



New Zealand Bridge

PABF in Hamilton 21-30 May 2010

This is a **FIRST** bulletin reporting on matters relevant to trialists and NZ representatives for the 2010 season.

On Saturday November 7 the International Committee met and the following issues arose which we wish to publish for everyone's interest.

DATES:

The **EVENT** dates are as above with the Opening Ceremony taking place on the 21st May and the PABF pairs on the 22nd and 23rd with the event itself starting on the 24th which is a Monday. It will be played over 7 days with the closing ceremony rounding off the last day on Sunday the 30th May.

The **TRIAL** dates are 19th to 22nd March in Wellington.

FORMAT of TRIALS and THIRD PAIRS:

As the trial's notice states the trials will be pair's trials with the first two pairs automatically qualifying for the team. The third pair and a reserve pair will be chosen in each instance by me as Chef de Mission.

Trials will take place in the Open, Women's, Senior and Under 26 Sections. The Under 21 Team will be selected.

The Trials will be directed by Matthew McManus from Australia who has agreed to undertake this to take over some of the load carried by Arie who will be responsible for the PABF itself. Arie will still be attending to trial regulations and support infrastructure.

CAPTAINS:

Non-playing captains for all teams will be nominated by me and ratified by the Board of NZ Bridge.

UNIFORMS:

We are going essentially black and white and are exploring black polo shirts for everyone with a silver fern. More will be given on the details later.

AVAILABILITY and PREPARATION:

The original declaration of availability on the website showed the dates for the PABF as 21st to 28th May but in fact the event has subsequently been extended so the availability period is now to 30th May with the closing ceremony on the evening of the 30th May. Entrants to the trials will either be asked by email to confirm that their availability covers the longer period or asked to sign a new declaration of availability.

Given the relatively short gap between trials and the event itself we will expect everyone to be available during that period to participate as directed in practices and play in the PABF pairs which precede the team's championships. No specific programme for practices has yet been designed but will be worked out in conjunction with the respective captains.

TRAVEL and ACCOMMODATION:

As the event is in NZ there are some obvious advantages to participants living here. Flights into Hamilton are only available through Air NZ. There are three options:

1. To drive
2. To fly to Hamilton
3. To fly to Auckland and drive from there.

NZ Bridge has a travel card from Air NZ which I will use to book all air travel. Those using their own transport will be credited an allowance per kilometre up to but not more than the cost of air travel using our travel card (assuming an air alternative is available).

Details of travel arrangements will be discussed with the individuals but I would like everyone to be in Hamilton by no later than the early afternoon on the 21st. That does not preclude anyone from arriving earlier.

Accommodation will be at the Kingsgate for Open, Women's and Senior teams and at the Southern Cross for the two Youth teams. I'll arrange the bookings.

CONTRIBUTIONS from PLAYERS:

A contribution will be required from all representatives. At this stage the figure is likely to be around \$500 to \$700 with the final figure dependent on costings for accommodation, breakfast, entry fees, travel and other expenses.

INSURANCE:

No insurance cover (including travel insurance) is arranged for any NZ representative participants in the PABF by NZB as this event is an internal/domestic occurrence in 2010 and existing cover arrangements are not applicable in such circumstance.

NZ REPRESENTATION:

We expect our NZ representatives to have enthusiasm and pride in representing NZ and will do our best to engender this. Obviously the hosting of the PABF affords an excellent opportunity to foster this. This combined with the overhaul of our uniforms will enable us to present ourselves in the best possible light to all our overseas visitors.

Kris Wooles

Chef de Mission