



## **National Women's Teams and Women's Playoff at Summer Festival of Bridge**

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

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

### **NWT**

The NWT will be run from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan to Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 NWT will be subject to entry numbers. The Leader after 9 rounds will be declared the winner of the NWT. This means teams that include players not eligible to represent Australia may still enter the NWT win the title.

### **Women's Playoff for the 2023 Australian Women's Team.**

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

To be eligible to play in the Women's Playoff players must;

- 1) Be eligible to represent Australia in the WBF Target Event Women's category.
- 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 Women's Playoff** the team must play the NWT in a team consisting wholly of eligible players (Eligible Team).

The top 4 Eligible Teams in the NWT 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 Women's Playoff. A team of 5 eligible players may enter the NWT 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 NWT.

The Playoff will consist of a Semi-Final played over 96 Boards (6\*16 board sets, 4\*16 boards on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan and 2\*16 boards on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan). Followed by a Final over 96 Boards (6\*16 board sets, 2\*16 boards on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan and 4\*16 boards on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 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 Venice Cup 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](http://www.myabf.com.au/media/congress-downloads/2022/12/13/2023_WPO_and_SPO_Supplementary_Regulations.pdf)