

SPRING NATIONAL TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS, 2003

1. GENERAL

1.1 Sponsoring Authority:

The 2003 Spring National Championship (SNT) consists of the Spring National Womens Team Championship (SNWT) and the Spring National Open Teams Championship (SNOT). The SNT is conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations in force as at 31/03/89, since amended but not republished, and as modified by these supplementary regulations.

1.2 Office Bearers:

Tournament Conveners:	F. Budai, J. Mottram
Chief Tournament Director (CTD):	M. McManus
Chairman Tournament Committee:	E. Ramshaw
Chairman Appeals Committee:	I. Dahler
Recorder:	J. Mottram
Assistant Director:	C. Diment
Computer:	E. Barnes

1.3 Committee Nominees:

Members of each appeal or tournament committee are appointed by the appropriate chairman, who shall be the sole judge of the committee's quorum.

1.4 Venue:

The 2003 venue for both the qualifying and final rounds is the **Hakoah Club**, 61 Hall Street Bondi.

1.5 Smoking:

Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Convener as the playing area and scoreboard area and any other designated area. The smoking area at the Hakoah Club is on the ground floor.

1.6 Mobile telephones:

Mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic equipment must not be brought into the playing area unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty of 3 VP or 9 IMP.

2. TEAMS AND SYSTEMS

2.1 Team Sizes:

Teams may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players.

2.2 Augmentation of Team Members:

Teams may not be increased from 4 to 5, 4 to 6 or 5 to 6 players after the commencement of round 1.

2.3 Substitutions:

Substitutions are subject to the approval of the CTD. Subject to ABF Tournament Regulation #4.1 concerning emergency substitutions, the following substitution rules apply:

- a) Teams of 6 players are not permitted any substitutions
- b) Teams of 5 players are permitted 3 substitutions in total during the qualifying rounds and the 4 stanzas of the final, with no more than 1 substitution during the final
- c) Teams of 4 players are permitted 5 substitutions in total during the qualifying rounds and the 4 stanzas of the final, with no more than 2 substitutions during the final.

Boards played in any tie-breaking procedure do not count when making calculations regarding substitutions. A substitution (allowed or disallowed) may be appealed only by either of the two captains involved directly.

2.4 Systems Regulations:

Systems and conventions for the SNT are placed in categories. Pairs must classify their systems and conventions as GREEN, BLUE, RED or YELLOW, using the ABF Systems Regulations as at May 1st 1998.

YELLOW systems are subdivided into YELLOW (opening points do not comply with the opening point requirements) and others YELLOW(HUM).

The system Regulations require each pair to have 2 identical ABF Standard System cards

All systems and conventions are permitted in the SNT, subject to written notice described in #2.5 below.

2.5 Written Notice of Systems & Conventions:

Systems which allow opening bids without the requisite number of opening points (YELLOW) must be notified to the CTD before the commencement of the event in which they are to be used. Pairs intending to use any other YELLOW(HUM) system must lodge an adequate system statement on an ABF standard system card or WBF system card, plus a maximum of 2 supplementary A4 sheets, with the Convener **before November 2nd 2003**.

2.6 System Markers:

Coloured markers identify pairs playing YELLOW(HUM) systems, and summaries are available for perusal.

2.7 Restrictions on Playing RED and YELLOW Systems & Conventions:

All systems and conventions, including those categorised as RED and YELLOW, are permitted in the SNT (subject to #2.5 above), in all rounds and at all levels. However, any pair playing a YELLOW(HUM) system or convention must comply with the following conditions, or be subject to procedural penalties as covered by Law 40 of the 1997 Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge:

- a) full alerts and full disclosure of the system or convention;
- b) provide opponents with a suggested defence
- c) seat first in matches against teams not playing a YELLOW(HUM) system
- d) post line-up within 10 minutes of the announcement of the draw

2.8 Written Defences:

Written defences to YELLOW(HUM) systems and to conventions that make a system RED, and "defence to the defence" for YELLOW(HUM) systems, may be consulted during the auction subject to the following conditions:

- a) The defence is that provided by the pair playing the YELLOW(HUM) system or is typed or clearly written on one side of one A4 sheet, and complies with the requirements of the ABF Systems Regulations
- b) The "defence to the defence" is typed or clearly written on one side of one A4 sheet, and complies with the requirements of the ABF Systems Regulations
- b) It is approved by and lodged with the CTD prior to the scheduled start of play

defence at least 10 minutes	"defence to the defence" at least 2 minutes
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- b) Copies are available to all four players.

2.9 Defence against YELLOW(HUM) systems and RRED conventions:

For defence against a YELLOW(HUM) system and the conventions that make a system RED, a pair using a GREEN, BLUE or RED system may change any facet of its system, including opening calls, but may use a YELLOW(HUM) system only if it has been submitted in accordance with #2.5 above.

3. MOVEMENTS AND SESSIONS

3.1 Tournament Format:

The SNT is a Swiss qualifying movement within a single field after which the **two leading teams** play a final of 64 boards in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each.

SNWT: 9 rounds of 20 boards

SNOT: 12 rounds of 16 boards.

3.2 Seeding:

The Tournament Committee seeds half the field.

3.3 Sessions:

The schedules for the sessions is shown in the Appendices

3.4 Swiss Draw:

- a) Round 1: The seeded half of the teams is drawn against the rest of the field in the form 1 v (N/2)+1 etc. Provision is made for the addition of a 'house team' in the event that the number of teams is odd.
- b) Subsequent rounds: The draw is according to the actual victory point score, with secondary

break-ups by net IMP, then on team number.

- c) At the discretion of the tournament committee, a 'house team' may receive either
 - i) its actual VP
 - ii) a maximum of 15, and a minimum of 11, with masterpoints awarded according to actual VP
- d) Appeals affecting draws: The draw is made as soon as the results for the previous round have been processed. It is not delayed or affected directly by the result of any outstanding appeals. After the draw has been made it is not altered when scores are adjusted. (appeals, correction of errors).
- e) Home/Away Status: The team named **first** in the draw for each round is the **HOME** Team. The **AWAY** Team seats first.

3.5 Final seating rights:

In the final, seating rights are determined by the toss of a coin prior to the first session. The team that wins the toss may choose to sit first in either the **first and third** sessions or the **second and fourth** (final) sessions.

4. SCORING, TIES AND APPEALS

4.1 Board Generation:

All SNT qualifying and final boards are generated using the approved ABF computer program. Hand records are available after each qualifying round and after each final stanza.

4.2 Victory Point Scale:

IMP are converted to VP using the WBF VP Scale for the number of boards per round. (See Appendices)

4.3 Final scoring:

The result of the final is determined by **net IMP** - any IMP margin determines the winner.

4.4 Forfeits:

In the case of a forfeit, the score, for the purpose of completing the draw for the following round, is non-offending team, 18 VP offending team, 0 VP.

On completion of the last qualifying round, the score for the non-offending team is adjusted to the **greater of**:

- a) The mean score for all of its completed matches
- b) 30 VP minus the mean score of the offending team for all matches including forfeits (Max. 25 VP)
- c) 18 VP.

4.5 Table Record Sheets:

The NS pair at the table is responsible for completing the table score sheet. At the end of the round, the EW pair checks that the score sheet is correct, initials and delivers it to the collection point designated by the director. An incorrect score recorded by the players may be altered up until 30 minutes after the posting of the result for that session.

The result for any round up to and including the penultimate qualifying round that is recorded and/or posted incorrectly by the scorer, can be corrected until 30 minutes after the official completion time for the penultimate round. Similar correction can be made for the last qualifying round until 30 minutes after its official completion.

4.6 Tie Breaking:

The following procedures apply to the breaking of ties:

- a) To determine the draw:
 - i) Net IMP accumulated
 - ii) Team Number (for even numbered rounds, the higher-numbered team is ranked higher, for odd numbered rounds the lower-numbered team is ranked)
- b) Qualification for the final, after the last round:
 - i) Removal of procedural penalties
 - ii) 1 board per table (may involve a multiple teams movement); teams ranked on net IMP
- c) After the 64-board final: match(es) of 2 boards until broken; teams ranked on net IMP.

4.7 Appeals:

Appeals for and against the Director's ruling must be notified in person to the CTD within 30 minutes of the official completion time for any qualifying session or final stanza and the official Appeals Form Appeals completed. When an appeals committee judges that an appeal is without merit it will award a disciplinary penalty on the scale

specified in the Appeals Regulations, against the appellant's score. The Appeals Committee will hear appeals as expeditiously as possible.

5. FOULED BOARDS, PUNCTUALITY AND SLOW PLAY

5.1 Misboarding:

A board that does not correspond to the hand records is not considered fouled if it is played in the same form at both tables. The Director must be notified immediately an irregularity or misboard is suspected, and ABF Tournament Regulation 9 (Fouled Boards) applies.

5.2 Disciplinary Penalties for Misboarding:

Disciplinary penalties may be applied to teams responsible for any misboards.

5.3 Punctuality and Slow Play:

Players should be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled time for start of play. For teams not seated and ready to play at the starting time, **procedural penalties** are applied as follows:

0 - 4 minutes late:	1 st offence: WARNING
	2 nd & subsequent offences: 0.5 VP
5 - 10 minutes late:	1 VP
11 - 15 minutes late:	2 VP
16 - 20 minutes late:	3 VP
21 - 30 minutes late:	5 VP

Beyond this time, the CTD may assess a more severe penalty, including forfeiture of the match or disqualification from the tournament.

5.4 Slow Play:

Where a stanza is not completed in the time allotted, both teams shall be penalised equally unless the CTD rules that the additional time be divided unequally between the two teams. The CTD may make such a ruling after being called to the table during the play period or as a result of his/her own observations or those appointed by any time monitor.

a) Qualifying rounds are scheduled to be completed

20 boards	2 hour and 20 minutes	16 boards	2 hours
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No new boards to be started unless more than 5 minutes remain to complete the round.

b) Final stanzas are scheduled to be completed

16 boards	2 hours and 15 minutes
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c) **Procedural** penalties for late finishes are:

First offence of 0 - 4 minutes:	WARNING
Any other offence:	1 IMP per minute or part thereof.

6. ABF TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

6.1 Alerts:

Opponents must be alerted in accordance with the **2002 ABF alerting regulations**.

6.2 Full Disclosure:

Questions concerning the auction should be answered by disclosing all meaning of the call(s) as per **LAW** and the **2003 ABF alerting regulations**.

6.3 Eligibility for Australian Playoff:

Each player in each of the first three eligible teams receives playoff points (36 for 1st, 18 for 2nd, 9 for 3rd), provided that the player is eligible to represent Australia by citizenship or residency and complies with the board rule (qualifying SNWT, 4/9; SNOT, 5/12 and, if applicable, at least 50% of the boards played by the team in the final). Extra boards played to break ties are not counted. The ABF reserves the right, when there are equitable circumstances, to waive the board rule.

Players who wish to record PQP awarded for the SNOT on the Senior list must register their date of birth with the CTD

SPRING NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

3.1 Tournament Format:

The SNT is a Swiss qualifying movement within a single field after which the **two leading teams** play a final of 64 boards in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each.

- SNWT: 9 rounds of 20 boards

3.3 Sessions:

The qualifying sessions/rounds take place on

Thursday November 13 th	10.00 am, 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm
Friday November 14 th	10.00 am, 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm
Saturday November 15 th	10.00 am, 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm

The final consists of 4 x 16-board stanzas

Sunday November 16th 9.00 am, 11.30 am, 2.30 pm and 4.15 pm unless these times are varied by mutual consent of the CTD and both captains.

4.2 Victory Point Scale:

IMP are converted to VP using the World Bridge Federation Victory Point Scale for 20 boards.

IMP	VP	IMP	VP	IMP	VP	IMP	VP
0 - 2	15 / 15	17 - 21	19 / 11	37 - 41	23 / 7	60 - 65	25 / 3
3 - 8	16 / 14	22 - 26	20 / 10	42 - 47	24 / 6	66 - 72	25 / 2
9 - 12	17 / 13	27 - 31	21 / 9	48 - 53	25 / 5	73 - 79	25 / 1
13 - 16	18 / 12	32 - 36	22 / 8	54 - 59	25 / 4	80 +	25 / 0

5.4 Slow Play:

Where a stanza is not completed in the time allotted, both teams shall be penalised equally unless the CTD rules that the additional time be divided unequally between the two teams. The CTD may make such a ruling after being called to the table during the play period or as a result of his/her own observations or those appointed by any time monitor.

- Qualifying rounds are scheduled to be completed: 20 boards within 2 hour and 20 minutes. No new boards to be started unless more than 5 minutes remain to complete the round.
- Final stanzas are scheduled to be completed: 16 boards within 2 hours and 15 minutes
- Procedural** penalties for late finishes are:

First offence of 0 - 4 minutes:

WARNING

Any other offence:

1 IMP per minute or part thereof.

SPRING NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

3.1 Tournament Format:

The SNT is a Swiss qualifying movement within a single field after which the **two leading teams** play a final of 64 boards in 4 stanzas of 16 boards each.

- SNOT: 12 rounds of 16 boards.

3.3 Sessions:

The qualifying sessions/rounds will take place on

Monday Nov.17th	Session 1	Round 1	1.15 pm
		Round 2	3.30 pm
	Session 2	Round 3	7.15 pm
		Round 4	9.30 pm
Tuesday Nov.18th	Session 3	Round 5	10.00 am
	Session 4	Round 6	1.00 pm
		Round 7	3.15 pm
		Round 8	5.30 pm
Wednesday Nov.19 th	Session 5	Round 9	10.00 am
	Session 6	Round 10	1.00 pm
		Round 11	3.15 pm
		Round 12	5.30 pm

The final consists of 4 x 16-board stanzas on

Thursday November 20th 9.00 am, 11.30 am, 2.30 pm and 4.15 pm unless these times are varied by mutual consent of the CTD and both captains.

4.2 Victory Point Scale:

IMP are converted to VP using the World Bridge Federation Victory Point Scale for 16 boards.

IMP	VP	IMP	VP	IMP	VP	IMP	VP
0 - 2	15 / 15	16 - 19	19 / 11	32 - 36	23 / 7	53 - 58	25 / 3
3 - 7	16 / 14	20 - 23	20 / 10	37 - 41	24 / 6	59 - 64	25 / 2
8 - 11	17 / 13	24 - 27	21 / 9	42 - 46	25 / 5	65 - 71	25 / 1
12 - 15	18 / 12	28 - 31	22 / 8	47 - 52	25 / 4	72 +	25 / 0

5.4 Slow Play:

Where a stanza is not completed in the time allotted, both teams shall be penalised equally unless the CTD rules that the additional time be divided unequally between the two teams. The CTD may make such a ruling after being called to the table during the play period or as a result of his/her own observations or those appointed by any time monitor.

- Qualifying rounds are scheduled to be completed: 16 boards within 2 hours. No new boards to be started unless more than 5 minutes remain to complete the round.
- Final stanzas are scheduled to be completed: 16 boards within 2 hours and 15 minutes
- Procedural** penalties for late finishes are:

First offence of 0 - 4 minutes:

WARNING

Any other offence:

1 IMP per minute or part thereof.