

**GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS - 2015**  
**NSW REGIONAL CLUB QUALIFYING EVENT**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

**1. The Event**

- 1.1 This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, supplemented by the Tournament Regulations of the NSWBA as they stand at the time an issue arises. Clubs are to write their own set of regulations relating to conduct of the event, substitutions and qualification, but no such regulation may conflict with any subsequent regulations marked below with an asterisk (\*). In the case of conflict, these Supplementary Regulations will apply. A default set of regulations is available from the NSWBA website for clubs that wish to use them.
- 1.2\* Each club is invited to hold one or two events to qualify teams to a Regional Final.
- 1.3 If a club holds two CQEs, they must essentially cater for different clientele (*e.g.* one could be held in the evening and the other during the day or on a weekend).
- 1.4\* Clubs may run any type of IMP based teams or pairs competition, including but not limited to Swiss, Round Robin, Knock-out with Swiss repechage and Butler Pairs.
- 1.5\* The minimum number of sessions allowed is two (2) and the maximum number of sessions is five (5).
- 1.6\* Directors need only be qualified at the club level.
- 1.7\* No yellow systems are permitted. Clubs may set further system restrictions.
- 1.8\* The number of teams to qualify to the Regional Final for each club qualifying event is calculated as follows from the number of tables in play in the qualifying event. A maximum of half (fractions rounded up) may qualify and a minimum of one fifth (fractions rounded down) must qualify. For 5 tables or fewer, 1 team must qualify.

**2. Eligibility to Club Qualifying Events**

- 2.1\* No entry restrictions based on age, sex, masterpoint ranking, *etc.* are permitted.
- 2.2 The NSWBA imposes no eligibility restrictions on competitors in the club's qualifying competitions, but clubs may require all competitors to be club members.
- 2.3 Clubs and local organisers should be aware of the restrictions on players participating in the Regional Final. (See Section 3 below.)
- 2.4\* Players may enter in as many different club qualifying competitions as they like, provided they pay the specified table monies and/or tournament entry fees of the club and satisfy any other requirement the club imposes.

**3. Composition of Teams Proceeding to and Participating in the Regional Final**

- 3.1\* Teams submitted by clubs must consist of 4, 5 or 6 players.
- 3.2\* All team members must be active player members of the ABF Masterpoint Scheme.
- 3.3\* Each player must be a member of an affiliated bridge club within the region.
- 3.4\* Players must be *bona fide* residents of the region or a neighbouring NSW country GNOT region.
- 3.5 If running a teams based CQE, any team finishing in the top half of the field is eligible to proceed to the Regional Final.
- 3.6 If running a Butler Pairs based CQE, pairs finishing in the top half of the field should form teams with each other. If this results in fewer teams than required, the pairs finishing in the bottom half of the field may be asked to form teams, but all teams proceeding to the Regional Final must contain a minimum of 50% of pairs that finished in the top half of the field.
- 3.7 If a club's designated representative team becomes unavailable, the club's Executive Committee may take any action necessary to find a replacement team. The NSWBA does not require players proceeding to the Regional Final to have played in the qualifying competition, but clubs may impose such restrictions.
- 3.8\* There is no minimum board requirement for competitors in the Regional Final.
- 3.9 Clubs not running a qualifying competition may nominate one team per 50 home club members or part thereof with a limit of three teams. All players in a nominated team must be members of the nominating club. The cost is \$240 per nominated team.
- 3.10 Players who have entered a CQE and failed to qualify may form teams and enter the Regional Final directly. Such entries must specify all team members and the club(s) at which they participated in a CQE and are to be lodged with the Regional Organiser. The cost for a direct entry is \$240 per team.

**4. Regional Finals**

- 4.1 The NSWBA will charge an entry fee per team that enters the Regional Final. This will cover the cost of running the event and the entry fees for the teams that qualify to the National Final.
- 4.2 Directors at the Regional Final must be non-playing and qualified at championship level (C2) or above.
- 4.3 The number of teams that will qualify to the National Final is set for each Region and is indicated on the list of Clubs and Regions available from the website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2015/gnot/regions.htm>. Depending on the level of support for the event and ABF policy, this number may change from year to year.

- 4.4 In the event that only one club in the region is willing to conduct a qualifying heat and no other clubs have nominated a team to proceed to a Regional Final then, subject to agreement by the Regional Organiser, that club's CQE may be redesignated as the Regional Final. Note that National Final entry fees will still be due and arrangements will need to be made to ensure these can be paid.

#### 5. Fees

- 5.1\* Each club will pay an entry fee of \$10 per table competing in the event, plus \$200 per team entered into the Regional Final. In addition, the ABF masterpoint centre will invoice the club for \$1.20 per gold masterpoint awarded. All quoted charges include GST. Clubs should be aware of these fees when setting tournament entry fees and table monies for their qualifying events.
- 5.2 Clubs are entitled to levy an additional charge for teams which qualify to the Regional Final, but any such charge should be clearly advertised before the commencement of the CQE.
- 5.3\* The NSWBA will pay all fees and expenses (including directing and masterpoint costs) associated with the Regional Final. The NSWBA will pay the entry fees to the ABF for the National Final to be held in Tweed Heads from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

#### 6. Masterpointing

- 6.1\* Gold masterpoints will be available to the winners<sup>1</sup> of every match at the rate of 0.04 masterpoints per player per board per match. In the case of 5 or 6 person teams, the masterpoint awards per member will be 4/5 and 2/3 respectively unless the exact team composition is supplied for every match played.  
<sup>1</sup> To qualify as winners for the purpose of masterpoint awards, the leading team must win by a margin greater than 0.2 IMP per board over the match. Note especially that for 10 board matches a final IMP difference of 2 IMPs counts as a draw.
- 6.2\* Gold masterpoints will only be awarded for a club qualifying tournament if the specified number of teams (#1.8) proceed to the Regional Final.
- 6.3 Clubs will be billed directly by the ABF Masterpoint Centre for CQEs.

#### 7. Administration

- 7.1 The State GNOT Convener (on behalf of the NSWBA) is Michael Wilkinson.
- 7.2 Each region has a Regional Organiser responsible for the GNOT in that region.
- 7.3 In the first instance clubs should contact their Regional Organiser with any problems. If there are problems that remain unresolved they can contact the State GNOT Convener by email ([gnot@nswba.com.au](mailto:gnot@nswba.com.au))
- 7.4 All documentation, including cheques, must be clearly identified with the club's name and number.
- 7.5 Club Qualifying Events: A form to assist clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2015/gnot/regions.htm>. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list. If running two separate CQEs use the separate worksheets in this file. The club needs to send the following to the Regional Organiser by email:
- The completed coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above) as an Excel file;
  - A complete list of members and their ABF numbers of teams proceeding to the Regional Final;
  - A cheque for the amount calculated in the coversheet above which covers entry fees to the Regional Final and original club GNOT entry fees. The latter will be passed onto the ABF.
- DO NOT send any documents, files or cheques to the NSWBA or ABF.**
- 7.6 Clubs should send the following information directly to the State Masterpoint Secretary ([masterpoints@nswba.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@nswba.com.au));
- A complete copy of the outright results including details of the format as a pdf, html or txt file;
  - The masterpoint file as a .gld file;
- 7.7 Regional Finals: A form to assist hosting clubs is available for download from the NSWBA website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2015/gnot/regions.htm>. This is to be completed and used as a cover sheet and check list. The hosting club needs to send the following to the Regional Organiser:
- The completed coversheet available from the NSWBA website (see above) as an Excel file;
  - A complete copy of the outright results as a pdf, html or txt file;
  - The masterpoint file as a .gld file;
  - All monies (cheques made payable to the NSWBA) from clubs conducting CQEs and from teams entering the Regional Final directly under #3.9 for the amount calculated in the coversheet above.
- 7.8 The Regional Organiser needs to send the following to the State GNOT Convener:
- All monies (cheques made payable to the NSWBA) from clubs conducting CQEs and from teams entering the Regional Final directly under #3.10 for the amount calculated in the coversheet above.
  - The completed Excel file available for download from the NSWBA website <http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/2015/gnot/regions.htm>.
  - All relevant tax invoices and receipts so that the NSWBA can reclaim the GST.