



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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ABN 61 000 438 648

STATE OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022 COUNTRY OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022

www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sop

Tournament Organiser: Wing Roberts

January 2022

The NSWBA invites all affiliated clubs to conduct qualifying events for the 2022 State Open Pairs and Country Open Pairs Championships. All affiliated clubs can play qualifying sessions and award red masterpoints at state championship level (W = 5.00) - **you do not need to send a club representative pair to the State Finals in order to award red masterpoints**. These sessions are part of an NSWBA State Championship, so they come with a higher weighting and are additional to your B4c allowance.

Clearly Covid-19 has changed the way we live and how many of us have played bridge over the last two years, and maybe in the future. The regulations now allow qualifying sessions to be played either online or f2f. Sessions played f2f or on the RealBridge platform attract masterpoints with full weighting of W = 5.00. Sessions played on the BBO or Stepbridge platforms are restricted to W = 2.5. Participation in online sessions is restricted to players who are members of a NSWBA-affiliated club.

The State Finals are scheduled to be played f2f at the NSWBA. It is currently a requirement that all players on the NSWBA premises have been doubly vaccinated and provide proof of their status. Announcements will be posted on the State Open Pairs webpage if the situation changes, so all organisers and representative pairs should check this site regularly.

The cost for pairs entering the Final directly is \$140 per pair, but this won't apply to club pairs. Clubs will pay \$120, a flat \$20 discount for every representative pair sent to the State Final. An additional benefit to clubs holding club qualifying sessions is that **the NSWBA will pick up the masterpoint costs if two conditions are met**. Firstly, you must send at least one pair to the State Final. Secondly, you must submit the relevant files by the specified date - if the NSWBA is charged a late fee by the Masterpoint Centre, the NSWBA will invoice the club for the full masterpoint costs plus the late fee.

The Championship Finals will be held at the NSWBA on the weekend of 19th & 20th November 2022. **Start time on the Saturday is 10.30 am**. The top 14 pairs on Saturday will qualify for the State Open Pairs Final on the Sunday. In addition, the top 14 pairs from non-metropolitan regions will qualify to a separate Country Open Pairs Final on the Sunday. Country pairs who qualify for the State Final may choose which Final they contend.

The Country Open Pairs Final began in 2013 with a 4-table final. Since then, the numbers have increased steadily each year and the State/Country Open Pairs is now one of the most popular state championships on the NSWBA calendar. The NSWBA is well aware that pairs from country clubs invest a lot of time and money to come to Sydney for the Finals and we really want to see them get the maximum value from that investment. That is only possible if your representative pairs stay for both days, so please encourage them to do so.

We welcome your club's participation in these events and look forward to receiving as many entries as possible to the State and Country Open Pairs Finals weekend.

The details are contained overleaf and in the Supplementary Tournament Regulations available from the NSWBA website: www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sop

Please read both documents carefully!

State & Country Open Pairs Event Details

1. Clubs not wishing to run a qualifying competition may nominate one pair per 50 home club members or part thereof with a limit of 5 pairs.
2. Only players who are members of a club affiliated with the NSWBA can play in online sessions.
3. There is no upper limit to the number of pairs that may be sent - any pair in the qualifying field is eligible to proceed.
4. Clubs will be invoiced \$120 for each representative pair sent. (The cost for a pair entering directly is \$140.)
5. Affiliated clubs located outside the Sydney metropolitan region may apply to the NSWBA for financial assistance for pairs representing their clubs.
6. Timetable. Clubs and their representatives should carefully note the following dates and times:

Club qualifying competitions must be completed and results and pair nominations must be sent to the Tournament Organiser by no later than **Friday 11th November 2022**.

Session times for the Championship Finals are:
Saturday 19th November 2022 10:30 am and 2.30 pm
Sunday 20th November 2022 10.00 am and 2.00 pm

Those players who do not qualify to either the State or Country Pairs Final on Sunday will be granted free entry to the NSWBA Spring Swiss Pairs Congress.
7. State Open Pairs prize money is 1st \$500, 2nd \$250 & 3rd \$150.
Country Open Pairs prize money is 1st \$400, 2nd \$200 & 3rd \$100.
The Spring Swiss Pairs Congress prize money is 1st \$250, 2nd \$150 & 3rd \$100.
8. An Excel form to assist clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2022&E=sop. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list and then emailed to the NSWBA. Participating clubs must send the following to the NSWBA by email:
 - The completed coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above) as an Excel file. This will include the names and ABF numbers of the clubs' representative pairs;
 - A complete copy of the results of **each qualifying session** as a pdf, html or txt file;
 - **The masterpoint file as a .red file. This is mandatory.**
9. Clubs should note that **red masterpoints** for the qualifying sessions will be submitted to the Masterpoint Centre after the Championship Finals.
10. The Tournament Organiser will issue each participating club. **Do not send any money until you receive the invoice.** Provided all relevant files are received before the start of the Finals, the NSWBA will pay the costs of any red masterpoints issued. Clubs that do not send at least one representative pair to the final will be invoiced for the masterpoint costs.
11. All correspondence should be sent to:

Wing Roberts office@nswba.com.au

C/- NSWBA

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