

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE 2025 SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

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1 General

The Summer Festival of Bridge (SFOB) comprises the following events:

- National Women's Teams (**WT**) – Jan 7-9;
- National Seniors' Teams (**ST**) – Jan 7-9;
- National Life Masters Teams (**LMT**) – Jan 7-9;
- National 750 Masters Teams (**750MT**) – Jan 7-9;
- Chris Diment Matchpoint Swiss Pairs (**CDP**) – Jan 8-9;
- Novice Swiss Pairs (**NSP**) – Jan 8-9;
- Rookies Swiss Pairs (**RSP**) – Jan 8-9;
- One Day Swiss Pairs (**SP**) – Jan 10;
- One Day Novice Teams (**NT**) – Jan 10;
- One Day Rookie Teams (**RT**) – Jan 10;
- Women's Team Playoff (**WPO**) – Jan 10-12;
- Seniors' Team Playoff (**SPO**) – Jan 10-12;
- TBIB Open Swiss Pairs (**OSP**) – Jan 11-12;
- Under 750/500 Swiss Pairs (**750SP**) – Jan 11-12;
- Under 300/100 Swiss Pairs (**300SP**) – Jan 11-12;
- South West Pacific Teams (**SWPT**) – Jan 13-16;
- Under 500/300 MP Teams (**500T**) – Jan 13-15;
- National Open Teams (**NOT**) – Jan 17-19
- Mixed Matchpoint Swiss Pairs (**MMSP**) – Jan 17-19.

These events are conducted by the Australian Bridge Federation (ABF) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations. The subsidiary document, 2024 SFOB Event Details, forms part of these Supplementary Regulations.

- 1.1 The venue is the Canberra Rex Hotel, 150 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT.
- 1.2 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) or Tournament Organiser (TO). Players must record the score for each board after it is played and before the commencement of the next board. It is an offence to leave the table at the conclusion of a match without first confirming the completeness and validity of the data entered into the scoring unit. Every player present at the table is equally responsible for the accuracy of the scores.
- 1.3 Smoking is not permitted in the playing areas or in any other area designated by the TO as a non-smoking area. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 6.3)
- 1.4 Mobile telephones, iPads, iPods and other electronic communication equipment must be switched off during session time and must be left at the table if a player leaves the table during a match. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, after one warning (see 6.3)
- 1.5 Mobile telephones, iPads and other electronic communication equipment may not be used during the session, unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) in the first instance. In the case of further breaches by the same unit, the CTD will assess a more severe penalty, which may include forfeiture or disqualification.
- 1.6 Players in the final series of Teams events must lodge any mobile phone or other electronic communication device in their possession with the TO during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty (see 6.3) in the first instance. In the case of further breaches by the same unit, the CTD will assess a more severe penalty, which may include forfeiture or disqualification.
- 1.7 The TO may grant permission for still or moving photographs to be taken during the course of the event. Players may only refuse to be photographed for religious or cultural reasons deemed valid by the TO or CTD.
- 1.8 In Swiss events, if the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, the modified Swiss format may be implemented (see Appendices). Alternatively, or in addition to, the TO may elect to combine fields in concurrently running events or to vary the published formats in any way to ensure the efficacy of the movement and the validity of the competitions.
- 1.9 Expressions used here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first to the ABF Tournament Regulations, thereafter to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2017, and finally to their ordinary English meaning. In the event of doubt or dispute, the decision of the CTD shall be final and conclusive.

2 Officials

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser is Laura Ginnan.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Laurie Kelso.
- 2.3 The Reviewers are Nick Hughes and Matthew McManus.
- 2.4 The Review Consultants are Jonathan Free, Shane Harrison and Jodi Tutty.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representatives are Warren Lazer and Liam Milne.
- 2.6 The Recorders are TBA.

3 Eligibility, Augmentation and Substitutions

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 All players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in events. This includes those events where players must be under the stated masterpoint range or age as of the dates specified. Masterpoints earned in another NCBO, irrespective of whether they have been transferred, shall be included for the purpose of determining a player's eligibility
- 3.3 Overseas players may enter events restricted by masterpoint holding however they must quote their local registration number and be eligible to play in equivalent events in their own country. Entry to any such event will only be granted after the applicant's eligibility has been verified. The TO's decision in respect to such eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.
- 3.4 Other eligibility conditions are set out in the document, 2025 SFOB Event Details.
- 3.5 With the consent of the CTD, a team may augment to a maximum of 6 players up until the end of the Augmentation Time. The Augmentation Time for an event expires at the commencement of Match $n/2 + 1$ (rounded down), where n is the number of matches to be played. Any player so added to the team must not have played previously in another team in the same event. No augmentation is permitted in the **WPO**, **SPO** or **NOT**.
- 3.6 The CTD may approve substitutions in any event. The maximum number of substitutions will be equal to one-half the number of matches, stanzas or sessions (fractions rounded down) in the stage of the event in which the substitution is requested. In addition, the CTD may allow emergency substitutions for substantial cause and may impose any conditions in doing so and may take whatever other action is considered necessary to keep the tournament in motion.
- 3.7 To ensure the smooth running of the tournament, the TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in any event. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players, but is at liberty to nominate others in case of necessity. The conditions under which the "house contestant/s" compete will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 Subject to 4.2 and 4.3, GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events.
- 4.2 RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions may not be played in the **NSP**, **RSP**, **NT**, **RT** and **300SP**. In these events, the CTD may also further restrict a pair from playing any method which the director judges may not be readily understood by a significant proportion of players in the field.
- 4.3 BROWN STICKER conventions may not be played in the **WPO** and **SPO**.
- 4.4 Eligible pairs may claim Protected Pair status in the **LMT**, **750MT**, **CDP**, **SP**, **750SP**, **300SP** and **500T**.
- 4.5 Provided 4.6 has been complied with, YELLOW systems will be allowed in the **SWPT** from Round 2 onwards, but may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up). In addition, YELLOW systems may be played in all matches of the **NOT**.

- 4.6 Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the TO with an adequately completed ABF system card and a bona fide defence before January 6, 2025.

5 Seating

- 5.1 In all matches or stanzas where YELLOW systems are permitted, teams registering one or more YELLOW systems for that event lose all seating rights in matches or stanzas against a team not employing a YELLOW system.
Exceptions:
i) matches and stanzas when both teams have registered one or more YELLOW systems;
ii) in all stanzas in the **NOT**.
- 5.2 Apart from in Knockout matches where 5.3 applies and subject to 5.1, YELLOW systems may be played only if the seating is posted within 10 minutes of the publication of the draw.
- 5.3 In Knockout matches, the team finishing higher in the qualifying stage chooses whether to sit first or last in the first stanza. Seating rights alternate in subsequent stanzas. The team sitting first must post their line-up on the designated line-up sheet at least 10 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play. Provided the team sitting first has satisfied the requirement of this provision, their opponents must post their line-up at least 5 minutes before the scheduled commencement of play.
- 5.4 In other cases, seating rights for each match will be determined by toss of a coin.

6 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

- 1.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 6.1 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 6.2 The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4) and mobile phones (1.5, 1.6, 1.7) is 3 VPs or 9 IMPs.

7 Session Timing, Correction Period and Time for requesting a Review

- 7.1 The time allowed per match, round or session will be announced by the CTD.
- 7.2 In Swiss Pairs and Teams events, the draw for subsequent matches will be made at the time listed below or at some other time as determined by the CTD, based on the results available at that time:
20 board matches – 160 minutes after the start time of the match
14 board matches – 105 minutes after the start time of the match
9 board matches – 66 minutes after the start time of the match
8 board matches – 60 minutes after the start time of the match
- 7.3 The Correction Period (Law 79C) in Swiss Pairs and Teams events expires at the starting time of the next but one match or stanza. For the penultimate and final matches or stanzas in a stage it expires 30 minutes after the scores for the final match or stanza are made available for inspection. In Pairs events, the Correction Period for all sessions expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.

- 7.4 The Time for requesting for a Review of a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for each match or stanza (Teams or Swiss Pairs) or session (Pairs) expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection, unless the next match, stanza or session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case it is extended to the expiration of the Time for requesting a Review for the next match, stanza or session.

8 Fouled and Unplayable Boards

- 8.1 In Teams events, the result of a fouled board is cancelled and a substitute board is played at both tables unless the result of the match is known or any of the players has left the table at the conclusion of that round. In these cases where a single board is cancelled, a score of 3 IMPs is assigned for both sides.
- 8.2 In IMP scored Swiss Pairs events, where a single board is fouled, the board is scored by:
(a) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (4-6 results) or four (more than 6 results) extreme scores, respectively; or
(b) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 2 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.
- 8.3 In matchpoint events, where a single board is fouled, the assigned matchpoint score is 60% of the available matchpoints on the board awarded to both sides.
- 8.4 In the case of multiple fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.
- 8.5 For boards on which a result is unable to be obtained and the Director awards an artificial adjusted score of average plus, the provisions of 8.1 to 8.4 will apply.
- 8.6 In the **NOT** and finals series matches of any teams event, a fouled board discovered after either table has finished play in a stanza will (with the exception of the final stanza of a match) be replaced by the play of an additional board in the following stanza.
- 8.7 In Swiss Pairs and Teams events, where due to the fouling of multiple boards, direct comparisons are available on less than one-half the boards in the match, the match will be scored in accordance with ABF TR 15.1 (Forfeits), treating both units as non-offenders.

9 Tie-breaking, carry-overs and scoring

- 9.1 Ties for qualification to the **WPO**, **SPO** or to the **NOT** will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.
- 9.2 In each quarter-final, semi-final or final match, the team placed higher in the Swiss qualifying will have a carry-over of 0.1 IMPs. For the determination of carry-overs, ties on VPs at the conclusion of the Swiss will be broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1.
- 9.3 Ties for first place will only be broken in the **OSP**, **750SP** and **300SP** in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1.
- 9.4 Unless otherwise noted, the net IMP result in all qualifying matches in Teams events will be converted to Victory Points (VP) using the continuous WBF VP Scale for the number of boards in play.

10 Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP)

- 10.1 To be eligible for PQP in the **SWPT**, a player must play in at least six matches.
- 10.2 To be eligible for PQP in the **NOT**, a player must have satisfied 10.1 and must play in at least two stanzas in any match played in the **NOT**.
- 10.3 To be eligible for PQP in the **MMSP**, a player must play in at least five matches.
- 10.4 Tied teams and pairs share the available points, rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded up).

Appendices

Penalties for Late Arrival, Slow Play, Failure to enter or check scores

The penalties for Late Arrival and Slow Play under ABF TR 10 are:

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

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 and a slow play warning has previously been issued to a pair or team, the following penalties may be applied at the director's discretion:

One board	1 VP
Subsequent boards	2 VPs

Should the players leave the table, when they have failed to enter one or more scores into the scoring unit or when an incorrect score has been entered and agreed, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

Events scored by Victory Points:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	1 VP per occasion

Events scored by Matchpoints:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	25% of a top

Tie-breaking in Swiss

Unless otherwise noted, significant ties in Swiss events are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot. (ABF TR 15.4.1)

Victory Point Scale for CDP and MMSP

Where x is the pair's average percentage for the round (rounded to 2 decimal places - 0.005 rounded up):

When x is less than or equal to 30.00:	VP = 0.00
When x is between 57.50 and 70.00:	VP = $(x-20)*2/5$
When x is between 42.50 and 57.50:	VP = $(x-35)*2/3$
When x is between 30.00 and 42.50:	VP = $(x-30)*2/5$
When x is greater than or equal to 70.00:	VP = 20.00

Masterpoint restricted events - New Zealand players' eligibility to play and for category prizes

To be eligible to play – or to receive a category prize in a multi-grade event – NZ registered players must satisfy the following criteria:

Life Master Teams: less than NZ Grand Master as at 30-9-24

<750: less than NZ National Master as at 30-9-24

<500: less than NZ Master as at 30-9-24

<300: less than NZ Provincial Master as at 30-9-24

<100/Novice: less than NZ Local Master as at 30-9-24

Rookie: less than NZ Certificate of Proficiency as at 30-9-24

Masterpoint restricted events - Grand Slam players' eligibility to play and for category prizes

To be eligible to play, Grand Slam players must state their rating when entering and must satisfy the following criteria at the time of entry:

<750: Grand Slam rating 59% and under

<500/<300/Non-Life Master: Grand Slam rating under 56%

<100/Novice: Grand Slam rating under 54%

Calculation of multiple Average Plus awards during a session or match

Where the Laws require the Director to award an artificial adjusted score of average plus on more than one board in a session or match (as in the case of fouled or otherwise unplayable boards), the score awarded per board shall be as listed in the table below.

In IMP scored events, the net IMPs in a match assigned due to these formulas will be rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 IMPs rounded up).

In matches with multiple fouled boards resulting in the number of direct comparisons available being fewer than one half the number of boards, the match will be scored as a forfeit treating both units as non-offending. Forfeited matches are scored as 13 VPs for each side (assuming a 20 point VP scale is being used). Further adjustments at the end of the event may be appropriate in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulation 15.

The following table lists the IMPs/percentage to be assigned for each successive board in the case of multiple average plus boards:

Number of fouled/unplayable bds	IMPs assigned (Teams)	IMPs assigned (Pairs)	Percentage assigned (matchpoints)
1	3	2	60.00
2	1	1	54.14
3	1	0	53.18
4	1	1	52.68
5	1	0	52.36
6	0	1	52.13
7	1	0	51.97
8	0	1	51.82
9	1	0	51.72
10	0	0	51.62

Modified Swiss format

In Swiss Pairs or Swiss Teams events where the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, a round-robin or modified Swiss format will be implemented.

If the numbers are appropriate, a full round robin movement will be implemented, with the possibility of a round or rounds to determine final placings.

Otherwise, a normal Swiss movement will be used up to and including Round $n/2 + 1$ (even number of rounds) or Round $(n+1)/2$ (odd number of rounds). In subsequent rounds, the Swiss movement continues with all scores retained, but a unit may play another unit which it previously played in the first "half" of the event.

2025 SFOB EVENT DETAILS

Note: In all relevant events, Masterpoint restrictions apply based on the masterpoint holding as of September 30, 2024.

National Women's Teams (WT) – Jan 7-9

Eligibility: all players must be female.

Format: determined when number of entries is known

Session start times: 9.45am, each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 9, 6.20pm

NZBridge Modified Datum Medal - highest score on modified datum by a pair that played all matches (substitutes not permitted).

National Seniors' Teams (ST) – Jan 7-9

Eligibility: all players must be born before January 1, 1961.

Format and session times: as for **WT**

NZBridge Modified Datum Medal - highest score on modified datum by a pair that played all matches (substitutes not permitted).

National Life Masters Teams (LMT) – Jan 7-9

Eligibility:

1) each player must be below the rank of Grand Master;

2) no player may have won more than one ABF event restricted to players with fewer than 1000 MPs, or higher

Format: single field Swiss, 9 x 20 board matches

Session start times: 9.45am, each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 9, 6.20pm

National 750 Masters Teams (750MT) – Jan 7-9

Eligibility: 1) each player must have fewer than 750MPs;

2) no player may have won more than one ABF event at Intermediate level or higher

Format and session times: as for **LMT**

Novice Swiss Pairs (NSP) – Jan 8-9;

Eligibility: 1) each player must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints;

2) neither player may have won more than one ABF event at Novice level or higher

Format: single field Matchpoint Swiss Pairs, 7 x 14 board matches, converted to Victory Points according to the formula in the Appendices.

Session start times: 9.45am, each day

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 9, 4.00pm

Rookie Swiss Pairs (RSP) – Jan 8-9;

Eligibility: each player must have fewer than 20 Masterpoints.

Format and session times: as for **NSP**

Chris Diment Pairs (CDP) – Jan 8-9

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Matchpoint Swiss Pairs, 8 x 14 board matches, converted to Victory Points according to the formula in the Appendices.

Session start times: 9.45am, both days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 9, 5.30pm

One Day Swiss Pairs (SP) – Jan 10

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss Pairs, 6 x 8 board matches

If fewer than 24 tables enter, the score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as the average of all scores after eliminating the highest and lowest $n/10$ scores, where n is the number of tables in play (rounded to the nearest whole number with 0.5 rounded up).

Otherwise, the score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as follows:

i) in Rounds 1 and 2, the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%

ii) in Rounds 3 and 4, the average of all scores obtained at the leading $n/2$ tables (rounded down) where n is the number of tables in play after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10% of the scores being included.

iii) in Rounds 5 and 6, the average of all scores obtained at the leading 12 tables after eliminating the top and bottom score.

Net IMPs are converted to VPs using the ABF Swiss Pairs scale for 8 boards.

Session start time: 9.45am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 10, 5.00pm

One Day Novice Teams (NT) – Jan 10

Eligibility: 1) each player must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints.

2) no player may have won more than one ABF event at Novice level or higher

Format: single field Swiss, 6 x 8 board matches

Session start time: 9.45am

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 10, 5.00pm

One Day Rookie Teams (RT) – Jan 10

Eligibility: each player must have fewer than 20 Masterpoints

Format and session times: as for **NT**

Women's Team Playoff (WPO) – Jan 10-12

- see separate Supplementary Regulations

Seniors' Team Playoff (SPO) – Jan 10-12

- see separate Supplementary Regulations

TBIB Open Swiss Pairs (OSP) – Jan 11-12

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss Pairs, 11 x 9 board matches

The score on each board is compared with a datum calculated as follows:

- i) in Rounds 1-3, the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%
- ii) in Rounds 4-7, the average of all scores obtained at the leading $n/2$ tables (rounded down) where n is the number of tables in play after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10% of the scores being included.
- iii) in Rounds 8-11, the average of all scores obtained at the leading 12 tables after eliminating the top and bottom score.

Net IMPs are converted to VPs using the ABF Swiss Pairs scale.

Subject to sufficient space being available, losing semi-finalists from the **WPO** and **SPO** may join the event after Match 4, subject to the following conditions:

- i) Players so joining the event may only enter with another player who was a losing semi-finalist in either the **WPO** or **SPO** or if the pair had submitted and paid for an entry prior to the commencement of the **OSP**;
- ii) Pairs must pay the full entry fee for the event;
- iii) The drop-in score for these pairs will be the average score of the top 10% of the field after Match 4. In the event of a tie for first, the drop-in score for these pairs will be reduced by 0.1 VPs before applying the tie-break procedures.
- iv) Only an even number of pairs will be accepted. Entries will be ordered according to when the entry is made and paid for.
- v) Drop-in pairs will be randomly matched against one another in Match 5.

PQP: 1st: 24, 2nd: 16, 3rd: 12, 4th: 8

Session start times: 9.45am and 2.15pm, both days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 12, 4.45pm

750/500 Swiss Pairs (750SP) – Jan 11-12

Eligibility: 1) both players must have fewer than 750 MPs;

2) neither player may have won more than one ABF event at Intermediate level or higher.

- To be eligible for 500MP category prizes:

1) both players must have fewer than 500 MPs;

2) neither player may have won more than one ABF event restricted to players with fewer than 500 MPs, or higher.

Format: as for **OSP** (except that if there are fewer than 24 tables, the datum on each board in all rounds will be calculated as the average of all scores after eliminating the top 10% and bottom 10%.)

Session start and finishing times: as for **OSP**

300/100 Swiss Pairs (300SP) – Jan 11-12

Eligibility: 1) both players must have fewer than 300 MPs;

2) neither player may have won more than one ABF event at Restricted level or higher.

- To be eligible for 100MP category prizes:

1) both players must have fewer than 100 MPs.

2) neither player may have won more than one ABF event at Novice level or higher.

Format: as for **750SP**

Session start and finishing times: as for **750SP**

South West Pacific Teams (SWPT) – Jan 13-16

Eligibility: open

Format: single field Swiss, 12 x 20 board matches

Session start times: 9:45am, 1.00pm and 3.50pm

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 16, 6.20pm

PQP: 1st: 36, 2nd: 18, 3rd: 9

Categories: Note: Category prizes are awarded to teams that do not qualify to the **NOT**. A team which finishes in the top eight positions but chooses not to contest the **NOT** is not eligible for a category prize. Prize will only be awarded if there are at least 3 entries received in a category.

Women's – all member of the team must be female

Mixed – the team must contain one player of each gender playing in both partnerships in every match

Seniors – all members of the team must be born before January 1, 1961

Veterans – all members of the team must be born before January 15, 1952

Country – all members of the team must be Australian residents who do not reside in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney

Youth – all members of the team must be born on or after January 1, 2000

Novice – all members of the team must have fewer than 100 MPs and have not won more than one ABF event at Novice level or higher

ACT (Lew Thomson Trophy) – all members of the team must play regularly in the ACT. Eligibility for this category is at the discretion of the TO.

Zone 7 (New Zealand High Commissioner's Trophy) – all members of the team must be eligible to represent a Zone 7 NCBO other than Australia

NZBridge Modified Datum Medal - highest score on modified datum by a pair which played all 12 matches (substitutes not permitted).

* Teams must nominate a single category they wish to contend for prior to the nomination closing time as advised by the TO at the start of the event.

Under 500/300 MPs Teams (500T) – Jan 13-15

Eligibility: 1) each player must have fewer than 500 MPs.

2) no player may have won more than one ABF event restricted to players with fewer than 500 MPs, or higher

- To be eligible for 300MP category prizes:

1) each players must have fewer than 300 MPs;

2) no player may have won more than one ABF event at Restricted level or higher.

Format: single field Swiss, 7 x 16 board matches

Session start times: 9.45am, 1.00pm and 3.50pm

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 15 6.20pm

Categories: Note: Category prizes are awarded to teams that do not qualify to the Finals. A team which finishes in a position to qualify to the final, but elects not to play is not eligible for a category prize. Prize will only be awarded if there are at least 3 entries received in a category.

Women's – all member of the team must be female

Seniors – all members of the team must be born before January 1, 1961

Country – all members of the team must be Australian residents who do not reside in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney (at least 2 entries required for the prize to be awarded)

* Teams must nominate a single category they wish to contend for prior to the nomination closing time as advised by the TO at the start of the event.

National Open Teams (NOT) – Jan 17-19

Eligibility: The 8 highest ranked teams from the **SWPT** that warrant their availability for all sessions of the **NOT**. To be eligible to play in any stanza of the **NOT**, a player must have played in at least three matches in the **SWPT**.

Format: quarter-finals, semi-finals and final of 64 board matches, played in 4 stanzas of 16 boards

** Draw for quarter-finals (determined by choice at captains' meeting to be held at approximately 7.00pm, on January 16):

- Qualifiers are ranked by placing in **SWPT** (ties broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1)
- Teams choose in order from the remaining teams, with the proviso that teams ranked 2 to 4 may elect not to be chosen at any time during the choosing process

** Draw for semi-finals (determined immediately the result of all quarter-finals are finalised):

- Qualifiers are ranked by placing in **SWPT** (ties broken in accordance with ABF TR 15.4.1)
- Team 1 chooses opponent, with the proviso that Team 2 may elect not to be chosen

Session start times: 9.00am, all days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 19, 6.30pm

PQP: 1st: 72, 2nd: 36, 3rd: 22, 4th: 14, 5th: 12, 6th: 10, 7th: 8, 8th: 6.

Mixed Matchpoint Pairs (MMSP) – Jan 17-19

Eligibility: each pair must comprise one female and one male player.

Format: single field Matchpoint Swiss Pairs, 8 x 14 board matches, converted to Victory Points according to the formula in the Appendices.

Drop-in Pairs:

Mixed Pairs from losing quarter-finalists from the NOT may join the event after Day 1 provided:

- i) they had submitted and paid for an entry prior to the commencement of the MMSP;
- ii) they must have played in the same partnership for at least two stanzas of the NOT quarter-final;
- iii) they must have advised the TO of their intention to take up their position prior to 7.00pm on January 17. Entries will be accepted in the order in which the TO is advised of the intention to take up their position. Only an even number of pairs will be accepted.

Drop-in pairs will be randomly drawn to play against each other in Round 3 with a carry-over score equivalent to the average of the scores of the top 10 pairs at the end of Round 2.

PQP: 1st: 20, 2nd: 14, 3rd: 10, 4th: 6, 5th: 4, 6th: 2

Session start times: 2.15 pm, Jan 17, 9.45am, other days

Anticipated finishing time: Jan 19, 1.30pm