

# TASMANIAN FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2026

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## 1 General

- 1.1 The Tasmanian Festival of Bridge (TFOB) comprises six events: the Roger Penny Seniors Swiss Pairs (RPSSP), the TFOB Restricted Swiss Pairs (TFRSP), the Fixed Income Solutions Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs (AMSP), the TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs (ASP), TFOB Novice Swiss Pairs (TFNSP) and the TFOB Rookie Swiss Pairs (TFRookieSP). These events are conducted by the Tasmanian Bridge Association Incorporated (TBA) in conjunction with the ABF in accordance with the ABF Tournament Regulations (ABF TR) as augmented by these Supplementary Regulations.
- 1.2 The venue is MyState Bank Arena, 601 Brooker Highway, Glenorchy, Tasmania.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 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)
- 1.5 Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the playing room during session time. Breach of this regulation incurs a disciplinary penalty (see 5.3)
- 1.6 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)
- 1.7 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.

- 1.8 In all events, if the number of entrants is fewer than twice the number of rounds to be played, the modified Swiss format may be implemented (see Appendices). Alternatively, or in addition to, the TO may elect to combine fields in concurrently running events to ensure the efficacy of the movement and the validity of the competitions. 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.
- 1.9 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.
- 1.10 Expressions used here that have not been assigned a specific definition will be interpreted by referring first 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**

- 2.1 The Tournament Organiser is Katherine Marsden.
- 2.2 The Chief Tournament Director is Simon Edler.
- 2.3 The Reviewer is Laurie Kelso.
- 2.4 The Review Consultants are Hugh Grosvenor and Jonathan Free.
- 2.5 The ABF on site representatives are Warren Lazer and Matthew McManus.
- 2.6 The Recorders are Dallas Cooper and Hilton Francis.

## **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 to play in the RPSSP, both players in the partnership must have been born before 1-1-62.
- 3.3 To be eligible to play in the TFRSP:
  - i) both members of the partnership must have fewer than 300 masterpoints as at 30-9-25;
  - ii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction as the TFRSP or higher. Notwithstanding, a player who has already entered the TFRSP at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible for the TFRSP.

- 3.4 To be eligible to play in the TFNSP:  
i) both members of the partnership must have fewer than 100 masterpoints as at 30-9-25;  
ii) a player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction as the TFNSP or higher. Notwithstanding, a player who has already entered the TFNSP at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible for the TFNSP.
- 3.5 To be eligible to play in the TFRookieSP, both members of the partnership must have fewer than 25 masterpoints as at 30-9-25.
- 3.6 To be eligible to play in the AMSP, a pair must comprise one male and one female player.
- 3.7 Overseas players may apply to enter the TFRSP only if they are eligible to play in events with similar criteria within their own NBO. Entry to any such event 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.
- 3.8 A maximum of two substitutions per pair will be permitted. 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.
- 3.9 The TO may nominate a "house contestant" to compete in any event in order to ensure the smooth running of the tournament. The TO will make every effort to nominate eligible players. 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**

- 4.1 GREEN, BLUE and RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in the RPSSP, the AMSP and the ASP.
- 4.2 Only GREEN and BLUE systems will be permitted in the TFRSP, TFNSP and TFRookieSP. In addition, the CTD may also further restrict a pair from playing any method which the director judges may not be readily understood by a significant proportion of players in the field.
- 4.3 YELLOW systems will not be allowed.
- 4.4 'Protected Pair' status may be claimed by eligible pairs in accordance with ABF System Regulation 2.9. 'Protected Pair' status may not be exercised by any pair at one of the top five tables in Matches 5 to 8 of the RPSSP or AMSP, or at one of the top 10 tables during Matches 7 to 11 of the ASP. Opponents of a 'Protected Pair' may not employ BROWN STICKER conventions during that round. Pairs seeking 'Protected Pair' status must advise the CTD at least 30 minutes before the start of the relevant event.

## **5 Disciplinary and Procedural Penalties**

- 5.1 In a Swiss movement penalties are included in the overall ranking, but the draw is determined by the scores excluding penalties.
- 5.2 The general provisions of ABF TR 10 concerning punctuality and slow play apply. The table of penalties is listed in the Appendices.
- 5.3 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**

- 6.1 The Correction Period (Law 79C) and time for lodging an Appeal against a Director's Ruling (Law 92B) for all preliminary 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 15 minutes after the scores are made available for inspection.

## **7 Fouled and Unplayable Boards**

- 7.1 In IMP scored Swiss Pairs events, 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 the case of multiple fouled boards, artificial adjusted scores are awarded as detailed in the Appendices.
- 7.3 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 and 7.2 will apply.
- 7.4 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**

- 8.1 At the conclusion of each event, ties will be broken for first place in accordance with ABF TR 17, as detailed in the Appendices. Ties for other places will not be broken.

## 9 Event formats

- 9.1 **Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs** - The RPSSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 8 x 14 board matches, played over 4 sessions.
- 9.1.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 9.1.2, 9.1.3 and 9.1.4. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.1.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores under consideration after eliminating the highest and lowest  $x/10$  scores (0.5 rounded up) where  $x$  is the number of scores under consideration.
- 9.1.3 If there are fewer than 24 tables entered in an event, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables.
- 9.1.4 If 24 or more tables enter an event:
- for Matches 1-3, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables;
  - for Matches 4-6, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top  $n/2$  tables (0.5 rounded up), where  $n$  is the number of tables in play;
  - for Matches 7-8, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top 12 tables.
- 9.1.5 Daily starting times are:  
Thursday, March 19, 10.00 am  
Friday, March 20, 10.00 am
- 9.1.6 Each session will consist of two matches.
- 9.1.7 Qualification to the Australian Seniors' Playoff will be possible via the RPSP. For further information, consult the 2026 Australian Senior's Playoff site – [www.abfevents.com.au/events/playoffs/2026/seniors/](http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/playoffs/2026/seniors/)
- 9.2 **TFOB Restricted Swiss Pairs** - The TFRSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 8 x 14 board matches, played over 4 sessions.
- 9.2.1 Scoring and session times will be the same as for the RPSSP.
- 9.3 **Fixed Income Solutions Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs** - The AMSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 8 x 14 board matches, played over 4 sessions.
- 9.3.1 Scoring and session times will be the same as for the RPSSP.
- 9.3.2 Qualification to the Australian Mixed Playoff will be possible via the AMSP. For further information, consult the 2026 Australian Mixed Playoff site – [www.abfevents.com.au/events/playoffs/2026/mixed/](http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/playoffs/2026/mixed/)
- 9.4 **TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs Championship** - The ASP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 11 x 10 board matches, played over 4 sessions.
- 9.4.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 9.4.2 and 9.4.3. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.

- 9.4.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores under consideration after eliminating the highest and lowest  $x/10$  scores (0.5 rounded up) where  $x$  is the number of scores under consideration.
- 9.4.3 a) For Matches 1-4, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at all tables;  
b) For Matches 5-8, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top  $n/2$  tables (0.5 rounded up), where  $n$  is the number of tables in play;  
c) For Matches 9-11, the datum will be calculated considering the scores obtained at the top 12 tables.
- 9.4.4 Daily starting times are:  
Saturday, March 21, 10.00 am (2 sessions each consisting of 3 matches)  
Sunday, March 22, 10.00 am (2 sessions consisting of 3 and 2 matches respectively)
- 9.5 **TFOB Novice Swiss Pairs** - The TFNSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 6 x 10 board matches, played over 2 sessions
- 9.5.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 9.5.2. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.5.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores after eliminating the highest and lowest  $x/10$  scores (0.5 rounded up) where  $x$  is the number of tables in the event.
- 9.5.3 The first match will commence at 10.00 am on Saturday, March 21 (2 sessions of 3 matches)
- 9.6 **TFOB Rookie Swiss Pairs - The TFRookieSP will be played as a single field Swiss consisting of 5 x 10 board matches, played over 2 sessions**
- 9.6.1 Scoring will be by IMPs against a datum calculated as in 9.5.2. IMPs are converted to VPs in accordance with the ABF Swiss Pairs VP scale.
- 9.6.2 The datum will be the arithmetic mean of all the scores after eliminating the highest and lowest  $x/10$  scores (0.5 rounded up) where  $x$  is the number of tables in the event.
- 9.6.3 The first match will commence at 10.00 am on Sunday, March 22 (2 sessions consisting of 3 and 2 matches respectively).
- 9.7 The time allowed per match or stanza will be announced by the CTD.

## 10 Playoff Qualifying Points

10.1 In the AMSP, Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player as below:

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6
PQP	20	14	10	6	4	2

10.1.1 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 7 matches.

10.2 In the ASP, Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP) are awarded to each eligible player as below:

Place	1	2	3	4
PQP	24	16	12	8

10.2.1 To be eligible for PQP, each player must play at least 9 matches.

10.3 Tied pairs share the available points.

## 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

### Tie-breaking

Significant ties are broken by (in order): sum of opponents' VPs, number of wins, net IMPs, lot.

### 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 for each such board shall be as listed in the table below.

If results are obtained on fewer than one half the boards scheduled to be played in a match, the match will be scored as a forfeit in accordance with ABF TR 15.1.

Number of fouled/unplayable bds	IMPs assigned (Pairs)
1	2
2	1
3	0
4	1
5	0
6	1
7	0

## **Modified Swiss format**

In events where the 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 5 (out of 8 rounds) or Round 6 (out of 11 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 4 (8 rounds) or Rounds 1 to 5 (11 rounds).

## **Anticipated Finishing Times**

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

Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs, Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs and TFOB Restricted Swiss Pairs  
Friday, 5.45 pm

TFOB Novice Swiss Pairs  
Saturday, 6.20 pm

Australian Swiss Pairs Championship and TFOB Rookie Swiss Pairs  
Sunday, 5.05 pm