

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
AND  
AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS  
SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2012**

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## **1 General**

- 1.1 The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) is the regulating authority for the Australian National Championships (ANC) and Australian Butler Pairs Championships (ABPC). These events are conducted in cooperation with the Northern Territory Bridge Association (NTBA) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations – February, 2011 (ABF TR), Systems Regulations and Appeals Regulations as applicable, as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.
- 1.2 The venue is the Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, Northern Territory.
- 1.3 The ANC will run from July 8-13, 2012. The ABPC will run from July 14-19, 2012.
- 1.4 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or Tournament Organiser (TO). Such methods and equipment may include but are not limited to: Vugraph, Bridge Base On Line web-cast, written bidding, bidding boxes, pick up slips, table record sheets and electronic scoring units. Players must record the score for each board after it is played and before the commencement of the next board.
- 1.5 Smoking is not permitted in the playing area, the scoreboard area and any other areas designated by the TO. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.4)

- 1.6 Mobile telephones, pager and other electronic equipment must be switched off during session time and may not be consulted or used unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, after one warning (see 5.4)
- 1.7 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during the session times of the ANC Teams and the final stages of the ABPC. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.4)
- 1.8 Expressions used in these Regulations and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in the contract bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2007). In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning, the decision of the CTD shall be final and conclusive. Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the ABF TR shall have the same meaning for the purpose of these Supplementary Regulations.

## **2 Officials**

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser is Pam Nunn.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Sean Mullamphy.
- 2.3 The Appeals Committee Convener for the ANC is Kim Morrison.
- 2.4 The Appeals Committee Convener for the ABPC is Bruce Neill.
- 2.5 The Appeals Advisors are David Beauchamp and Laurie Kelso.
- 2.6 The Tournament Committee Convener is Kim Morrison.
- 2.7 The ABF on site representative for the ANC is Matthew McManus.
- 2.8 The ABF on site representative for the ABPC is Marcia Scudder.
- 2.9 The Recorders are Eric Nunn and Therese Demarco.
- 2.10 The Convener appoints the Appeal or Tournament Committee members. In the absence of the Convener of the Appeals Committee, the TO acts as Convener of the Appeals Committee.
- 2.11 The ABF on site Representative has absolute discretion to enforce Supplementary Regulation 4 hereof. The decision is final and not subject to appeal.

## **3 Eligibility**

- 3.1 Youth players, as defined in 3.4, may represent a Home State or an Adoptive State (in which they have resided continuously for a period of three months or for the majority of a discontinuous period of four months), provided that they are members of the ABF Youth Club or a club affiliated to that State.
- 3.2 Unless dispensation is granted by the ABF (which may be retrospective), a player is eligible to represent a State in the Open, Women's or Senior category at an ANC only if they have been either:
  - (a) an active playing member of a club affiliated with or within the jurisdiction of that state during the previous year; or
  - (b) a bona fide resident of that state for a period of at least six months immediately prior to the commencement of the ANC in question.

- 3.3 When 3.1 or 3.2 results in a player being eligible to represent more than one state in any particular event at the ANC, that player is entitled to represent only that State in which he first entered a selection tournament for that event.
- 3.4 To be eligible for events restricted by age or masterpoint ranking:
  - (a) Youth players must be born on or after 1-1-86, except as authorised by the ABF Youth Committee;
  - (b) Senior players must be born before 1-1-54;
  - (c) both members of the partnership in the ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs must be below the rank of Life Master as at 1-4-12.
- 3.5 No substitutes are permitted in the ANC events, excepting that the CTD is empowered to authorise emergency substitutes under such condition as he decides. Section 19 hereunder specifies the number of substitutes permitted in the ABPC subject to the General Conditions of ABF TR 4.
- 3.6 For the ABPC, at the time of commencement of an event, each Australian resident entrant must be a financial member of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme and of an organisation affiliated to the ABF or to an Australian State Bridge Association. Overseas players become honorary members of the Foreign Players Club.
- 3.7 The TO may nominate a “house contestant” in any event for the smooth running of the tournament. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players from a small group. The procedures under which the “house contestant” competes will be at the discretion of the CTD having regard to ABF TR 1.9.

#### **4 Systems and Defences**

- 4.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events. YELLOW systems are permitted only in the ANC Teams and in the Final Stages of the ABPC.
- 4.2 For the ABPC, Yellow systems, including those that are to be played only as a defence against pairs playing a YELLOW system, must be lodged with the TO by 20th June 2012. Pairs must lodge an adequate current ABF Standard system card with a maximum of 2 supplementary A4 sheets, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side. Pairs who fail to meet these deadlines may not be permitted to play a YELLOW system for some or all the event.
- 4.3 For the ANC Teams complete systems (except those in 4.4) must be submitted before 4.00pm, Friday 8th June 2012. These systems must be submitted by the State Secretary by e-mail to [webmaster@abf.com.au](mailto:webmaster@abf.com.au). Complete and detailed notes with a bona fide defence must accompany any Yellow system. Each team is permitted a maximum of four systems classified as Yellow and/or including BROWN STICKER conventions. Each player must bring to the table a current ABF standard system card, printed, typed or written legibly in black ink.
- 4.4 For the ANC Teams, a concise summary of a Yellow system that is to be used only against an opposing pair who play a Yellow system must be lodged with the ABF on site Representative before the Captain’s meeting. Two copies must be distributed at the captains meeting to each captain whose team includes a pair playing a Yellow system.
- 4.5 Defence or “defence against the defence” notes, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet, must be:
  - (a) lodged with and approved by the CTD 15 minutes before the scheduled session time;

- (b) identical for each player; and
- (c) available to the opponents during the auction and play.

## **5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties**

- 5.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 5.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 5.3 Unless otherwise announced by the CTD, the time allotted is based on 7.5 minutes per board. In a Swiss movement and the ANC qualifying Round Robins, boards not started before a time specified by the CTD are not played and the contestants concerned score 0 IMPs.
- 5.4 The disciplinary penalty for breach of 1.5 (smoking) or 1.7 (consumption of alcohol) is 3 VPs. The disciplinary penalty for breach of 1.6 (mobile phones, etc), applied after one warning per pair or team, is 3 VPs.

## **6 Correction Period and Time of Appeal**

- 6.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) for each session expires at the later of 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection or at the commencement of the next session, except when the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within 30 minutes. In that case the Correction Period for the later session applies. For the last session of a stage of an event, the Correction Period expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.
- 6.2 The Time of Appeal of a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) expires 30 minutes after the scheduled finishing time of the session (or 30 minutes after the parties are advised of the director's ruling when they ruling is made after the session), unless the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time of Appeal for that next round/stanza/session.

## **7 Spectators**

- 7.1 Subject to availability of space, spectators are permitted in the Open Room. Only Team Captains (watching their own team), and other personnel as authorised by the CTD are permitted to watch matches in the Closed Room. No spectator may watch play at more than one table during any stanza of any event.
- 7.2 Team members, except "non-playing captains" are not permitted to watch their own team. Playing captains who are not playing in the match in question are exempt from this rule for that match.

## **8 Dress Requirements**

- 8.1 Players and kibitzers are expected to maintain a minimum standard of dress, described as "neat casual".

## 9 Partnership Alterations

- 9.1 A State may alter partnerships provided that the altered partnership plays a system which has been submitted pursuant to 4.2 or a system which the CTD in the exercise of an absolute discretion considers is sufficiently natural as to cause no disadvantage to the opposition through lack of previous disclosure.

## 10 Fouled Boards

- 10.1 The result of a fouled board is cancelled and a substitute board is played at both tables unless the result of the stanza is known or any of the players has left the table at the conclusion of that stanza. In these cases the board is cancelled and a score of 3 IMPs assigned. In the case of a match with multiple stanzas, the CTD may rule that a substitute board is to be played in the next stanza.

## 11 Round Robins

- 11.1 The qualifying Round Robin matches consist of 20 boards played without a break or change of pairs (except in cases of emergency).
- 11.2 Team numbers for the first Round Robin have been allotted by a sub-committee of the Management Committee.

Open							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
8	4	5	2	3	7	1	6
Women's							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
4	3	2	7	5	6	8	1
Seniors'							
ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
8	6	3	5	1	7	2	4
Youth							
ACT	NSW	QLD	SA	VIC	WA		
5	4	6	3	2	1		

- 11.3 The team numbers for the last Round Robin are equivalent to the team's placing, determined by its VP score irrespective of any outstanding appeals but including all penalties, posted after the last round of the previous Round Robin. Subsequent adjustments do not alter the team numbers or the draw.
- 11.4 For 5 or 6 teams and three Round Robins, the draw for the second Round Robin will be randomly determined by the CTD at the conclusion of the first Round Robin.
- 11.5 For 7 or 8 teams, there are two qualifying Round Robins of 20 board matches.
- 11.5.1 The Draw for 7 or 8 teams is:

Round	Round				
1	8	8 v 1	5 v 2	6 v 3	7 v 4
2	9	1 v 7	2 v 8	3 v 5	4 v 6

3	10	6 v 1	7 v 2	8 v 3	5 v 4
4	11	1 v 5	2 v 6	3 v 7	4 v 8
5	12	4 v 1	3 v 2	8 v 5	7 v 6
6	13	1 v 3	2 v 4	5 v 7	6 v 8
7	14	2 v 1	4 v 3	6 v 5	8 v 7

11.5.2 For 7 teams the bye is numbered 8.

11.5.3 In the first Round Robin the second numbered team sits first. In the second Round Robin the team that sat first against its opponent in the first Round Robin match sits last against that team.

11.6 For 5 or 6 teams, there are three qualifying Round Robins of 20 board matches.

11.6.1 The Draw for 5 or 6 teams is:

Round	Round	Round			
1	6	11	6 v 2	4 v 1	5 v 3
2	7	12	5 v 2	1 v 3	4 v 6
3	8	13	2 v 4	1 v 5	6 v 3
4	9	14	3 v 2	6 v 1	4 v 5
5	10	15	1 v 2	3 v 4	5 v 6

11.6.2 For 5 teams the bye is numbered 4.

11.6.3 In the first Round Robin, the line ups will be blind, ie. each captain will post their line-up without knowing the line-up of their opponents. The second numbered team sits first in the second Round Robin. In the third Round Robin the team which sat first against its opponent in the second Round Robin match sits last against that team.

11.6.4 Round 15 is played concurrently with the first session of the Finals subject to 12.2.

11.7 The team captain is responsible for posting the seating positions of the players on the line-up form with the system being played if more than one has been submitted. Posting must be completed at least 30 minutes and 20 minutes before the scheduled time of commencement of play, for the teams sitting first and last respectively. The CTD may alter posting times at his discretion. Blind line-ups must be provided to the CTD at least 30 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play in each respective match.

For non-compliance with this regulation, the penalties are loss of seating rights and a procedural penalty against the team total (1<sup>st</sup> offence, 3 VPs; 2<sup>nd</sup> offence, 6 VPs; 3rd and subsequent offences, 9 VPs)

11.8 A YELLOW system may be played only if the pairs are posted correctly within the posting period or, in any other circumstances, with the agreement of the opposing captain and the CTD.

11.9 Scoring for each 20-board segment in the Round Robins is net IMPs converted to VPs as follows:

margin of 30 IMPs or less VPs = 35 + net IMPs

margin of 31 IMPs or more VPs = 65 + 1/10\*(net IMPs minus 30)

with a maximum win of 67.5 VPs and a maximum loss of 0 VPs.

11.10 No score is awarded for a bye.

- 11.11 After a forfeit, the non-offenders receive 56.5 VPs, adjusted at the conclusion of each Round Robin to the highest of 56.5 VPs, the team's average VP score for completed other rounds, and the complement of the offender's average VP score for completed other rounds. The offenders score 0 VPs; IMPs scores are determined from the formula in 11.9.
- 11.12 Opposing captains shall agree to and sign the result sheet displayed by the scorer at the end of each match.
- 11.13 The time allotted for each set of 20 boards is 150 minutes, or any other such time as determined by the CTD.
- 11.14 Matches may be displayed using Bridge Base On-Line without prior notice.

## **12 Finals**

- 12.1 The two leading teams in each of the Open, Women's & Seniors' divisions play a 60 board final.
- 12.2 The Youth Final is played over 40 boards unless two teams that are scheduled to play each other in the Round 15 are:
- (a) both more than 35 VPs ahead of the team that has a bye, or exactly 35 VPs ahead and would win a relevant tiebreak irrespective of the result of Round 15; or
  - (b) both more than 67.5 VPs ahead of all other teams, or exactly 67.5 VPs ahead and would win a relevant tiebreak irrespective of the result of Round 15.

In such a case these two teams do not play the Round 15 match and play a 60-board final with the carryover calculated as in 12.5 using the VP scores at the conclusion of the Round 14.

- 12.3 The Finals are played in 10-board stanzas with screens. The captains draw for seating rights and the winner may elect to sit first or last for the first stanza. Seating rights for subsequent stanzas alternate.
- 12.4 At least 20 boards, drawn from one or more of the Finals, will be displayed on Bridge Base and/or Vu-Graph.
- 12.5 The carry-over into the Final is 10% of the VP margin between the teams at the conclusion of the Round Robin, rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 is reduced).
- 12.6 Scoring in the Finals is by VPs with 1 IMP equivalent to 1 VP.
- 12.7 Opposing captains agree to and sign the result sheet after each 10 board stanza. The time allotted for each set of 10 boards is 80 minutes, or any other such time as determined by the CTD.

## **13 Ties**

- 13.1 A tie occurs when two or more teams have the exact same number of VPs.
- 13.2 Ties are broken after each Round Robin by the number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.
- 13.3 Ties in the final are broken by play of 4 boards, and then 1 board at a time until the tie is broken.

## **AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (ABPC)**

### **14 Tournament Structure**

- 14.1 Dependent on entries, the ABF reserves the absolute right to alter the formats described in 14.2-14.7, without prior notice.
- 14.2 The Open ABPC is conducted in two stages – the Preliminary Stage and the Final Stage.
- 14.3 The Women's ABPC is conducted in one or two stages according to the number of entries.
- 14.4 The Seniors ABPC is conducted in one Final Stage.
- 14.5 The Preliminary Stage will consist of 10 x 12 board rounds to qualify 20 pairs. The Final Stage will be played as a Round Robin of 19 x 12 board rounds.
- 14.6 The ABF will determine the seeding, scoring and movement for the Preliminary Stage
- 14.7 The Preliminary Stage of the ABPC is scored by IMPs against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-4) middle scores. The Final Stage will be scored by IMPs against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the (n-2) middle scores. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the WBF 10 board VP scale. Pick up slips, table record cards and/or electronic scoring units are used but each pair must keep a score card, calculate the result of their match and confirm it with that posted by the Director/Scorer.
- 14.8 The ANC Swiss Pairs is a 12 round event scored in a manner similar to that described for the Final Stage in 14.7. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.
- 14.9 The ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs is a 12 round event scored in a manner similar to that described for the Final Stage in 14.7. The exact details of the format, movement and scoring are determined after entries close.

### **15 Ties**

- 15.1 A tie occurs when two or more pairs have the exact same number of VPs.
- 15.2 To determine a Swiss draw, ties are broken by net IMPs, then lot.
- 15.3 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Swiss format, ties are broken by the sum of VPs of opponents, then number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.
- 15.4 At the conclusion of an event or stage with a Round Robin format, ties are broken by number of wins in VPs, then net IMPs, then lot.

### **16 Carry-over**

- 16.1 In the Open ABPC, each qualifying pair will carry-over 25% of their VP score to the Final Stage.
- 16.2 Where a separate Preliminary Stage is held in the Women's APBC, each qualifying pair will carry-over 25% of their VP score to the Final Stage.

16.3 Warnings carry over from stage to stage.

## 17 Withdrawal and Replacements

17.1 Pairs who withdraw at the end of the Preliminary Stage or are non-contending are replaced in a manner such that the numbers of pairs qualifying from each of the original fields do not differ by more than two.

17.2 When “n” pairs plus the best “n+1” pair qualify for the Final Stage, the best “n+1” is the pair with the highest score in VPs.

17.3 Withdrawals within a stage are treated according to ABF TR 14.

## 18 Fouled Boards

18.1 A fouled board is scored by:

- (a) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (3-7 results) or four (results >7) extreme scores, respectively; or
- (b) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 2 IMPs to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

## 19 Substitutes

19.1 A substitute may be permitted for cause, but not for convenience.

19.2 For each event, the number of the number of rounds one player must play and for which the partnership must be intact is as follows:

	Preliminary stage	Final Stage	ANC Swiss Pairs	Restricted Swiss Pairs
Each player	10/12	16/19	8 rounds	6 rounds
Partnership	9/12	15/19	6 rounds	5 rounds

19.3 When an event format results in the number of rounds being other than 12 (Preliminary Stage) or 19 (Final Stage), each player must play at least 85% of the rounds and the partnership must be intact for at least 75% of the rounds (fractions rounded up).

## 20 Playoff Qualifying Points

20.1 Players must declare the basis upon which they are eligible to represent Australia.

20.2 The first nine eligible pairs in the Open & Women’s ABPC receive playoff qualifying points.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
PQP	65	60	55	35	30	25	15	10	5

20.3 The first six eligible pairs in the Seniors’ ABPC receive playoff qualifying points.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6
PQP	50	45	40	20	15	10

20.4 Tied pairs share the available points.

## Appendices

### Penalties for Late Arrival or Slow Play

0-5 mins	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5-10 mins	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10-15 mins	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15-20 mins	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20-30 mins	5 VPs (15 IMPs)

For late arrival in excess of 30 minutes, the CTD may assess a more severe penalty including forfeiture of the match and/or disqualification from the event.

When boards are cancelled by the director due to a failure to complete them on time, the following penalties may be applied at the director's discretion:

One board	1 VP (3 IMPs)
Subsequent boards	2 VPs (6 IMPs)

### Anticipated Finishing Times

The following times are provided solely as a guide to players and may change without notice depending on event formats and other circumstances:

ANC Teams Round Robin (Open, Women's, Seniors')	Thursday, July 12, 4.00 pm
ANC Teams Round Robin (Youth)	Thursday, July 12, 10.00 pm
ANC Teams Finals	Friday, July 13, 5.00 pm
Butler Pairs Preliminary Stage (Open, Women's)	Sunday, July 15, 7.15 pm
Butler Pairs Final Stage (Open, Women's, Seniors')	Thursday, July 19, 5.30 pm
	Presentation at 6.00 pm
ANC Restricted Swiss Pairs	Wednesday, July 18, 5.30 pm
ANC Swiss Pairs	Wednesday, July 18, 5.30 pm