



New Zealand Bridge

2010 NEW ZEALAND OPEN, WOMEN & SENIOR TEAM TRIALS REGULATIONS

A Purpose

The regulations are issued by the International Committee of the NZ Bridge Board for the purpose of conducting the Trials for the selection of the 2010 New Zealand Open, Women, and Senior Teams.

B Venue

1. The Trials will be held at the Wellington Bridge Club, 17 Tinakori Road, Wellington.
2. The Wellington Club Room are smoke free. Players are not permitted to leave the table to smoke at any stage while their match is in progress.
3. Alcohol consumption will not be permitted on the premises or grounds until after the last session each day.
4. There is free access to players, officials and spectators in the playing room.
3. Access to the scoring and recording area shall be restricted to the following persons:
 - (i) Tournament Officials on duty.
 - (ii) Members of the Appeals Committee on duty.
 - (iii) The Chef de Mission
4. Mobile phones: Mobile phones are not permitted to be on (even in mute mode) in the playing room during session time. Players will be subject to a non-discretionary disciplinary penalty of 1.5 VP's. Spectators may be asked to leave the playing room immediately and not return for the remainder of the trial.

C Ethics and Deportment

Players do not participate as private individuals but as public representatives of NZ Bridge and therefore observance of the highest standards of good behaviour, sportsmanship, and above all, irreproachable ethics becomes very important. Acceptance to participate in the National Trials is conditional on all players complying with the terms of the NZ Bridge Code of Conduct. Serious or repeated violations may result in suspension or disqualification, either by the Director in Charge on his own initiative (See Law 91) or be referred to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee of NZ Bridge under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

D Format

1. The Trials will commence with a Briefing Meeting for all contestants at 9.30 am on Friday, 19th March, 2010
2. The trial will comprise a round robin for the Senior team, a double round robin for the Open Team and a triple round robin for the Women's Team. All matches will be 16 boards in length. The draw and playing schedule for each category is set out in the Appendices.
3. There are 8 pairs entered in the Open Trial, 6 pairs in the Women Trial and 12 pairs in the Senior Trial. Pair numbers for the first round robin will be drawn randomly at the Players Briefing meeting – see O below. For the

second round-robin, the Open pairs will be renumbered according to the reverse of the finishing position at the completion of the first round robin. The Women will retain their pair numbers for the second round robin but will then be re-numbered for the 3rd round robin according to the reverse of the finishing position at the completion of the second round robin.

4. The top 2 pairs at the conclusion of the final round robin will automatically qualify for the 2010 International squad. The Chef de Mission will, at his sole discretion, select a third and reserve pair from among the players entered in the trial.
5. Screens will be used throughout. Players should familiarize themselves with the correct procedure and rules for playing behind screens as described on pages D46-D49 of the NZ Bridge Manual.
6. Players shall be seated 5 minutes before the published start of each match as promulgated in the Appendices to these regulations.
7. The Open and Women Trials will finish about 5pm, Monday, 22 March, 2010. This will be followed by a team briefing by the Chef de Mission, Kris Wooles. The Senior Trial will finish at 14:20pm Monday, 22 March followed by a team meeting at 14:40pm.

E Seating rights:

1. Prior to the start of the matches in the first round robin there will be a toss to determine who has the choice of screen mates. In the Open Trial the winner of the toss will choose whether to seat first in the 1st or 2nd round robin. In the Women's Trial the winner of the toss will decide whether to choose to seat first in the 1st and 2nd round robin or the 3rd.
2. If and when arrow switching is required, players will retain their screen mates.

F Scoring

1. Guide cards and score sheets that are pre-numbered in the order in which the boards are expected to be played will be provided. Failure to follow these instructions may result in a procedural penalty.
2. South and West are expected to ensure all parts of the score sheet are correctly filled-in and signed before it is submitted. A procedural penalty of 0.5 VP will be applied for submitting an incorrectly filled-in score sheet. The Director may at his sole discretion increase the penalty for repeated breaches.
3. A datum will be calculated for each board from all the tables in play (including the other categories, Open, Women, Senior, as the case may be). When there are 13 tables in play, the two top and two bottom scores will not be included in the datum calculation. Where there are less than 13 tables in play, the top and bottom scores will not be included in the datum calculation. The IMP result against the datum, will be converted to VPs using the WBF Victory point scale for 12 board matches.
4. The following procedures apply for fouled boards:
 - The Director, at his/her sole discretion, will make every effort to correct the board and allow play to proceed. The Director's decision shall be final.
 - Where it is not possible to replay the board, the match is scored as though the board has never been played it will not be included in the datum calculation and Laws 12-C-2b & Law 86 apply. For the purpose of these trials the score awarded for average plus or average minus shall be plus or minus 2 IMPS.
 - A pair responsible for fouling the board will receive a procedural penalty of 0.5 VP. The Director may at his sole discretion increase the penalty for repeated breaches.
5. Ties at the end of the Trial for the two qualifying spots will be broken by the net imps for all the head to head matches; if still tied, then by the net imps of all the matches; if still tied, a toss of the coin. All other ties will be broken by random lot.

G Penalties for delaying a match

1. Players shall be in their seats ready to commence play 5 minutes prior to the official start time of each match or stanza.

2. Delay in starting:

A grace period will be allowed as follows:

First offence: 5 minutes grace period plus a warning

Second and subsequent offence: No grace period

Except under emergency circumstances accepted by the Director, the following disciplinary penalties will be applied:

0-5 minutes late = 1 VP or 3 imps

5-10 minutes late = 2 VP or 6 imps

10-15 minutes late = 3 VP or 9 imps

15-20 minutes late = 4 VP or 12 imps

20-25 minutes late = 5 VP or 15 imps

Over 25 minutes late, at the discretion of the Appeals Committee, the match or stanza may be forfeited.

3. Delay in Play (Slow Play):

The time allowed for 16 board matches is 2 hours and 20 minutes

Both pairs at a table are responsible for ensuring their match finishes within the allotted time. In the case of slow play the Director may consider any monitor's report (which will remain confidential to the Director only) and his own observations then assess the number of minutes by which each pair is responsible for failing to maintain the required rate of play. The decision is not subject to appeal but the Director may be requested to reconsider his assessment.

The disciplinary penalties for delay are as follows:

- (i) 0.2 VP per minute that the Director has assessed each offending pairs' responsibility.
- (ii) Any match that runs more than 20 minutes late may, at the discretion of the Appeals Committee, be forfeited.

H Forfeited Matches

1. When the appeals committee declares a stanza or match forfeited under Clause G above the following will apply:

- (i) The team in forfeit shall score zero VPs and zero imps for the stanza or match.
- (ii) The team winning the forfeited match shall be credited with such number of Victory Points as the appeals committee shall consider to be equitable in all the circumstances.
- (iii) If it becomes necessary also to assign an IMP score for tie breaking or carry over purposes, the winning team shall be credited with the average number of imps, rounded up, which earn the assigned VP score.

I Substitutions

1. Until 5 pm on Thursday 18th March, 2010, if a player duly entered and accepted is unable to play, application must be made to the Tournament Committee for permission to use a replacement.
2. After that time substitutions may only be made under emergency situation accepted by the Director in Charge.
3. The Director in Charge is authorised to make any substitution necessary for the smooth operation of the Trial. In doing so the Director in Charge will have regard for the spirit of the event. His decision shall be final.
4. A pair may not have a substitute for more than two matches.

J Bidding Systems Summaries

1. The NZ Bridge System Policy as set out on pages D3-D6 of the Manual will be in force. Except that Yellow (HUM) systems as defined on Page D6 of the Manual are not permitted in these Trials.
2. A pair may prepare written defences against the Brown Sticker elements of any system. These are deemed to be part of the opponent's system card and therefore may be consulted during the auction period; and during the play. These should be given to the opponents prior to the start of the Tournament.
3. All players are expected to arrive at the table with a fully completed WBF Convention Card. If supplementary pages are necessary they must be type-written.
4. If the bidding summaries are not provided as required, any of the opposing pairs may appeal to the Tournament Committee prior to the start of the Tournament. If the committee finds the appeal valid the Director in Charge will impose penalties as follows:
 - (i) If in the opinion of the Tournament Committee the improperly introduced system is sufficiently complex as to constitute an undue hardship on the opponents the system will be barred.
 - (ii) If in the opinion of the Tournament Committee the system, though improperly introduced, is relatively simple the Committee will authorise its use but will allow the opposing pairs to refer at the playing table to their notes on defence against the system concerned.
 - (iii) A system authorised under the preceding section shall not be used until at least 24 hours after the bidding summaries have been provided.

K Bidding System Changes

1. A pair may submit (by e-mail to secretary@nzbridge.co.nz) a new system card to correct any errors or omissions to their notified system no later than 4pm on Sunday the 21st of February, 2010. No changes will be accepted or permitted after that time but see K2 below. All notified system changes will be promulgated through the website on Monday 22 February 2010.
2. During the course of the Trials a pair may, at the discretion of the Director in Charge or the Tournament Committee, change its notified system from complex to simple (or from simple to clearly simple) but not from simple to complex. Unless otherwise directed by the Director in Charge or Tournament Committee, a pair authorised to change its system (including written defences) must give at least one clear match notice accompanied by a new system card (with or without supplementary sheets), a copy of which shall be displayed forthwith on the notice board.

L Tournament Officials

1. The Director in Charge is Matthew McManus. His powers and duties shall be as defined in "The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007".
2. The Director in Charge may, in case of need, appoint his Assistant Director as Director in Charge and may delegate the latter his full authority for a special period of time. There shall be no more than one Director in Charge.
3. For the purpose of these regulations the Chef de Mission and his assistants are deemed to be tournament officials on duty and have unrestricted access to the playing rooms and tables during play.
4. The Tournament Committee will be chaired by the Chef de Mission or his representative, and comprise the Director in Charge or his deputy, the chair of the Appeals Committee or his deputy and one representative of the Wellington Club.

M Appeals

Appeals will typically be held 10 minutes after the official finish time every day or at such other time as required by the Director in Charge.

1. In the first instance all appeals must be made to the Director in Charge. If the appellants are not satisfied with the result of the Director in Charge's review, they may request that their appeal be referred to the Appeals Committee.
2. Notice of the appeal must be made within thirty minutes of the official finishing time of the relevant match. A full statement in writing must be completed unless otherwise directed by the Director in Charge.
3. Tony Thomson from Wellington will chair the Appeals Committee. He will appoint at least two but no more than four independent members to assist him depending on availability and the timing of the appeal.
4. The procedure and regulations governing appeals are set out on pages C10-C15 of the NZ Bridge Manual.
5. If an appeal is unsuccessful, the Appeals Committee shall impose a 1.5 VP disciplinary penalty for any appeal it determines to have been without merit as per NZ Bridge regulations (C13).

N Spectators:

Spectators are allowed in the playing room but must abide by the following requirements:

1. They shall only watch one hand at a time, and not sit in such a position that they can observe players on both sides of the screen.
2. They shall not converse with players or amongst themselves while the bidding and play proceeds.
3. They are not allowed to disturb the players in any other manner.
4. They are to abide by the laws covering them in "The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007"
5. They may watch one table only and once having left the Playing Room may not re-enter (but see L3 above).

O Rules for Players Briefing meetings:

1. The first briefing will be held at 9.30am on Friday, 19th March, 2010, at the venue.
2. The Chef de Mission or his representative will act as Chairman.
3. The agenda for the first meeting shall include the following:
 - (i) The Chef de Mission's briefing to the players.
 - (ii) The Director in Charge's instructions in regard to players' duties and responsibilities.
 - (iii) Players requests for explanation on any point regarding their duties, playing conditions, tournament schedule and any other matter of that nature.
 - (iv) Any matter put to it by the Tournament Committee.
 - (v) Any other matter raised by the players.
 - (vi) Draw for numbers in the first round robin
5. Players may by majority vote make such recommendations to the Tournament Committee as it considers fit, but have no authority to alter or rescind any decisions of the Tournament Committee or the International Committee of the NZ Bridge Board.

Appendix 1**OPEN Pair Numbers for Round Robin 1:**

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 4. | 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. | |

Draw for both rounds

Round	Table 1		Table 2		Table 3		Table 4	
	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	8	7	1	3	2	6	4	5
2	2	3	7	4	8	5	6	1
3	5	6	8	1	3	7	2	4
4	1	5	7	2	8	6	3	4
5	4	6	5	2	7	1	8	3
6	8	2	6	7	4	1	3	5
7	6	3	8	4	5	7	1	2

Playing schedule:

Friday:	Saturday / Sunday	Monday
09:30 Players Briefing Meeting		
10:00 – 12:20 Match 1-1 Lunch	09:30 – 11:50 No Play / Match 2-1 Lunch	09:00 – 11:20 Match 2-5 Early Lunch
13:00 – 15:20 Match 1-2	12:30 – 14:50 Match 1-5 / Match 2-2	12:00 – 14:20 Match 2-6
15:40 – 18:00 Match 1-3 Dinner	15:10 – 17:30 Match 1-6 / Match 2-3	14:40 – 17:00 Match 2-7
20:30 - 22.40 Match 1-4	17:50 – 20:10 Match 1-7 / Match 2-4	17:20 – Team Meeting

Appendix 2**WOMEN Pair Numbers for Round Robin 1 & 2:**

9. 10. 11.

12. 13. 14.

Draw

Round	Table 5		Table 6		Table 7	
	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	11	14	9	10	12	13
2	9	12	13	11	14	10
3	10	11	14	12	9	13
4	12	10	9	11	13	14
5	9	14	10	13	11	12

No Renumbering

Round	Table 5		Table 6		Table 7	
	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	9	11	13	14	10	12
2	12	13	9	10	14	11
3	11	12	13	10	9	14
4	9	13	10	11	12	14
5	14	10	9	12	11	13

Renumber for RR 3**Playing schedule:**

Friday:
09:30 Players Briefing Meeting

10:00 – 12:20 Match 1-1

Lunch

13:00 – 15:20 Match 1-2

15:40 – 18:00 Match 1-3

Dinner

20:30 - 22.40 Match 1-4

Saturday / Sunday

09:30 – 11:50 Match 1-5 / Match 2-4

Lunch

12:30 – 14:50 Match 2-1 / Match 2-5

15:10 – 17:30 Match 2-2 / Match 3-1

17:50 – 20:10 Match 2-3 / Match 3-2

Monday

09:00 – 11:20 Match 3-3

Early Lunch

12:00 – 14:20 Match 3-4

14:40 – 17:00 Match 3-5

17:20 – Team Meeting

Appendix 3**SENIOR Pair Numbers for Round Robin:**

15.	16.	17.	18.
19.	20.	21.	22.
23.	24.	25.	26.

Draw

Round	Table 8		Table 9		Table 10		Table 11		Table 12		Table 13	
	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W	N/S	E/W
1	26	15	18	16	23	20	25	19	24	17	21	22
2	22	23	26	16	19	17	24	21	15	20	25	18
3	15	19	23	24	26	17	20	18	25	22	16	21
4	17	22	16	20	24	25	26	18	21	19	15	23
5	16	24	18	23	17	21	25	15	26	19	22	20
6	23	21	17	25	19	24	18	22	15	16	26	20
7	26	21	24	22	18	15	20	25	19	23	16	17
8	17	18	26	22	25	23	19	16	21	15	20	24
9	21	25	18	19	26	23	15	24	20	17	22	16
10	23	17	22	15	19	20	26	24	16	25	21	18
11	22	19	24	18	23	16	20	21	26	25	17	15

Senior Playing schedule:

Friday:	Saturday / Sunday	Monday
09:30 Players Briefing Meeting		
10:00 – 12:20 Match 1 Lunch	09:30 – 11:50 Match 4 / Match 7 Lunch	09:00 – 11:20 Match 10 Early Lunch
13:00 – 15:20 Match 2	12:30 – 14:50 Match 5 / Match 8	12:00 – 14:20 Match 11
15:40 – 18:00 Match 3	15:10 – 17:30 Match 6 / Match 9	14:40 – Team Meeting