



NSW BRIDGE ASSOCIATION



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The Metropolitan Teams - 2024 **Part of the John Arkinstall State Open Teams Championship**

March 2024

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 (\$1.39 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. RealBridge remains as the only allowed online platform. There are two significant change this year: the Metropolitan Final will be held on 13 October in conjunction with the Pennant Hills Teams Congress; Paul Weaver will take over as the Organiser. After the successful trial last year, the State Final will again be played online using RealBridge.

Full details are contained in the Supplementary Tournament Regulations available on the NSWBA website www.nswba.com.au/tourn/state/se.asp?Y=2024&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 \$160 per team. 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 \$160 for the top ranked team and to collect the \$160 from lower placed teams that want to play the Metropolitan Final.
- The Pennant Hills Teams Congress in October will incorporate the Metropolitan Teams Final. It will qualify two teams, one of which must be a club representative team, to the State Final.
- The Metropolitan Teams Organiser is Paul Weaver sotmetro@nswba.com.au ph 0444 540 618

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

Warren Lazer
NSWBA Events Committee