



National Seniors' Teams and Seniors' Playoff at Summer Festival of Bridge

The National Seniors' Teams (NST) and Seniors' Playoff for the Australian Seniors' Team for 2023 will be held at the Summer Festival of Bridge at the Canberra Rex Hotel January 10th to 15th January 2023. The NST and Seniors' Playoff will be held concurrently with the National Women's Teams and Women's Playoff.

This announcement is provided to outline the rules and eligibility criteria for the Seniors' Playoff. Additional details pertaining to the running of the tournament will be published in due course in the Supplementary Regulations.

NST

The NST will be run from Tuesday 10th Jan to Thursday 12th Jan as part of the Summer Festival of Bridge and will comprise 9 rounds (3 per day) of 20 board matches. The exact format of the NST will be subject to entry numbers. The Leader after 9 rounds will be declared the winner of the NST. This means teams that include players not eligible to represent Australia may still enter the NST win the title.

Seniors' Playoff for the 2023 Australian Seniors' Team.

The Seniors' Playoff is a separate event from the NST. Unlike previous Seniors' Playoffs no entry fee will be charged to enter the Seniors' Playoff (entry fees will be charged for the NST), however there will be no travel subsidy.

To be eligible to play in the Seniors Playoff players must;

- 1) Be eligible to represent Australia in the WBF Target Event Seniors category (born before 1 Jan 1961).
- 2) Not be a member of the 2023 Open or Mixed Team.
- 3) Have the intent of representing Australia in the Target Event.

For a **team to be eligible to enter the Seniors' Playoff** the team must play the NST in a team consisting wholly of eligible players (Eligible Team).

The top 4 Eligible Teams in the NST have the right to enter the Playoffs. If a team chooses not to exercise their right the available Playoff spot will pass to the next Eligible Team.

Only teams of 2 or 3 pairs may enter the Seniors' Playoff. A team of 5 eligible players may enter the NST but must drop a player to play in the Playoff. The pairs nominated must have played as a partnership in at least 4 matches in the NST.

The Playoff will consist of a Semi-Final played over 96 Boards (6*16 board sets, 4*16 boards on Friday 13th Jan and 2*16 boards on Saturday 14th Jan). Followed by a Final over 96 Boards (6*16 board sets, 2*16 boards on Saturday 14th Jan and 4*16 boards on Sunday 15th Jan).

Only pairs that meet the board rule in the Semi-Final (i.e. must play at least 3 of the 6 sets) may play in the Final. Only pairs that meet the board rule in the Final (i.e. must play at least 3 of the 6 sets) are eligible to be part of the Australian Team.

Target Event

The Target Event is the D'Orsi Trophy to be held in Marrakech 18 August to 2 September 2023 as part of the World Team Championship. The Team is also expected to represent Australia at the 2023 WBF Zone 7 Championships, played in conjunction with the APBF Championships. It is noted that at the time of writing the venue and dates for the Zone 7 Playoff and APBF are yet to be announced.

Supplementary Regulations

For complete regulations, see www.myabf.com.au/media/congress-downloads/2022/12/13/2023_WPO_and_SPO_Supplementary_Regulations.pdf