent as an email attachment.
 - A complete list of team members (i.e. names and ABF numbers) of teams that will proceed to the Metropolitan Teams Final.
- 6.4 BNSWBA will send an invoice to cover the masterpoint costs and the team entry fees after the conclusion of the Metropolitan GNOT Final. Do not send any money until you receive the invoice.
- 6.5 All inquiries and correspondence should be directed to:
David Wiltshire
Metropolitan GNOT Organiser
via e-mail at metrognot@nswba.com.au (or if desperate, Mobile: 0412 341 504)