

2026 GOLD COAST ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

1 General

- 1.1 The Gold Coast Online comprises the following events:
TBIB Matchpoint Swiss Pairs (MSP) – February 7;
TBIB Cross-IMP Swiss Pairs (C-ISP) – February 8.
Should entries permit, separate divisions will be held in each event – Open and Under 500 MPs.
These events are conducted by the Queensland Bridge Association (QBA) in conjunction with the ABF in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.
- 1.2 The competition will be held under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2017. The ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) will apply as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations. In the case of any inconsistency, these Supplementary Regulations will take precedence.
- 1.3 The competition will be conducted on the RealBridge online platform. All events will be held on Normal mode (see section 9).
- 1.4 Results on the RealBridge website are provisional only. The official results for the competition will be available on MyABF.
- 1.5 Expressions used in these Regulations and not defined shall have their ordinary meaning in bridge terminology (which may include expressions defined in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2017). Unless repugnant to the context or obvious meaning, all terms defined in the ABF TR shall have the same meaning for the purpose of these Supplementary Regulations. In the event of any doubt or dispute as to such meaning or the interpretation of the application of any regulation, the decision of the Chief Tournament Director (CTD) shall be final and conclusive.

2 Officials

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser is Kim Ellaway.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Chris Snook.
- 2.3 The Reviewer is Laurie Kelso.
- 2.4 The Recorder is Richard Ward.

3 Eligibility, Augmentation 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 To be eligible for either of the Under 500 MPs events:
 - i) both members of the partnership must have fewer than 500 masterpoints at 30-9-25;
 - ii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction or higher. Notwithstanding, a player who has already entered an event at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible;
 - iii) New Zealand players must have a ranking of less than NZ Master as at 30-9-25;
 - iv) at the time of entering, Grand Slam players must have a rating of 56% or below.
- 3.3 All players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in events. This includes those events where players must be under the stated masterpoint range or age as of the dates specified. Masterpoints earned in another NCBO, irrespective of whether they have been transferred, shall be included for the purpose of determining a player's eligibility.
- 3.4 Overseas players (other than those from NZ) are only eligible for the Open divisions, unless they are able to provide evidence from their National Bridge Organisation that their experience and skill level is such that an entry to a masterpoint-limited division is appropriate. The TO's decision in respect to such eligibility is final and not subject to appeal.
- 3.5 The CTD may approve a substitute for a maximum of three matches in any event. 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.
- 3.6 To ensure the smooth running of the tournament, the TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in any event. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players, but is at liberty to nominate others in case of necessity. The conditions under which the "house contestant/s" compete will, subject to ABF TR 1.9, be at the discretion of the CTD.

4 Systems and Defences

- 4.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted without restriction.
- 4.2 YELLOW systems will be not be permitted.

5 Correction Period and Time of Appeal

- 5.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) and time for lodging a request for a review of a Director's ruling (Law 92B) expire 30 minutes after the conclusion of play on the day on which the relevant board was played.

6 Unplayed Boards

- 6.1 In the case of multiple unplayed boards where the Director awards an artificial adjusted score of average plus, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.
- 6.2 Where unplayed boards result in direct comparisons being available on fewer than one-half of the boards in the match, the match will be scored in accordance with ABF TR 15.1 (Forfeits).

7 Ties

- 7.1 Ties will not be broken.

8 Event Formats

All events will be played as single field Swiss.

The draw for Round 1 shall be random. Subsequent draws shall be on the Swiss principle as determined by the RealBridge algorithm.

Events will be played over nine 6-board matches.

Average percentage score in each match in the **MSP** events will be converted to VPs using the scale detailed in the Appendices.

Matches in the **C-ISP** will be scored by cross-IMPs with net IMPs in each match converted to Victory Points (VPs) using the ABF Scale for Swiss Pairs for 7 board matches.

9 RealBridge

- 9.1 Players alert their partner's calls and provide explanations on request.
- 9.2 ABF Alerting Regulations apply.
- 9.3 ABF Modifications to Laws and Regulations in Online Play will apply.
(<https://abfevents.com.au/events/tournregs/Modifications-to-Laws-and-Regulations-for-online-bridge.pdf>)
- 9.4 A player may not consult their own convention card while a hand is in play.
- 9.5 A player may not make written notes during the bidding or play.
- 9.6 It is a requirement that all players on RealBridge have working video and audio connections. Players may only turn off their camera with the permission of the Director. Artificially-generated backgrounds may not be used.
- 9.7 Other than the device on which the player is using RealBridge, no other communication or electronic device may be used or referred to during play.

Appendices

Victory Point Scale for MSP

Where x is the pair's average percentage for the round (rounded to 2 decimal places - 0.005 rounded up):

Where x is greater than 70.0: $VP = 20$

Where x is between 57.5 and 70.0: $VP = (x-20)*2/5$

Where x is between 42.5 and 57.5: $VP = (x-35)*2/3$

Where x is between 30.0 and 42.5: $VP = (x-30)*2/5$

Where x is less than 30.0: $VP = 0$

Calculation of multiple Average Plus awards during a session or 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 as described in the following table.

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 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)	Percentage assigned (matchpoints)
1	2	60.00
2	1	54.14
3	0	53.18