



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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The Metropolitan Teams - 2023 **Part of the John Arkinstall State Open Teams Championship**

January 2023

The Metropolitan Teams is part of the State Open Teams Championship. If your members are interested in red masterpoints, this event offers your club the best value, with red masterpoints awarded at the highest rate (State Championship level, Grade B, W = 5.0) and at the cheapest rate (\$1.31 per MP). You may participate without sending teams to the next stage, so this event provides up to 6 red point sessions for your club in addition to your B4c allowance. There are two significant changes this year, but they are unlikely to have any material effect at the club level. They are: RealBridge is now the only online platform allowed.

The State Final will be played online using RealBridge. This is a trial as the Country teams are finding accommodation in Sydney and transport costs in Nov/Dec are becoming prohibitive.

Full details are contained in the Supplementary Tournament Regulations available on the NSWBA website www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2023&E=sotmetro, but the main features are summarised below.

- Clubs can hold one or two qualifying events with a combined total of at most 6 sessions. The minimum length of an event is 2 sessions.
- Scoring must be IMP based, not matchpoints. A teams format is preferred, but IMP-based pairs events (generally Butler or Cross-IMPs) are also allowed. Whichever format you play, the masterpoint awards are maximised if all matches consist of at least 5 boards; this ensures masterpoints are awarded for every match played.
- The masterpoints issued are part of the NSWBA's State Championship allowance - they are cheaper than B4c MPs and are additional to your B4c allowance. Sessions award masterpoints with W=5.0.
- Any team playing in a club qualifying event is eligible to proceed to the Metropolitan Final.
- The entry fee to the Metropolitan Final is \$120 per team and includes lunch, a 25% discount for club representative teams. The NSWBA will issue each participating club with an invoice to cover the entry fees of representative teams and the costs of any red masterpoints issued.
- It's completely up to the club how the entry fees to the Metropolitan Final are raised. One sensible method is for the club to pay the \$120 for the top ranked team and to collect the \$120 from lower placed teams that want to play the Metropolitan Final.
- The NSWBA's Jacaranda Teams Congress in October will again incorporate the Metropolitan Teams Final and will qualify two teams, one of which must be a club representative team, to the State Final. Entry to the Jacaranda Teams Congress is \$160 per team (for teams that are not club representatives).
- The Metropolitan Teams Organiser is Warren Lazer sotmetro@nswba.com.au ph 9744 1555

The NSWBA looks forward to your club's participation in the qualification stages of this event.

Warren Lazer
Chairman, NSWBA Events Committee