

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

1	General	1
2	Officials.....	2
3	Eligibility and Substitutions	2
4	Systems	3
5	Seating.....	3
6	Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties	3
7	Correction Period and Time of Appeal.....	3
8	Fouled and Unplayable Boards	4
9	Event Formats	4
10	Qualification	7
	Appendices.....	8
	Penalties for Late Arrival, Slow Play, Failure to enter or check scores	8
	Tie-breaking	8
	Forfeits in IMP-scored events	8
	Australian Junior Team Selection Qualifying: Modified Datums	9
	Calculation of multiple Average Plus awards during a session or match	9

1 General

- 1.1 The Australian Youth Championships (AYC) comprise:
 - Australian Youth Pairs (AYP) – January 10-11;
 - Australian Youth Teams (AYT) – January 12-13;
 - Australian Junior Team Selection (AJTS) Phase 1 – January 14-16;
 - Australian Junior Team Selection (AJTS) Phase 2A – January 17;
 - Australian Junior Team Selection (AJTS) Phase 2B – January 18;
 - Supplementary competitions – January 14-15.

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.
- 1.2 The venue is Canberra Accommodation Centre, 210 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon, ACT, 2612.
- 1.3 Players must use the methods and equipment in the manner specified by the 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.
- 1.4 Smoking and drinking of alcoholic beverages will not be permitted in the playing area. The playing area is defined to also include any area set aside for score-up and/or the display of results. Contravention of this regulation may result in disciplinary score penalties and possible exclusion from the Championships.
- 1.5 Mobile telephones, iPads, iPods and other electronic communication equipment must be on silent or switched off during session time. After one warning, breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (6.2).

- 1.6 Mobile telephones, iPads and other electronic communication equipment may not be consulted or used during the session, unless a specific exception is permitted by the CTD. Breach of this regulation incurs an automatic disciplinary penalty 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 ABF Youth Committee and those appointed to conduct the AYC reserve the right to regulate player behaviour and attire both in and around the playing rooms during the ABF Youth Week. This regulation applies both to sessions of play and periods between sessions. All participants are expected to treat others with courtesy appropriate to ABF tournaments.
- 1.8 The organisers will have the right to sanction players who abuse alcohol or other intoxicating drugs. This includes but is not limited to:
- players who present to playing sessions in an evident state of intoxication,
 - players who present offensive behaviour as a result of being intoxicated in or around the playing area between sessions,
 - players under 18 who consume alcohol or other intoxicants,
 - any players who consume alcohol or other intoxicants in the playing area,
 - players who provide alcohol to players under 18.
- Sanctions for breaches of this code can include (but are not restricted to):
- removal from the session of play in question,
 - suspension for one or more sessions of play,
 - longer term suspension from Youth or other ABF events.
- 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 Jeremy Reid.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Directors are Daryl Whitfield (Jan 10-16) and Sebastian Yuen (Jan 17-18).
- 2.3 The Reviewer is Matthew McManus.
- 2.4 The ABF on-site representative is TBA.
- 2.5 The Recorder is TBA.

3 Eligibility 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 Players in the AYP Final and AYT must have been born on or after 01/01/1995.
- 3.3 To be eligible for the AJTS, a player must be eligible to represent Australia in international competition and have been born on or after 01/01/2001.

- 3.4 In the AYT, a maximum of 4 substitutes will be permitted and each team must play as a unit for at least 66% of the rounds to be played (fractions rounded down).
- 3.5 In the AJTS Phase 1, a maximum of 3 substitutes will be permitted and each pair must play as a partnership in at least 75% of the rounds to be played (fractions rounded down).
- 3.6 No substitutes will be permitted in the Final of the AYP or in AJTS Phase 2.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 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

- 4.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems are permitted without restriction.
- 4.2 BROWN STICKER conventions are only permitted in the AYP, AYT and AJTS. Eligible pairs may claim “protected pair” status

5 Seating

- 5.1 Seating rights for each match will be determined by toss of a coin.

6 Disciplinary and Procedural 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) is 3 VPs (IMP-scored events) or 25% of the value of a top (matchpoint events).

7 Correction Period and Time of Appeal

- 7.1 The period for correction of scores under Law 78C shall expire at the start of the first session on the following day of the AYC, with the following exceptions. The period for correction of scores for the current session and all prior sessions of the corresponding event shall expire 30 minutes after the posting of the scores for the session in the following instances:
 - a) qualifying session 2 of the AYP
 - b) the final session of the AYT (for corrections in the AYT affecting qualification to the AJTS);
 - c) the final match of each day in AJTS.
- 7.2 The Time for lodging an Appeal against a Director’s Ruling (Law 92B) for each match expires 30 minutes after the score is made available for inspection.

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 pairs events, where a single board is fouled, the assigned IMP score is 2 IMPs for both sides.
- 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 8.2 to 8.5 will apply.
- 8.6 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 Event Formats

9.1 Australian Youth Pairs

- 9.1.1 Qualifying – 2 sessions of matchpoint pairs in a format decided by the CTD depending on entries.
- 9.1.2 Final - The Final over two sessions will consist of either 6 tables playing 5 boards against all other pairs or either 5 tables playing 6 boards against all other pairs.
- 9.1.3 Consolation - The Consolation will be played in parallel with the Final in a format decided by the CTD.
- 9.1.4 Should a pair be unavailable to compete in the final for whatever reason, that pair shall be replaced by the next placed pair in the same field.
- 9.1.5 There will be a carryover to the Final only, based on the total matchpoint score obtained in the qualifying, according to the following formula:

$C = (M * fp * ft) / (2 * qp * qt)$, – rounded to the nearest 0.1 MPs, where:

C = the pair's carryover score to the final in matchpoints

M = the pairs' total MP score in the qualifying

fp = the number of pairs in the final

ft = the value of a top in matchpoints in the final

qp = the number of pairs in the qualifying

qt = the value of a top in matchpoints in the qualifying

9.2 Australian Youth Teams

9.2.1 The format will be a complete round-robin, with a bye if necessary. The IMP result in each match will be converted to Victory Points, using the appropriate WBF Victory Point scale.

9.2.2 Teams with a bye will receive 10 VPs for that round.

9.3 Australian Junior Squad Selection - Qualification

9.3.1 Prior to the final session of the AYT, pairs eligible for the AJTS will be required to indicate whether they are contending. Pairs who indicate their intention to be contending are committed to participate in the AJTS should they so qualify. Qualifiers will be determined on the basis of results from the AYT.

9.3.2 The number of pairs eligible to play in the AJTS will be an even number to a maximum of 10. Ranking will be determined on the basis of Butler Datum results from the AYT, modified to take into account variations in standards of opponents. The formula to be used to calculate the Modified Datums is described in the appendices. To be eligible, both members of the partnership must satisfy the qualification eligibility requirements and the pair must have played as a partnership in at least 75% of matches in the AYT (fractions rounded down).

9.3.3 Ties for qualifying positions will be broken by successively deleting the result obtained against each of the tying pairs' lowest-placed opponents.

9.3.4 In the event of a qualifying pair being unavailable or withdrawing prior to the AJTS, they will be replaced by the next highest placed pair, based on the modified Butler results. Should no such pair be available, the TO may choose to fill the vacancy as they see fit.

9.3.5 Should fewer than 10 pairs declare themselves contending for the AJTS under 9.3.1, the TO may accept entries from eligible pairs who did not compete as a partnership in the AYT. The number of entries thus accepted is limited to the extent that the final number of entrants to the AJTS must be an even number not more than 10. In the event that the number of pairs exceeds the requirements to fulfill this clause, the pair(s) whose entry will be accepted will be determined by lot.

9.4 Australian Junior Squad Selection (AJTS) Phase 1

- 9.4.1 Format – If sufficient eligible entrants are available, then the 10 qualifying pairs will play a double round-robin of 9 board matches. Where possible, teammates from the AYT will be drawn to play each other in the first match of any round-robin. If fewer pairs are available, the format and scoring method will be determined at the discretion of the CTD.
- 9.4.2 Scoring – Each pair's score on a board is IMP'ed against the results at each of the other tables. The net IMP score on each board will be the sum of all of the pair's IMP scores divided by one less than the number of scores.
- 9.4.3 Victory Points – The net IMPs for each match rounded to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded up) will be converted to Victory Points using the 9 board ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.4.4 Tie-breaks – Ties shall be broken according to (in order):
 - i) number of wins (10 VPs = half-win);
 - ii) total net IMPs;
 - iii) total score (in IMPs) of the head-to-head match;
 - iv) recalculating totals by successively deleting each tying pair's worst result(s);
 - v) lot.
- 9.4.5 At the conclusion of AJTS Phase 1, the highest ranked pair will qualify to the Australian Junior Team. The next four placed pairs will qualify to AJTS Phase 2A.

9.5 Australian Junior Squad Selection (AJTS) Phase 2A

- 9.5.1 Format – The four pairs will play a single round-robin of 16 board matches.
- 9.5.2 Carry-over – the pairs placed second and third in AJTS Phase 1 shall have a carry over 4 VPs and 2 VPs respectively
- 9.5.3 Scoring – Each pair's score on a board is IMP'ed against the results at a pre-determined datum.
- 9.5.4 Victory Points – The net IMPs for each match will be converted to Victory Points using the 14 board ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.5.5 Tie-breaks – Ties shall be broken on the basis of finishing position in AJTS Phase 1.
- 9.5.6 At the conclusion of AJTS Phase 2A, the highest ranked pair will qualify to the Australian Junior Team. The next two placed pairs will qualify to AJTS Phase 2B.

9.6 Australian Junior Squad Selection (AJTS) Phase 2B

- 9.6.1 Format – The two pairs will play a match of three 16 board stanzas.
- 9.6.2 Carry-over – the pair placed second in AJTS Phase 2A shall have a carry over of 3 VPs.
- 9.6.3 Scoring – Each pair's score on a board is IMP'ed against the results at a pre-determined datum.
- 9.6.4 Victory Points – The net IMPs for each stanza will be converted to Victory Points using the 14 board ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.6.5 Tie-breaks – Ties shall be broken on the basis of finishing position in AJTS Phase 2A.
- 9.6.6 At the conclusion of AJTS Phase 2B the higher ranked pair will qualify to the Australian Junior Team.

9.7 Supplementary Competitions

- 9.7.1 The format and nature of all supplementary events will be determined when the number of entries is known.

10 Qualification

- 10.1 The pair finishing first in Phase 1 plus the two pairs qualifying from Phase 2 will, subject to ratification by the ABF, form the Australian Junior (Under 26) Team for 2026.
- 10.2 Should a pair be or become unavailable to play in the Australian Junior Team in any particular designated event, the pair will be replaced by the next highest placed pair based on the results of the National Youth Selection Phase 2. If necessary and subject to the discretion of the ABF Youth Committee, further replacements will be sought based on the lower rankings in Phase 1.
- 10.3 At the time of publication of these regulations, the target event is yet to be determined.
- 10.4 In order to accept a place in the team, both members of the partnership must declare their availability to play in the Designated Target Event and acceptance of the various regulations as listed in 10.5.
- 10.5 ABF International Representative Players' Charter
http://www.abf.com.au/about/docs/Representative_Bridge_Players_Charter.pdf

WBF Eligibility Regulations

<http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/competitions/eligibility-regulations/>

WBF Anti-Doping Regulations

<http://www.worldbridge.org/rules-regulations/anti-doping-regulations/>

WBF Dress Code

<http://db.worldbridge.org/Data/Sites/1/media/documents/official-documents/Policies/WBFDressCode.pdf>

WBF Disciplinary Code <http://db.worldbridge.org/Data/Sites/1/media/documents/official-documents/Policies/WBFDisciplinaryCode.pdf>

WBF Anti-Betting Regulations <http://db.worldbridge.org/Data/Sites/1/media/documents/official-documents/Policies/WBFAntiBettingRegulations.pdf>

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
-----------	------	-------------------	-------

When players fail to enter scores into the scoring unit before leaving the table, or where an incorrect score has been entered and agreed, the following penalties may be applied to both pairs:

First offence	warning
Subsequent offences	1 VP per occasion

Tie-breaking

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

Forfeits in IMP-scored events

In the case of a forfeit in the AYT, the offenders will be given a score of 0 VP.

The non-offending team's score will be adjusted, at the end of the event, to the highest of:

- 13 VPs,
- the mean VP score of the non-offending team for its completed matches, and
- the mean VP score of the opponents of the offending team in completed matches (not including forfeited matches of the offending team).

In the case of a forfeit in the AJTS, the offenders will be given a score of 0 VP.

The non-offending pair's score will be adjusted, at the end of the event, to the highest of:

- 13 VPs,
- the score of the non-offending pair in its other match against the offending pair,
- the mean VP score of the non-offending pair for its completed matches, and
- the mean VP score of the opponents of the offending pair in completed matches (not including forfeited matches of the offending pair).

Australian Junior Team Selection Qualifying: Modified Datums

For the AYT, the datum score on each board will be calculated by averaging the scores obtained after deleting the two extremes. Each pair's score will be compared to this score to obtain their net IMPs on the board. At the end of the match, the net IMPs for each pair will be totalled. The "Match Datum" will be calculated as the positive net IMPs to a maximum of +50, plus one-tenth of any IMPs in excess of 50, or, in the case of the "losing" pair, the negative net IMPs to a minimum of -50, minus one tenth of any IMPs in excess of 50.

In determining the Modified Datums, the following will be calculated for each

pair: CD_n = the Modified Datum of Pair n

MD_n = the total of all Match Datums of Pair n

AD_n = the average Match Datum of Pair n (equal to MD_n divided by the number of matches played by Pair n)

$$CD_n = MD_n + (AD_a/2 + AD_b/2 + \dots + AD_z/2)$$

where AD_a , AD_b , ... are the average Match Datums of Pair n's opponents

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 to be awarded for each successive board shall be:

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

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.

<https://abfevents.com.au/events/tournregs/ABFTournamentRegs2024.pdf>