

TBA CONGRESS SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2024

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1 General

The TBA Congress Congress comprises two events, the TBA Congress Swiss Pairs (TCSP) on Saturday 6th July 2024 and the TBA Congress Swiss Teams (TCST) on Sunday 7th July. This congress is conducted by the Tasmanian Bridge Association Incorporated (TBA) in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR), and the Tasmanian Bridge Association Tournament Regulations (TBA TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.

The venue is the Tasmanian Bridge Association Clubrooms, 5 Marine Esplanade, New Town Bay, Hobart, Tasmania.

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.

Smoking is not permitted inside the venue, nor within 3 metres of any external door. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3)

Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3)

Mobile telephones, iPads, iPods and other electronic communication equipment must be switched off during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty, after one warning (see 5.3)

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 (see 5.3) 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.

If the number of entrants in the TCSP or the TCST is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, the modified Swiss format may be implemented (see Appendices). Otherwise, the TO may vary the advertised format of an event or events in any way they deem fit should the number of entrants warrant.

The TO may grant permission for still or moving photographs to be taken during the course of the event. Players may only refuse to be photographed for religious or cultural reasons deemed valid by the TO or CTD.

Expressions used here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first to the TBA Tournament Regulations, then 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

The Tournament Organisers are Pam Murphy and Simon Edler.

The Chief Tournament Director is Simon Edler.

The Reviewer is Laurie Kelso.

The Review Consultant is Hugh Grosvenor.

The Recorders are Barbara Holland and John Grosvenor.

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 Overseas & Interstate players who are not members of a club affiliated with the Tasmanian Bridge Association may enter the tournament as a visitor according to the masterpoint scheme regulations (section 6.2.2). Entry to the tournament will only be granted after the applicant's eligibility has been verified. The TO's decision in respect to such eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.
- 3.3 A maximum of two substitutions per pair will be permitted. A substitute is permitted for a maximum of 2 matches. In addition, 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.
- 3.4 The TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in the event in order to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. The conditions under which the "house contestant" competes will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in the TCSP & TCST. Protected pair status will apply in both events, except in the top half (rounded down) of the field from Round 3 onwards.

5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties

In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.

The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.

The disciplinary penalty for breach of regulations relating to smoking (1.4), consumption of alcohol (1.5) and mobile phones (1.6, 1.7) is 3 VPs.

6 Correction Period and Time for Requesting a Review

The Correction Period (Law 79C) and time for lodging an Appeal against a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for all matches expires 30 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection. The Correction Period and time for requesting a review for the final match expires 10 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.

7 Fouled and Unplayable Boards

7.1 In an IMP scored swiss pairs event, where a single board is fouled, the board is scored by:
a) treating the board as two separate entities and calculating separate datums after eliminating the two (4-6 results) or four (more than 6 results) extreme scores, respectively; or
b) cancelling one or more of its results and awarding a score of 2 IMP to those contestants whose score was cancelled.

7.2 In an IMP scored Teams event, the result of a fouled board is cancelled and a substitute board is played at both tables unless the time for the round has expired, 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 unless Law 86B1 is applicable.

- 7.3 In the case of multiple fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.
- 7.4 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 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 will apply.
- 7.5 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.

8 Ties

At the conclusion of the TCSP event, ties for final placings, but not masterpoint awards, will be broken by, in order: sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPS. If this fails to break a tie for first place, the title of Congress Swiss Pairs Champions will be shared.

At the conclusion of the TCST event, ties for final placings, but not masterpoint awards, will be broken by, in order: sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, head to head match result, net IMPS. If this fails to break a tie for first place, the title of Congress Swiss Teams Champions will be shared.

9 Event formats

- 9.1 **TBA Congress Swiss Pairs** - The TCSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 6 x 9 board matches, played over 2 sessions (3-3). There will be prizes, subject to sufficient numbers in each category, for the best Restricted Pair (fewer than 150 MPs) and the best Rookie Pair (fewer than 25MPs).
 - 9.1.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 9.1.2. IMPs are converted to VPs, using the 9 board ABF VP scale for pairs.
 - 9.1.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores after eliminating the highest x/10 scores and lowest x/10 scores (0.5 rounded up) where x is the total number of scores.
 - 9.1.3 The time allowed per round will be 56 minutes to commence the final board.
 - 9.1.4 Session times will be as follows:
Saturday 9.30am (3 matches), 1.30pm (3 matches, finish approx. 4.45pm)
- 9.2 **TBA Congress Swiss Teams** - The TCST will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 6 x 9 board matches, played over 2 sessions (3-3)
 - 9.2.1 Scoring will be by IMPs converted to VPs, using the 9 board WBF VP scale.
 - 9.2.2 The time allowed per round will be 56 minutes to commence the final board.
 - 9.2.3 Session times will be as follows:
Sunday 9.30am (3 matches), 1.20pm (3 matches, finish approx. 4.35pm)

Appendices

Penalties for Late Arrival, Slow Play, Failure to enter or check scores

0-5 mins	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5-10 mins	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10-15 mins	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15-20 mins	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20-30 mins	5 VPs (15 IMPs)

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, the following penalties may be applied at the director's discretion:

One board	1 VP (3 IMPs)
Subsequent boards	2 VPs (6 IMPs)

Should the players leave the table, when they have failed to enter one or more scores into the scoring unit or when 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

Calculation of multiple Average Plus awards during a 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 awarded per board shall be:

IMP scored Pairs events: an IMP score of $2\sqrt{N}/N$, where N is the number of unplayable boards.

IMP scored Teams events: an IMP score of $3\sqrt{N}/N$, where N is the number of unplayable boards.

In IMP scored events, the net IMPs in a match assigned due to these formulas will be rounded to the nearest IMP (0.5 IMPs rounded up).

The following table lists the IMPs/percentage to be assigned for each successive board in the case of multiple average plus boards:

Number of fouled/unplayable bds	IMPs assigned (Pairs)	IMPs assigned (Teams)
1	2	3
2	1	1
3	0	1
4	1	1
5	0	1
6	1	0

Modified Swiss format

In events where the number of number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, a round-robin or modified Swiss format will be implemented.

If the numbers are appropriate, a full round robin movement will be implemented.

Otherwise, a normal Swiss movement will be used up to and including Round 6 (out of 9 rounds). In subsequent rounds, the Swiss movement continues with all scores retained, but a unit may play another unit which it previously played in Rounds 1 to 5.

Anticipated Finishing Times

The following time is provided solely as a guide to players and may change depending on event formats and other circumstances:

TBA Congress Swiss Pairs:	Saturday, 4.45pm
TBA Congress Swiss Teams:	Sunday, 4.35pm