

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

## AND

# AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

## SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2008

30 June, 2008

### 1 Introduction:

The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated (ABF) in cooperation with the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) conducts the Australian National Championships (ANC) and Australian Butler Pairs Championships (ABPC) in accordance with ABF Tournament Regulations and Appeals Rules as applicable and as modified by these Supplementary Regulations.

1.1 The venue is the Holiday Inn, 22 View Avenue, Surfers Paradise.

1.2 The Tournament Organiser is Jim Millar.

The Chief Tournament Director (CTD) is Sean Mullamphy.

The Appeals Committee Chairman is Eric Ramshaw.

The Appeals Advisor is Neville Francis.

The Tournament Committee Chairman is Martin Wilcox.

The ABF Tournament Unit Representative is Eric Ramshaw.

The ABF Recorder is Keith McDonald.

1.3 The Chairman appoints the Appeal or Tournament Committee members and is the sole judge of their quorum. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Appeals Committee, the Tournament Organiser acts as convener of the Appeals Committee.

1.4 The ABF Tournament Unit Representative has absolute discretion to enforce Regulations #3, 4 & #10.6 hereof and his/her decision is final and not subject to appeal.

1.5 Smoking is not permitted in areas defined by the Convener as the playing area and the scoreboard area and any other designated area.

1.6 Mobile telephones, pagers or 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 (#5.4).

1.7 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during the session times of the ABPC Stage III/B, ANC Pairs and ANC Teams. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (#5.4).

### 2. Eligibility:

2.1 Youth players, as defined in #2.4, 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.

2.2 Unless dispensation is granted by the ABF (which may be retrospective), no Open, Women or Senior player shall represent a State at an ANC who has not been:

(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.

2.3 When #2.1 or #2.2 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 s/he first entered a selection tournament for that event.

2.4 To be eligible for the ANC restricted events:

- **Youth** players must be born on or after 1-1-82, except as authorised by the Youth Committee
- **Senior** players must be born before 1-1-51
- **MP for restricted events:** The MP rankings published at 30-6-08 apply

2.5 No substitutes are permitted in the ANC events, provided that the CTD is empowered to authorise emergency substitutions under such condition as s/he decides. Substitutes are allowed in the ABPC subject to ABF tournament regulations and #18.

2.6 At the time of commencement of Stage II of the ABPC, each entrant who is an Australian resident must be an eligible player.

2.7 The Tournament Organiser may nominate a "house contestant" for any purpose consistent with the movement. The Tournament Organiser makes every effort to nominate eligible players from a small group but, at the discretion of the Tournament Committee, a "house contestant" may consist of any number of players including ineligible players.

2.8 At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, a "house contestant" is eligible to place and scores its actual VP & IMP or is ineligible to place with its score limited to the equivalent of a maximum of 15 and a minimum of 11 VP on a WBF scale. The IMP is the minimum of the allocated range. Its opponents receive their actual VP and IMP. Masterpoints for "house contestant" matches are awarded according to actual VP.

### 3. Systems and Defences:

3.1 Pairs must classify their system(s) as GREEN, BLUE, RED, BROWN Sticker or YELLOW using the ABF System Regulations as modified at June 2008. Pairs in any doubt about the classification of their system should submit a concise summary to the ANC Tournament Organiser.

3.2 In the event of a dispute during the Tournament concerning the classification of a convention or system the decision of the ABF Tournament Unit Representative is final.

3.3 GREEN, BLUE, RED and BROWN Sticker systems are permitted in all events. YELLOW systems are permitted only in the ANC Teams and ABPC Stages II & III.

3.4 During the auction, pairs may use notes of their defence or "defence against the defence" for YELLOW systems or BROWN STICKER conventions provided that they comply with regulations #4.4, 4.5 & 10.6.2. During the play a player's notes may be used only to answer a question from the opponents. (No player may refer to the written bidding after the conclusion of the first trick).

### 4. Notification and Disclosure of Systems and Defences.

4.1 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 Chairman of the ABF Tournament Unit or CTD **AT THE LATEST** by 6.30pm on Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2008. 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.

4.2 For the ANC Teams complete systems (except those in #4.3) must be received earlier than four weeks prior to the commencement of the ANC - 4.00pm Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2008. 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.

4.3 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 Chairman of the ABF Tournament Unit before the Captains' meeting. Two copies must be distributed at the captains meeting to each captain whose team includes a pair playing a YELLOW system.

4.4 Defence or "defence against the defence" notes, printed, typed or written in black ink on one side of an A4 sheet, must be: lodged with and approved by the CTD 15 minutes before the scheduled session time; identical for each player; available to the opponents during the auction and play.

4.5 For defence against a YELLOW system, pairs using GREEN, BLUE, RED systems or BROWN Sticker conventions may change any facet of their system but pairs using a YELLOW system may not change their opening calls. For "defence against the defence" pairs may not change any of the highly artificial aspects of their YELLOW system.

## 5. Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties:

5.1 The general provisions of ABF Tournament Regulation #10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply except as modified by #5.2 & 3 below. In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking but the draw is determined by scores excluding penalties.

5.2 Players must be seated 5 minutes before the scheduled start of play. For contestants not seated and ready to play at the scheduled starting time procedural penalties are:

1 <sup>st</sup> offence, 0-5 min	Warning	10+-15 min late	2 VP
Subsequent, 0-5 min late	1 VP	15+-20 min late	3 VP
5+-10 min late	1 VP	20+ 30 min late	5 VP

For arrival later than 30 minutes the CTD assesses a more severe penalty including forfeit or disqualification.

5.3 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 IMP. The procedural penalty for slow play that results in removal of boards, applied after one warning, is 1 VP for the first board plus 2 VP for each additional board. After considering any monitor's reports and his own observations, the Director may apply slow play penalties according to the table in #5.2 whenever play is not completed at the expiry of the session time.

5.4 The disciplinary penalty for breach of #1.6 (mobile phones etc.) or #1.7 (consumption of alcohol) is 3 VP (ABPC), 9 IMP (ANC Teams) or 30% of the MP top on a board (pairs).

## 6. Correction Period and Time of Appeal:

6.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) and Time of Appeal (Law 92B) for each session expire 30 minutes after the score is available for inspection unless the next round/stanza/session is scheduled to commence within that period. In that case they are extended to the expiration of the correction period and time of appeal for that next round/stanza/session.

6.2 All appeals or protests concerning the ANC events shall be lodged in person and in writing using the Appeal Form available from the Tournament Director.

## 7. Spectators:

7.1 Subject to availability of space, spectators are permitted in Open, but not Closed, Rooms. Regulation #20 of the ABF Tournament Regulations and Law 76 of the 2007 Laws apply to all spectators. When replicated boards are used, no spectator may watch play at more than one table during any stanza of any event.

7.2 Team members, except "playing captains" for matches in which they are not participating, are not permitted to watch their own team.

## 8. Dress Requirements:

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

## ANC TEAMS

### 9. Partnership Alterations:

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

### 10. Round Robins:

10.1 The qualifying round robin matches consist of are 20 boards played without a break or change of pairs (except in cases of emergency).

10.2.1 Team numbers for the first Round Robin were allotted at the June meeting of the Management Committee.

Category	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	BYE
OPEN	2	8	---	3	1	6	4	5	7
WOMEN	1	7	---	4	8	6	5	3	2
SENIOR	3	5	---	8	6	2	7	4	1
YOUTH	3	6	---	4	1	---	2	5	---

10.2.2 For 5 or 6 teams and three Round Robins, the team numbers for the second Round Robin are drawn by the CTD at the conclusion of the first Round Robin.

10.2.3 For 4 teams and four round robins, the team numbers for the third Round Robin are drawn by the CTD at the conclusion of the second Round Robin

10.2.4 The team numbers for the second of four and 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.

10.3.1 For 7 or 8 teams there are two qualifying Round Robins of 20-board matches.

10.3.2 The draw is:

RR 1 & 2	Table	Table	Table	Table
1	8 v 1	5 v 2	6 v 3	7 v 4
2	1 v 7	2 v 8	3 v 5	4 v 6
3	6 v 1	7 v 2	8 v 3	5 v 4
4	1 v 5	2 v 6	3 v 7	4 v 8
5	4 v 1	3 v 2	8 v 5	7 v 6
6	1 v 3	2 v 4	5 v 7	6 v 8
7	2 v 1	4 v 3	6 v 5	8 v 7

10.3.3 The first-numbered team places its pairs NS in the Open Room, EW in the Closed Room. In the first Round Robin the first-numbered team sits first; in the second Round Robin the team that sat first against any team in the first Round Robin match sits last against that team.

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

10.4.2 The draw is:

Rounds	Table	Table	Table
1, 6 & 11	6v1	4v2	5v3
2, 7 & 12	5v1	2v3	4v6
3, 8 & 13	1v4	2v5	6v3
4, 9 & 14	3v1	6v2	4v5
5,10 & 15	1v2	3v4	5v6

10.4.3 The first-numbered team places its pairs NS in the Open Room, EW in the Closed Room. The first-numbered team sits first in the first and second of three Round Robins; in the last Round Robin the team which sat first against any team in the second Round Robin match sits last against that team.

10.5.1 For 4 teams there are four qualifying Round Robins of 2-board matches.

10.5.2 The draw for four teams is:

Rounds	Table 1	Table 2
1, 4, 7 & 10	1 v 4	2 v 3
2, 5, 8 & 11	3 v 1	4 v 2
3, 6, 9 & 12	1 v 2	3 v 4

10.5.3 The first-numbered team places its pairs NS in the Open Room, EW in the Closed Room. The first-numbered team sits first in the first and third of four Round Robins; in the second and the last Round Robins the team which sat first against any team in the previous Round Robin match sits last against that team.

10.6 1 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.

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 VMP	2 <sup>nd</sup> offence	6 VP	3 <sup>rd</sup> & subsequent offences	9 VP
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10.6.2 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.

10.7.1 Scoring for each 20-board segment in the Round Robins is IMP converted to VP as follows:

Margin of 30 IMP or less

VP = IMP

Margin of 31 IMP or more

VP = 30 + 1/10 [IMP margin minus 30]

maximum win of 32.5 VP; maximum loss of 35 VP.

10.7.2 No score is awarded for a bye. After a forfeit, the non-offenders receive 21.5 VP adjusted at the conclusion of each round robin to the higher of 21.5 VP or the team's mean score for completed rounds. The offenders score -35 VP; their IMP are determined from the formulae in #10.7.1

10.8 Opposing captains shall agree to and sign the result sheet displayed by the scorer at the end of each match.

10.9 The time allotted for each set of 20 boards is 150 minutes.

10.10 Matches specified at the captains' meeting and the commencement of the each round robin may be displayed using Bridge Base.

11. Final:

11.1 The two leading teams in each of the ANC Teams competitions play a 60-board Final (Youth reduced to 40 boards when there are 15 rounds) with a total of at least 20-boards, drawn from one or more of the Finals, displayed on Bridge Base and/or Vu-Graph.

11.2 The Finals are played in 10-board sessions with screens. The captains draw for seating rights and the winner may elect to sit first or last for the first session. Seating rights for subsequent sessions alternate.

11.3 The carryover 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).

11.4 Scoring in the Finals is by VP with 1 IMP equivalent to 1 VP

11.5 Opposing captains agree to and sign a result sheet after each 10-board session. The captain of the team sitting first hands this result sheet to the Director as soon as the result is known.

11.6 The time allotted for each set of 10 boards is 80 minutes.

12. Ties:

12.1 A tie occurs when two or more teams have the exact number of VP.

12.2 Ties are broken after each round robin by number of wins in VP then net IMP in the head-to-head match(es) then lot.

12.3 Ties in the Final are broken by play of 4 boards then 1 board until broken.

## ANC PAIRS EVENTS

13.1 The ANC Open, Womens, Senior, Mixed & Youth Pairs Championship are three-session events with a format dependent on the fields.

13.2 Ties in pairs events are split in accordance with Law 81 of the 1975 Code.

# AUSTRALIAN BUTLER PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (ABPC)

## 14. Tournament Structure:

14.1 The ABF reserves the absolute right to alter the format of any stage of the ABPC, without prior notice.

14.2 The Open & Women's ABPC are conducted in three Stages:

*Stage I* 12 x 10-board rounds of a Swiss movement with separate NS & EW fields to qualify sufficient pairs to increase the State and ABF nominations for Stage II to 28 pairs in each event.

*Stage II* 14 x 10-board rounds to qualify 14 pairs to Stage III in each event.

*Stage III* 13 x 14-board rounds.

14.3 The Senior ABPC is conducted in two Stages:

*Stage A* 12 x 10-board rounds, concurrent with rounds 3-14 of *Stage II*, to qualify 14 pairs to Stage B.

*Stage B* 13 x 14-board rounds concurrent with *Stage III*.

14.4 The ABF determines the seeding, scoring and movement for Stage I & A without prior notice.

14.5 Stages II, III, A & B of the ABPC are scored by IMP against a datum calculated as the arithmetic mean of the middle scores (n-4 for Stage II/A; n-2 for Stage III/B. IMP) are converted to VP in accordance with the WBF 8-board (Stage II/A) or 12-board (Stage III/B) scale. Pick up slips, table record cards and/or electronic scoring units are used but each pair must keep a score card, calculate and confirm the result of their match with that posted by the Director/Scorer.

14.6 The ANC Swiss Pairs is a six-session event scored in a manner similar to that described in #14.5. The exact details of the format and movement are determined after entries close.

14.7 The Restricted ABPC is a four-session event scored in a manner similar to that described in #14.5. The exact details of the format and movement are determined after entries close.

## 15. Ties:

15.1 A tie occurs when two or more teams have the exact number of VP.

15.2 To determine a Swiss draw, ties are broken by net IMP then lot.

15.3 At the conclusion of Stage I, Stage A, ANC Swiss Pairs and Restricted ABPC, ties are broken by VP of opponents then number of wins in VP then net IMP then lot.

15.4 At the conclusion of Stages II, III & B, ties are broken by number of wins in VP then net IMP then lot.

## 16. Carryover:

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16.1 There is no carryover from Stage I. The carryover from Stage II/A for each field is

Place	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
Carryover	8 VP	6 VP	4 VP	3 VP	2 VP	1 VP

16.2 Ties are not split and the carryover is shared.

16.3 Slow play warnings carryover from Stage II/A to Stage III/B.

## 17. Withdrawal and Reserves:

17.1 Pairs who withdraw at the end of a 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 Stage II/B, the best "n+1" is the pair with the highest VP.

17.3 At the conclusion of Stage II/A withdrawals are for emergency only. Withdrawals in each group are replaced by the pair ranked next in the same group, subject to #16.1.

17.4 Withdrawals within a Stage are treated according to #14 of the ABF Tournament Regulations.

## 18. Fouled Boards:

18.1 A ruling that a board is "fouled" must be sought within the correction period.

18.2 Law 87 determines that a board is "fouled" when "the Director determines that one or more cards were misplaced in the board, in such a manner that contestants who should have a direct score comparison did not play the board in identical form".

18.3 A "fouled" board is scored by:

- a) including one or more of its results in the calculation of the datum (described in #14.5) when the Director rules that the fouling was of no consequence
- b) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (3-6 results) or four (results>6) extreme scores, respectively
- c) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 0 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

19. Substitutes:

19.1 A substitute may be permitted for cause, not convenience

19.2 For each event the number of the number of rounds/sessions one player must play and for which the partnership must be intact is shown in the Table.

Event	Stage I/A	Stage II	Stage III/B	ANC Swiss	Restricted ABPC
One player	85% (10/12)	12/14	11/13	4 sessions	3 sessions
Partnership	75% (9/12)	11/14	10/13	3 sessions	2 sessions

19.3 The CTD is may authorise emergency substitutions (for cause) under such condition as s/he decides.

20. Playoff Points:

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

20.2 Eligible players in the first six pairs in the Open, Womens & Senior ABPC receive 65, 60, 55, 35, 30 & 25 playoff qualifying points, respectively.

20.3 Tied players share the available points.