



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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COUNTRY TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP 2016

December 2015

To The Tournament Secretary: all NON-METROPOLITAN affiliated clubs

The Country Teams section of the 2016 State Teams Championship will again be contested in three zones: Northern, Southern & Western, and Outer Metropolitan. The weekend of 16th & 17th July has been set aside for the Zonal Finals, but Zonal Coordinators can change this with the agreement of Pauline Gumby, the State Congress Coordinator calendar@nswba.com.au. Each Zonal winner will be eligible to play in the State Teams Final at the NSWBA on the weekend starting on Friday evening 9th December. The NSWBA will offer subsidies to teams that play in the State Final.

After a number of years of dedicated service, Louis Koolen is stepping down and Helen Milward will take over as the Tournament Organiser for 2016. As usual, each Zone will have its own coordinator.

Zone	Coordinator	Email	Phone
Northern:	Ian Price	priceshdc@gmail.com	6772 5442
Southern & Western:	Dave Reddel	davereddel@iprimus.com.au	0488 260 002
Outer Metropolitan:	Ronnie Ng	rng.bridge@gmail.com	0405 507 753

The NSW Country Teams supplementary tournament regulations and a list of eligible affiliated clubs, divided into Regions within Zones, are enclosed. Please note that this list is not cut and dried; if your club is not on the list or wants to switch and play in a different Region or Zone, please contact the Tournament Organiser. These documents are also available at <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2016&E=sotct>.

Although there is no change to the format of the event, some significant changes have been made to the administration and entry fees. The entry fee for teams progressing to the Regional Finals has been set at \$100 per team and is now payable to the NSWBA. Clubs hosting Regional and Zonal Finals will do so on the NSWBA's behalf and will be reimbursed for expenses incurred. It is hoped this will greatly simplify the finances as most payments will be made in response to an invoice issued by the NSWBA. More importantly, there is no longer any \$150 entry fee for teams progressing from the Regional Finals, so this should encourage a larger participation in the Zonal Finals.

All non-metropolitan affiliated clubs are invited to conduct one or two events in order to qualify teams to play in their Regional Final. Clubs may run a daytime and/or an evening event. Clubs not wishing to run a qualifying competition may nominate one team per 50 home club members or part thereof with a limit of three teams. All players in a nominated team must be financial members of the nominating club.

If you are the only club in your region to enter, discuss your possible options with your Zonal Coordinator.

A summary of the significant dates for the 2016 Country Teams Championship follows.

Friday 5 th Feb:	Deadline for applications from clubs to host Regional Final
Friday 5 th Feb:	Deadline for applications from clubs to host Zonal Final
Saturday 4 th Jun:	Deadline for completion of Club Qualifying events
Sunday 26 th Jun:	Deadline for completion of Regional Finals
Saturday 2 nd Jul:	Deadline for entries to the Zonal Finals
Sat 16 th & Sun 17 th Jul:	Default date of Zonal Finals
Fri 9 th - Sun 11 th Dec:	Date of Finals of John Arkinstall State Teams (and Country Teams) at NSWBA

Warren Lazer,
Chairman, NSWBA Tournament Committee