



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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COUNTRY TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

January 2019

To The Tournament Secretary: all NON-METROPOLITAN affiliated clubs

Big changes to the Country Teams in 2018 gave country teams greater representation in the State Finals; just a few minor tweaks are planned for 2019. The weekend of 29-30th June has been set aside for the Zonal Finals, but Zonal Coordinators can change this date with the agreement of Pauline Gumby, the State Congress Coordinator calendar@nswba.com.au. Each Zone will again qualify 2 teams to the State Final at the NSWBA, but that weekend Final has been brought forward to start on Friday evening 15th November. The NSWBA will offer subsidies to all teams that play in the State Final.

Helen Milward is the Tournament Organiser for 2019. As usual, each Zone will have its own coordinator.

Zone	Coordinator	Email	Phone
Northern:	Ian Price	priceshdc@gmail.com	0432 153 294
Southern & Western:	Kaye Hart	kaye.hart3@icloud.com	0408 117 902
Outer Metropolitan:	Ronnie Ng	RNG.bridge@gmail.com	0405 507 753

The supplementary tournament regulations for the NSW Country Teams can be found on the NSWBA website at <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2019&E=sotct>, along with a list of eligible affiliated clubs divided into Regions within Zones. 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.

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. The entry fee for teams progressing to the Regional Finals is \$100 per team and is payable by clubs to the NSWBA upon receipt of invoice. Participating clubs complete an Excel form to report details of their representative teams and qualifying events. This form http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/2019/docs/CT_Club_Entry_Form_2019.xlsx has undergone a number of improvements this year and now includes a set of instructions explaining how to fill it in correctly.

Clubs hosting Regional and Zonal Finals will do so on the NSWBA's behalf and will be reimbursed for expenses incurred.

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 2019 Country Teams Championship follows.

Friday 1 st Mar:	Deadline for applications from clubs to host Regional Final
Friday 1 st Mar:	Deadline for applications from clubs to host Zonal Final
Saturday 1 st Jun:	Deadline for completion of Club Qualifying events
Sunday 23 rd Jun:	Default deadline for completion of Regional Finals
Tuesday 25 th Jun:	Default deadline for entries to the Zonal Finals
Sat 29 th & Sun 30 th Jun:	Default date of Zonal Finals
Fri 15 th - Sun 17 th Nov:	Date of Finals of John Arkinstall State Teams (and Country Teams) at NSWBA

Please **note** that the date for the Zonal Final is the weekend after the deadline for completion of Regional Finals.

Warren Lazer,
Chairman, NSWBA Tournament Committee