



New Zealand Bridge Manual

Effective January 2016

New Zealand Bridge Incorporated

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INTRODUCTION

This publication of the New Zealand Bridge Manual details the required standards relating to the conduct of all Bridge Matters governing Bridge Organisation and Administration (Part A–Part E) as a reference for Regional Committees, Clubs and Players and supersedes any provisions contained in any earlier edition.

From time to time, provisions in this Manual may be added to, amended or otherwise varied by an official Bulletin posted on the NZ Bridge Website.

PART A – NZ Bridge – Administration

PART B – Directing

PART C – Tournament Organisation

PART D – Tournament Regulations

PART E – Master Point Regulations

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CHANGES TO THE 2016 MANUAL

Qualification to represent New Zealand in international matches (**page A15**), approved by the Board of NZ Bridge at its meeting on 14 August 2016.



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SUMMARY OF NZ BRIDGE HISTORY

The inaugural meeting was held on 24 October 1936. Four clubs, Northern, Wellington, Crockfords and Otago, were in existence. The first President was Dr Bruce McKenzie of Northern Club; the first Chairman of the Management Committee was A T Duncan of Wellington.

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|---------|---|
| 1936 | Inter Dominion Match, New Zealand v Australia in Melbourne. New Zealand lost by 4420 total points. All played the Culbertson System. |
| 1949 | The total membership was 463 and the levy was 1/- per member. |
| 1956–57 | The membership was 1870 and the number of Clubs was 22. |
| 1964–65 | An Open Team competed in the Far East Bridge Championships in Tokyo, Japan. |
| 1967–68 | Membership – 6801; Clubs – 58; the levy was raised to 15 cents; the Master Point Scheme was started. |
| 1968–69 | The Centres were established, with 7735 total membership and 59 Clubs. The Open and Women's Teams competed in the Australian National Championships in Sydney with great success. |
| 1970–71 | The levy was raised to 30 cents. The Open and Women's Teams competed in Australia against teams in Queensland, NSW, Canberra and Victoria. |
| 1971–72 | The Open and Women's Teams competed in the FEBF Championships in Melbourne, Australia. The Open Team competed in the World Bridge Championship in Miami, Florida, USA. |
| 1972–73 | The Women's Team played in the FEBF Championships in Singapore. |
| 1973–74 | The Open and Women's Teams played in the FEBF Championships in Hong Kong and played a test against Australia on the way. The Open Team took part in the Bermuda Bowl in Italy. |
| 1974–75 | The levy was raised to \$1.50. A Junior (under 35 years) Team played in the FEBF Championships in Manila, Philippines. |
| 1975–76 | The Open Team played in the FEBF Championships in Bangkok, Thailand, and in the World Olympiad in Monaco. |
| 1976–77 | The FEBF Championships were held in Auckland. The New Zealand Women's Team won the Women's title (E Taylor, Z Morris, V Bell, J Mather, M Hill, F Ewington). |
| 1977–78 | The Open and Women's Teams attended the FEBF Championships in Manila, Philippines. Clubs now totalled 100, with over 17,000 members. |
| 1980 | Bruce C Bell awarded MBE in New Year Honours List for Services to Bridge. The Open and Women's Teams attended the World Olympiad in Holland. The Open Team finished in the top third. The Women's Team finished half-way. |

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- 1981 The Women's Team won the FEBF Championship in Taiwan for the second time (Jan Cormack, R Cunningham, Kathrin Boardman, Jane Evitt, Jocelyn Kinsella, Stella Secker).
- 1982–83 Visit by Precision Team: Kathie Wei, Judi Radin, Dorothy and Alan Truscott. Bequest left by Daniel Gifford.
Jan Cormack and Kathrin Boardman finished 6th overall in the WBF Pairs Championship in Biarritz, France.
- 1983–84 The Women's Team won the FEBF Championships in Hong Kong (Kathrin Boardman, Jan Cormack, Jane Evitt, J Kerr, L Bishop, Z Morris; NPC Stan Abrahams).
- 1984–85 The Open Team beat Australia in a test match.
Tour by Richard Grenside for Directors.
- 1985–86 First Epson Pairs (Worldwide Pairs).
- 1986–87 1st New Zealand National Bridge Congress held in Rotorua.
John Wignall appointed Zonal representative to the WBF.
Mesdames McKinley and Milburn 4th in the world in the Epson Pairs.
The New Zealand Open Team won a test against Australia.
Arie Geursen appointed as first Chief Director.
- 1987–88 New edition of The Laws of Duplicate Bridge.
Computer package for scoring developed for sale.
National coaching seminar held.
- 1988–89 Directors' examinations initiated.
Second coaching seminar.
New Zealand Bridge Teachers Association started.
- 1989–90 The Open Team won the FEBF Championships in Singapore (Stephen Blackstock, Peter Newell, Dwayne Crombie, Martin Reid, Lionel Wright, Malcolm Mayer; NPC Alan Turner).
- 1990–91 First Zonal Championship held in Christchurch.
WBF Pairs Championship: Continuous Pairs: L Wright 1st, M Mayer 2nd.
- 1991–92 Rating points introduced for Tournament Grading in January 1992.
- 1992–93 Zone 7 Championships: the Women's Team won the event and went to the Venice Trophy, Chile.
First New Zealand Youth Team beat Australia in a test match and went to the WBF Junior Teams Championships in Denmark.
- 1993–94 FEBF Championships held in Wellington.
- 1994 A Bouwer / J Ruddell, Whangarei, first in the world in the Epson Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs; 80.50%.
- 1995 The Open Team won the FEBF Championships in Perth, Australia (Tom Jacob, Brian Mace, Peter Newell, Martin Reid, Stephen Blackstock, Ken Yule; NPC Dwayne Crombie).
The Youth Team finished 2nd in the World Youth Championships in Bali.
Merle and Bruce Marr 3rd in the WBF Worldwide Pairs.

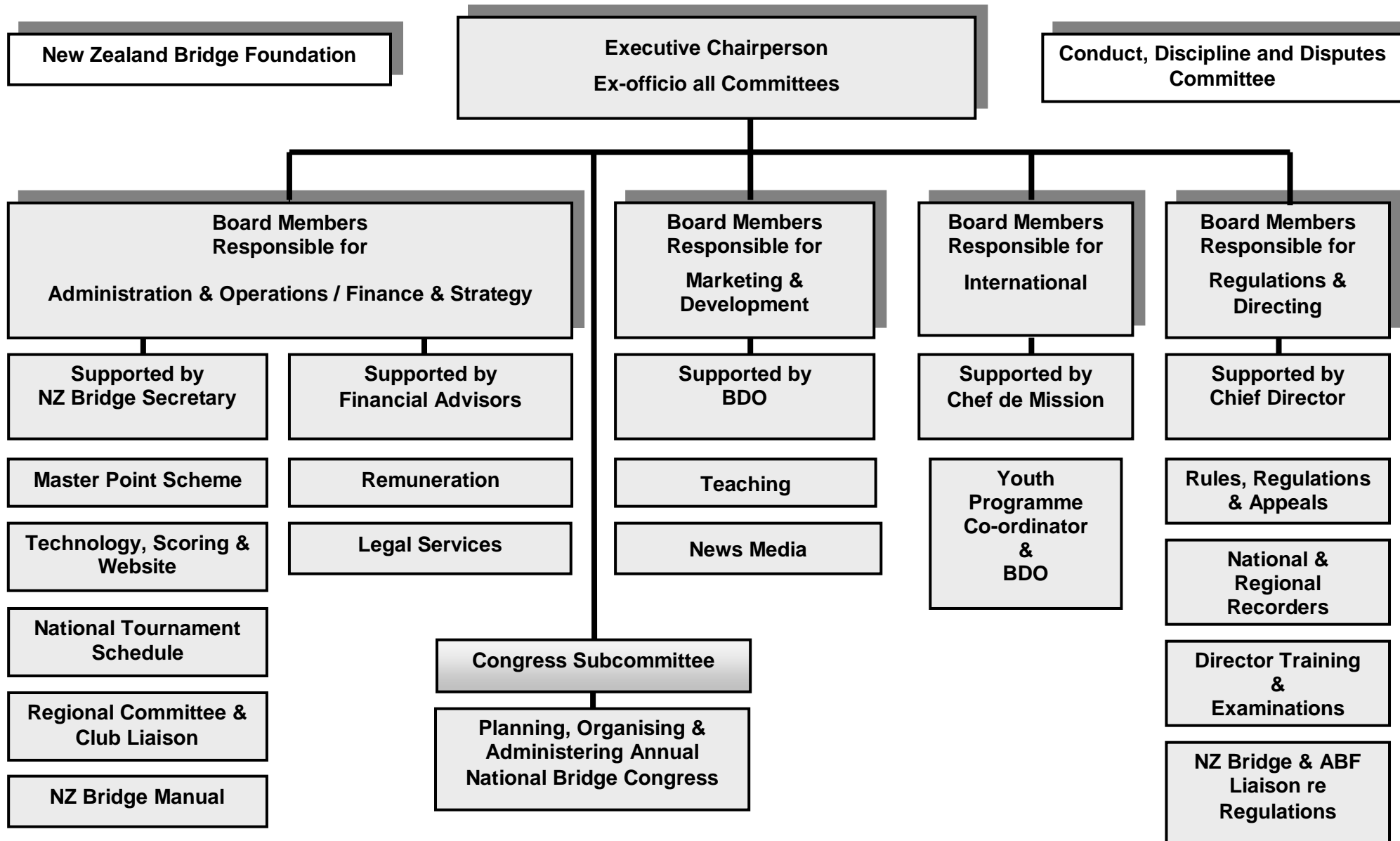
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- 1996 The two International Teams obtained their best results in the history of New Zealand's participation in the Olympiad. The Open Team finished 5th out of 35 in their section; the Women's Team finished 8th out of 22 in their section.
- 1998 John Wignall awarded MNZM (Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, for Services to Bridge.
First NZCBA website.
- 1999 First New Zealand Wide Pairs event.
- 2000 WBF Worldwide Pairs scored via the internet.
The Open Team finished 5th in their section of the Olympiad in Maastricht, Netherlands, just failing to qualify.
- 2002 Appointment of Richard Solomon as Bridge Development Officer, to give the game a wider profile and to encourage more people to play the game.
John Wignall appointed first Vice-President of the WBF.
- 2003 Players' Master Point history available through the website.
- 2006 Alan Turner appointed National Coach of International Teams.
The Women's Team won the PABF Championship in Shanghai, China (Emma Barrack, Karen Cumpstone, Jan Cormack, Jan Alabaster, Christine Gibbons, Jenna Gibbons; NPC Alan Turner).
- 2007 A Remit from the NZCBA Management Committee seeking a change of name of the organisation, and including Clubs as members, to New Zealand Bridge Incorporated with a new Constitution to be substituted for the former rules was adopted at the 2007 AGM. Graham Wakefield and Arie Geursen were "drivers" of the consultation process, which disseminated the vision behind the proposed change.
John Wignall awarded Life Membership of NZ Bridge Inc.
Other Life Members at the time of adoption of the new Constitution:
John Evitt / Paul Hobbs / Tony Thomson / Shirley Truman / Shirley Waymouth
Tom Jacob appointed National Coach of International Teams.
- 2008 Kay Nicholas elected as the first Chairperson of New Zealand Bridge.
Stan Abrahams appointed first Chef de Mission of International Teams.
- 2009 Kris Wooles appointed Chef de Mission for NZ Bridge for the period 2009–2012.
Alister Stuck appointed as the first full-time Secretary of NZ Bridge.
The Board resolved to establish a 7th Region encompassing the top of the South Island, effective 1 July 2010.
New Zealand Bridge Foundation established under the Charitable Trusts Act.
Jo Clark appointed inaugural Chairperson of the Foundation.
- 2010 Arie Geursen awarded Life Membership of NZ Bridge Inc.
47th PABF Championships held in Hamilton.
- 2011 NZ Bridge hosted WBF President Gianarrigo Rona and his wife.
- 2012 Martin Reid and Peter Newell part of the winning Team in the NEC Cup in Japan.
Derek Evennett appointed to Chef de Mission role, effective when Kris Wooles retired in November 2012.

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- 2013 Interprovincial Championships moved away from the National Congress (hosted by the Wellington Club).
Adoption of electronic system cards, harmonised with the Australian Bridge Federation.
- 2014 The NZ Bridge Magazine moved to digital copy.
Kay Nicholas awarded Life Membership of NZ Bridge Inc.
- 2015 A Constitutional amendment allows for the appointment of an Honorary Solicitor.

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NZ BRIDGE ORGANISATION

Clubs elect the Chairperson and Board Members using a weighted voting allocation in proportion to their Home Club membership via a postal ballot conducted in March each year.

The Chairperson serves a three-year term. Board Members also serve a three-year term; however, two Board Members are required to retire each year in rotation but may offer themselves for re-election.

The Chairperson and Board Members may serve no more than nine consecutive years on the Board.

Staffing

The NZ Bridge Board is supported by a full-time Secretary and a Bridge Development Officer, whose responsibilities include Editor of the New Zealand Bridge Newsletter and other publications, Chairperson of the Congress Organising Committee and bridge promotion initiatives.

Chief Director

The Board also appoints a Chief Director with responsibilities for:

- the administration of laws and practices;
- the conduct of the game;
- the supervision of Players and qualified Directors.

National Conference

The National Conference is an annual meeting of Members of the Board, Regional Committee Chairs (or alternates), the Secretary and the Chief Director.

One of the primary functions of the National Conference is the consideration of Remits recommended by Regional Committees or by the Board.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of NZ Bridge may be attended by any member of an Affiliated Club, but speaking rights and voting rights may be exercised only by authorised Club delegates. Any matter for determination by the Annual Meeting shall be resolved by formal ballot, when requested, with each Affiliated Club having a weighted voting entitlement in proportion to that Club's Home Club membership. Clubs may appoint a delegate to represent them at the Annual Meeting, including the Chairperson, Board Member or other attendee, and may provide written direction to that person as to how to cast its vote(s) on any matter for determination.

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Finance

NZ Bridge obtains its finance from the levy paid by all Clubs on their membership as shown on the Master Point Database quarterly as at 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December and from the Master Point Scheme operated for Tournaments and Club playing sessions. Substantial income is needed by NZ Bridge to finance services to Clubs, to finance overseas and internal tours undertaken by its representatives and to finance its administrative activities.

Regional Committees obtain their finance from part of the levy determined by the Board, paid by all Clubs in their Region on their membership figures, and from a share of the Master Point revenue raised from their Region.

Master Point Scheme

Being an Affiliated Club entitles that Club to run a 3A Point or 5A Point Open Tournament each calendar year as well as B Point Tournaments. In accordance with the rules specified for the Master Point Scheme (Part E), all sessions other than teaching sessions shall be submitted for the award of Master Points according to the scales published in Part E – Master Point Regulations.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Seven Regional Committees

Auckland / Northland

Waikato / Bay of Plenty

Central Districts

Wellington

Top of the South

Canterbury

Otago / Southland

Regional Committees are provided for under the NZ Bridge Constitution for the following reasons.

1. To provide a local link between Regional Clubs and the National Body.
2. To co-ordinate the activities of Clubs by arranging Tournament Schedules, inter-Club play etc.
3. To organise trials to select Representative Regional Interprovincial Teams, New Zealand Club Championship and any other Representative Team required, e.g. visits by overseas Teams.
4. To provide a source of experienced advice and assistance to Clubs.
5. To provide a unified body for the promotion, support and co-ordination of the game in a regional context.
6. To allocate and have responsibility for Regional Tournaments and any 15A Point and above Tournaments delegated to the Region by NZ Bridge.
7. To convene an annual Regional Conference for delegates from Affiliated Clubs located within the Region to meet with members of the Regional Committee and any representatives from NZ Bridge, for the better co-ordination and advancement of bridge.
8. To attend and participate in, via the Committee Chairperson and any other authorised delegate, the annual National Conference involving representatives from other Regional Committees and the NZ Bridge Board.
9. To facilitate the teaching of the game of bridge within the Region and growth in participation in the game and membership of Affiliated Clubs.
10. To arrange or facilitate bridge seminars and/or other opportunities for the education of local bridge Players, and for persons aspiring to qualify by examination as Directors.

The Regional Committee has as its main role the organisation of bridge at the level between Clubs and NZ Bridge. As such, it acts as a link between Regional Clubs and the National Body at the local level. The Regional Committee does not necessarily aim to arrange or organise bridge at the individual Club level.

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Funding of Regional Committees is financed by a levy from NZ Bridge calculated on the membership of each Affiliated Club in its Region as shown on the Master Point Database quarterly as at 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December and from a share of Master Point revenue raised from its Region.

Membership

Clubs elect the nominees to their Regional Committee every two years and have a weighted voting right in proportion to their Home Club membership. The Board of NZ Bridge then formally appoints the Regional Committee, which fulfils the responsibilities described above.

Regional Committee members do not represent their Clubs on the Committee; neither do they seek membership of the Regional Committee to represent their Club or Clubs. They accept a position on the Regional Committee to "manage" bridge throughout the district.

Liaison between Clubs and Regional Committee

Schedules of Tournaments and their results must be sent to the Regional Committee, and this includes Club, Regional and New Zealand Tournaments run by Clubs in the district.

All changes in office bearers and their telephone numbers should also be notified to the Regional Committee.

All Remits proposed by Clubs must be sent to the Regional Committee for its endorsement.

MANDATE AND PROCEDURE FOR RECORDERS

(Rule 15.5 of NZ Bridge)

The Board of NZ Bridge under **Rule 15.5 (page A29)** delegates to the Chief Director the responsibility for securing the services of a Recorder or Recorders for the control and management of the Recorder Process under this Mandate and in accordance with these procedures.

The purpose of the Recorder system is to establish a method for dealing with complaints that may arise from incidents that occur at Tournaments or other competitive events run under the auspices of NZ Bridge that:

- do not meet the expected standard of conduct and proprieties but are not serious enough to require a ruling by the Director at the table or are outside the purview of the Director; **or**
- are serious but there is only an implication of wrongdoing without substantial evidence to bring a formal complaint to the Director or the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee; **or**
- should be addressed by counselling and/or education.

It is important that such instances are reported to the relevant Recorder to ensure that appropriate action is taken and the game of bridge is made more enjoyable for everyone.

1. Contact Details for Recorders

The identity and contact details of the National Recorder and all Regional Recorders are listed at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

2. Duties and Responsibilities of the National Recorder

- (a) The National Recorder receives, assesses, evaluates and, if he/she considers to be appropriate, investigates reports of all incidents arising directly or indirectly from any Tournament or other competitive event involving more than one participating Club held in New Zealand, brought to his/her attention by
 - any Player, **or**
 - the Director, **or**
 - other official including any member of the Match Committee, **or**
 - any Regional Recorder.
- (b) On completion of his/her assessment, evaluation and/or investigation, the National Recorder may:
 - where appropriate, provide assistance or advice to the complainant; **and/or**
 - record the matter without further comment / action; **or**

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- if appropriate, refer the matter immediately to the Chief Director or, in his/her absence, the Director in Charge; **or**
 - refer a serious matter, or history of complaints, to the Chairperson of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee of the Board; **or**
 - counsel the offending Player or Players.
- (c) The National Recorder:
- maintains a confidential register of complaints / incidents brought to his/her attention either directly or through the Regional Recorders;
 - may make, or assist with, an impartial presentation of evidence to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee;
 - will provide leadership, guidance and support to the seven Regional Recorders;
 - assists in the provision and maintenance of written guidelines for the execution of the duties of the National and Regional Recorders.
3. Duties and Responsibilities of Regional Recorders
- (a) The Regional Recorder receives, assesses, evaluates and, if he/she considers to be appropriate, investigates reports of all incidents arising directly or indirectly from any Tournament or other competitive event involving more than one participating Club held in their Region, brought to his/her attention by
- any Player, **or**
 - the Director, **or**
 - other official including any member of the Match Committee, **or**
 - any Club Recorder.
- (b) On completion of his/her assessment, evaluation and/or investigation, the Regional Recorder may:
- where appropriate, provide assistance or advice to the complainant; **and/or**
 - record the matter without further comment / action; **or**
 - refer the matter to the National Recorder; **or**
 - if appropriate, refer the matter immediately to the Director of the event; **or**
 - counsel the offending Player or Players.
- (c) As directed by the National Recorder, maintain a confidential register of complaints / incidents brought to his/her attention either directly or through Club Recorders.

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- (d) Assist the National Recorder with the preparation of evidence to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee.
- (e) Provide guidance and assistance to Club Recorders or officials in his/her Region.

QUALIFICATION TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND IN INTERNATIONAL MATCHES

1. Qualification to represent New Zealand requires financial membership of an Affiliated Club on the closing date of entry to the selection process and Players must be
 - (a) born in New Zealand, **or**
 - (b) a New Zealand citizen, **or**
 - (c) a bone fide resident of New Zealand.

2. Clause **1(c)** should be further defined as having residence in New Zealand for at least nine months of the year immediately preceding the closing date of entry to the selection process (with the expression “selection process” meaning the annual process of determining New Zealand representative teams in international events, which may, in some years, include meeting an objective standard based on performance in designated events).

3. Any Player who, in the sole opinion of the Board of NZ Bridge, has represented another country in an international bridge event or who has changed nationality or acquired a new nationality may be eligible to represent New Zealand provided that at least two subsequent calendar years have passed after he/she last represented the other country and then only if he/she has fulfilled the residency criteria set out in Clause **1(c)** above. NZ Bridge does adopt the exception contained in Clause 2.2 of the WBF Eligibility Code:

This period may be reduced or even cancelled, with the agreement of the two NBOs involved and by the WBF Credential Committee, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

In order for a Player to be accepted as eligible to be considered for New Zealand representation, that Player must firstly obtain permission from the NBO that he or she has previously represented internationally, the Board of NZ Bridge AND the WBF or other international body hosting the event in respect of which the Player seeks to play. Written evidence of all permissions obtained must accompany any entry by that Player to the selection process and that Player must also obtain and supply a New Zealand WBF player number.

4. Any WBF or APBF requirements would override 1 to 3 above if more onerous.
5. Generally, Youth Players are not, under WBF rules, subject to the same strict eligibility conditions as applicable for Open events (i.e. in this case, “Open” meaning events other than Youth events) but any Player who has played for another NBO at Youth level and wishes to represent New Zealand in a Youth or Open event must still satisfy the requirements of 1 to 3 above, noting that compliance with such requirements may be simpler where representation is sought for another Youth event.

CONSTITUTION

NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE INCORPORATED

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Name

1.1 The name of the Association is "New Zealand Bridge Incorporated" ("NZ Bridge").

2. Registered Office

2.1 The registered office of NZ Bridge shall be at 544 Ruahine Street Palmerston North or such other place as the Board shall from time to time decide.

3. Interpretation

In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Act" means the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 or any act in substitution therefore.

"Affiliated Club" means any incorporated club, or the members of any unincorporated club (collectively included in the term "club") which is recognised by Rule 6.2 or is subsequently approved by resolution of the Board as eligible for affiliation to NZ Bridge and which is currently in compliance with all the requirements under these Rules for membership of NZ Bridge.

"Annual Return" means the Annual Return required to be submitted by each Affiliated Club in accordance with Rule 19 and where the context requires means the most recent Annual Return submitted under Rule 19.1.

"Association" means NZ Bridge and includes where appropriate the organisation under its former name "The New Zealand Contract Bridge Association Inc".

"Board" means the Board of the Association having control of NZ Bridge under Rule 8 and "Board Member" means a member of the Board.

"Chief Director" means the Chief Director of the Association appointed under Rule 15 and includes any person appointed by the Board to act temporarily in that capacity.

"Chief Executive" means the Chief Executive of the Association (if any) appointed under Rule 14.

"Coach" means any Coach or Assistant Coach, and also includes the National Bridge Coach and/or any Assistant National Bridge Coach appointed as such by the Board.

"Code of Conduct" means the Code of Conduct of the Association as promulgated by the Board from time to time.

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"Conference" or "National Conference" means any meeting convened in accordance with Rule 17.1 and for the avoidance of doubt does not include a Regional Conference convened in accordance with Rule 16.12.

"Constitution" means the Rules of NZ Bridge.

"Contract Bridge" means the game of Contract Bridge as prescribed under the International Laws as promulgated by the World Bridge Federation and includes all forms of Contract Bridge including tournament, teams, duplicate and rubber games, and any modifications thereof and "game" shall have a similar meaning.

"Form" means the Form specified from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge as prescribed for the purpose of filing a Notice of Appeal with the Registrar of the Bridge Tribunal.

"General Meeting" includes any AGM of NZ Bridge and any General Meeting convened in accordance with Rule 18.10.

"Home Club" means the Affiliated Club to which a Player belongs, or if a Player belongs to more than one Affiliated Club, the principal club to which the Player belongs, as nominated by the Player.

"Manual" or "NZ Bridge Manual" means the most recent edition of the Manual as published from time to time by NZ Bridge and available on the NZ Bridge website as a reference for Regional Committees, Affiliated Clubs and Players detailing the required standards relating to the conduct of bridge matters applicable to and/or governing Bridge Organisation, Administration and Operations in New Zealand.

"Notice in Writing" includes advice by e-mail to an Affiliated Club or to a candidate's last advised e-mail address.

"Official" includes the Chief Director and any Recorder, and any person officiating as a director at the National Bridge Congress or any other trial, match or event under the direct control of the Board, and any member of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee.

"Player" means a member of an Affiliated Club who is entitled to participate as a Player in a bridge session or sessions conducted by such club, but also includes any person who is a member of any overseas bridge organisation or who is a member of any club affiliated with any overseas bridge organisation and any other person or invitee lawfully participating in a game of Contract Bridge in New Zealand as conducted under these Rules or otherwise in accordance with the NZ Bridge Manual.

"Procedures" means the formal Procedures as adopted from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge as applicable in the event any matter is referred to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee, and published in the Manual and/or on the NZ Bridge website.

"Recorder" means any Recorder for the Association, appointed under Rule 15.5.

"Regulations" means the Tournament Regulations as adopted from time to time by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge and published in the Manual and/or on the NZ Bridge website.

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"Remit" or "Remits" includes any resolution proposed for determination or discussion at any AGM or General Meeting of the Association or at any Conference of the Association but does not include any other resolution which the Chair is prepared to accept for consideration, determination or discussion as general business on any such occasion.

"Return Date" means the 31st day of December immediately prior to the date of the most recent Annual Return required to be submitted by an Affiliated Club in accordance with Rule 19.1.

"Rules" means the Rules of NZ Bridge as registered from time to time with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies under the Act.

"Secretary" means the Secretary of the Association (if any) appointed under Rule 14.

"Tribunal" means any Tribunal from time to time constituted as the Bridge Appeal Tribunal in accordance with and pursuant to Rule 28 for the purpose of determining any appeal from a decision of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee.

4. Objects

The objects of NZ Bridge are:

- (a) To foster, promote and conserve, without intention of pecuniary gain, the game of Contract Bridge and the participation of Players in New Zealand through membership of Affiliated Clubs.
- (b) To manage, control, administer and be responsible for the regulation of Contract Bridge in New Zealand.
- (c) To institute, control, conduct, license or approve tournaments or matches, and to adopt, formulate, interpret and enforce rules for the conduct of such tournaments or matches and to aid by advice or other means organisations and clubs conducting local or sectional tournaments or matches.
- (d) To arrange matches or contests in New Zealand or overseas between teams representing New Zealand and those representing other countries or states.
- (e) To select and control Players, partnerships and teams to represent New Zealand and to regulate and conduct any trials for such purpose, and to appoint coaches, non-playing captains and chefs de mission to any International events or matches.
- (f) To arrange control and secure the conduct of a National Bridge Congress to be held annually in New Zealand and any competitions or matches to be carried on in conjunction with such event.
- (g) To institute, control and conduct a scheme for the award of master points to Players and to keep and maintain a record of such awards and/or the rankings and ratings obtained by individual Players arising from such awards or as a result of other achievements arising from participation in the game.

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- (h) To promote and secure the regular publication of a magazine or other publication entitled NZ Bridge and to produce and disseminate newsletters, manuals, programmes and any other material relating to Contract Bridge.
- (i) To conduct courses and examinations to qualify directors and other officials to conduct bridge sessions and events.
- (j) To promote, support or produce development and educational programmes, lessons, material, publications or other aids designed to teach persons to play and/or to encourage participation in the game of Contract Bridge and/or to raise the skill levels and abilities of Players who are members of Affiliated Clubs or who have been selected for or are eligible for any event, competition, tournament or match.
- (k) To print, publish and/or distribute under licence the rules and laws to govern all forms of Contract Bridge, including tournament, duplicate and rubber games.
- (l) To constitute an authoritative organisation for the final determination in New Zealand of all questions and matters which may arise in the play of the game of Contract Bridge, and to interpret the rules and laws and to serve as the arbiter of controversies on all matters directly or indirectly pertaining to or arising from the game, including all matters relating to discipline and/or complaints regarding play or the conduct or behaviour of Players or Officials.
- (m) To apply for, affiliate with or become a member of any other society, association or organisation for any purpose consistent with the advancement of these objects, or which is involved with the promotion, administration and regulation of Contract Bridge outside New Zealand, including the World Bridge Federation.
- (n) To promote the observance of appropriate ethical principles by all persons participating in the play of the game.
- (o) To solicit and enter into sponsorships or discount arrangements or other relationships with groups, companies, or other entities for the benefit of NZ Bridge, Affiliated Clubs, Players and/or any other party.
- (p) To do all such other things as in the opinion of the Board may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of any of the foregoing objects including requiring any Affiliated Club to alter its constitution so as to comply with these objects or these Rules.

5. Powers

NZ Bridge shall have the power to do all things necessary, desirable or convenient for the achievement and/or promotion of its objects and in particular:

- (a) To purchase, lease, hire or otherwise acquire and hold real and personal property, rights and privileges.
- (b) To control and raise money, including to borrow, invest, loan or advance monies and to secure the payment of such by way of mortgage or charge over all or part of its real and personal property.

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- (c) To sell, lease, mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of any property of NZ Bridge and to grant such rights or privileges in respect of such property as it considers appropriate.
- (d) To construct, maintain or alter any buildings premises and facilities and carry out works it considers necessary or desirable for the advancement or improvement of such buildings, premises or facilities.
- (e) To seek, solicit and enter into sponsorship, discount or other arrangement or relationships with individuals, groups, companies or other entities for the benefit of NZ Bridge and/or Affiliated Clubs or Players.
- (f) To determine, raise and receive money by subscriptions, donations, fees, levies, charges, grants, government funding or otherwise.
- (g) To determine, implement and enforce disciplinary procedures and/or sanctions applying to members and Players.
- (h) To establish and determine regulations, policies and procedures for the governance, management and operations of NZ Bridge and the administration and advancement of the game of Contract Bridge in New Zealand.
- (i) To appoint, employ and terminate the services of staff, personnel and organisations to work for and with NZ Bridge.
- (j) To contract, engage or otherwise make arrangements with any person or organisation to fulfil all or any of the objects of NZ Bridge.
- (k) To determine who are its members.
- (l) To make and enforce rules of competitions, tournaments and events involving Contract Bridge in New Zealand, including any amendments, adjustments, explanations or rulings in relation to the laws of the game or the application of such laws.
- (m) To develop national and other programmes for competing, coaching and officiating in or with respect to the game of Contract Bridge.
- (n) To select New Zealand and other representative bridge teams, squads or partnerships for participation in elite events or special coaching or other programmes, to field representative teams in World Bridge Federation, Pacific Asia Bridge Federation and other international competitions and to appoint Coaches, non-playing captains and chefs de mission to any International events or matches.
- (o) To establish commissions, committees, working parties and other groups and to delegate any of its powers and functions to such groups, or to any person or persons.
- (p) To produce, develop, create, license and otherwise exploit, use and protect the intellectual property of NZ Bridge.
- (q) To compile, print and publish or support, assist or facilitate the compilation printing and publishing of, any magazine, periodical, book, leaflet or other

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material relating to the game of Contract Bridge and the development and implementation of any computer systems or software packages that NZ Bridge may consider necessary or desirable for the promotion and advancement of its objects.

- (r) To award, grant or otherwise honour achievements and services to the game of Contract Bridge and/or NZ Bridge.
- (s) To establish or facilitate the establishment of a New Zealand Bridge Foundation or similar trust, whether or not the same shall be incorporated under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 or registered under the Charities Act 2005, to promote and advance all or any of the objects of NZ Bridge, and to appoint the trustees of such Foundation or Trust from time to time in accordance with the terms of any such Deed of Trust.
- (t) To do any other act or things which further the objects of NZ Bridge provided that the above powers shall not limit the rights and powers of NZ Bridge as an incorporated society under the Act.

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PART 2 – NZ BRIDGE

6. Membership

6.1 The members of NZ Bridge shall comprise each of the Affiliated Clubs, provided however that such club remains in compliance with all the requirements under these Rules for membership of NZ Bridge.

6.2 The 112 Affiliated Clubs as at the date of adoption of this Constitution are as set out below:

Akarana	Akaroa	Alexandra	Ashburton
Auckland	Balclutha	Caccia Birch	Cambridge
Christchurch	Crockfords	Cromwell	Dannevirke
Dargaville	Diamond Harbour	East Coast Bays	Epsom (Royle Epsom)
Feilding	Franklin	Geraldine	Gisborne
Golden Bay	Gore	Greymouth	Hamilton
Hastings	Havelock North	Hawera	Hibiscus
Hokitika	Howick	Huntly	Hutt
Invercargill	Kaikoura	Kairangi	Kapi Mana
Karori	Katikati	Kawerau	Kerikeri
Levin	Maniototo	Marlborough	Marton
Masterton	Matamata	Milton	Morrinsville
Mossburn	Motueka	Mt Albert	Mt Maunganui
Napier	Nelson	New Plymouth	North Shore
Oamaru	Omokoroa	Opotiki	Orewa
Otago	Otaki	Paeroa	Pahiatua
Paihia	Palmerston North	Papakura	Papatoetoe
Paraparaumu	Picton	Putaruru	Queenstown
Rangiora	Richmond	Rotorua	South Wairarapa
Stratford	Taieri	Taihape	Taradale
Taumarunui	Taupo	Tauranga	Te Anau
Te Aroha	Te Awamutu	Te Puke	Temuka
Thames	Timaru	Tokoroa	United
Upper Hutt	Victoria	Waiheke	Waihi
Waikanae	Waikato	Waitemata	Waipukurau
Wairoa	Waitemata	Waitomo	Wanaka
Wanganui	Warkworth	Wellington	West Otago
Westport	Whakatane	Whangarei	Winton

6.3 Honorary life members, elected in the manner prescribed in Rule 18.9, shall be deemed to be honorary members of NZ Bridge entitled to such recognition and privileges as the Board may from time to time grant or accord by resolution as attaching to such status.

6.4 Honorary life members as at the date of adoption of this Constitution are:

John Evitt
Paul Hobbs
Tony Thomson
Shirley Truman
Shirley Waymouth
John Wignall

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7. Affiliation

7.1 No club shall be granted affiliation or shall be entitled to retain affiliation to NZ Bridge unless:

- (a) Its name and rules or constitution (including any subsequent alterations or additions) have been or are approved by the Board.
- (b) Its membership is open to both sexes and it has a minimum of sixteen (16) Player members who nominate that club as their Home Club. Clubs which do not maintain the minimum of sixteen (16) Player members nominating that Club as their Home Club as at the date of any Annual Return of membership may be granted continued affiliation for the succeeding year by resolution of the Board.
- (c) It has paid any fees, charges, levies or other payments required by NZ Bridge or is not in arrears of any such payment by more than sixty (60) days.
- (d) It agrees to abide by the conditions and requirements of any Master Point Scheme from time to time operated by NZ Bridge.

7.2 Every Affiliated Club shall be bound by the provisions of these Rules by virtue of its affiliation and all members of the Club are, by virtue of that affiliation, also bound by the provisions of these Rules to the extent the same apply to members of an Affiliated Club participating in the game of Contract Bridge.

8. Control and Management

8.1 Control of NZ Bridge shall be vested in a Board ("Board") comprising:

- (a) A Chairperson, elected from time to time in the manner provided under Rule 10.
- (b) Six (6) Board Members, each of whom shall be elected from time to time in the manner provided under Rule 10.

8.2 The Zone 7 representative on the World Bridge Federation Executive, if also a New Zealand resident and a member of an Affiliated Club, shall be a Board Member ex officio during the period of such executive appointment but shall not be counted for purposes of a quorum and shall not have voting rights.

8.3 No employee or independent contractor in the nature of an employee of NZ Bridge shall be eligible to be nominated in accordance with Rule 10 for election as Chairperson or as a member of the Board, nor to be appointed to such role under Rule 12 to fill any vacancy.

8.4 The Board may exercise all powers and do or cause to be done all acts and things which may be exercised or done by NZ Bridge consistent with the provisions of these Rules.

9. Term

- 9.1 The Chairperson shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the 1st day of April immediately following election.
- 9.2 Subject to the transitional provisions contained in Rule 13 Board Members shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the 1st day of April immediately following election.
- 9.3 The Chairperson and Board Members shall be elected on a rotational basis with only those who have completed their three year term subject to the election process in any year.
- 9.4 The Chairperson and Board Members are eligible for re-election up to a maximum consecutive period of nine (9) years as a member of the Board. For the purpose of computation of such period, any period of service as a member of the Board occurring by virtue of an appointment to such position shall be excluded.

10. Election of Board

Nomination

- 10.1 All nominations shall be:
 - (a) in writing;
 - (b) on the prescribed form (if any) provided for that purpose;
 - (c) accompanied by the nominee's curriculum vitae; and
 - (d) certified by the nominee, expressing a willingness to accept the position if elected.
- 10.2 Nominations for the position of:
 - (a) Chairperson shall be:

signed by not less than six (6) Player members of an Affiliated Club or Clubs, as nominators
 - (b) Board member shall be:

signed by the president or chairperson, or the secretary, of an Affiliated Club, on behalf of such club, as the nominator.
- 10.3 All nominations must be sent to the Secretary at the registered office of NZ Bridge in a tracked courier bag (signature required) in sufficient time to be in the hands of the Chief Executive or Secretary of NZ Bridge no later than 5.00pm on the 2nd (second) Tuesday of February in any year and the nominations shall be posted on the NZ Bridge website before 5.00pm on the next business day following such receipt.

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- 10.4 If there is one (1) candidate only for the position of Chairperson, or there are insufficient candidates for the position of Board Member, to require an election on any occasion, such candidate or candidates shall be deemed to have been elected and to succeed to such office from the 1st day of April following the closure of nominations.
- 10.5 If there are no nominations for Chairperson, or fewer nominations than vacancies for the position of Board Member, then nominations for that particular vacancy or vacancies shall be extended to 5.00pm on the 3rd (third) Tuesday of February in that year and any further nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary as provided under Clause 10.3.
- 10.6 Notice in Writing with respect to each candidate deemed to have been elected pursuant to Rule 10.4 shall be given by the Chief Executive or the Secretary within seven (7) days of the closing date for the receipt of nominations to each such candidate and to each Affiliated Club.

Voting

- 10.7 Voting for the election of any candidate as Chairperson or as a Board Member in any year shall be conducted by the Chief Executive or the Secretary by ballot of Affiliated Clubs.
- 10.8 Postal ballot papers shall be sent to the secretary of all Affiliated Clubs no later than the 3rd (third) Friday of February and the completed ballot paper signed by the chairperson or president or secretary of that Affiliated Club must be received by the Secretary no later than 5.00pm on the 2nd (second) Tuesday of March.
- 10.9 Each Affiliated Club shall cast in favour of the designated candidate or candidates as the case may be the number of votes prescribed based upon the number of Player members nominating the Affiliated Club as their Home Club at the most recent Return Date, as follows;

Up to 100	1 vote
100 to 199	2 votes
200 to 399	3 votes
400 to 699	4 votes
700 to 999	5 votes
1000 +	6 votes

in the manner prescribed by these Rules and any stipulations set out on the ballot paper.

- 10.10 Ballots shall be opened and counted by the Chief Executive and/or Secretary in the presence of an independent scrutineer or scrutineers designated for that purpose by resolution of the Board. The decision of the Chief Executive and/or Secretary as to the validity and intent of each ballot paper received, shall be final. A record of the total votes for each candidate in the election shall be prepared by the Chief Executive and/or Secretary and upon such record being completed and signed by the Chief Executive and/or Secretary and all scrutineers present on that occasion the individual ballot papers shall be forthwith destroyed.

10.11 In the event of an equality of votes for any position the successful candidate shall be determined by lot within five (5) days of the closing date for the receipt of ballots by the Chief Executive and/or Secretary in the presence of the Chairperson or at least one (1) Board Member who shall not be one of the candidates having an equality of votes as aforesaid.

10.12 The results of each ballot shall be declared by the Chief Executive or the Secretary within seven (7) days of the closing date for the receipt of ballots, by Notice in Writing to each candidate and to each Affiliated Club and those candidates so elected shall succeed to such office from the 1st day of April in such year.

11. Termination of Position

11.1 Any member of the Board shall cease to hold office if the member:

- (a) resigns in writing, from the date such resignation is received by the Chief Executive and/or Secretary; **or**
- (b) suffers from mental incapacity as certified by a qualified medical practitioner, or becomes a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health; **or**
- (c) is convicted on indictment of a criminal offence or is sentenced to a term of imprisonment or community service for any offence whatsoever; **or**
- (d) becomes bankrupt; **or**
- (e) is absent without leave from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board; **or**
- (f) is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with NZ Bridge and fails to disclose the nature of this interest in writing to the Board or to the Chief Executive and/or Secretary prior to such contract being entered into or being resolved upon by the Board; **or**
- (g) is or has been prohibited from being a director of a company under the Companies Act 1993; **or**
- (h) becomes an employee, or an independent contractor in the nature of an employee, of NZ Bridge; or holds or is appointed to fulfil the position or role of Chief Director; **or**
- (i) dies

and the member's position shall forthwith become vacant.

12. Filling of Vacancy

- 12.1 Should the position of Chairperson become vacant the remaining Board Members shall appoint one (1) of their number by resolution to act as Chairperson until the next annual election process is concluded and the vacancy is filled under Rule 10.
- 12.2 Should the position of any other member of the Board become vacant such position may be filled at any time by appointment of a replacement by unanimous resolution of all remaining Board Members and such replacement Board Member shall continue in office until expiration of the remainder of the original three-year term applicable to that vacancy.
- 12.3 Any vacancy filled by appointment pursuant to Rules 12.1 or 12.2 shall be deemed not to be in contravention of Rule 8.1, but such appointment shall not be made in contravention of Rule 8.3.

13. Transitional Provisions

- 13.1 The President of the Association and other members of the Association's Management Committee holding such office as at the date of adoption of this Constitution shall continue in office as the Chairperson and as Board Members respectively of NZ Bridge until the 31st day of March in the succeeding year.
- 13.2 At the inaugural Board election conducted after the date of such adoption provision shall be made for the election of a Chairperson and six (6) Board Members consistent with Rule 8.1 and the provisions of this Constitution.
- 13.3 The President of the Association and the Chairperson and any other member of the Management Committee holding office as at the date of adoption of this Constitution shall be eligible for nomination as a candidate for election at that inaugural Board election.
- 13.4 The Chief Executive and/or Secretary shall determine by lot at the first meeting of the new Board held after such inaugural election process is concluded, which two (2) of the six (6) Board Members shall retire by rotation on the succeeding 31st day of March after a one-year term, and which two (2) of the six (6) Board Members shall retire by rotation after a two-year term.
- 13.5 No period of service as an officer of the Association or as a member of its Management Committee or as a member of the Board under these transitional provisions prior to the conclusion of the inaugural election process shall be deemed to be membership of the Board for the purpose of calculation in future of any period of tenure for the purpose of Rule 9.4.
- 13.6 Notwithstanding Rule 16.1, during the year ending 31 March 2009 there shall be six Regional Committees constituted, based upon and coinciding the boundaries of the former Centres.

14. Chief Executive and/or Secretary

- 14.1 The Board may in accordance with procedures approved by the Board appoint a Chief Executive of NZ Bridge and enter into an employment contract with such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as the Board in any such case by resolution thinks fit.
- 14.2 The Chief Executive shall administer the office of NZ Bridge and subject to Rule 14.3 is to be taken to have substantial initiative for the implementation of the policies, and the conduct of the ordinary business, of NZ Bridge.
- 14.3 The Chief Executive is to be directly responsible to the Board, which may give directions and require information and reports as it considers appropriate.
- 14.4 The Chief Executive is entitled ex officio to attend meetings of the Board, Conference, any Regional Committee, and committee or other sub-entity of NZ Bridge, but shall not be entitled to be present under the terms of this provision during any period where the Board is discussing any matter affecting, or arising directly or indirectly from, his or her employment.
- 14.5 In relation to any attendance pursuant to Rule 14.4 the Chief Executive is not to be counted for purposes of a quorum and does not have voting rights.
- 14.6 The Chief Executive shall be responsible for all matters relating to or arising from the employment of any other staff of NZ Bridge, in consultation with the Board, and may employ a Secretary of NZ Bridge or such other personnel as are deemed necessary from time to time provided however that such appointments shall be for such period and upon such terms and conditions as the Board by resolution approve in each case.
- 14.7 If a Chief Executive is not appointed and employed from time to time under Rule 14.1 the Board shall appoint and employ a Secretary of NZ Bridge.
- 14.8 The Chief Executive and/or Secretary as the case may be shall establish, maintain and be responsible for the proper records and minutes concerning all transactions, business, meetings and dealings of NZ Bridge and the Board and such other matters as may be specified by the Board from time to time.

15. Chief Director and Recorder

- 15.1 The Board shall engage and appoint on such basis and on such terms and conditions as are mutually satisfactory to the Board and the appointee, a Chief Director for the organisation and conduct of the game of Contract Bridge in New Zealand, the supervision of participant Players, the administration of the international and local laws and practices of the game, and the implementation of the relevant parts of the NZ Bridge Manual.
- 15.2 The Chief Director shall have such specific duties as the Board shall from time to time determine, and in addition shall promote the observance of appropriate ethical principles by all Players, Officials and other persons actively involved in the game.

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- 15.3 The Chief Director shall have direct management authority over all other national, tournament or club directors however qualified and the administration of any prescribed examination and testing regime governing director appointments and over the conduct of all tournament matches and sessions played under the jurisdiction of NZ Bridge and/or any Affiliated Club.
- 15.4 The Chief Director shall liaise as necessary with the Chief Executive and/or Secretary of NZ Bridge but any employment contract shall deem the basis of such engagement or employment to be in the nature of a contractor responsible directly to the Board, to maintain an appropriate separation and independence of role from the executive operations and activities of the Board.
- 15.5 The Chief Director shall be responsible for securing the services of a Recorder or Recorders for NZ Bridge on such basis as the Board shall approve and for the control and management of the recorder process in accordance with the mandate set out in the NZ Bridge Manual and any other procedures specified by the Board.
- 15.6 The Chief Director shall be entitled ex officio to attend any meetings of the Board, Conference, any Regional Committee, committee or sub-entity of NZ Bridge for the purpose of presenting any report or information or participating in any discussion with respect to any matter impinging upon the role, function, duties and responsibilities of the Chief Director or any issue arising from the conduct and playing of the game of Contract Bridge in New Zealand, including the arranging and implementation of the National Bridge Congress.
- 15.7 In relation to any attendance in accordance with Rule 15.6 the Chief Director is not to be counted for the purpose of a quorum and does not have voting rights.

PART 3 – OPERATIONAL

16. Regional Committees

- 16.1 The Board shall establish and maintain not less than six (6) nor more than eight (8) Regional Committees, based upon a clearly defined part of New Zealand approved in each case by the Board and each member of a Regional Committee shall be a member of an Affiliated Club situated within the jurisdiction of that Regional Committee.
- 16.2 Regional Committees shall be delegated such general powers and functions as may have previously been exercised by Centres, on behalf of Affiliated Clubs within such territorial area, but are not incorporated under the Act.
- 16.3 The scope and delegation of authority by the Board to Regional Committees shall be established (and may be subsequently amended or modified) from time to time by resolution of the Board.
- 16.4 Subject to the overriding jurisdiction conferred upon the Board under Rule 26.3 each Regional Committee shall be constituted or reconstituted as the case may be biennially by resolution of the Board resolved between the 1st day of May and the 15th day of June, and shall comprise not less than four (4)

nor more than six (6) members who shall hold office for a term of two (2) years commencing from the 1st day of July in the year of appointment.

- 16.5 Each Regional Committee once constituted shall appoint by resolution from time to time from among its members a Regional Chairperson.
- 16.6 Each Regional Committee shall act during the period from the 1st day of March to the 30th day of April commencing in 2012 and biennially thereafter to determine in consultation with that Region's Affiliated Clubs the Region's nominations to the Board for appointment as the next Regional Committee and shall advise the Chief Executive and/or Secretary in writing of such recommendations accordingly.

Each individual nomination received by such Regional Committee must be in writing and signed by the nominee and by the President or secretary of at least one of that Region's Affiliated Clubs.

- 16.7 If nominations from Affiliated Clubs within a Region exceed the prescribed maximum of six (6) the Regional Committee shall conduct an election by ballot of its Affiliated Clubs with each Affiliated Club being accorded a weighted voting entitlement consistent with Rule 10.9 for each ballot cast provided however that an Affiliated Club shall not be entitled to vote for more than six (6) of the individual nominees. The process for opening, counting and recording ballots cast shall be generally consistent with Rule 10.10 and after the record shall be completed and signed by the Chair and/or secretary of the Regional Committee and any scrutineers present on that occasion the ballot papers shall be forthwith destroyed.
- 16.8 The provisions of Rule 11.1 and Rule 12.1 shall also apply to members of Regional Committees as if they were members of the Board. Any casual vacancy arising during the two-year term of a Regional Committee shall be filled by resolution of the Board after such consultation with the remaining members of the Regional Committee and the Affiliated Clubs within the region as the Board considers reasonable in the circumstances.
- 16.9 A quorum of a Regional Committee shall be three (3) members.
- 16.10 Each Regional Committee shall ensure that proper minutes and records of its meetings, activities and any financial transactions are kept and maintained and are made available upon request from the Board, Chief Executive and/or Secretary, or the auditors of NZ Bridge, as the case may be.
- 16.11 The provisions of Rules 25.3 to 25.9 inclusive shall apply to meetings of a Regional Committee as if the Regional Committee be the Board, provided however that the Chairperson of the Board of NZ Bridge shall be an ex-officio member of every Regional Committee.
- 16.12 Each Regional Committee shall act in each and every year to convene a meeting of delegates from each Affiliated Club within the Region, by giving not less than 21 days Notice in Writing of the date time and place of such Regional Conference to the Secretary or President of those Affiliated Clubs and to the Chief Executive and/or Secretary.

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16.13 Each Regional Conference shall be chaired by the Regional Chairperson or in his/her absence another member of the Regional Committee and may be attended by:

- (a) members of the Regional Committee;
- (b) up to three delegates from each Affiliated Club within the Region;
- (c) any member of the Board; and
- (d) the Chief Executive, Secretary, Chief Director and/or Bridge Development Officer.

16.14 A Regional Conference shall undertake such business as the Regional Committee shall cause to be set out in the order paper accompanying the Notice of Meeting or as the Regional Conference shall agree to consider on any occasion.

16.15 Voting at any Regional Conference shall be by show of hands among delegates present from Affiliated Clubs but any resolutions passed are of a non-binding nature and are by way of recommendation or are advisory only.

17. National Conference

17.1 The Board shall convene a National Conference each year by causing the Chief Executive or Secretary to give not less than thirty (30) days Notice in Writing of the date, time and place of the Conference to members of the Board, Regional Chairpersons, and the Chief Director, on each such occasion to be attended by:

- (a) members of the Board;
- (b) Regional Chairpersons (or an alternate member appointed by the Regional Committee if the Regional Chairperson is unavailable);
- (c) Chief Executive and/or Secretary;
- (d) Chief Director.

17.2 Conference shall be chaired by the Board Chairperson or in his/her absence by a Board Member nominated by the Chairperson for that purpose or otherwise agreed by those members of the Board present.

17.3 Conference shall undertake such business as the Board shall set out in the order paper accompanying the notice of meeting or as the meeting shall agree to consider on any occasion.

17.4 A primary function of Conference shall be to consider remits notified for that purpose by Regional Committees, together with any other items of business recommended by a Regional Committee for that purpose and approved by the Chairperson of the Board.

17.5 Remits may be originated directly by the Regional Committee, or be from any Affiliated Club associated with the Regional Committee, but in the case of

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Remits proposed by Affiliated Clubs these shall not be considered unless they have been endorsed for that purpose by the relevant Regional Committee or in writing by not less than one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the number of Affiliated Clubs within the Region.

- 17.6 If a Regional Committee declines to resolve to endorse a Remit but the required number of Affiliated Clubs propose the Remit by appropriate written notice to the Regional Committee then the sponsoring Affiliated Club shall have the right to nominate a delegate to attend the Conference at that Club's expense, for the specific purpose of speaking to the Remit.
- 17.7 Voting at Conference shall be by show of hands among members of the Board and Regional Chairpersons (or their alternate) present on that occasion.
- 17.8 For the avoidance of doubt, resolutions passed at Conference are not binding on the Board, except that any resolution of Conference referring a remit to the AGM for discussion and determination shall be actioned accordingly.

18. General Meetings

- 18.1 The Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of NZ Bridge shall be held annually, at and in conjunction with the National Bridge Congress.
- 18.2 The Secretary shall give not less than thirty (30) days Notice in Writing of the date, time and place of the AGM to members of the Board, Regional Chairpersons and all Affiliated Clubs, including with respect to the business proposed to be brought before the AGM provided however that the non-receipt or late receipt of such notice by any such person or club shall not invalidate the proceedings at such meeting.
- 18.3 The chairperson or president, or secretary of each Affiliated Club, shall be required to give to the Secretary prior to the actual commencement of such AGM Notice in Writing of the appointment of the authorised delegate for such Affiliated Club and any alternate authorised delegate in the event that the first-mentioned authorised delegate is unable for any reason to be present at that AGM.
- 18.4 Any member of an Affiliated Club may attend the AGM but only delegates authorised for that purpose by an Affiliated Club in accordance with Rule 18.3 or persons permitted at the discretion of the Chair to do so shall be entitled to speak.
- 18.5 Voting shall initially be by show of hands but in the event that a poll is demanded by any authorised delegate of an Affiliated Club then voting shall be by formal ballot cast by such authorised delegates on behalf of their club. The weighted voting entitlement of each Affiliated Club on such occasion shall be calculated by reference to Rule 10.9.
- 18.6 For the avoidance of doubt, any person (including the Chairperson of the meeting) may be appointed in accordance with Rule 18.3 to be the authorised delegate (or the alternate authorised delegate as the case may be) of an Affiliated Club and may hold more than one (1) such appointment simultaneously and in any such instance shall be entitled for the purpose of

any poll to cast separate and distinct votes in accordance with the weighted voting entitlement of each such Affiliated Club and in so doing shall be obliged to have regard to any written direction which may have been given by the particular Affiliated Club with respect to the casting of such ballot on such occasion.

- 18.7 The AGM shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Board or in his/her absence by a Board Member nominated by the Chairperson for that purpose or otherwise agreed by those members of the Board present.
- 18.8 No quorum is required to be present or sustained at a duly constituted AGM but the minute record shall show all those Affiliated Clubs which had a validly authorised delegate or alternate delegate present on that occasion.
- 18.9 The business of the AGM shall include:
- (a) to receive the Annual Report;
 - (b) to receive and adopt the audited Financial Statements for the previous financial year;
 - (c) to appoint an auditor;
 - (d) to consider any business or proposed resolution for the election of any honorary life member or constitutional changes of which notice has been given;
 - (e) to consider any Remits or proposed resolutions that have been directed by the Board or by Conference to the AGM for discussion or determination as appropriate; and
 - (f) to undertake any general business which the Chair is prepared to accept on that occasion for consideration.
- 18.10 The Board may at any time by resolution determine to convene a General Meeting of NZ Bridge. In such event not less than thirty (30) days Notice in Writing of the date time and place of such meeting and of the business to be transacted shall be given by the Chief Executive and/or the Secretary to members of the Board, Regional Chairpersons and Affiliated Clubs and the provisions contained in Rules 18.2 to 18.8 shall apply as if such meeting be an AGM provided however that such meeting shall consider only such business as is set out in the Notice of General Meeting.

PART 4 – FINANCIAL

19. Annual Return

- 19.1 No later than the 7th day of May in each year every Affiliated Club shall submit to the Chief Executive and/or Secretary an Annual Return signed by the president or chairperson or secretary of such club. The purpose of the Annual Return is for Statistical, Marketing and general record purposes but not for the striking of the membership for levy purposes.

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- 19.2 The Annual Return shall include such information and be in such form as may be requested or prescribed from time to time by the Board which may include:
- (a) the name of the Affiliated Club, its registered office and postal, telephone, e-mail and website contact details;
 - (b) the name and contact details of the president or chairperson and the secretary including their postal, telephone and e-mail contact details;
 - (c) the number and names of those Player members current as at the preceding 31st day of March who have designated the Affiliated Club as their Home Club and their e-mail address (if any);
 - (d) the number and names of those Player members current as at the preceding 31st day of March who have not designated the Affiliated Club as their Home Club;
 - (e) the current annual subscription charged to an ordinary member inclusive GST (if any);
 - (f) the number of bridge sessions held each week and the usual days and commencement times of such sessions;
 - (g) a copy of the club's most recent Financial Statements whether audited or unaudited.

- 19.3 All information provided to the Association through the Annual Return shall be treated by NZ Bridge in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Privacy Act.

20. NZ Bridge Annual Subscription Levy

- 20.1 Each Affiliated Club shall be liable to pay NZ Bridge an annual subscription levy ("the subscription levy") per Player member designating that Affiliated Club as his/her Home Club and appearing on the master point database maintained by NZ Bridge ("the designated Players"), being such sum (plus GST) as shall have been fixed for that purpose from time to time by resolution of the Board in respect of the 12 month period commencing on the 1st day of April in each year.
- 20.2 The subscription levy shall be fixed by the Board so as to include not less than \$2.00 to be allocated by the Board from time to time to the Regional Committee for the territorial area in which the Affiliated Club is situated.
- 20.3 The subscription levy shall be due and payable by each Affiliated Club quarterly in advance by instalments due on the 1st days of April, July, October and January ("the due dates") in each and every year with each such instalment calculated by reference to the designated Players recorded on the master point database maintained by NZ Bridge as at the end of the immediately preceding quarter.
- 20.4 If part or all of any instalment of the subscription levy of any Affiliated Club remains unpaid sixty (60) days after the relevant due date for such instalment the Affiliated Club shall be forthwith deemed to be suspended from

participation in any activities under the jurisdiction of NZ Bridge, and shall not be entitled to exercise any vote or make any nomination, and no member of such Affiliated Club designating that club as his/her Home Club shall be entitled to play or compete in any tournament match or event conducted under the jurisdiction of NZ Bridge nor be eligible for the award of any master points during such suspension, pending payment by the Affiliated Club of that portion of the subscription levy.

21. Financial Year

21.1 The financial year of NZ Bridge shall end on the 31st day of March in each year.

22. Treasurer and Honorary Solicitor

22.1 The Board shall appoint from time to time an independent professional accounting firm to assist on a fee for service basis with the keeping and maintenance of proper books of account and financial records for NZ Bridge.

22.2 Notwithstanding Clause 22.1 the Board may appoint one of its members to act as Treasurer having such duties and responsibilities as the Board shall determine including liaising with such accounting firm and reporting regularly to the Board on the state of NZ Bridge's finances and ensuring an audited set of Financial Statements is presented each year to the AGM.

22.3 The Board may from time to time appoint a person to be the Honorary Solicitor for NZ Bridge, who shall not be disqualified from such appointment by virtue of being a member of an Affiliated Club.

22.4 Nothing in Clause 22.3 shall preclude the Board from at any time or times engaging any other firm or person to provide legal services to or for the benefit of NZ Bridge and/or independently instructing the performance of such services.

23. Auditor

23.1 An auditor (which may be a firm) shall be appointed at each AGM of NZ Bridge, and such auditor shall audit the accounts for that financial year.

23.2 No person shall be disqualified from acting as auditor by virtue of being a member of an Affiliated Club.

24. Bank Accounts

24.1 The bankers of NZ Bridge shall be such bank or banks as may be determined from time to time by the Board and such accounts shall be operated upon by such persons and in such manner as the Board shall from time to time by resolution determine.

24.2 All money received by or on behalf of NZ Bridge or any Regional Committee must be paid into a bank account approved by the Board for that purpose.

PART 5 – PROCEDURES

25. Board Meetings

25.1 Board meetings are to be convened:

- (a) as the Board resolves;
- (b) as the Chairperson directs by Notice in Writing to the Chief Executive or the Secretary;
- (c) if a request for a meeting is made by any three (3) or more Board Members by Notice in Writing to the Chief Executive or the Secretary.

25.2 Not later than seven (7) days before the day fixed for a Board meeting the Chief Executive or the Secretary shall give Notice in Writing of the day, time and place of the meeting to each Board Member together with a copy of the agenda for the meeting. To allow for urgency or other special or extraordinary circumstance, the requirement for the minimum of seven (7) days' notice may be waived in any instance by unanimous resolution passed by all members of the Board present in New Zealand on the occasion of any such meeting where less than the stipulated seven (7) days' notice has been given.

25.3 At all Board meetings the Chair shall be taken by the Chairperson but if the Chairperson is not present, able or willing to take the Chair, then those Board Members present and entitled to vote shall elect a Chairperson for such meeting. The Chairperson so elected shall remain the Chair until the arrival of the Chairperson.

25.4 In the event of an equality of votes on a matter before the Board, no casting vote shall be exercisable and the vote shall be deemed to be lost.

25.5 Any person may be invited to be present at, or to speak at, a particular Board meeting, with the leave of the meeting.

25.6 Subject to these Rules, the Board may conduct its meeting as it considers appropriate and may permit a member or members (including ex-officio members) to take part by telephone, video-conference or any other means of communication.

25.7 Where a meeting of the Board is taken to be held under Rule 25.6:

- (a) the holding of the meeting and the business transacted are to be recorded in the appropriate minute book; and
- (b) the minutes are to be placed on the agenda of the next normally constituted meeting of the Board for confirmation

as if such meeting was a normally constituted meeting.

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- 25.8 A resolution in writing signed or assented to by facsimile, e-mail or other form of recorded communication by all members of the Board for the time being present in New Zealand shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board duly convened and held.
- 25.9 For the purpose of Rule 25.8, two (2) or more separate documents in identical terms that are set out and signed or assented accordance with that Rule are to be taken as one (1) document.
- 25.10 Four (4) voting members present in person, or participating in the meeting as provided by Rule 25.6, shall constitute a quorum of the Board.

26. Delegation

- 26.1 The Board may from time to time appoint such standing committees or special committees or subcommittees as it considers appropriate.
- 26.2 Every Regional Committee and other committee or subcommittee shall be subject to the control of the Board and shall carry out all directions of the Board given in relation to the committee or its affairs provided however that the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee shall conduct its activities in accordance with Rule 27.5.
- 26.3 The Board may from time to time discharge or reconstitute or cause to be reconstituted any Regional Committee, committee (including the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee) or subcommittee.
- 26.4 For the purpose of efficiency and effectiveness in the conduct of the Board's business the Board may delegate to any Regional Committee, committee or subcommittee or to any person or persons, any of its functions, duties or powers except:
- (a) the power to borrow money;
 - (b) the power to levy;
 - (c) the power to sub-delegate.
- and may determine in writing conditions for any such delegation including its duration.
- 26.5 For the avoidance of doubt, a member of a standing or special committee (other than a Regional Committee), or of a subcommittee, or a person to whom any delegation is made or granted under these Rules, is not required to be a member of the Board nor a member of any Affiliated Club.
- 26.6 A delegation and any determination in relation to a delegation shall not be affected by reason only of a change in the Board's composition from time to time.

- 26.7 Any delegation under this Rule 26 does not exclude the continuous exercise of the particular function, duty or power by the Board, save and except those functions, duties and powers vested in the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee in accordance with Rule 27.
- 26.8 Any decision properly made pursuant to any delegation under this Rule 26 shall still be capable of being rescinded, altered or amended by subsequent resolution of the Board, and the Board shall not be required to take any action to implement or give effect to any decision made under delegation.
- 26.9 The Board shall keep and maintain a register recording the scope, delegation and directions given to any Regional Committee or standing committee or special committee or to any person or persons.

27. Conduct, Discipline and Disputes

- 27.1 The Board shall appoint and continuously maintain a standing Committee to be known as the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee having appropriate delegations for the purpose which shall have the power to enquire into and/or to determine:
- (i) any allegation or complaint in relation to any matter involving the conduct (including breaches of the Code of Conduct) or behaviour of any member of an Affiliated Club or any Player, Coach, non-playing captain or chef de mission with respect to that party's participation in or presence at:
 - (a) any session, match or tournament conducted by any Affiliated Club; or
 - (b) any event, tournament or congress in New Zealand conducted by or under the auspices of NZ Bridge or with the sanction of NZ Bridge; or
 - (c) any international or overseas bridge event or tournament, congress or competition where such person is representing New Zealand in any category, or whose entry or participation has been sanctioned directly by NZ Bridge, or while such person is travelling to or returning from such an event, or where the allegation or complaint with respect to such person is referred to NZ Bridge by or on behalf of any other national bridge organisation;and deemed by the Board, Chief Director or Chairperson of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee as the case may be to be sufficiently significant, concerning or important as to warrant enquiry into and/or determination under this Rule 27; and
 - (ii) any matter involving or alleged to involve any breach of the laws or failure to adhere to the proprieties of the game by any member of an Affiliated Club or Player, Coach, non-playing captain or chef de mission deemed by the Board, Chief Director or Chairperson of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee as the case may be to

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be sufficiently significant, concerning or important as to warrant such enquiry and/or determination under this Rule 27; and

- (iii) any other matter referred to the Board by any Affiliated Club or by any Regional Committee and accepted by the Board and the Chairperson of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee as a matter appropriate for enquiry into and/or determination by the Committee under this Rule 27.

27.2 When exercising any delegation and/or power in accordance with Rule 27.1 the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee shall comprise not less than three (3) members including one (1) person who shall be a barrister and/or solicitor of not less than seven (7) years standing.

27.3 Any determination of such allegation, complaint, matter, breach or failure may involve the imposition by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee upon such person or persons of any one or more of the following sanctions:

- (a) Suspension or prohibition (temporary or for a defined period or for life) of such person or persons from participation in any capacity in all or any Contract Bridge events, tournaments, competitions, matches or sessions conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge or by any Affiliated Club, or by any other party with the approval of NZ Bridge, and to extend, continue or vary the terms of, or lift, a current suspension or prohibition already in force;
- (b) Imposing any condition or restrictions upon the participation by such person or persons in any capacity in any Contract Bridge events, tournaments, matches or sessions or giving any directions relating to such participation, whether temporarily or for a defined period or for life;
- (c) A bar upon that person or persons being nominated as a candidate for, or being appointed to any vacancy in any office under this Constitution, or being employed by NZ Bridge, whether indefinitely or for a specified period of time;
- (d) A bar upon that person or persons being selected as an official or as a playing member of any representative team or squad whether at club, regional, national or international level, whether indefinitely or for a specified period of time;
- (e) A formal reprimand or censure;
- (f) Imposing a monetary fine not exceeding \$20,000 payable to NZ Bridge, and fixing the date by which payment of such fine is due;
- (g) Awarding a sum or sums of money payable to NZ Bridge on behalf of any person or persons affected by the conduct or behaviour the subject of the determination by way of reparations to or in recognition of costs and expenses incurred by any person or persons, and fixing the date by which payment of such sum or sums is due;
- (h) A requirement that such person or persons meet the cost of, or make a payment towards the costs of, conducting any such enquiry (and

carrying out any associated investigations) and/or making such determination, or the costs and expenses incurred by any Committee members, witnesses or others in relation to a hearing, such payments to be made to NZ Bridge on such basis and by such date or dates as the Committee shall order;

- (i) Any order for publication by the Board of the Committee's determination and/or the reasons for such determination, on such basis and in such manner as the Committee shall require; and
- (j) Any order for notification of the Committee's determination and/or the reasons for such determination together with any related recommendation and details of any sanction or sanctions imposed, to any overseas bridge organisation, federation or association, on such basis and in such manner as the Committee thinks fit.

27.4 The Chairperson, or any two (2) members of the Committee in the Chairperson's absence or unavailability, shall have the power to impose upon any such person or persons as an interim measure any sanction allowed under Rule 27.3 (a) or Rule 27.3 (b), from any date following receipt of the allegation or complaint until the enquiry into and/or determination of the allegation or complaint shall have been completed by the Committee, and to extend, continue or vary the terms of, or lift, such a sanction already in force.

27.5 The Committee, in enquiring into and/or determining any allegation or complaint, shall undertake a process or procedure in each case at its sole discretion but in accordance with the Committee's adopted Procedures as from time to time promulgated in the NZ Bridge Manual, and otherwise consistent with principles of natural justice, but shall hold such enquiry in camera, and further shall be entitled to consider its verdict, decision or determination in respect of such allegation or complaint in private.

27.6 The Board shall provide and maintain a formal record of the Committee's verdict, decision or determination with respect to any allegation or complaint but not the voting or decision of any individual member of the Committee present for that purpose.

28. Right of Appeal

28.1 A verdict, decision or determination made by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee under these Rules may be appealed by any person affected only and exclusively to a Tribunal called the Bridge Appeal Tribunal established under Clause 28.4.

28.2 An appeal is commenced when such person lodges a Notice of Appeal on the Form from time to time prescribed by NZ Bridge for that purpose with the Registrar of the Sports Tribunal established by the Board of Sport and Recreation Act 2002 and continued under the provisions of the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006, who shall also act as Registrar of the Tribunal.

28.3 Any appeal notified in accordance with Clause 28.2 shall not be treated as valid unless the Notice is:

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- (a) accompanied by a filing fee of \$1,500 paid to the Registrar of the Tribunal, and a copy of the formally written record of the verdict, decision or determination of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee the subject of the Appeal; and
 - (b) is filed within ten (10) days of the date such written decision has been advised to and received by such person or persons as are the subject of the decision.
- 28.4 The Tribunal shall be constituted on each occasion a valid appeal is filed with the Registrar by the Chairperson of the Sports Tribunal for the purpose of adjudicating upon the appeal after the completion of any interlocutory processes, utilising not less than two (2) current members of the Sports Tribunal (one of whom shall act as the Tribunal Chairperson) and one (1) member chosen from a standing panel of persons experienced and knowledgeable with respect to the game of bridge and the practical application of its Laws and Regulations including the conduct of bridge tournaments and events, the membership of such standing panel being appointed and/or discharged by resolution from time to time of the Board of NZ Bridge.
- 28.5 The practice and procedure of the Tribunal shall be regulated by and be consistent with the Sports Tribunal Rules as promulgated from time to time, modified on any occasion as the Tribunal may think fit, provided however that the Tribunal shall also have the powers to impose any one or more of the sanctions, orders, restrictions or prohibitions identified in Clause 27 as available to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee.
- 28.6 The Tribunal shall have the powers to:
 - (a) if in the opinion of the Tribunal Chairperson the interest of justice so require, to order that security for costs be lodged by any party or parties with the Registrar; and/or
 - (b) make an order for costs incurred in respect of the appeal by any party and/or the Tribunal, against any party or parties.
- 28.7 Hearings will be on the record unless in the opinion of the Tribunal there are exceptional circumstances requiring an oral hearing. The Chairperson of the Tribunal shall be entitled to determine and give directions relating to prehearing case management, procedural and/or evidential matters, and to exercise such function without reference to the other Tribunal members.
- 28.8 Any penalties orders or sanctions imposed by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee are deemed to be suspended after the filing of a valid appeal unless, upon the application of any party and after providing the opportunity for both sides to be heard, the Tribunal determines that any or all such penalties, orders or sanctions shall continue in force pending determination of the appeal.
- 29. No Review or Proceeding to be Originated
 - 29.1 Except as is provided under Rule 28 no person shall initiate any proceeding, or application for review, nor shall any further appeal lie, to any court or other judicial forum, against any decision of the Tribunal, the Board of NZ Bridge or

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the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee or any of their members, or of any Official or the Chief Director or any director, with respect to or arising from any allegation, complaint or matter the subject of enquiry into and/or decision or determination in accordance with the provisions of Rule 27 and/or Rule 28 as the case may be.

30. Common Seal

- 30.1 NZ Bridge shall have a Common Seal which shall be kept in the custody of the Chief Executive or the Secretary. The Common Seal shall not be affixed to any document except by the authority of a resolution of the Board and in the presence of two (2) members of the Board together with the Chief Executive or the Secretary, each of whom shall witness such act by signing under the appropriate description the said document to which the seal is affixed.

31. Reimbursement and Remuneration

- 31.1 Subject to compliance with any policies or procedures determined from time to time by the Board, the Chairperson, Board Members and any Official designated under these Rules or any employee of NZ Bridge shall be entitled to be reimbursed by NZ Bridge for costs and expenses lawfully or properly incurred by them in the fulfilment of their obligations to NZ Bridge.
- 31.2 The Board may by resolution provide, during any period or periods when there is no appointment of a Chief Executive or the Chief Executive shall be unavailable to perform his/her role and duties, for the remuneration of the Chairperson or any member of the Board who shall have been mandated to assume such duties and to act in lieu of that capacity, in such amount as the Board may from time to time determine.

32. Indemnity

- 32.1 The Chairperson and members of the Board, any Official designated under these Rules or any employee of NZ Bridge shall be indemnified by NZ Bridge in respect of any claim by any third party and the reasonable costs and expenses of any claim which may be made against them by any third party arising from any action, statement, decision or omission done or made by them in good faith while lawfully engaged in the business of NZ Bridge and/or the Board, or the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee, and acting within these Rules.
- 32.2 The entitlement to any indemnity pursuant to the provisions of Rule 32.1 shall not extend to or be available with respect to a claim made by NZ Bridge against any member or members of the Board or any Official or employee nor to any claim made by a member or members of the Board against any other member or members of the Board.

33. Winding Up

- 33.1 In the event the necessary resolutions are passed by the members of NZ Bridge in accordance with S.24 of the Act or an order is made by the High Court appointing a liquidator under S.25 of the Act each Affiliated Club shall, in the event of a surplus, share in the distribution of such surplus according to

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the number of Players nominating the Affiliated Club as their Home Club in the most recent Annual Return submitted by such Affiliated Club pursuant to Rule 19.1 pro-rata with the number of such Home Club Players in all other clubs affiliated to NZ Bridge as at the date of the passing of the necessary resolution or appointment of the liquidator as the case may be.

34. Notices

- 34.1 Any notice to be given to any person or Affiliated Club pursuant to these Rules may be given by personal delivery, or ordinary post, or e-mail, or facsimile to that person's or Affiliated Club's last known address or facsimile number as the case may be. If such notice is given by post it shall be deemed to have been received in the ordinary course of post. If such notice is given by e-mail or fax it shall be deemed to be received at the time of transmission.

35. Alteration to Rules

- 35.1 These Rules may be amended added to or repealed by resolution duly passed by a two-thirds majority by weighted vote in accordance with Rule 10.9 at a General Meeting of NZ Bridge provided that notice of the proposed alteration has been embodied in the notice convening such General Meeting and received by Affiliated Clubs not less than thirty (30) days prior to such General Meeting.

36. Non Payment of Monies Owing

- 36.1 Any Player who has become liable to make a payment to NZ Bridge, whether by way of entry fee to any Tournament or other event, deposit, charge for participation in any examination, for the purchase of any goods or materials, or pursuant to any order made by the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee and/or any Tribunal constituted under Clause 28, or arising in any other manner whatsoever, and has not made such payment within thirty (30) days after the date such payment is due or such liability is incurred as the case may be shall forthwith be deemed to be suspended from any activities under the jurisdiction of NZ Bridge and shall not be entitled to play or compete in any tournament, match or event conducted under the jurisdiction of NZ Bridge nor be eligible for the award of any master points during such suspension, and shall not be entitled to make any nomination nor act as a member of the Board or of any Committee constituted by the Board, pending the settlement in full of such liability to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive or Secretary.

PROCEDURES OF THE CONDUCT, DISCIPLINE AND DISPUTES COMMITTEE

In the event that any matter referred to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee (the Committee) is either determined by the Chairperson of the Committee as requiring a formal investigation or required by referral from the Board or Chief Director of NZ Bridge, then the Committee shall proceed as follows.

1. The Committee shall, through its Chairperson, contact the person or persons involved (the respondent/s) providing whatever material has been given to the Committee (unless already provided by NZ Bridge) and requiring a written response within 10 working days from the date of the communication.
2. After receiving a response, the Committee shall, in a timely manner, consider that response and, should they then decide that they are able to make a decision on the material before it, then they shall advise the respondent/s that he/she/they have the option of accepting that the matter be determined on the material before the Committee or request a formal hearing. In any event, the respondent/s shall have 5 working days to respond to this second communication.
3. Should the respondent/s accept that a matter be dealt with "on the papers", then they shall have the right to make a further submission, which is to be made within 5 working days of the date of the second communication from the Committee.
4. After 5 working days from its second communication, as provided by 2 above (and irrespective as to whether a further submission has been made or any response has been received), the Committee shall, in a timely manner, determine the matter and advise the respondent/s as soon as possible, including that the respondent/s have a right of appeal as defined in the Constitution should the decision be against the respondent/s.
5. Should any respondent/s not respond to the initial communication from the Committee within the 10 working day timeframe, then the respondent/s shall be suspended from participation in any capacity in all or any bridge events, Tournaments, competition matches or sessions conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge or by any Affiliated Club for a period of 20 working days from the expiry date of the 10 working day timeframe (unless the Committee agrees to extend the 10 working day period at its absolute discretion in an exceptional case, in which case the 20 working day suspension will run from the expiry of the extended date).
6. The Committee shall make a decision within the 20 working day period of suspension and that decision will vacate the automatic suspension and be substituted by whatever decision made by the Committee. Should the Committee not reach a decision within the 20 working day period of suspension, then the suspension shall be lifted pending their decision.
7. Should the respondent/s seek a hearing (see 2 above), then they shall forthwith pay a non-refundable filing fee of \$1,500 to NZ Bridge towards the costs of convening the hearing and the Committee shall set a hearing date within 20 working days of payment. Nothing shall prevent the Committee from exercising the powers available to it under the Constitution to impose further financial penalties should it be deemed appropriate.

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- 8.** Should the respondent/s fail to pay the required filing fee of \$1,500 within 5 working days of electing a hearing, then the Committee may proceed "on the papers". The Committee need not deal with this in person but its determination may be conducted electronically by telephone conference or by internet communication.
- 9.** Should the respondent/s (having paid a filing fee as prescribed) not co-operate in agreeing on a date of hearing or accept any of the dates for hearing offered by the Committee, then the Committee may hear the matter in the absence of the respondent/s. In this case also, the hearing need not be in person but may be conducted electronically by telephone conference or by internet communication.
- 10.** In some cases, matters may be referred to the Committee where, by operation of the Constitution, Players have been suspended. In such cases, the Committee shall convene a hearing within 20 working days of the date the suspension was imposed, in which instance the provisions of 6 and 9 above shall apply.
- 11.** Nothing herein shall limit the ability of the Committee to make further determinations about the conduct of its investigations as permitted by the Constitution.
- 12.** Any formal communications of the Committee may be made by e-mail, facsimile or letter and, for the purposes of any timeframe, the date of commencement will be the date of the e-mail, facsimile or letter, whichever is the case.

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LIST OF AFFILIATED CLUBS WITH CODE NUMBERS FOR COMPUTER MASTER FILE AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

Auckland / Northland Regional Clubs		Central Districts Regional Clubs		Canterbury Regional Clubs	
103	Akarana	302	Hokowhitu	502	Akaroa
106	Auckland	303	Dannevirke	503	Ashburton
115	Dargaville	306	Feilding	506	Christchurch
118	East Coast Bays	309	Gisborne	509	Crockfords
122	Royle Epsom	312	Hastings	512	Geraldine
124	Franklin	315	Havelock North	530	Rangiora
127	Hibiscus	318	Hawera	536	Temuka
130	Howick	321	Levin	539	Timaru
138	Kerikeri	322	Marton	545	United
139	Mt Albert	324	Napier	551	Waimate
145	North Shore	327	New Plymouth		
147	Orewa	329	Pahiatua		
148	Paihia	330	Palmerston North		
151	Papakura	333	Stratford		
154	Papatoetoe	336	Taihape		
160	Waiheke	339	Taradale		
163	Waitemata	342	Waipukurau		
166	Warkworth	345	Wairoa		
172	Whangarei	348	Wanganui		

Number of Clubs = 19 Number of Clubs = 19 Number of Clubs = 10

Top of the South Regional Clubs

705	Golden Bay
715	Kaikoura
720	Marlborough
725	Motueka
730	Nelson
735	Picton
740	Richmond
745	Westport

Number of Clubs = 8

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Waikato / Bay of Plenty Regional Clubs

203 Cambridge
206 Hamilton
209 Huntly
211 Katikati
212 Kawerau
215 Matamata
218 Morrinsville
221 Mount Maunganui
223 Omokoroa
230 Putaruru
236 Rotorua
237 Taumarunui
239 Taupo
242 Tauranga
245 Te Aroha
248 Te Awamutu
251 Te Puke
254 Thames
257 Tokoroa
259 Waihi
260 Waikato
263 Waitomo
266 Whakatane

Number of Clubs = 23

Wellington Regional Clubs

403 Hutt
406 Kairangi
409 Kapi Mana
412 Karori
415 Masterton
417 Otaki
418 Paraparaumu
420 South Wairarapa
421 Upper Hutt
424 Victoria
427 Waikanae
430 Wellington

Number of Clubs = 12

Otago / Southland Regional Clubs

603 Alexandra
606 Balclutha
609 Cromwell
612 Gore
615 Invercargill
616 Maniototo
618 Milton
621 Oamaru
622 Otago
624 Queenstown
627 Taieri
630 Te Anau
631 Wanaka
633 West Otago
636 Winton

Number of Clubs = 15

Regional Prefixes

100 Auckland / Northland
200 Waikato / Bay of Plenty
300 Central Districts
400 Wellington
500 Canterbury
600 Otago / Southland
700 Top of the South

Number of Regions = 7

CODE OF CONDUCT

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to foster a high standard of both social and ethical behaviour at Tournaments, in addition to and without limiting the requirements of conduct and etiquette as per **Law 74**.

These standards are relevant to Contestants, spectators and officials.

To facilitate easier reading, definitions of expressions used are listed below.

Harassment. Conduct that is insulting, abusive, intimidating, humiliating or offensive. Harassment is totally unacceptable throughout a Tournament, including occurrences:

- before play, during play, during breaks and after play;
- in the Tournament venue, and on the grounds of or in the near vicinity of the venue.

Badgering. To question, criticise or pester someone **repeatedly**, whether the matter is of importance or not, and irrespective of the purpose of the action.

Such conduct is considered to be egregious and disgraceful if the aim includes a self-serving benefit, e.g. the enjoyment of seeing the recipient angry, upset, distressed or embarrassed.

Badgering is totally unacceptable throughout a Tournament, including occurrences:

- before play, during play, during breaks and after play;
- in any part at all of the Tournament venue, and on the grounds of or in the near vicinity of the venue.

For the purpose of this definition, the word "repeatedly" can refer to historic interaction between the individuals concerned. Where there is a "history" of disagreement between the individuals, all involved must carefully avoid any action that could aggravate the encounter. If the individuals find it difficult to be cordial, silence is recommended.

Disturbance of the peace. Interruption of the peace, quiet and general good order of the playing of bridge by inconsiderate behaviour, despite requests to desist from such behaviour.

1. Best Behaviour and Expectations at the Bridge Table

Keep in mind that, although some will say "it is only a game", to others it is more than that. Either way, playing Tournament bridge should always be enjoyable, and courteous behaviour is an exceptionally important part of that enjoyment.

- Greet others in a friendly manner prior to the start of play of each round.
- Be a good "host" or "guest" at the table.
- Make the necessary effort to make bridge enjoyable for yourself, your partner and your opponents.
- Give credit when your opponents make a good bid or play.

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- Take care of your personal grooming.
- Avoid the use of language that others may find offensive or even socially unacceptable.
- Ensure that your mobile phone or any other type of communication device is switched off.
- Enjoy the company as well as the game.
- Try not to do anything that might annoy anyone, or stop whatever it is if anyone suggests that you are annoying them.
- Take care to summon and address the Director in a courteous manner.

2. General Unacceptable Behaviour

Such behaviour includes, but is not limited to

- harassment,
- badgering,
- disturbance of the peace,
- unwelcome jokes, innuendo or teasing about a person's looks, body, attire, age, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation,
- condescending, patronising, threatening or punishing actions that undermine self-esteem and/or diminish performance,
- coercive behaviour by someone perceived by the Player to be in authority, where a Player's status is threatened or rewards are given or promised,
- practical jokes that cause awkwardness or embarrassment, or may endanger a person's safety or negatively affect their performance,
- unwanted or unnecessary physical contact including touching, patting or pinching,
- unwelcome flirtation, sexual advances, requests or invitations,
- any form of bullying, including hazing,
- any form of physical assault,
- any sexual offence including sexual assault,
- any behaviour that brings NZ Bridge or the game of bridge into disrepute,
- abusive use of alcohol,
- non-medicinal use of drugs,
- postings on social media that involve any of the above negative actions, or that do not meet the standards laid out in the NZ Bridge Social Media Policy (**page A52**), and

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- behaviours such as those described above that are not directed towards individuals or groups but that have the effect of creating a negative or hostile environment.

3. Unacceptable Behaviour at the Bridge Table

- Arguing or raising voices with partners, opponents, Directors or officials.
- Being rude, sarcastic, belittling, insinuating, intimidating, profane, threatening or violent.
- Singing or talking during the bidding or play of the hand, with the exception of requesting an explanation of bids.
- Negative and/or sarcastic comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding.
- Gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table. However, if someone asks for help, it is acceptable to offer suggestions.
- Conduct that is less than polite.
- Criticising your partner or your opponents in public.
- Gloating over good results.
- Objecting to a call for the Tournament Director.
- To dispute or argue about a Director's ruling. You may appeal if you consider a ruling to be wrong, but do not argue the case at the table or at subsequent tables.
- Any loud or disruptive behaviour.
- Snapping or slamming cards on the table, or any other emphatic play of the cards that is designed to stress a point.

4. Audio or Video Recording

No audio or visual recording is permitted at a Tournament, except for official audio and/or visual recording that has been authorised by the Tournament Organiser, the Match Committee or, for reasons of expediency, the Director in Charge.

Any breach of this standard may be considered to be a serious offence, and may be referred to the Chief Director or to NZ Bridge, who may choose to report this to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee for review.

5. Behavioural Penalties

Annoying behaviour, embarrassing remarks, inappropriate language or any other conduct that might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by **Law 74A**.

NZ Bridge is aware that almost all Players naturally follow this Code of Conduct but that there are times when concentration and pressure may take their toll.

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Law 91A gives the Director the authority to assess and impose disciplinary penalties. These may include immediate disciplinary penalties and, if a further violation is incurred at the same event, suspension or disqualification from future competition in that event.

The Director in Charge and/or the Match Committee may choose to report such unacceptable behaviour to the Chief Director or to NZ Bridge, who may choose to report this to the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee for review.

6. Officials of NZ Bridge

Officials must undertake their activities with integrity and with the interests of NZ Bridge and the game of bridge in mind.

All officials must take utmost care to be completely objective in their judgement and in any recommendations that they give, so that issues are never influenced by anything other than the best and proper interests of bridge in New Zealand.

Officers and committee members must respect confidentiality and must not share personal or sensitive information.

NZ BRIDGE SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

1. Introduction

Social media is about sharing and interaction. It gives everyone a chance to produce their own content, to reply to others (such as followers, family members or other bridge Players) and to share definitive moments, reflections and experiences. NZ Bridge believes that social media has a valuable role to play in sharing the excitement of bridge with other bridge Players and those interested in the sport. In addition to engaging with the bridge community, social media can help the organisation to reach members of the broader public and traditional media.

Although social media provides a great opportunity to raise the profile of bridge and bridge Players and to reach new audiences, it also has the potential to harm the reputation of the organisation, its Affiliated Clubs or its participating Players, Board and Committee members, employees, officials and volunteers. It is crucial therefore for persons who can be perceived as representing NZ Bridge and/or who participate in the sport of bridge to be aware of the implications of using social media. The purpose of this document is to provide these individuals with guiding principles for using social media in an appropriate fashion.

This policy applies to all NZ Bridge employees, Board and Committee members, contractors and others associated with NZ Bridge including members of its Affiliated Clubs and persons participating as Players or kibitzers in NZ Bridge events, Tournaments and Congresses (including, without limitation, Chef de Mission, Non-Playing Captains or Coaches, officials, volunteers, squad members and those named as National Representatives to participate in International bridge events).

Social media is any kind of tool that you can use for sharing what you know, believe or have an opinion about, including, but not limited to:

- blogs;
- photo-sharing;
- video-sharing (such as You Tube);
- social networks (such as Twitter and Facebook);
- mobile phone applications;
- texting, e-mailing and web-casting.

2. Guiding Principles

Before making a social media post or circulation, remember the following general principles.

- As information or comment shared on social media appears in public, careful consideration should be given to content before it is posted or circulated.
- Information or comment shared within online communities could have implications for the sport and those associated with it.

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- What is shared online can be difficult to retract. Although content may be able to be removed, the very nature of social media encourages a person to share, which makes it difficult to know where the content may finish up.
- You should assume that all posts and information shared via social media can be traced back to you.
- People will make assumptions about what you are like based on what you write and say.
- When sharing information online, remember that you may be considered as holding yourself out as a representative of NZ Bridge or of the sport of bridge in New Zealand.
- Do not insult or say anything that could be construed as offensive or constitute an allegation or assertion of misconduct, cheating or unethical behaviour, or that impugns the integrity of an individual (including an official), partnership, Team or group of persons.
- You should not bring NZ Bridge or the sport of bridge into disrepute. The use of obscene, threatening or disparaging language or commentary regarding a Player, Board or Committee member, official, the organisation or its Affiliated Clubs will not be tolerated. Similarly, comments that are contrary to the spirit and integrity of the game or to sportsmanship generally are not acceptable.
- Any comments made on social media should abide by NZ Bridge's Code of Conduct and specifically should:
 - respect the rights, dignity and worth of others;
 - treat personal information of others as confidential;
 - refrain from any form of harassment, badgering, bullying or hazing and unwelcome flirtation, sexual requests, invitations or advances, or derogatory, defamatory or spiteful commentary.
- Do not share personal, confidential or sensitive information about NZ Bridge, its employees, Board and Committee members, officials or anyone else covered by this policy.
- Personal sites, blogs and accounts that have an NZ Bridge "look and feel" and could be perceived as being NZ Bridge or relating to any bridge event, Congress or Tournament are strictly prohibited. Do not use the NZ Bridge logo or any other trademarked marks or images on personal social media sites.
- If you have any doubts about what you are posting or circulating, talk to NZ Bridge ... or do not publish it!

3. Consequences of Failing to Adhere to this Policy

If you fail to follow these guidelines, NZ Bridge may, at its discretion, issue you with a take-down notice. Failure to comply with a take-down notice will render you liable to disciplinary action.

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Any breach of this Social Media Policy could lead to persons responsible being held to account. NZ Bridge has the right under its Constitution to initiate formal disciplinary action with the potential for sanctions to be imposed as a consequence.

In addition, as with any form of public communication, online communication can also be subject to action by any affected party. You should therefore be mindful that unsubstantiated or unfounded allegations or claims, false statements, and defamatory, offensive, threatening or disparaging comments could lead to legal action, prosecution or charges (including charges before NZ Bridge's Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee).

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PART B – DIRECTING

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DIRECTING QUALIFICATIONS

(Refer also to the Directing/Regulations section of the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz for more detail)

There are three levels for a qualified Director in New Zealand – Club, Tournament and National. Anyone considering becoming a qualified Director should first familiarise themselves with The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 (and this manual) and preferably gain some practical experience at Club level and attend a Directors' course before attempting the first examination.

1. Club Director

A qualified Club Director will be able to direct at Club level and at all "B" Point Tournaments. A basic understanding of the Laws is required, including the setting up of a room and movements. The examination is available twice a year in May and November (exact dates will be advised to Clubs and posted on the website). Applications can be made either through the Regional Committee Secretary or direct to the NZ Bridge Secretary. Each candidate is charged a fee, with a free re-sit for those within 10% of the pass mark.

2. Tournament Director

A qualified Tournament Director will be able to direct up to 5A Point Tournament events. This examination requires more detailed knowledge and explanations of the Laws and candidates must have already passed the Club Director examination. The examination is offered on an annual basis in May and applications should be made through the Regional Committee Secretary. Each candidate is charged a fee, with a free re-sit for those within 10% of the pass mark.

A more detailed syllabus for both Club and Tournament Director examinations is available from the website, or the NZ Bridge Secretary.

3. National Director

The National Director qualification is intended for those who are actively involved in and committed to directing at the highest levels, including Regional Congresses and National and International competitions. It is not intended as simply a higher level qualification for those who will not be seriously involved in high-level directing, and, to this end, prospective candidates must apply through, and be sponsored by, their local Bridge Region (although, in exceptional circumstances, candidates may be sponsored by NZ Bridge after consultation with the Chief Director).

The examination consists of two parts: a written test and a practical demonstration at a suitable level competition, which is observed by the NZ Bridge Chief Director or his/her nominee. The written examination will be sat by arrangement with NZ Bridge and the Chief Director, and will normally be available only in October or November of any year.

The practical section will be arranged subsequent to passing the written examination, by agreement with the NZ Bridge Board (or its designated subcommittee) and the Chief Director. This will normally involve satisfactorily running or being a major

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participant in running an event of at least three days and involving two or more competitions of a minimum total value of 15 A Points.

The practical examination event(s) must involve enough tables, and an adequate degree of organisation, for the examiner to be satisfied that the candidate is able to demonstrate the skills associated with the National Director qualification.

As there are substantial costs involved in running these examinations, and to discourage ill-considered applications, the sponsoring organisation will be required to meet a cost of \$300 for any candidate it puts forward.

A candidate must already hold the Tournament Director qualification, and have directed Tournaments totalling at least 50 A points in the five-year period immediately prior to sitting the written examination.

Candidates are expected to be familiar with, and capable of making decisions and rulings on, all of the Laws in The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 as accepted by NZ Bridge and current at the time of the examination. Similar familiarity with, and an ability to rule on, items covered by the NZ Bridge Rules and Regulations current at the time, including (but not limited to) the versions of rules where the sponsoring organisation has a choice, alert procedures, systems regulations and Appeals Committee procedures, is expected. Candidates must be able to successfully set up, run and score multi-session and multi-event Tournaments or Congresses.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S POLICY

All Directors must have the appropriate qualification.

1. 20A or 15A Point Tournaments – (pages C10–C12)

These events must be directed by:

- (a) a National Director, or
- (b) a Tournament Director with a National Director present, who may be playing, or
- (c) in exceptional circumstances, a Tournament Director, for whom the Tournament Organiser has obtained prior approval from the Chief Director of NZ Bridge, to officiate with a supervising National Director being available to provide assistance by telephone for the duration of the Tournament.

Note: For clauses (b) and (c) above, the supervising National Director is an ex-officio member of the Match Committee and must be consulted and sign-off on the proposed format.

2. Other "A" Point Tournaments

All other "A" Point events are to be directed by a qualified Tournament Director. The Tournament Organiser must take all reasonable steps to secure the services of a qualified Tournament Director.

2.1 10A Point Tournaments

All 10A Point events must be directed by:

- (a) a National Director, **or**
- (b) a qualified Tournament Director, either under the supervision of a National Director who is present and who may be playing, **or**, with prior approval from the Chief Director of NZ Bridge, with a supervising National Director being available to provide assistance by telephone for the duration of the Tournament.

Note: For these Tournaments the supervising National Director is an ex-officio member of the Match Committee and must be consulted and sign-off on the proposed format.

2.2 5A and 3A Point Tournaments

All 5A and 3A Point events must be directed by:

- (a) a National Director, **or**
- (b) a qualified Tournament Director, **or**

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- (c) a qualified Club Director, with a qualified Tournament Director being present and who may be playing, **or**
- (d) an unqualified Club Director, either under the supervision of a National Director who is present and who may be playing or, with prior approval by the Regional Committee or its delegated subcommittee, under the supervision of a qualified Tournament Director who must not be playing.

Any other arrangements for the use of an unqualified Director at A Point events require prior approval from the Chief Director of NZ Bridge.

Note: The supervising Director must be consulted and must sign-off on any proposed formats.

3. "B" Point Tournaments

All "B" Point Tournaments must be directed by:

- (a) a qualified Director, **or**
- (b) an unqualified Director under the supervision of a National or Tournament Director, who may be playing (the supervising Director must be consulted and sign-off on any proposed format), **or**
- (c) in exceptional circumstances and only with prior approval by the Regional Committee or the Chief Director of NZ Bridge, an unqualified Director, unsupervised.

Note: When applying for dispensation for a Director who does not meet the minimum qualifications required for a particular Tournament, the Tournament Organiser must provide the exceptional circumstances giving rise to the request:

- the name of the proposed Director and his/her experience, **and if applicable**
- the name and experience of the supervising Director.

This information, along with the above-named authority who granted the approval, must be conveyed to NZ Bridge when submitting Master Points for the event.

4. Non-Playing Director

All Tournaments must be directed by a non-playing Director, the only exception being the inability to find a last-minute emergency replacement.

5. Sanctions for Failure to Comply with this Policy

Failure to comply with these Regulations may, in the Board's sole discretion, result in the allocated bonus Master Points being reduced, commensurate with the qualification of the officiating Director.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director is the official representative of the sponsoring organisation, and is responsible for the technical management of the Tournament, subject to The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, and Supplementary Regulations announced by the Tournament Organiser (**Law 80**).

1. General Responsibilities

- (a) To appoint assistants.
- (b) To accept and list entries (if required by the sponsoring organisation).
- (c) To establish suitable conditions of play and to announce these to the Contestants.
- (d) To maintain discipline and to ensure orderly progress of the game.
- (e) To administer and interpret the Laws.
- (f) To rectify any error or irregularity.
- (g) To assess penalties when applicable.
- (h) To waive penalties at his/her discretion, upon the request of the non-offending side.
- (i) To adjudicate disputes and to refer disputed matters to the Appeals Committee when required.
- (j) To collect, tabulate and report results to the sponsoring organisation for official record.

The Director may delegate any of the above duties to assistants, but is not thereby relieved of responsibility for their correct performance.

Therefore, it is the Director who sets the tone for the Tournament. He/she must possess all the qualities of a diplomat, with a friendly greeting and a cheerful, pleasant and relaxed manner. He/she must have a thorough knowledge of the Laws and mechanics of Duplicate Bridge and the ethics and proprieties of the game. The assistance of a competent Director is thus required, to ensure orderly progress of the event, whether it be at Club, Regional or National level.

2. Pre-Tournament Responsibilities

- (a) Check that the playing room is correctly set up (for example, the order of the tables).
- (b) Check the movement to be played; check that the correct number of boards will be played.
- (c) Check that the tables are set with the following:
 - (i) playing cards and boards;

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- (ii) travelling score sheets;
 - (iii) System Cards;
 - (iv) personal score sheets;
 - (v) direction cards and number of table;
 - (vi) pencils and rubbers;
 - (vii) Stop Cards (if required).
- (d) Appoint assistants, who carry out certain tasks under supervision, who may act as Directors for various sections, and who help with the passing of the boards between tables.
- (e) Approach Appeals Committee members for their willingness to serve (if their agreement has not previously been obtained by the Tournament Organiser).
- (f) Have a master copy of the draw.

3. Commencement of the Tournament

- 3.1 The Director should be at the venue well in advance of starting time, to ensure that all is in readiness for a prompt start to play at the scheduled time.
- 3.2 After the official welcome by the Tournament Organiser or their representative, the Director is introduced and makes the following announcements (if relevant) before commencement of play.
- (a) The number of tables or Teams, and the number of boards to be played.
 - (b) The type of movement – and where, if any, "feed-in", sharing, phantom or relay boards are placed. (The existence of such boards necessitates competent Players being seated at such tables to ensure that the correct sequence is played.)
 - (c) The time allowed for the play of each board.
 - (d) The direction in which boards and Players move.
 - (e) Players to check that the correct board is being played and placed in the right direction, to count the cards before and after play, to refrain from discussing hands already played, and to ensure that the score and E/W Pair number are entered correctly by South and checked by East.
 - (f) All Players to remain seated until the move is called.
 - (g) The requirements to carry System Cards and to turn mobile phones off.
 - (h) Any other special rules of contest including procedural penalties.
 - (i) Members of the Appeals Committee.

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- (j) Players to have Tournament fee or table money ready (if not already collected).
- (k) That the Director must be called for any irregularity, no matter how trivial.
- (l) The method by which ties will be resolved.

3.3 If hands are not pre-dealt, the Director asks the Players to shuffle and deal.

3.4 The Director announces the commencement of play.

4. During the Play

The Director must keep the game controlled and the noise level at a minimum. Calls for moving Pairs are to be made at regular intervals. The suggested time allowance is 6½–7 minutes per board. [A longer time for the first board (say 9–10 minutes) if the hands are to be recorded.] It is not necessary to wait until all tables have completed their board(s). The change should be called when at least two-thirds of the Players have finished. The slow Players will then adjust their play to prevent penalties being awarded against them.

5. Interpretation of the Laws

Study of the Laws shows that most infringements are adequately detailed, that appropriate penalties are clearly stated and that:

- (a) no offending party should benefit from an offence;
- (b) a penalty that is left to the discretion of the Director should be equitable to all concerned;
- (c) in cases where the assessment of a penalty is left to the Director, the spirit of the Laws should be the governing criterion.

Once an irregularity or mishap occurs, it is incumbent on the Players to call the Director. Under no circumstances should the Players arbitrate amongst themselves.

When called in to arbitrate, and the nature of the infringement has been ascertained, the Director is bound to explain the clause(s) applicable from The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, and, after assessing the penalty, see that it is paid.

If the Director is unsure of the correct course of action to be taken in the event of a dispute, he/she must make a ruling at the time (which will allow play to continue) and inform the Players of their right to appeal against his/her decision. It is imperative that play should continue without undue delay.

6. Etiquette

The most difficult area for the Director lies in evaluation and arbitration in breaches of etiquette, where the Law, of necessity, cannot prescribe clear-cut penalties. There is an infinite variety – undue emphasis on a bid, wrong or inadequate information by opponent on bidding, psyches (prepared, and as such prohibited), hesitation by

defender in play in the normal tempo in order to mislead, especially in the play of a singleton.

The dilemma the Director has to solve is deciding what constitutes a breach of ethics. He/she has to be an accomplished psychologist to evaluate the demarcation line between "malice designed to confuse" and accidental happening, bearing in mind that the offending side must not benefit irrespective of the intent or lack of intent to confuse.

Understandably, there are no direct penalties prescribed by Law for breaches of etiquette. All the Director can do is to be on the alert for Players repeatedly using unethical methods and to impress on Players that such action contravenes the spirit of the game. Usually talking to the Player, explaining the need for active ethics, and/or a warning is sufficient.

Should offences occur regularly, the Director may apply a penalty or suspend the offending Player. The Director is authorised to refer any matters of concern to the Region/Club or Recorder, if available. Before applying sanctions, the Director must be sure of the facts to withstand a possible protest to the Appeals Committee. Some breaches of etiquette can be tantamount to cheating.

7. Calling the Director

7.1 When to summon the Director

Law 9 of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 requires that the Director be called to adjudicate any possible infraction of either the Laws or NZ Bridge Regulations. Failure to call the Director for a ruling may result in an infraction going without penalty, or it may seriously jeopardise a claimant's rights in the event of a subsequent protest of the Director's decision. Where a Player is concerned that one of the opponents may have acted on unauthorised information, he/she may "reserve his/her rights" without actually calling the Director. (For a fuller explanation, see **page B14.**)

7.2 Dummy's rights

Dummy may call the Director during play, but only if it concerns an infraction that has already been drawn attention to by another Player at the table. If the hand has been completed, then any Player, including dummy, can call the Director for any infraction that he/she believes has occurred.

7.3 How to summon the Director

In summoning the Director, a Player is expected to be courteous, and considerate to all other Contestants. The Director must be addressed politely and failure to heed this may result in penalties, including (at the extreme) ejection from the Session / Tournament. Although Directors know that they must make themselves available to answer all calls, concurrent calls or other duties may prevent any particular call being answered promptly. Such delays should be accepted with good grace. A disruptive Player is by definition also an inconsiderate Player.

8. Director's Rulings

8.1 Opposing Pairs concur on facts

The Director should ensure that he/she has access to a copy of The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 when he/she goes to the table to make a ruling. The facts must first be ascertained, and it is helpful to ask the Player who called the Director to speak first. If the facts are not in dispute, the Director will make all Players aware of their options and obligations under the applicable Law(s).

8.2 Opposing Pairs disagree as to facts

When the opposing Pairs do not agree on the facts, the Director must make a ruling according to his/her best judgement in order to allow the game to continue. If the Players dispute the ruling, they may appeal (**Law 92**).

8.3 Director elects to defer ruling

The Director should always make a ruling at the table to allow play to continue. However, where the Director is required to exercise his/her bridge judgement, he/she has the authority (indeed is strongly advised) to defer a ruling until later in the session. He/she may choose to consult other authorities, or may simply want to consider the best way to settle a dispute equitably. When the Director exercises this prerogative, the Players involved must be advised of the eventual decision as soon as possible.

8.4 Rulings requiring the Director to exercise his/her bridge judgement

It is the desire of NZ Bridge that the Director shall not rule automatically in favour of the non-offending side in order to precipitate an appeal, as has been customary in the past. The Director is required to exercise his/her bridge judgement to achieve the ruling at the table that in his/her opinion best reflects the intention of the Law. The Director should resolve any doubt he/she may have in favour of the non-offending side.

In exercising bridge judgement, it is entirely appropriate for the Director to consult with other Directors or non-involved Players. This consultation process is a tool for the Director and should not be treated as a piece of scientific research to determine close decisions. The identity of the Players consulted and their opinions are confidential to the Director. However, if necessary, the outcome may be shared with the Appeals Committee during its deliberations only (i.e. it does not form part of the evidence).

The Director should avoid consulting with nominated members of the Appeals Committee.

GUIDANCE FOR TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS AND PLAYERS

1. Alerting Procedure

During the auction, explanations or comments should not be volunteered unless the opponent whose turn it is to call or play requires one.

If an alert is not made promptly, **Law 21B1(a)** provides for a non-offender changing a call made prior to the alert (but on condition that partner has not called subsequently).

A belated alert or failure to alert constitutes misinformation and, if damaged, the non-offenders may claim an adjusted score.

A Player whose conventional call or special treatment has not been alerted by partner should not make any attempt to alert the opponents until the close of the auction. Before the opening lead is made, dummy or declarer should call the Director and inform the opponents of the failure to alert. However, a member of the defending side must wait until the conclusion of play, summon the Director and draw attention to partner's failure to alert (**Law 20F5(b)**).

2. Enquiries

Upon enquiry about partner's call or play from an opponent, whose turn it is to call or play, a Player must give a full and clear explanation of the partnership's agreement (if there is one) or any information available to him/her through partnership experience (**Law 20F1**). Questions about calls that were available, but not made, may also be asked. (Players should be aware that such questions may convey unauthorised information – **Law 16B**.)

3. General Recommendations

- (a) Enquiries should be kept to a minimum and preferably deferred until the end of the auction.
- (b) Directors should insist on the use of System Cards to obviate the need for unnecessary enquiries.
- (c) Players should not enquire about calls that are normally natural unless alerted. (Such enquiries may constitute unauthorised information.)
- (d) If the enquirer does not understand an explanation, he/she is entitled to seek further clarification and should call the Director if a clear explanation is not forthcoming.

4. Explanations

Upon enquiry from an opponent whose turn it is to call or play, a Player must give a full and clear explanation of the partnership's agreement (if there is one) as to the meaning of a call or play made by his/her partner. The explanation should include all specifications for the call or play including range of high-card strength, distribution, suit quality or any other relevant features explicitly agreed by the partnership.

See also under **Delayed Alerts (page D61)**.

Players should provide explanations only for those conventions that the partnership has previously discussed. Where there is no explicit agreement, the Player should say so and should not "invent" an explanation or state a meaning that has been inferred from the evidence of the bidding, the hand held or general bridge experience. Recommended formula. **"We do not have an explicit agreement"**. When stating that there is no explicit agreement, it is proper to describe the partnership's methods in similar situations.

Even when it is apparent that partner has departed from the partnership's agreed methods (e.g. when his bid indicates a solid suit but his partner's hand holds a high honour card in the suit), the agreed meaning of the bid should be explained with no hint that anything is amiss.

It is improper for a Player to take advantage of any information conveyed by partner's explanation.

A Player should not volunteer any uninvited explanations of a call or play by partner.

5. Mistaken Explanations

If a non-offending side is damaged by their opponent's mistaken explanation of a call or play, the Director will restore equity by adjusting the result.

- (a) If you realise that you have given a mistaken explanation of the partnership's agreed meaning of your partner's call (or play), call the Director immediately.
- (b) If your partner has given a mistaken explanation of your partnership's agreed meaning of a call or play, do not draw attention to the transgression at least until the end of the auction. Then, if you are declarer, you may call the Director. Otherwise, call the Director when the deal is finished.
- (c) Do not allow the opponents to take advantage of a mistaken explanation. Ask them to call the Director. (If they demur, call the Director yourself.) Failure to call the Director may result in injustice to other competitors.
- (d) You are **not** entitled to an adjusted result if damaged by an opponent's deliberate or inadvertent violation of their partnership agreement (**such as a psychic bid**).
- (e) If an explanation is materially inconsistent with the actual bid made by partner, then, unless there is evidence to the contrary, the Director will assume a mistaken explanation rather than a mistaken bid and may award an adjusted score if, in his/her opinion, the opponents have been damaged. A properly filled out System Card will greatly assist in resolving any dispute.

6. Authorised Information

During the bidding and play of a deal, Players may properly gain information from:

- (a) admissible calls – no bid, double, redouble and bids of 1 to 7 inclusive in the five denominations: clubs, diamonds, hearts, spades and no trumps;
- (b) cards properly played to each trick;

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- (c) alerts by an opponent;
- (d) explanations by an opponent in response to an enquiry concerning the meaning of a conventional call.

Information conveyed by any other means is unauthorised information, and, if it influences the subsequent bidding or play, will require an adjusted score.

7. Variations in Tempo or Manner

Although to unintentionally vary the tempo or manner in which a call or play is made is not in itself an infraction, Players should be particularly careful when variations may work to the benefit of their side.

It is most important that the results of a deal should not be influenced by unauthorised information conveyed by such means as gesture, demeanour, mannerism, comment, variation of tempo in bidding or play, tone of voice or undue emphasis.

8. Unauthorised Information

When a Player has available to him unauthorised information from his partner, including from an unexpected alert or failure to alert, he must carefully avoid taking any advantage from that unauthorised information. When there is a possibility that unauthorised information has been conveyed (e.g. by gesture, comment, hesitation etc.), **Law 16** applies.

You must refrain from bidding on borderline hands if the element of risk has been reduced by your partner's trance or hesitation.

You may take advantage of unauthorised information conveyed by your opponents but at your own risk. In the event of your being damaged by being misled by an opponent's inadvertent mannerism (e.g. hesitation with a singleton), you are not allowed to benefit from an adjusted result (although the opponents may have the score adjusted to their disadvantage).

Whenever you believe that there is a possibility that a Player may have been in receipt of unauthorised information from their partner's gesture, comment, hesitation etc., you should immediately try to establish the facts about what occurred. This should be done as pleasantly as possible, stressing that it is just to establish the facts should the Director need to be called at the end of the hand. The Director should be called at this stage only if there is a dispute about what has occurred. If, at the end of the hand, the non-offending side believe that they have been disadvantaged, the Director can be called and there will be no dispute about the facts.

- (a) If the Director judges that the outcome may have been influenced by unauthorised information, he/she may award an adjusted score as per **Law 12C1(c) (page B16)**.
- (b) In making such adjustments, the Director must be satisfied that the non-offenders were damaged by their opponents' use of unauthorised information rather than by selecting an inferior line of play from the logical alternatives suggested by all the information available to them.

LAW INTERPRETATION, REGULATION AND GUIDANCE

Promulgated Jointly by NZ Bridge and the ABF

The 2007 Laws of Duplicate Bridge provide for the Regulating Authority (NZ Bridge) to select certain Law options and to regulate their usage within its geographical region. The following interpretations have been adopted by both NZ Bridge and the ABF.

Laws

Law 12C1(b)

Serious Error

A serious error is, by its nature, generally something that the Player immediately regrets. For the purpose of this Law, a "serious error" by the non-offending side should be judged according to the calibre of the Player; beginners are expected to make beginners' errors and should not be penalised for doing so.

In general, the following types of action qualify as serious errors.

- (a) Failure to follow proper procedure (e.g. revoking, creating a major penalty card, leading out of turn, not calling the Director after an irregularity).
- (b) Blatantly ridiculous calls or plays, such as ducking the setting trick against a slam or opening a weak NT on a 20 count.

For clarity, the following would usually **not** be considered to be serious errors.

- (c) Any call or play that would be deemed to be normal, even if inferior or careless.
- (d) Any play that has a reasonable chance of success, even if it is obviously not the percentage line.

Some might argue that, if a contract is reached only as the consequence of an infraction, then any error in the play or defence must be related to it. This is too extreme a view and, in order to receive redress, the error has to be **directly** related to the infraction.

Example: In misinformation cases, it is sometimes possible to work out from the early play or from the sight of dummy that there has been either a misbid or misinformation. Some Players might not correctly draw that inference, even if it would be obvious to the more experienced. As this obviously "relates" to the infraction, the non-offending side remains entitled to redress.

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Wild or Gambling

A wild or gambling action is usually a deliberate decision or course of action by the non-offending side. A "wild or gambling" action need not be related to the infraction, whereas a "serious error" must be.

What is commonly termed a "double shot" is a gambling action within the meaning of the Law. A failure to take advantage of privileges provided by the Laws, such as not asking the meaning of a clearly alerted call or waiving a penalty, may be considered to be "wild".

Law 12C1(c)

Directors are permitted to award a single weighted score that endeavours to restore the balance of equity on the hand in the instant prior to the infraction.

The calculation of the weightings relates to the expected outcomes from that point forward in an auction unaffected by any irregularity. Any residual doubt that exists in the assessment of the relative weightings should be resolved in favour of the non-offending side.

Example: As a result of misinformation, a Pair defends 4♥X. If they had been correctly informed, they would certainly have bid game in spades and possibly slam, making eleven or twelve tricks depending on declarer's line of play.

The Director may conclude that equity is best served by substituting a single weighted score as follows:

	40% of	+1430	(6♠ =)
Plus	30% of	+ 680	(4♠ +2)
Plus	20% of	+ 650	(4♠ +1)
Plus	10% of	– 100	(6♠ – 1)

Weighting a Score at Teams:

Assume that the score in the other room was N/S +680.

	Net Score		IMPs	Weight	Adjust
+1430	– 680 =	+750	+13	40%	5.2
+ 680	– 680 =	0	0	30%	0.0
+ 650	– 680 =	–30	–1	20%	– 0.2
– 100	– 680 =	–780	–13	10%	– 1.3
				Total	3.7

The IMP total is rounded to the nearest whole number and the board is scored as +4 IMPs to the non-offending side.

Any result of 0.5 IMPs or above is rounded upwards; any result of less than 0.5 IMPs is rounded down.

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Weighting a Score at Pairs:

Assuming that there are 13 tables, the score sheet might look something like the example below:

Table	Contract	Tricks	Score
1	6♠	12	+1430
2	6♠ x	12	+1660
3	4♠	12	+680
4	4♠	11	+650
5	Our score to be weighted		
6	6♠	12	+1430
7	4♠	11	+650
8	4♠	12	+680
9	7♠ x	12	-200
10	4♠	12	+680
11	6♠	11	-100
12	6♠	11	-100
13	6♠	12	+1430

If the result at Table 5 was +1430, N/S would get 19 MPs.

If the result at Table 5 was +680, N/S would get 13 MPs.

If the result at Table 5 was +650, N/S would get 8 MPs.

If the result at Table 5 was -100, N/S would get 4 MPs.

The weighted score is then calculated by multiplying the assigned percentages by the match points each possible contract would have obtained:

$$(0.4 \times 19) + (0.3 \times 13) + (0.2 \times 8) + (0.1 \times 4) = 13.5 \text{ match points}$$

Unlike IMPs, we do allow for decimal places in match points; thus, a single score of 13.5 match points is assigned to N/S. As a board with 13 scores has a top of 24 match points, E/W receive the remaining 10.5 match points.

Alternative Manual Calculation Method for Pairs Tournaments Scored by Computer:

Clearly, to make one of these weighted adjustments for match point scoring without the aid of computer software would be tedious, if not impossible, particularly in large fields. Many software packages do not currently cater for this type of adjustment. Until a software modification is implemented, the following procedure shall, by Regulation, be deemed to be the correct procedure.

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Enter the scores into the software as normal, substituting average to both sides at the table to which the ruling applies. Then calculate the weighted score using the match points assigned by the software (a board print-out will provide this).

Finally, correct the match points for both sides, rounded to one decimal place, using the adjusted score (penalty) routine. As the average on the board is 12 and has already been assigned, the Director will add 1.5 match points to N/S and deduct 1.5 match points from E/W.

Law 12C1(d) Although this is essentially a matter of judgement for the Director (and subsequently the Appeals Committee), in general, if more than four possible outcomes exist, then the Director should consider applying this provision of the Laws and award an artificial adjusted score.

Law 12C1(e) None of the provisions of this Law apply in New Zealand.

Law 12C2(b) For IMP play – **Law 86A**.

Law 16A1(d) This Law allows the Player use of his memory of information in the Laws and Regulations. It does not authorise him/her to look during the auction and play at the printed Regulations, the Law book, anyone's scorecard or the backs of the bidding cards – all of which are classed as aids to memory (**Law 40C3(a)**).

Law 16B1(b) For the purpose of this Law, a significant proportion is defined as more than one in four Players. This means that, if fewer than 25% of a Player's peers, using the same partnership methods, would **seriously** consider the action, then it is **not** a logical alternative. For the purpose of this determination, "serious consideration" is defined as much more than just some passing thought.

In addition, to qualify as a logical alternative, it must be an action that the Director believes that the Player in question might well have taken or an action that he/she believes that **some** of that Player's peers would take. For the purpose of this determination, "some" is defined as more than just an isolated instance.

Any action chosen by the Player in receipt of unauthorised information qualifies as a logical alternative for that particular Player.

In deciding whether actions other than the action chosen by the Player in question also qualify as logical alternatives, Directors may consult with other Directors and non-involved Players. A Player poll may also be useful in determining (**Law 16B1(a)**) whether one particular action was suggested over another by the extraneous information.

The outcome of any poll may be shared with the Appeals Committee during its deliberations; however, the identity of the Players consulted and their opinions must remain confidential to the Director.

Law 16B2 The preferred procedure is to summon the Director at the end of the hand, but only if it becomes apparent that an opponent may have acted upon extraneous information made available by his/her partner. The Director need be called only if the non-offenders believe that they may have been damaged.

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Whenever a Player believes that there is a possibility that an opponent may have acted on unauthorised information from their partner's gesture, comment, hesitation or the like, he/she should immediately try to establish the facts about what has occurred. This should be done as pleasantly as possible, stressing that, if the Director needs to be called at the end of the hand, there will now be no dispute about the facts. The Director should be called earlier only if there is no agreement about what has occurred. If, at the end of the hand, the non-offending side believe that they have been disadvantaged, the Director can then be summoned.

Law 20F There is no infraction when a correct explanation discloses that partner's prior explanation was mistaken. The words "nor may he indicate in any manner that a mistake has been made" in **Law 20F5(a)** do not override the requirement of the Laws always to respond to enquiries (**Law 20F**) with correct explanations of the partnership understandings.

Law 21B1 The Director should not allow a change of call (**Law 21B1**) unless he/she judges that the Player could well have made a different call, if in possession of (solely) the correct information. The Director makes the same judgement when determining whether to award an adjusted score – **Law 21B3**.

Law 23 This Law is equally applicable within both the auction period and the play period. The separation of the Laws into chapters and sections does not affect their application.

Law 24 This Law applies throughout the auction period (**Law 17A**) such that, when the card may have been visible to partner, it overrides the generality of **Law 16**.

Law 25A The 2007 Laws now use the word unintended (rather than inadvertent). In applying this Law, the Director must still be satisfied that the Player never had it in his/her mind to take the action he/she took. For example, opening 1♥ with one heart and five spades clearly suggests some sort of inexplicable mental aberration. By contrast, a Player who opens 1♣ with a 4-card suit and then quickly changes it to 1NT, because he/she has remembered that he/she is playing a strong no trump, should not have the first call considered as unintentional, no matter how quick the change was. The acid test is the Player's incontrovertible intention, not the speed of the change.

A bid may be treated as unintentional under this Law even if the Player's attention is drawn to it by the action of his/her partner alerting the bid or an opponent's question. Once again, the clear intention of the Player is the guideline that the Director should use. Cue bidding 2♠ over 1♠ with a hand that has only 13 points and a 6-card club suit clearly suggests that it is appropriate to allow a change under this Law. By contrast, bidding 2♥ in response to 1NT with a heart suit when playing transfers would not qualify.

The accidental removal of the wrong bidding card from a bidding box is another example of an unintended action. The most common

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situation is where the mis-pulled call is adjacent to the intended call (i.e. 2NT or 2♥ instead of 2♠, or the removal of a "Double" card instead of a "Pass" card). However, the Director should be more reluctant to allow a change (on purely mechanical grounds) if the prospective alternative call comes from a distinctly different part of the bidding box (such as the attempted replacement of a 3♣ bid with a pass).

It is really only the Director who attends the table who can ever be in a position to judge when **Law 25A** is applicable.

Law 26 (A and B) The application of this Law is dependent solely on the nature of the withdrawn call. When the withdrawn action relates **only** to specified (i.e. known) suits, **Law 26A** applies. In all other situations, **Law 26B** must be applied.

Examples:

Withdrawn Call	Meaning	Law
2NT overcall	Both minors	26A
1NT opening	Natural, balanced	26B
2♦ Michaels cue bid	Hearts and spades	26A
2♥ Michaels cue bid	Spades and a minor	26B
2♠ opening	Two suits – same colour	26B
1♣ Precision	Strong 16+ HCP	26B

Law 27B1(a) Players are still permitted to replace an insufficient bid with a bid in the same denomination at the lowest legal level without restriction provided that, in the opinion of the Director, neither the insufficient bid nor the substituted bid is artificial. The auction continues normally and the information that the bid was intended to be natural is authorised to all Players at the table and therefore **Law 16D** does not apply.

Law 27B1(b) Players are also permitted to substitute other legal calls without restriction (irrespective of any artificiality) provided that, in the opinion of the Director, the selected call has the same meaning as or a more precise meaning than the insufficient bid (i.e. the replacement conveys the same or more precise information).

Since the promulgation of the 2007 Laws, a number of Regulating Authorities (including the WBF) have instructed their Directors to follow mildly liberal interpretations of **Law 27B** with respect to allowing artificial correction of some insufficient bids where the set of all possible hands shown by the new call is not totally consistent with those of the original insufficient bid. NZ Bridge has also adopted this approach.

In order for the Director to correctly exercise this discretion, he/she must first determine the offending Player's original intent at the time of the infraction and then investigate the Pair's methods. This will often entail quizzing the Players away from the table and/or an examination of the Pair's System Card. Only after these investigations should the Director then explain the options.

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Note that:

- A truly unintentional action may be corrected via **Law 25**.
- The Director will need to compare the information available from both the insufficient bid and the replacement call. If the Director deems that the information gained by the insufficient bid is not likely to damage the non-offending side, then he/she should permit the auction to continue.
- Common situations where the Director might exercise discretion typically involve small discrepancies in the HCP ranges and when additional negative inferences are available with respect to certain hand types [see examples **(c)** and **(h)** below where such inferences exclude some of the hands shown by a potential correction].
- Occasionally, it will be unclear whether to allow the correction without restriction under **Law 27B1(b)**, or to require the offender's partner to pass throughout the remainder of the auction under **Law 27B2**. In those cases, the Director is advised to err on the side of applying **Law 27B1(b)** (i.e. attempt to get a normal bridge result).

Law 27D

Whenever the Director allows the correction of an insufficient bid without restriction, he/she should advise the non-offending side to call him/her back at the end of play if they consider that the outcome of the hand may have been different had the offender's partner not had the assistance of the withdrawn bid. In situations where the Director considers that the non-offending side has been damaged, he/she applies **Law 27D**.

Any such adjustment should be based upon the most likely outcome(s), had the original infraction (i.e. the insufficient bid) not occurred. Under no circumstances may an adjusted score be awarded that gives any weight to the perceived benefit that might have accrued to the non-offending side if the Director had elected to apply **Law 27B2** – even if subsequently it is considered that this may have been the more appropriate action, i.e. **Law 82C** is not applicable.

Examples

(a)	West	East
	1♠	3♠
	4NT	4♦

If the Director is satisfied that East was answering Blackwood but at the wrong level, then East will be allowed to correct to 5♦ without any restriction.

(b)	West	North	East
	4NT	5♥	5♦

Similarly, if E/W are playing DOPI over Blackwood interference, then East could now pass (to show one Ace) and the bidding would again proceed without further

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restriction. Conversely, if E/W are playing PODI (Pass = None, Double = One), East would replace his/her insufficient bid with a double for the same effect.

(c)

West	North	East
1♦	1♠	1♥

If 1♥ was intended to show at least 4 hearts and enough HCP to respond, then a replacement of 2♥ is permitted under **Law 27B1(a)** without any further restriction.

Alternatively, if a negative double by East would systemically **guarantee** at least a 4-card heart holding, then East could also replace the 1♥ with a double under **Law 27B1(b)** without restriction. Here the Director is exercising some discretion, because there are certain distributions on which the offender might make a takeout double after intervention, but not respond 1♥ in an uncontested auction (a typical case would be if East held 5 spades and 4 hearts). In the unlikely event that these negative inferences damage the non-offending side, the Director can still adjust under **Law 27D**.

However, pass would not convey a heart suit and therefore **Law 27B2** applies, i.e. partner will have to pass whenever it is his/her turn to call, and **Laws 23** and **26** may also apply.

(d)

West	North	East
1NT	2♠	2♦

If East's intention was to transfer to hearts (he did not see the 2♠ bid), then a replacement bid of 3♥ would not bar his/her partner.

(e)

West	North	East
1NT	2♦	2♣

2♣ was intended as simple Stayman. A Lebensohl-type cue bid replacement of 3♦ (asking about a 4-card major) would now have the same meaning as the original insufficient bid and thus not bar West.

Alternatively, if the Director is satisfied that the Player intended to bid 3♣ naturally, he/she allows that change without restriction under **Law 27B1(b)**.

(f)

West	East
2NT	2♥

Similarly, if 2♥ was intended as a transfer, then a bid of 3♥ (still transferring) would permit the auction to continue without constraints.

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(g)	West	North	East
	1♠	2♥	1NT

Here, the replacement of 1NT with 2NT is permitted without restriction under **Law 27B1(b)** if the Director is satisfied that this was East's original incontrovertible intention.

In other circumstances (e.g. if East did not see the 2♥ bid), the substitution of 2NT is permitted without restriction under **Law 27B1(a)** if both 1NT and 2NT are natural.

The information that East's HCP range might well be different from that of an original 2NT response is authorised to both sides but **Law 27D** will apply if the offending side achieves a favourable result that would not have been possible without the infraction (such as stopping in 2NT when it makes only 8 tricks if played by East).

(h)	West	North	East
	1♣	1♥	1♦

E/W are playing a strong club system and East did not see the 1♥ bid. If 1♦ was intended to show 0–7 HCP, then the substitution of a pass (showing 0–4 HCP) would not bar West. Note that a call that specifies a narrower HCP range is actually more precise (i.e. it contains more information) than a call with a wider HCP range.

The Director might also exercise discretion to permit the substitution of double, even if it showed 5–8 HCP. In general, the Director's inclination should be to allow auctions to continue under **Law 27B1(b)** whenever there is only a small discrepancy in hand strength.

Summary

Most insufficient bids arise from either a failure to observe the call of right-hand opponent or a general confusion about the current level of the auction. Therefore, in applying **Law 27**, the Director should proceed as follows.

- (a) Remove the offender from the table and determine his/her original intent and the specific meaning of the intended call.
- (b) Verify the general methods of the partnership and, if necessary, consult the offender's System Card or any other system notes.
- (c) Determine the possible replacement calls available and their meaning.
- (d) Return to the table and explain all the options to the Players (including that left-hand opponent has the option of accepting the insufficient bid (**Law 27A**)).

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- (e) Allow the (fully informed) Player to select a replacement call and then, based upon the investigations detailed in steps (a)–(c), apply either **Law 27B1** or **Law 27B2**.
- (f) If **Law 27B1** was applied, the non-offending side are informed of their right to re-call the Director at the end of play if they believe the outcome of the board would have been different without the assistance of the insufficient bid.

Note: When bidding boxes are in use, the Director should always be aware of the possibility that a Player might simply have **mis-pulled** the incorrect bidding card from the box. If the Director is of this opinion, then he/she should apply **Law 25A** and not **Law 27**.

Law 40B2(a) This Law is the basis and authority for the classification and restriction of certain partnership methods as outlined in the NZ Bridge Systems Policy (**page D41**). It is also the authority for the procedures as described in the NZ Bridge Alerting Regulations (**page D57**).

Both members of a partnership must play the same system, including bidding and card play agreements. Where, as a matter of style, members frequently adopt different approaches from each other, that difference (or those differences) must be disclosed on the System Card (**page D52**).

Law 40B2(b) Players may not consult their own System Card once the cards have been removed from the pockets of the board. This prohibition continues until the end of the play period.

However, NZ Bridge does allow written defences to Yellow Systems and Brown Sticker conventions to be referred to at the table in most events (**page D46**).

Law 40B2(c) After the conclusion of the auction, dummy is prohibited from inspecting an opponent's System Card. The other Players may inspect an opponent's System Card only when it is their turn to call (during the auction) or their turn to play (during the play period).

Law 40B2(d) The Regulations restricting the use of psyches in New Zealand are set out (**page D80**). **Note:** These are different from those in force in Australia.

Law 40B3 Prior agreement by a partnership to vary its understanding during the auction or play following a question asked, a response to a question or an irregularity committed by its own side is prohibited.

Law 41A The opening lead should be made face down. A lead made face down is not an opening lead until faced and may thus be retracted without penalty, but only upon instruction of the Director (i.e. when the lead was made from the wrong side or following the correction of misinformation).

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Law 45C4(b) The designation of a card in dummy can be changed only if the Director is satisfied that declarer incontrovertibly never intended to play that card.

Example: Declarer leads towards the AQ in dummy, left-hand opponent plays the King and declarer plays the Queen. The Director will not allow the Queen to be changed because declarer cannot now claim that he/she never intended to play that card (i.e. left-hand opponent may have played low).

Law 55A If the declarer has led from the wrong hand, either defender may accept the lead out of turn. However, if the defenders choose differently, it is the choice of the defender next to play to the incorrect lead that will prevail.

Law 61B3 Defenders may make enquiries of each other or declarer regarding a possible revoke.

Law 64B7 When both sides have revoked on the same board, each revoke is examined separately for the purposes of assessing equity (**Law 64C**) at the instant prior to each infraction.

Law 69B2 This Law requires that "such trick" shall be transferred or not transferred as determined by the Director's ascertainment of the facts. In no circumstances can its application lead to a weighted score.

Law 70A In adjudicating a contested claim or concession, the Director is required to use his/her bridge judgement to determine, as equitably as possible for both sides, what in his/her opinion would have happened if play had continued normally [giving no weight to irrational (silly) lines].

However, there is no option to award a split or weighted score, because the margin of doubt that might remain after consultation with colleagues (or, if appropriate, Players) must be resolved in favour of the non-claiming side.

To assist Directors in making this distinction, please refer to the examples in **Laws 70C** and **70E2** below.

Law 70C A declarer who is unaware of a missing trump is "careless" rather than "irrational" in failing to draw that missing trump or stating how he/she will take care of it. Thus, if a trick could be lost by playing other winners first, then the Director should award that trick to the non-claimers.

Examples

- (a) Declarer claims all the tricks with a good trump (the ♦9), two spade winners and a heart winner. The defence can ruff the heart with their outstanding small trump. Despite declarer swearing on a stack of bibles that he/she knew that there was a trump out, if he/she was too careless to mention it, then he/she may easily have forgotten it, and the defence is allocated a trick.

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- (b) Declarer is in 7♠ with thirteen tricks as long as spades (trumps) are not 5–0. Declarer cashes one round and says "All mine" when both Players follow. He/she clearly has not forgotten the outstanding three trumps and the claim is good.

Law 70E2

In adjudicating disputed claims involving an unstated line of play, the following guidelines apply.

(a) Top down

A declarer who states that he/she is cashing a suit is normally assumed to cash them from the top.

Example

Suppose declarer claims three tricks with AK5 opposite 42, forgetting that the Jack has not gone. It would be normal to give declarer three tricks because it would be considered to be irrational to play the 5 first.

(b) Different suits

If a declarer appears to be unaware of an outstanding winner, or a losing line of play (see (a) above), and a trick could be lost by playing or discarding one suit rather than another, then the Director should award that trick to the non-claiming side.

Example

Declarer has three winners in dummy and must make three discards. Declarer appears to have forgotten that his/her ♦J is not a winner. It is careless rather than irrational that he/she should discard some other winner to retain the ♦J.

Law 72A

It is an infraction to deliberately lose a match, even if it might improve one's chances of winning the subsequent stages of the event. It is also a breach of Law to engineer a poor result during a Pairs event, whether it be to assist the opponents or to impede the chances of some other Pair.

Law 73A2

The use of Stop Cards is authorised by NZ Bridge for all A Point Tournaments and is strongly recommended for use in all other Tournaments.

Law 76A2

The Tournament Organiser shall be responsible for deciding which matches should be broadcast on BBO. The Tournament Organiser is also responsible for the prior training of the operators and the efficient delivery of the service on site. BBO must not intrude on the Players' amenity or impede the rate of play. It is the responsibility of the BBO operators to keep pace with the play, not the reverse.

Law 76C2

The right to penalise an irregularity may be forfeited if attention is first drawn to the irregularity by a spectator for whose presence at the table the non-offending side is responsible.

The right to correct an irregularity may be forfeited if attention is first drawn to the irregularity by a spectator for whose presence at the table the offending side is responsible.

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Laws 78 and 79B Printed copies of the information given under these Laws (i.e. the Scoring and IMP tables) may not be consulted during the auction or play.

Law 79C1 Within the correction period, the Director may adjust an inconsistent score (e.g. 4♥ making 11 tricks = 620) to a consistent score (i.e. 650) if **both** Pairs agree that it is the correct result. The Director may not alter an inconsistent score if the Pairs are unavailable for consultation or where there is no agreement as to the correct result.

The Director can also adjust a consistent score if attention is drawn to a possible error within the same timeframe. However, in this case, before any change is made, the Director must have complete confidence in the recollections of both Pairs, bearing in mind such factors as:

- (a) the time elapsed from the board having been played,
- (b) the nature of the scoring query, **and**
- (c) the possibility of a more experienced Pair forcefully stating their version of events and thus intimidating a less experienced Pair into compliance.

If the Director has any doubts at all about what has occurred, then the consistent score as originally recorded shall stand.

Law 79C2 No change in score may occur after expiry of the score correction period.

Law 80A3 The powers of the Regulating Authority for New Zealand rest with the Board of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated as provided for in its Constitution and have **not** been assigned or delegated to any other entity.

Law 80B Unless otherwise directed by the Board of NZ Bridge, the Tournament Organiser under these Laws is for:

- (a) 20A and 15A Point National events – the (Match) Committee appointed by the Board;
- (b) 10A Point events – the (Match) Committee nominated by the Regional Committee delegated to conduct the event and approved by the Board or the Chief Director on behalf of the Board (**page C8**).
- (c) For all other events – the Club committee where the event takes place.

Law 80B1 Where responsibility for a Tournament run under the auspices of the NZ Master Point Scheme is delegated to a Tournament Organiser (be it a Regional Committee, Club or Individual), these entities are not permitted to draft or implement regulations, written or otherwise, that are in conflict with the rules, regulations or requirements as promulgated by NZ Bridge.

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Law 80B2(j) Although this administrative function may be performed by the Tournament Organiser, ultimate responsibility for the accuracy of the scoring is vested in the Director.

Law 81 The term "Director" means the Director in Charge appointed by the Tournament Organiser under **Law 80B2(a)** and subject to the Director's Policy of NZ Bridge (**page B5**).

Law 82(c) This Law makes no suggestion that a Director should automatically cancel a board when he/she (or his/her assistants) has made an error. Play should continue such that a result may be obtained. If it is then necessary to adjust the table score, this will usually lead to an assigned score.

If the Director can confidently predict what would have happened if he/she had given the correct ruling originally, then he/she should just correct it. If he/she cannot predict the true outcome on the board, then he/she should award an assigned adjusted score, treating each side for that purpose as non-offending.

In doing so, he/she may need to use his/her powers under **Law 12C1(c)** to substitute an equitable weighted score that reflects all the possible outcomes had the correct ruling been given.

An artificial adjusted score should be required only in those instances where a result could not be obtained (e.g. when a board has been prematurely cancelled) or when too many possible outcomes exist for a weighted score under **Law 12C1** (see above).

Any clear error should be corrected, but a ruling that was essentially a matter of judgement, or a ruling where there is a strong argument in favour of the original ruling, should not be corrected. Review of matters of judgement, or resolution of arguments as to the correctness of a ruling that was thought to be close, are proper matters to be dealt with via an appeal against the ruling.

Examples

- (a) A Director gives an adjustment to 2♠ making. He/she later realises that it will always make nine tricks. Despite the obvious embarrassment, he/she must return to both sides and explain that the ruling has now been amended to 2♠ +1.
- (b) A Director initially fails to recognise that a particular explanation is misinformation. He/she later realises that he/she should have amended the score from 6♣ doubled making in one direction to 6♦ doubled making in the other direction. He/she must now bite the bullet and give the correct ruling (6♦ doubled).
- (c) A Director incorrectly cancels a board part way through the auction, believing a Pair to be playing an illegal agreement. This is wrong because the board should always be completed. However, worse is to follow when he/she discovers that the agreement was not actually illegal. Because the board was not

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completed, **Law 12C1(d)** applies and the best the Director can do is to give each side average plus.

- (d) Right-hand opponent leads a spade out of turn. Declarer forbids left-hand opponent from leading spades. Unfortunately, the Director tells left-hand opponent he may not lead spades again. Later in the play, left-hand opponent gets in and fails to find the killing spade switch. If the Director had not got this wrong, then perhaps left-hand opponent would have found the switch, perhaps not. Because the spade switch was reasonable but not automatic, the best approach is to weight the possibilities using **Law 12C1(c)**:

$$\begin{array}{rclclcl} & 60\% \text{ of} & 3\text{NT} & = & \text{NS} & + 400 \\ \text{Plus} & 40\% \text{ of} & 3\text{NT} - 1 & & \text{NS} & - 50 \end{array}$$

Law 86A For events scored against a datum or for head-to-head matches of less than 11 boards, the score awarded (as average plus or average minus) shall be plus or minus 2 IMPs.

Law 86D The Director should always strive to award an assigned, rather than an artificial, adjusted score where a valid result has been obtained at one table but, because of an infraction, there being only one side at fault, no result was possible at the other table. This will sometimes require the use of an equitable weighting to reflect the range of possible outcomes – **Law 12C1(c)**.

However, where both sides are at fault, or neither side is at fault for the failure to obtain a result (i.e. as might occur when there has been a duplication error or the Contestants in another match have fouled the board), then an artificial adjusted score shall be assigned to both Contestants (**Law 86A**).

Law 87 Should multiple boards in an IMP-scored (Swiss or round robin) event be fouled, then the procedures as described in **Law 86** will apply, unless the number of valid comparisons falls below 50% of the total number of boards scheduled for that round, whereupon an artificial match result of 13 VP shall be assigned to each of the Contestants involved. See the Fouled Board Regulations (**page D68**).

Law 92A The Director must first provide a ruling before any matter can be brought before an Appeals Committee. If the Director himself/herself refers a matter to the Appeals Committee (**Law 81C7**), there must still be an initial ruling in order for it to be reviewed.

When an appeal against a decision of the Director at a Tournament conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge or its Master Point Scheme is unsuccessful, the Appeals Committee shall consider the merit of the case. If the grounds for appeal or the charges brought against another Contestant are held to be without merit, the Committee should assess a penalty, taking into account the circumstances of each individual case.

Law 92B For all Tournaments run under the auspices of NZ Bridge or its Master Point Scheme, unless a different time is promulgated by the Tournament Organiser, the time for requesting a ruling from the

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Director or for filing an appeal expires 30 minutes after the official end of the stanza of boards to which the ruling applies. The time for filing an appeal of a late ruling expires for each party 30 minutes after they were officially advised of the ruling.

Law 93C1

The correct procedure for requesting a qualified review by NZ Bridge of rulings made by an Appeals Committee at any Tournament conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge or its Master Point Scheme, including the National Congress and the trials conducted to select the National Representative Teams, is described in **Part D (page D75)**.

Law 93C3(a, b)

For all Tournaments run under the auspices of NZ Bridge or its Master Point Scheme, including the National Congress and the trials conducted to select the National Representative Teams, the decision of the Tournament Appeals Committee is final. The Regulations Committee of the Board will limit its function to clarification / interpretation of the Laws and Regulations in order to establish or confirm a legal precedent or a correct procedure.

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TOURNAMENTS GENERAL

Tournaments are run throughout New Zealand at National, Regional and Local level. A National Tournament Schedule is published each year and is available through local Clubs. The schedule for the current year is on the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

1. Tournament Schedule

Each schedule will be produced two years in advance. Regions are required to provide Tournament information to NZ Bridge as follows.

- requests for amendment of 10A,15A or 20A Point Tournament dates
 - within **15 days** of receiving the draft schedule;
- all Metropolitan Tournaments (**page C5**)
 - by **31 January** in the year in which the schedule is being produced;
- all other Tournaments
 - by **30 April** in the year in which the schedule is being produced.

If necessary, a form, Request to Change Published Tournament Date, is available in the Tournaments section of the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

2. Participation in Tournaments

All Players participating in any Tournament (other than those officially invited to play in the New Zealand Wide Pairs) must be a member of a Club affiliated to NZ Bridge or be an approved overseas Player. All overseas Players are automatically designated as Open Grade until a lesser status has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the NZ Bridge Secretary.

3. Allocation of Awards

Each year, the Board of NZ Bridge publishes a schedule of Tournaments approved for the award of "A" Points and "B" Points. The following information is detailed in the Charts in Part E – Master Point Regulations.

- (a) The maximum award of "A" Points or "B" Points for the winners.
- (b) The proportion of the field eligible to receive "A" Points or "B" Points.
- (c) The minimum number of deals to be played. The current minimum for any session of a Pairs event or an Individual event is 20 boards (in circulation). The NZ Bridge Board can grant exemption on request from the sponsoring organisation.
- (d) The factoring of the Basic "C" Point Table or Basic "A" Point Table will apply for the award of session "C" Points for Pairs Tournaments and "A" Points for match wins in Match Play Tournaments.

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This information is set out in the Tables of Tournament and Session Awards (**page E22**).

4. Grades of Tournaments

Tournaments are graded as follows.

- (a) **Junior Tournaments (3B)** as defined from time to time by the Board. Master Point awards of "B" Points for overall placings and "C" Points for session placings.
- (b) **Intermediate Tournaments (5B)** as defined from time to time by the Board. Master Point awards of "B" Points for overall placings and "C" Points for session placings.
- (c) **Open Tournaments (8B)** with entry unrestricted (except where the playing area limits the number of Players that can be accommodated). Master Point awards of "B" Points for overall placings and "C" Points for session placings.
- (d) **"A" Point Tournaments** with entry unrestricted (except where the playing area limits the number of Players that can be accommodated or as authorised by NZ Bridge). Master Point awards of "A" Points for overall placings, "A" Points for session wins and "C" Points for session placings for Pairs Tournaments and "A" Points for match wins in Match Play Tournaments.
- (e) **Multigrade (8B or 3A)** with entry unrestricted and prizes awarded to different grade combinations; **(5B)** with entry restricted to Intermediate and Junior Players. "A" Points or "B" Points are awarded only to the top placings.
- (f) **Restricted (8B)** with entry open to all Players except those Open Players in Open–Open pairings. Open Players may compete if they are playing with Intermediate or Junior Players.

5. National Events

New Zealand Championships and other National events are conducted by, or on behalf of, the Board of NZ Bridge.

5.1 Island Championship events

The seven Regions are grouped into "Island" areas as follows.

- (a) Auckland / Northland, Waikato / Bay of Plenty, Central Districts and Wellington Regions combine to form the North Island area.
- (b) Top of the South, Canterbury and Otago / Southland Regions combine to form the South Island area.

The hosting of the following events will be by rotation and will be delegated to be conducted by the Regional Committees, on behalf of the Board of NZ Bridge, in each of the two areas (North Island and South Island) each year:

- (a) One Teams Championship for an award of 20 A Points.
- (b) One Pairs Championship for an award of 20 A Points.

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5.2 New Zealand 15A Point Pairs, Teams and Swiss Pairs

These events will rotate between the three Regions not hosting an Island Championship in any one year.

6. Regional Events

6.1 Each Region in its own area is entitled to run Regional events in addition to the above Island events, as follows.

- (a) One Provincial Teams Championship – **10A**.
- (b) One Provincial Pairs Championship – **10A**.
- (c) One Main Regional Pairs or Teams Tournament – **10A**.
- (d) One Men's and one Women's Pairs Tournament – **5A**.
- (e) One Regional Local Teams Tournament – **5A**.
- (f) Trials for the Interprovincial Teams Championships (Open, Women, Senior and Intermediate).
- (g) Preliminary rounds of the National Rubber Bridge Competition.
- (h) Regional Congress events.

6.2 Regional Congresses

Each Region in its own area is entitled to run a Regional Congress. These events may incorporate one or more of the **10A** Point Provincial or Main Regional Pairs or Teams Tournaments or may comprise **5A**, **3A**, **8B**, **5B** and **3B** events.

Any Region running a Congress (**defined on page E3**) is entitled to hold an additional **10A** Point Pairs or Teams event to be run in association with this Congress.

A further **10A** Point event will be considered if a Congress event consistently attracts a field of at least 40 tables.

Regions may hold or delegate to a Club the running of a Regional Congress event. This must be approved at Regional level and confirmed by the Board, who are to be provided with an outline of the proposed programme. The programme **must** meet the definition of a Regional Congress (**defined on page E4**).

6.3 Metropolitan events / Area events

Each Region may hold each year up to six events that do not meet the definition of a Tournament (**defined on page E4**). Of these events, only three shall be for the award of "A" Points (3A or 5A); the other three shall be 8B Point Tournaments.

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Regions must furnish full details of any proposed events in their areas to the Secretary of NZ Bridge by 30 April in the year in which the schedule is being produced.

These competitions:

- (a) may be Pairs or Teams;
- (b) must satisfy NZ Bridge that they are genuine Tournaments with entries from several Clubs;
- (c) must meet the minimum requirements for the grade of Tournament for the total number of boards played and the number of boards per session;
- (d) must be open to all Players, unless allowed in the conditions authorised by NZ Bridge or unless a restricted event is allowed – with grade restrictions only to apply; Clubs with limited space may restrict entry on a "first-come, first-served basis" or by ballot;
- (e) must comply with the NZ Bridge policy on Substitutions (**page D80**);
- (f) may have a qualifying / final and plate format;
- (g) may consist of up to 16 sessions;
- (h) may have each session held at a different venue;
- (i) may have two or more sessions held on the one day; Master Points are awarded only for the sessions and not for the aggregate scores of the day's play;
- (j) may be held at weekends or in place of a regular Club session.

Events for the award of "A" points must also meet the following conditions.

- (a) Each Region is entitled each year to run one event in place of regular Club sessions.
- (b) Each event must have a minimum of 20 qualifying Pairs. If the event is run with a qualifying / final and plate format, this is the total number of Pairs completing the event in all sections. If any event fails to meet the minimum attendance requirement in two consecutive years, the event will automatically be classified as an 8B Point event for the following year and thereafter until the Region can demonstrate by numbers attending that reinstatement to "A" Point status is justified.

7. Local Events

At the Local level (within a Region), each Club is entitled to conduct one Tournament for an award of **3 A** or **5 A** Points during each calendar year.

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In addition to its right to conduct one **3A** or **5A** Point Tournament, each Club may, subject to the approval of its Region, conduct one Open B, one Intermediate (**5B**) and one Junior (**3B**) Tournament.

8. Additional Events

Each Region may approve extra "A" Point (**5A** and **3A**) and "B" Point (**8B**, **5B** and **3B**) events in its Region additional to the list in **6** above (**page C5**). Clubs requesting such additional Master Point events must apply afresh annually to run any such extra event.

Regions are required to furnish full details of such additional events in their Regions to the Secretary of NZ Bridge by 30 April in the year in which the schedule is being produced.

Note: The NZ Bridge Board reserves the right to alter this qualification from time to time as may be deemed necessary.

From time to time, Clubs may wish to hold special "one-off" Tournaments to celebrate a special milestone such as a Club Anniversary or new / substantially upgraded premises.

Requests for either a "one-off" upgrade of an existing Tournament or the approval of a "one-off" additional event should be made in writing to the appropriate Regional Committee at least 12 months prior to the date of the proposed event. If the Regional Committee approves the request, it will forward it, with a recommendation, to the Board for final sign-off.

Board approval will be conditional on there being minimal impact on the existing events scheduled in the annual National Tournament Calendar.

9. Transfer of Club Rights

If a Club decides not to exercise its right to run any of its prescribed Tournaments during a calendar year, the Region to which it is affiliated is entitled to re-allocate such Tournaments to other Clubs within the Region. It is the responsibility of each Region to ensure that the total number of allowable Tournaments is not exceeded.

ORGANISATION AND RUNNING OF TOURNAMENTS

The overwhelming criterion of the success of any Tournament is "enjoyment of the Players" and Tournament Organisers should always keep this in mind. Efficient and effective organisation of a Tournament does not happen automatically and, given the keen competition between Clubs and Regions, extra effort and good planning will usually pay off by attracting full and strong fields.

It is hoped that the following information will assist in the running of successful Tournaments. Reference should also be made to **(page C4)** for information on Tournament Grading and to Part E – Master Point Regulations for information on Master Point awards.

The planning and running of a Tournament falls into four broad headings.

- (a) Preparation and distribution of the Tournament Notice.
 - (b) Acceptance of entries.
 - (c) Running of the Tournament.
 - (d) Preparation and distribution of Tournament results.
-
- 1. Phase 1: Responsibilities of Tournament Subcommittee
 - (a) Preparation and distribution of the Tournament Notice.
 - (b) Appointment of a Tournament Organiser.
 - (c) Appointment of a Director and a Chief Scorer.
 - (d) Catering arrangements.
 - 2. Phase 2: Acceptance of Entries
 - (a) Receive entries.
 - (b) Prepare a list of acceptances.
 - (c) Define the policy regarding replacements.
 - (d) Prepare the draw.
 - (e) Confirm the appointments of Director and Chief Scorer.
 - (f) Decide on the movement.
 - (g) Check that the right number of boards, for the type of Tournament being run, will be played with the movement selected.

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3. Phase 3: Running of the Tournament
 - (a) Set up the room.
 - (b) Welcome by President of organising body.
 - (c) Tournament Director's remarks.
 - (d) Announce the Appeals Committee.
 - (e) Scoring.
 - (f) Set up the room for the following session.
 - (g) Prize money.
 - (h) Synchronise the refreshments and prize giving.
4. Phase 4: Preparation and Distribution of Tournament Results
 - (a) Post the result to a designated website as soon as possible.
 - (b) Prepare and distribute copies of the Tournament results to the following:
 - one copy to each of the Clubs whose members participated;
 - one copy to the Regional Committee Secretary;
 - two copies to the NZ Bridge Secretary.

The result sheet should show full names (first and surname) of the Players, with Club affiliations, gaining awards in final placings.
 - (c) Prepare results for the award of Master Points and forward to the NZ Bridge Secretary within **one week** of the date of the Tournament. (These results must include details of all sessions – computer numbers and names – as well as final overall placings with computer numbers.) Clubs not using the NZ Bridge Scoring Program must also provide a Tournament Master Point Input Sheet for all Pairs events and a Teams Result Input Sheet for all IMP-scored events.

ORGANISATION AND RUNNING OF 20A, 15A AND 10A POINT TOURNAMENTS

1. 20A Point – Island Championship Events

Outside of the National Congress, these are considered to be the premier events on the NZ Bridge Calendar and may from time to time also be used as selection events for the New Zealand Representative Teams. Therefore, NZ Bridge is concerned that the technical management and the Conditions of Contest for these Tournaments are of the highest standard.

Although the organisation and running of these events is delegated to the Regional Committee (who in turn may ask one of their Clubs to host the event), NZ Bridge will appoint the Director for all 15A Point and above events. In addition, final sign-off of the Tournament Notice and the event format lies with NZ Bridge by way of delegation to the Chief Director. The host Region must appoint a Match Committee who will ensure that the responsibilities described below, under 15A Point Tournaments, are achieved.

From time to time, NZ Bridge may wish to use the Tournament to assess a candidate sitting his/her National Director examination. This will be done in full consultation with the Region. The candidate must have full control of technical and administration issues for the whole event, in particular, setting the format. If the Region or host Club has any concerns as to what the candidate proposes, these should be raised with the appointed examiner without delay.

2. 15A Point Tournaments

The host Region may request a Club to host the event on its behalf.

The host Region must appoint a Match Committee, including:

- a representative from the host Club;
- a representative from the host Region;
- the Director (and, if applicable, the supervising Director)

and must formally advise the composition of this Committee to the Secretary of NZ Bridge.

The Match Committee is responsible for the following.

- Ensuring that all the requirements for the successful organisation and running of a Tournament (**page C8**) and any additional requirements for the event specified by NZ Bridge are met.
- Establishing a suitable format – this should be over at least four sessions and, wherever possible, should include a final. For additional guidance with the format for Teams events, (see **page C12**). **Note:** Where a supervising Director is used, he/she must sign-off on the format as in the Tournament Director's Policy (**page B5**).

- Seeding the field.
- Appointing the Appeals Committee (**page D71**).
- Preparing a budget that includes provision for:
 - the Director's fee and expenses (NZ Bridge will pay travel expenses);
 - accommodation for the Director if necessary;
 - one helper per session;
 - provision for additional resources (i.e. boards, electronic scoring devices etc.);
 - dealing of boards / hand records;
 - prizes;
 - cleaning;
 - catering;
 - sundry expenses;
 - entry fees.

3. 10A Point Tournaments

Regional Committees have full control over the organisation and running of 10A Point Tournaments, provided they comply with the minimum number of boards as set out in Part E – Master Point Regulations and the Tournament Director's Policy (**page B5**).

Nevertheless, NZ Bridge requires Regions to provide the necessary oversight of the event by appointing a suitably qualified Match Committee as described above for 20A and 15A Point Tournaments.

GUIDELINES FOR TEAMS TOURNAMENTS

The planning and the running of a Teams Tournament follow the same general concepts outlined (**page C8**). With many variations of playing format available, additional consideration must be given to this aspect of the event. It is important that the general format is included in the Tournament Notice, e.g. round robin or Swiss (depending on entries), qualifying rounds followed by a cut-off into final / plate sections etc.

1. General Considerations

1.1 Length of Tournament

The format chosen will depend on the time available for the Tournament – whether it is one or two days. For one-day events, typically a 5A Point Tournament played over 60–80 boards, a round robin or Swiss format is recommended.

1.2 Number of Teams

An even number of Teams is preferable but not essential; with an odd number of Teams, the bottom three Teams in each round can play a triangular movement.

1.3 Length of matches

For 10A Point Tournaments and above, a minimum of eight boards per match should be played. This is also suggested for 5A Point Tournaments.

1.4 Number of rounds in a Swiss format

The number of rounds played should be one-third to (at most) one-half of the number of teams in the field.

2. Typical Formats

Details of suggested formats are provided in the Directing / Regulations section of the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

3. Further Consultation

With such a wide variety of formats available, it is recommended that consultation as to a suitable format be considered, particularly for 10A and 15A Point Tournaments.

4. Contact Details for Consultation

At www.nzbridge.co.nz.

INTERPROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Eligibility

The Interprovincial Championships are contested in four divisions: Open, Women, Senior and Intermediate.

To be eligible to compete in the Intermediate event, a Player must be of Intermediate or Junior rank when the Master Point gradings for the same calendar year are published.

To be eligible to compete in the Senior event, a Player must have their 60th birthday in the same calendar year as, or earlier than, the year of the Championships. This age is the same as WBF Senior eligibility.

Seven Regions may field Teams in each category:

Auckland / Northland
Waikato / Bay of Plenty
Central Districts
Wellington
Top of the South
Canterbury
Otago / Southland

Each Region is free to use whatever method of trial or selection to determine the composition of its Team as it sees fit.

2. Residency

Players must be a member of a Club in the Region for which they wish to play. Players who belong to Clubs in more than one Region can trial for only one Region each year and must play regularly in a Club of the Region for which they trial.

3. Systems

Intermediate: All Pairs must play systems that comply with the NZ Bridge Regulations for Intermediate Tournaments.

Open, Women and Senior: Pairs are not restricted in their choice of systems or conventions.

4. System Cards

Fully completed NZ Bridge System Cards must be carried. A template may be downloaded from the Tournaments section of the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

5. Format (All Sections)

Supplementary Regulations setting out the rules of contest will be issued by the Chief Director no later than two months prior to the event in each year.

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6. Dougal McLean Trophy

This trophy is awarded to the Region with the highest aggregate for Open, Women, Senior and Intermediate Teams based on the following table.

1 st	13 points	2 nd	10 points	3 rd	8 points	4 th	6 points
5 th	4 points	6 th	2 points	7 th	0 points		

For tied places, the aggregate of the average of the points will be taken.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TOURNAMENT ORGANISER

1. The Tournament Organiser is responsible for arranging and preparing an NZ Bridge Tournament and settling any Conditions of Contest.

The former responsibility is usually delegated to a Match Committee.

Both the Tournament Organiser and the Match Committee are subject to the requirements of NZ Bridge, the Laws of Duplicate Bridge and the NZ Bridge Tournament Regulations.

2. Unless otherwise directed by the Board of NZ Bridge, the Tournament Organiser, under **Law 80B** and these Tournament Regulations, is:

- (a) for National Tournaments, the (match) committee appointed by the Board;
- (b) for Regional Tournaments, the Regional Committee to which the organisation of the Tournament has been delegated;
- (c) for Local Events, the Committee of the Club to which the organisation of the Tournament has been assigned.

3. The Tournament Organiser's powers and duties are laid out in **Law 80B2** and in the Tournament Regulations.

4. Responsibility for exercise of a Tournament.

- 4.1 The responsibility for the conduct of an NZ Bridge Tournament may be assigned by NZ Bridge to an Affiliated Club (whereafter NZ Bridge has no further responsibility).

Club Tournaments are deemed to be Assigned Tournaments.

- 4.2 The responsibility for the conduct of an NZ Bridge Tournament may be delegated

by NZ Bridge (as Tournament Organiser) to a Regional Committee, **or**

by a Regional Committee (as Tournament Organiser) to an Affiliated Club.

In both cases, the Tournament Organiser ultimately retains the responsibility for the exercise of such Tournaments.

Regional events (including Regional Congresses) and Metropolitan events are deemed to be Delegated Tournaments.

- 4.3 The responsibility for the conduct of NZ Bridge National Tournaments rests wholly with the Board of NZ Bridge as Tournament Organiser.

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5. The Tournament Organiser shall appoint a Match Committee as required by Clause 2.3 (**page D17**) of the Tournament Regulations.
6. The Tournament Organiser has a discretion to limit right of admission either as set out in the Tournament Regulations or because of venue limitations or other reason. NZ Bridge does not normally mandate how or on what basis this discretion may be exercised, although the Tournament Notice should specify a closing/cut-off date for receipt of entries sufficiently in advance of the date of the Tournament for any entrant to be notified of non-acceptance before committing to travel arrangements. NZ Bridge retains the overriding prerogative to direct the Tournament Organiser at any time not to exercise any limitation in any instance, or in relation to any specific entries, or to direct the basis upon which any limitation is to be exercised. An obvious example would be if an event is being used for national representative selection purposes, then Contestants involved in that process would be exempted from any limitation of admission regardless of any criteria proposed to be adopted by the Tournament Organiser for that purpose.
7. The Tournament Organiser shall make every endeavour to obtain an even number of entries for each event. In the absence of an even number of entries, the Tournament Organiser shall make every endeavour to enlist a "House Contestant" ("House Team", "House Pair" or "House Player"), which may, at the discretion of the Tournament Organiser, contain any number of Players and include ineligible Players, to make up an even number of participant Teams in Teams events, to make up an even number of participant Pairs in Pairs events or to fill a field in an Individual event.

It is NZ Bridge Tournament policy to take every practical step to avoid the play of "triangles" in Teams events.
8. During any NZ Bridge Tournament or event and thereafter until the venue has been vacated, the Match Committee, with a quorum of three, shall be entitled to demand, for cause, that any person leave the premises for the duration of the Tournament or event, and provided further that nothing in this paragraph contained or implied shall negate the powers of the Tournament Director under the Laws.
9. In accordance with Clause 3.2.5 (**page D20**) of the Tournament Regulations, the Tournament Organiser is required to report the full circumstances (including a report from the Director in Charge where relevant) leading to any disqualification of a Contestant or single Player
 - by the Director in Charge under **Law 91B** and/or Clause 3.2.2 (**page D19**) of the Tournament Regulations, **or**
 - by the Match Committee (acting under delegation of authority of the Tournament Organiser) under **Law 91B** and Clause 3.1 (**page D18**) of the Tournament Regulationsto the Secretary of NZ Bridge within 5 working days of the disqualification.
10. The Tournament Organiser should make every endeavour to ensure that:
 - Supplementary Regulations, where relevant, are promulgated in adequate time for the information of Contestants;
 - the Master Points for the Tournament are sent to the Secretary of NZ Bridge within 1 week of completion of the Tournament;

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- the results of the Tournament are posted on the appropriate website/s within 2 days of the completion of the Tournament;
- records of the format, budget and attendance are kept for future use by incoming Match Committees;
- a checklist for Tournament preparation is developed, used and updated as necessary.

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PART D – TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

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RULES FOR NATIONAL RUBBER BRIDGE COMPETITION

1. Matches

All matches are to be played under the rules laid down in The International Laws of Contract Bridge 2014.

2. Formats

Formats are up to the individual Regions to organise but should fall within one of the following two methods.

- (a) A one-venue event held over a day or a weekend. In this case, a Pair must not have more than one bye and, if numbers are awkward, the event may be run with one or both of the following two features.

- (i) **Closest Loser(s).** In this case, the Pair who lost by the closest margin may be allowed through to fill out the draw, e.g. 14 Pairs could produce 7 winners and 1 closest loser to make a full draw of 8 Pairs for the quarter finals.

- (ii) **Repechage.** In this case, first-round losers play a series of short matches to allow one or two to get back into the event, e.g. 24 Pairs would reduce to 12 winners, who play off for 6 quarter-final places, and 12 losers, who play a series of 10-board matches for the other 2 quarter-final places.

In either case, any draw that puts two Pairs together who have previously met will be declared invalid and completely redrawn, unless the competition has progressed to a stage where it is impossible to avoid Pairs meeting again.

- (b) An event held over a longer period of time, generally in people's homes. Early rounds can be drawn with a geographical bias, to reduce travelling. If there is a substantial difference in numbers from various areas, the Regional Committee may permit a format that effectively gives a Pair more than one bye. Under this format, there can be no closest losers or repechage as in (i) or (ii).

3. Length of Matches

All matches will be of 30 deals, unless there is a good cause, such as a repechage, to run shorter matches. A passed-in hand constitutes a deal.

4. Incomplete Rubbers

If, at the end of the specified length of the match, a rubber is not finished, the score is computed as follows: if only one game has been completed, the winners of that game will be credited with 300 points; if only one side has a part score (or part scores) in a game not completed, that side is credited with 100 points.

5. Tie Breaks

Ties at the end of the match will be resolved by the addition of two deals to the length of the match. This means that Contestants retain all the conditions of the match as at the end of the last board, e.g. the dealer, vulnerability, scores below and above the line (but not the bonus points computed for an incomplete rubber at that stage) etc., and play a further two deals. The score is then recalculated including the bonus points for an incomplete rubber, if any. If the scores remain tied, the procedure is repeated. In effect, the tie break is a continuation of the match for a further two deals each time, until a winner is found. Some formats may require the resolution of ties between Pairs who have not been in direct competition. One example of this would be a format in which the closest loser also survived to the next round. If there was a tie between two or more Pairs for such a qualification, it is to be resolved by tossing a coin or drawing lots.

6. Slow Play

In a type (a) one-venue format, the timing of the event may be disrupted by excessively slow play. If this happens, the organisers must not shorten any matches, but can use the following measures to encourage participants to maintain a reasonable speed of play.

- (a) A penalty may be imposed on one or both Pairs in a match, which would take effect from the start of the next match. A standard penalty would be approximately 300 points, but this is only a guideline that can be varied by the Director, taking into account each individual case. For example, if the Director deems that the responsibility for slow play in a quarter final is being, or was, equally shared, he/she may rule that the winner of the match will start the semi-final with a deficit of 300 points. If the Director believes one Pair to be mostly responsible for the slow play in question, then he/she can rule that the penalty will apply only if that Pair wins the match.
- (b) The Director can file a report to the Region giving details of the incident and recommending that the Region not accept entries from this Pair for the Rubber Bridge Knockout in the following year. The Director may also warn Players that such an action may be taken if their speed of play does not improve.

7. Substitutes

(a) **Format (a) events**

These are one-venue events and include the play-offs at the National Congress. The Director may approve a substitute for one match or part thereof. Should that Pair win the match but then still be unable to continue, then the substitution will be revoked and the other Pair will proceed to the next round.

(b) **Format (b) events**

These events are held at times to suit the Players and often in private homes. No substitutes will be allowed under any circumstances. Pairs who are unable to complete their match within the allocated timeframe will forfeit their match and their opponents will progress to the next round.

8. National Finals

The winning Pair in each Region progresses to the National Final held at the Hamilton Congress. In the Region with the largest number of entries, the beaten finalist will also qualify for the National Final. If there is a tie for the largest number of entries between two or more Regions, it will be broken by random lot.

9. Replacement Pairs

Should a Player or Players become unavailable to play in the National Final after having qualified, the Pair will be replaced using the following method.

- (a) If the Pair came from a Region with only one Pair in the National Final, that Pair will be replaced by the beaten finalists.
- (b) If the Pair came from a Region with two Pairs in the National Final, that Pair will be replaced by the beaten finalists in the Region with the second-largest entries.

In both cases, if that Pair is unavailable (even if it is because the Players are already replacing another Pair), there will be no further replacement and the National Final will proceed with fewer than eight Pairs.

SYSTEM REGULATIONS FOR NATIONAL RUBBER BRIDGE COMPETITION

1. The objective is to allow methods that could be used by any two Players forming a partnership for the first time for a game of Rubber. Only systems that are allowed to be played in Junior Tournaments can be used **(page D41)**.
2. Contestants are expected to follow the intention and "spirit" of the Regulations.
3. Before the start of the match, Players should agree, as far as practical, on the legality of their opponents' system. If unsure of the legality of any bid or method, the Contestants, before the match starts, should:
 - in a type (a) event, consult with the Director;
 - in a type (b) event, consult with any Director.
4. Conventions permitted in this competition are those that Players in Junior Tournaments can be expected to play. A list of permitted conventions is included in the following section **(page D7)**. Players may agree to play other conventions provided they are consistent with the spirit of the event. They must be agreed before play starts on the first board and a written record of the agreement should be made.
5. Penalties

Should it be ruled that a Pair has used an unauthorised convention and attention is drawn to it immediately, the non-offending Pair will have the choice (after completion of the hand) of

- (a) 200 points above the line and the result cancelled, or
- (b) the result on the hand plus an additional 100 points above the line.

In either case, it will count as a played hand.

If attention is drawn to the irregularity after either non-offending Player looks at his/her cards on the next deal, then only penalty (b) can be applied.

If attention is drawn to the matter after Players have left the table at the end of the match, no penalty will be applied unless no Director is present, in which case it should be drawn to the attention of the Regional Committee at the earliest practical opportunity.

The penalty provisions in the Regulations should be implemented only for a gross breach that leads to damage.

GUIDE TO SYSTEMS AND CONVENTIONS PERMITTED IN NATIONAL RUBBER BRIDGE COMPETITION

The following short summary has been prepared to assist Players with regard to the basic requirements and treatments that are approved to be played at the New Zealand National Rubber Bridge Competition.

1. Opening Bids

Call	
1♣	Opening strength; minimum suit length, 2 cards; OR Simple Precision with no relay or artificial response other than the negative 1♦ response
1♦	Opening strength; minimum suit length, 3 cards; OR Precision style (opening strength, any distribution)
1♥ 1♠	Opening strength; minimum suit length, 4 cards
1NT	Balanced; lower limit at least 11 HCP
2♣	Very strong; forcing; any distribution; OR Opening strength; minimum suit length, 5 cards (Precision style)
2♦	Very strong; forcing; any distribution; OR Opening strength; minimum suit length, 5 cards; OR Weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards
2♥ 2♠	Weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards; OR Strong; minimum suit length, 4 cards
2NT	Balanced; lower limit at least 18 HCP
Suit bid, 3+ level	May be weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards
3NT	Very strong; OR "Gambling" (with a long minor suit)

Notes

"Precision" may also include any convention / treatment that is allowed to be played at this level with a natural system.

Unless otherwise noted, the suit to which the "minimum length" applies must be the suit named in the bid.

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For the purposes of this table, the following definitions of strength apply

"Opening strength": At least 11 HCP or equivalent with allowance for distribution (for which the guideline is: Add one point for every card after the eighth in the two longest suits).

"Strong": At least 15 HCP or equivalent.

"Very strong": At least 19 HCP or equivalent.

"Weak": Less than opening strength.

2. Responses to Opening Bids

Any artificial negative response to a forcing opening, including "impossible" 1♦ response to Precision 1♣.

Artificial forcing responses promising trump support (e.g. 2NT, splinter bids).

Stayman or Baron responses to NT bids, including modified forms.

Transfer or range-finder responses to NT bids.

2NT enquiry response to weak 2-suit opening.

2♦ enquiry response to Precision 2♣ opening.

3. Calls Over Opponents' Natural 1 Suit Opening

Any suit bid that promises 4+ cards in the suit.

A cue bid showing a very strong hand.

Any bid (including a cue bid) that shows two suits (5+/5+), at least one specified; must be either "weak only" or "strong only".

Jump cue bid asking partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit.

4. Others

Any defence to opponent's 1NT opening.

Any defence to opponent's artificial forcing opening.

Any meaning of "double" in any sequence.

Any ace-asking bids and responses.

Any treatment for a cue bid made after the first bid by one's own side.

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5. Permitted Conventions

Opening	Gambling 3NT
Responses to 1 suit openings	Any artificial negative response to forcing opening, including "impossible" 1♦ response to Precision 1♣
	Artificial forcing responses promising trump support (e.g. Jacoby 2NT, Bergen raise, splinter bids)
Responses to NT opening and NT intervening bids	Stayman or Baron, including modified forms
	Transfers and range finder
Response to weak 2♣ opening	2NT enquiry
Response to Precision 2♣ opening	2♦ enquiry
Intervention after opponents' natural 1 suit opening	Cue bid that shows a strong hand
	Any bid that shows a two-suited hand (5/5), either weak or strong but not both (e.g. Michaels, unusual NT)
	Jump cue bid asking partner to bid 3NT with a hold in that suit
Intervention after opponents' 1NT opening	Any defence
Intervention after any artificial opening by opponent	Any defence
Other	Any ace-asking enquiry and responses
	Any meaning of cue bid after first bid by own side

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS AND APPENDICES

PREAMBLE

These Tournament Regulations are effective for all Scheduled Tournaments and all other bridge events where the relevant Conditions of Contest so specify.

It is current NZ Bridge policy to update these Regulations as may be required on a regular basis. As the NZ Bridge Manual is revised and republished only at two-yearly intervals, any relevant Bulletins promulgated on the NZ Bridge website in the intervening periods amending, modifying or adding to these Regulations shall form part of these Regulations pending the next succeeding publication of the NZ Bridge Manual.

Any expressions used in these Regulations and not defined in the Definition of Expressions forming part of these Regulations shall have their ordinary meaning in bridge terminology and/or as defined in The Laws. The singular shall include the plural and vice versa, and references to one gender shall include the other.

DEFINITION OF EXPRESSIONS

Appeals Advisor	An official appointed by the Tournament Organiser whose function is to advise prospective appellants regarding the wisdom of pursuing an appeal.
Appeals Committee	The committee appointed by the Tournament Organiser that is responsible for all matters pertaining to appeals relating to that Tournament.
Appeals Form	The prescribed form (page D77), for completion before the hearing of an appeal, that makes provision for statements by the appellant, the respondent and the Director who made the ruling that initiated the appeal.
Assigned Tournament	A Scheduled Tournament for which the responsibilities of the Tournament Organiser under The Laws and/or these Regulations have been assigned to an Affiliated Club or other recognised entity (whereafter NZ Bridge has no further responsibility in that capacity). Scheduled Club Tournaments are each deemed to be an Assigned Tournament to the Affiliated Club concerned.
Augmentation	The expansion of a Team (to be distinguished from making a replacement or substitution).
BBO	Bridge Base Online, a specific interactive network for, inter alia, the presentation of major bridge Tournaments around the world.
Carryover	A "Carryover" is a score that is carried forward from one stage of a multi-stage event to a subsequent stage.

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C D and D Committee	The Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee appointed from time to time in accordance with Clause 27 of the Constitution of NZ Bridge (page A38) .
Chief Director	The Director engaged and appointed from time to time by the Board of NZ Bridge as Chief Director in accordance with Clause 15 (page A28) of the Constitution. In the event that the Chief Director is overseas or otherwise unavailable or, in the opinion of the Director in Charge of a Scheduled Tournament or other bridge event to which these Regulations have been applied, is or has not been readily contactable in a timely manner, then that Director in Charge has authority to act on his behalf and in that capacity in relation to the conduct of that Tournament or bridge event.
Conditions of Contest	The Conditions of Contest (if any) prescribed from time to time by the Tournament Organiser for any Scheduled Tournament or other bridge event.
Constitution	The Constitution of NZ Bridge.
Contestant	In an individual event, a Player; in a Pairs event, two Players playing as partners; in a Teams event, four or more Players playing as Team mates. In a Pairs event, each individual Player participating in a partnership is also a Contestant, and, in a Teams event, each individual Player and each partnership pairing participating in a Team is also a Contestant. A House Contestant shall also be deemed to be a Contestant.
Delegated Tournament	<p>A Scheduled NZ Bridge Tournament for which the duties and responsibilities of the Tournament Organiser, under the Laws (80B) and these Regulations, have been delegated (Law 80A3) to a Regional Committee, which may further delegate these duties and responsibilities to a Match Committee.</p> <p>NZ Bridge and/or the Chief Director retain an overriding authority to exercise the powers and responsibilities of the Tournament Organiser with respect to Delegated Tournaments and may resume that role or give directions in that capacity at any time or times at their discretion, notwithstanding such delegation or sub-delegation as the case may be.</p>
Director in Charge	The Director appointed by the Tournament Organiser and/or the Chief Director as the case may be to be responsible for the technical management of the Tournament subject to the Laws, these Regulations and any Supplementary Regulations. The Director in Charge may delegate his duties and responsibilities for brief periods of time to one of his assistants.
House Contestant	<p>A House Contestant is one or more Players recruited by the Tournament Organiser. The term is generic and includes House Player, House Pair and House Team.</p> <p>House Contestants may include Players who are normally ineligible to enter the event. House Contestants are eligible to win prizes and trophies, as well as to be awarded Master</p>

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Points, provided that they are in all ways eligible for the Tournament.

Notwithstanding the eligibility of a House Contestant, table scores earned by their opponents are valid, subject to Paragraphs 4.1.2 through to 4.1.7 (**page D21**) of these Regulations (referring to emergency substitutions).

House Contestants, irrespective of their eligibility for the event, are entitled to qualify for each stage of a multi-stage event, including qualification for the finals.

House Pair

A House Pair is a group of Players (which may number more than two) recruited by the Tournament Organiser to make up an even number of Pairs in the field for a Scheduled Tournament Pairs event. The House Pair may otherwise be ineligible to enter the event.

House Player

A House Player is a Player recruited by the Tournament Organiser to make up a Pair or a Team or to fill a place in an Individual field. The House Player may otherwise be ineligible to enter the event.

House Team

A House Team is a group of Players (which may number more than six) recruited by the Tournament Organiser to make up an even number of Teams in the field for a Scheduled Tournament Teams event. The House Team may otherwise be ineligible to enter the event.

Match Committee

The committee appointed by the Tournament Organiser that is responsible for all matters arising during the course of the Tournament, Championship, Festival, Congress or other bridge event that are not specifically the function of the Tournament Organiser or the Director.

The Match Committee should include, ex officio, the Director in Charge and, for National events, the Chief Director.

Match Recorder

A Match Recorder is an official appointed by the Tournament Organiser or by the Director to record details of the auction and/or play at a particular table, usually in semi-finals and finals of National events.

Monitor

A Monitor is an official appointed by the Director to observe play at a table and to report to the Director on matters relating to slow play, to etiquette and/or decorum and to any other matters relating to the smooth running of the Tournament.

National Recorder

The person appointed by the Chief Director in accordance with Clause 15.5 (**page A29**) of the Constitution of NZ Bridge to lead a team of Regional Recorders who receive and investigate any matters arising from incidents occurring at any NZ Bridge Scheduled Tournament as set out in the Mandate for Recorders (**page A12**).

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National Tournaments	NZ Bridge Tournaments for which NZ Bridge is also the Tournament Organiser (page D41) .
NBO	A National Bridge Organisation that is a member of the World Bridge Federation (WBF).
NZ Bridge	NZ Bridge Incorporated, the sole governance body for the game of bridge in New Zealand and the Regulating Authority in New Zealand under The Laws, and also, where the context requires, includes the Board of NZ Bridge.
NZ Bridge Tournament	Unless the context requires otherwise, the term "NZ Bridge Tournament", where used in the Regulations, refers to any Tournament, Congress, Festival, Championships (or any side event held in conjunction with these events) or other bridge event conducted under the auspices of the rules and regulations of NZ Bridge and the Master Point Scheme, and includes all Scheduled Tournaments.
Regional Committee	A Committee of the Board constituted from time to time pursuant to Clause 16 of the Constitution (page A29) .
Regional Recorder	The Regional Recorder is an official appointed by the Chief Director, in accordance with Clause 15.5 (page A29) of the Constitution of NZ Bridge, to receive and investigate any matter arising from incidents occurring at NZ Bridge Tournaments or in their Region in accordance with the Mandate for Recorders and under the supervision of the National Recorder.
Regulating Authority	The Regulating Authority for the game of bridge in New Zealand is NZ Bridge, acting via its Board.
Regulations or Tournament Regulations	These Tournament Regulations, which have been ratified by resolution of the Board of NZ Bridge, and, in relation to any NZ Bridge Tournament, includes any Supplementary Regulations and Conditions of Contest that may be promulgated by the Tournament Organiser. See Law 80A1(c) .
Round	A Round is a part of a session played without progression of Players, or any other period of play as defined in the Laws and these Regulations and as amended by the Supplementary Regulations of the event.
Scheduled Tournament	All Tournaments listed from time to time in the National Tournament Schedule for each calendar year, prepared by and on behalf of NZ Bridge and published on the NZ Bridge website.
Session	A Session is an extended period of play as defined by the Laws, these Regulations and/or any Supplementary Regulations applicable to the event.
Stage	A Stage is a distinct part of a multi-stage event.

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Stanza	A Stanza is a period of play without a distinct break. It is part of a Session as defined by the Laws, these Regulations and/or any Supplementary Regulations applicable to the event.
Stop Card	A Stop Card is a card that is used during the auction by a Player about to make a "skip bid" to warn his left-hand opponent of his impending action.
Supplementary Regulations	Supplementary Regulations are any additional Regulations drawn up and promulgated by the Tournament Organiser (or the Chief Director or Match Committee on its behalf) relating to a specific NZ Bridge Tournament. The Supplementary Regulations (if any) are deemed to be part of, and incorporated into, these Regulations for the purpose of that specific NZ Bridge Tournament only.
The Laws	The Laws of Duplicate Bridge as promulgated by the World Bridge Federation and, where the Laws allow discretion, as applied by NZ Bridge.
Tournament	Any bridge event, conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge, and open to eligible members of any Affiliated Club or open to any eligible Players as laid out in the Conditions of Contest, if any.
Tournament Organiser	<p>Unless otherwise directed by the Board of NZ Bridge, the Tournament Organiser under Law 80B and these regulations is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) for National Tournaments, the (match) committee appointed by the Board;(b) for Regional Tournaments, the Regional Committee to which the organisation of the Tournament has been delegated;(c) for Club Tournaments and local bridge events, the Committee of the Club to which the organisation of the Tournament or bridge event has been assigned.
Vugraph	A means, usually as an interactive network, of presentation of bridge Tournaments to an audience. BBO is a specific example of the presentation of major bridge Tournaments to audiences around the world.
WBF	The World Bridge Federation.
Working Day	All days other than Saturdays, Sundays and Statutory Holidays pertinent to that region of New Zealand.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 These Regulations shall apply to all Scheduled Tournaments and to all other bridge events conducted in New Zealand where the Conditions of Contest so specify and, to the extent stated in any part or provision of these Regulations, to any NZ Bridge Tournament.
- 1.2 Scheduled Tournaments shall be conducted under The Laws and in compliance with these Tournament Regulations and any Conditions of Contest.
 - 1.2.1 Subject to the Conditions of Contest in any instance, only eligible Players may contest Scheduled Tournaments, being those with an active NZ Bridge number or who are overseas-registered Players and who comply with the eligibility criteria of the Tournament, or who are House Players or who are Players designated as eligible by any Supplementary Regulations, provided, however, that any Player subject to any suspension, condition or restriction (whether imposed temporarily or for a defined period) that restrains participation shall not be eligible.
 - 1.2.2 A Contestant's entry is not considered to be complete until the entry has been accepted by the Tournament Organiser and notified accordingly, and all entry fees for that Contestant have been received. Notification of acceptance of a Contestant's entry does not impose any liability upon the Tournament Organiser or Director in Charge should the bridge event subsequently not proceed, or proceed under a modified or alternative format or proceed at another time and/or place.
 - 1.2.3 The right of admission to any Assigned Tournament or other bridge event that is not a Scheduled Tournament rests with the Tournament Organiser, and may be exercised at the sole discretion of the Tournament Organiser at any time prior to the commencement of such event and without the need to provide any reason or reasons to any affected Contestant.
- 1.3 Any Scheduled Tournament may have Supplementary Regulations, which shall be deemed to be part of these Regulations. In the case of conflict that is not resolved by the Match Committee prior to commencement of play, these Tournament Regulations shall prevail. The Match Committee on behalf of the Tournament Organiser will normally promulgate these Supplementary Regulations before the start of the event.

The Director in Charge has the powers to remedy any errors or omissions of the Tournament Organiser and is responsible for the on-site technical management of the Tournament.
- 1.4 Entries to all NZ Bridge Tournaments are accepted on the basis that both these Regulations and any Supplementary Regulations will apply, and in accordance with any Conditions of Contest.
- 1.5 No claim shall lie against NZ Bridge by reason of the conduct of any NZ Bridge Tournament, or the failure to conduct such event, or the conduct of

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such event under a modified or alternative format, or at another time and/or place or in any other manner whatsoever.

- 1.6 The Tournament Organiser shall endeavour to obtain an even number of entries for each event. In the absence of an even number of entries or of Contestants present at the commencement of an event, the Tournament Organiser shall seek to enlist a "House Contestant" ("House Team", "House Pair" or "House Player"), which may, at the discretion of the Tournament Organiser, contain any number of Players and include Players not otherwise eligible, to make up an even number of participant Teams in Teams events, to make up an even number of participant Pairs in Pairs events, or to fill a field in an Individual event.
- 1.7 Competitive integrity requires that every Contestant in an NZ Bridge Tournament aim to do as well as possible on each board played and play accordingly. This regulation is directed to intent.

Examples of a breach of this regulation would be:

- (a) to lose a match deliberately during a round robin of a Teams Championship in order to improve a Team's chance of winning the title by having an "easier" opponent to play in the final;
- (b) to engineer deliberately a poor result during a Pairs event in order to assist the opponents or to impede the chance of some other Pair.

A breach of this regulation will result in disciplinary action by NZ Bridge.

- 1.8 Official language
- 1.8.1 The English language is the official language for all NZ Bridge Tournaments. During a session, all explanations shall be given in English and Players may converse only in English, unless both Captains (Teams) and all four Players (Pairs) agree to use some other common language at their own risk.
- 1.8.2 If necessary, translation into English is the responsibility of the Team Captain(s).
- 1.8.3 Appeals based on misunderstanding in a language other than English will not be entertained.
- 1.9 For National and Regional Tournaments, the name of each Team shall be the name of its Captain or its Non-Playing Captain. Exceptions may be made for sponsored Teams. In such cases, the name of the sponsor may be used, with the written approval of the Tournament Organiser.

2. Appeals Committee, Appeals Advisor, Match Committee, Recorder

2.1 Appeals Committee

Unless NZ Bridge approves otherwise, there shall be an Appeals Committee for each NZ Bridge Tournament. The Tournament Organiser shall appoint a

Chairperson of this Committee and provide in the Supplementary Regulations for the appointment of members of this committee **(page D71)**.

2.2 Appeals Advisor

The Supplementary Regulations may appoint one or more Appeals Advisors. The function of the Appeals Advisor shall be to advise a prospective appellant whether there are grounds for lodging an appeal. It is not obligatory for a prospective appellant to consult the Appeals Advisor before lodging an appeal. However, in determining whether an appeal is "substantially without merit" and whether to exercise its discretion to impose a penalty in such circumstance, the Appeals Committee may consider whether or not an Appeals Advisor was consulted and the advice given to the appellant by the Appeals Advisor.

The Tournament Organiser shall supply Appeals Forms. The Appeals Form shall have the format specified in the NZ Bridge Appeals Regulations **(page D77)**. The Appeals Form shall make provision for statements by the appellant, by the non-appealing side and by the Director who made the ruling that initiated the appeal. The Appeals Form shall also make provision to indicate whether an Appeals Advisor has been consulted before lodging the appeal. For reasons of time, the Chair of a specific Appeals Committee or the Director in Charge may rule that an appeal be heard without prior completion of an Appeals Form.

2.3 Match Committee

2.3.1 The quorum of a Match Committee appointed by the Tournament Organiser shall be two persons, except in circumstances where the Regulations require a Match Committee of not fewer than three members to adjudicate. See Paragraph 2.3.3 below (requirement to leave the premises).

2.3.2 The function of the Match Committee is (consistent with the Laws and the Regulations) to oversee the efficient conduct of the Tournament. It shall discharge such duties as are not by the Laws or by the Regulations expressly the responsibility of the Director in Charge, the Tournament Organiser or the Appeals Committee, including, in an emergency or in unforeseen circumstances, the duty to promulgate (ex post facto if necessary) any further Regulation that may be required for the proper conduct of the Tournament.

2.3.3 During any NZ Bridge Tournament and thereafter until the venue has been vacated, the Match Committee, with a quorum of three, shall be entitled to demand that any person leave the premises for cause, and provided further that nothing in this paragraph contained or implied shall negate the powers of the Director in Charge under the Laws.

2.4 Recorder

The Supplementary Regulations may appoint one or more Recorders to whom matters can be reported by Players or officials on a confidential basis.

2.4.1 The Recorder shall consider each such communication and decide on the appropriate action to serve the best interests of the particular Tournament and of the game of bridge in general. In doing so, the Recorder should endeavour to give each side an equitable hearing and may:

- (a) seek input from the Director, from another Recorder and/or from other Players at the table, or from any other person;
- (b) form an opinion about the veracity of the information presented by the complainant and about the veracity of any rebuttal by the Player(s) or officials complained against;
- (c) judge whether there may have been provocation;
- (d) form an opinion about the proportion of blame attributable to either side;
- (e) form an opinion about the seriousness of the incident and decide as to whether further action should be taken immediately or whether it is sufficient to keep a note of the incident for future reference; or
- (f) where immediate action is recommended, make a suggestion to the relevant authority as to an appropriate course of action.

The Recorder may give advice to Players involved in the incident but has no power to prescribe penalties. The Recorder may make a written report but is not bound to indicate to any Contestant the substance of such record or report.

3. Disciplinary Powers of the Tournament Organiser and Director in Charge

3.1 Without thereby limiting

- (a) the powers of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee, or
- (b) the exercise of the powers of the Director in Charge (in particular as laid out in **Law 90** and **Law 91**),

any one or more of the following matters involving a Contestant or Contestants or spectator or spectators or appointed official shall constitute an offence in respect of which the Tournament Organiser and/or the Director in Charge will be entitled to exercise the power of suspension for part of or all of an event, and/or disqualification from an entire event, and/or to order the removal of any such person or persons from the event venue, namely:

- (a) any breach of the Laws or proprieties of bridge as set out in the Laws and as modified by these Regulations;
- (b) any behaviour during the course of any Scheduled Tournament, which the Director in Charge or the Match Committee shall decide is offensive, objectionable and/or unbecoming, or a departure from the

standards required under Sections 11 (Dress and Etiquette; **page D32**), 12 (Anti-Doping; **page D32**) and 13 (Smoking and Alcohol; **page D32**) of these Regulations;

- (c) any behaviour within the venue, in the grounds of the venue or near the venue of a Scheduled Tournament, immediately before its commencement, during its conduct or soon after its completion, which the Director in Charge or the Match Committee shall decide is offensive, objectionable and/or unbecoming, or constitutes behaviour (whether verbal, written or physical) that is abuse of any other Contestant, official, Director, staff member (whether an employee or voluntary worker) or spectator;
- (d) any behaviour by any Player receiving an NZ Bridge subsidy, in whole or in part towards his/her attendance at or participation in any Scheduled Tournament, at premises for accommodation, which the Director in Charge or the Match Committee shall decide is offensive, objectionable and/or unbecoming;
- (e) any behaviour immediately before the commencement, during the conduct or soon after the completion of a Scheduled Tournament that shall be considered by the Tournament Organiser or by the Director in Charge to bring the game of bridge and/or NZ Bridge into disrepute or to constitute a breach of NZ Bridge's Social Media Policy (**page A52**);
- (f) unauthorised withdrawal, as defined in Clause 10.1.2 (**page D30**).

3.2 Director in Charge's right to suspend or disqualify in NZ Bridge Tournaments

In accordance with **Law 91B** and in accordance with the minutes of the WBF Laws Committee 09/11/2003, NZ Bridge has given its authority, in advance, to the Director in Charge of any NZ Bridge Tournament to disqualify a Contestant including, at his discretion, to disqualify one Player only allowing the other Player of the Pair or other members of the Team to continue their participation in the Tournament.

- 3.2.1 The Director in Charge of any NZ Bridge Tournament, from the time of his arrival at the Tournament venue until the venue is vacated at the conclusion of the event, has full power to solely exercise those disciplinary powers afforded by the Laws, as well as those disciplinary powers afforded by these Tournament Regulations, including suspension and/or disqualification.
- 3.2.2 In the case of a Tournament comprising several events for which a package entry fee is available, the Director in Charge has the authority to disqualify a Contestant for cause either from participation in all or any remaining events or from the whole Tournament.
- 3.2.3 The Director in Charge shall, at his discretion, report any suspension under **Law 91A** to the National Recorder, the Chief Director and/or NZ Bridge, each of whom may consider at their discretion whether further action is appropriate in accordance with their respective powers and authorities.

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3.2.4 Automatic suspension following disqualification

A Player who has been disqualified pursuant to either **Law 91** or the application of these Regulations as the case may be is prohibited from participating in any Tournaments, competitions or events conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge but may take part in Club sessions held at an Affiliated Club where such Player is registered as a Home Club member, until otherwise notified in writing by the Board or by the Chairperson of the Conduct, Discipline and Disputes Committee that this prohibition no longer applies.

3.2.5 Requirement to report disqualification

The Tournament Organiser is required to report in writing (including a report from the Director in Charge) the circumstances leading to any disqualification of any Contestant resulting from the conduct of any bridge event to the Secretary of NZ Bridge within 5 working days of any such decision to disqualify.

3.3 Refund of Tournament entry fees

3.3.1 Should a Contestant be suspended or disqualified as a result of a decision made by the Director in Charge, the Tournament Organiser or the Match Committee, then neither such Contestant nor any partner or Team mate of any such Contestant shall be entitled to any refund of entry fee, either wholly or partially, as a consequence of such suspension or disqualification.

4. Substitution, Augmentation, Change of Personnel and Replacement

4.1 Substitution

Substitution is not a right but a provision that may be granted by the Director in Charge (**page D80**).

4.1.1 The number of substitutions for a Player allowed in any NZ Bridge event, unless otherwise specifically provided for in the Supplementary Regulations, shall be according to the scale below. A stanza is defined as any number of boards after which there is a break in play as provided for in the Supplementary Regulations.

Number of stanzas (<i>n</i>)	Number of stanzas for which substitute(s) allowed
1	0
2	1
3	1
4	2
5	2
6	3
7	3
> 7	0.5 <i>n</i> (rounded down to the nearest whole number)

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A Director may authorise substitution for part of a stanza. In such a circumstance, the substitution shall be regarded for the purposes of determining "the number of substitutions allowed" as equivalent to substitution for one stanza, unless the Director rules that the number of boards played by the substitute is insignificant, in which case no substitution shall be recorded.

- 4.1.2 Any substitution must be authorised by the Director in Charge. Emergency substitutions not covered by the Regulations may be allowed for substantial cause by a special ruling of the Match Committee (which may be retrospective) subject in such cases to such terms as the Match Committee shall impose. In the last resort, the Director may take whatever action is necessary in order to preserve the integrity of the Tournament.
- 4.1.3 The Director in Charge is authorised to permit any substitute provided that he/she judges that the substitute is of approximately equivalent, or lesser, standard (according to the NZ Bridge Master Point Scheme, partnership experience or other criteria that the Director in Charge may consider to be relevant) to the Player for whom the substitute is sought. Under these circumstances, scores obtained during the substitution shall not be subject to adjustment. Any Contestant present at the relevant table may appeal against the Director in Charge's judgement of equivalence. Such appeal will be heard by the Match Committee, which may, if the appeal is successful, award an adjusted score.
- 4.1.4 If the exigencies of the event require a substitution, and there is no available substitute consistent, in the opinion of the Director in Charge, with the provisions of Clause 4.1.3, the Director may allow any substitution to preserve the movement. Under these circumstances, scores obtained during the substitution shall, if the substitute is of superior standard to the Player for whom he/she substitutes, be subject to (downwards) adjustment at the Director's discretion. In such circumstances, the opponents of the Pair or Team with the non-equivalent substitute shall receive a pro-rated (upward) adjustment based upon the number of boards played by the substitute during the head-to-head encounter. Any Contestant whose score has been the subject of adjustment may appeal against the magnitude of such adjustment. Such appeal will be heard by the Match Committee, which may, if the appeal is successful, alter the adjustment.
- 4.1.5 Should an appeal in respect to substitution be deemed "substantially without merit", the appellant may be subject to a score penalty as determined by the Match Committee.
- 4.1.6 If the substitute fails to satisfy a stratification category (e.g. a male substituting for a female in Mixed Pairs, or a substitute who does not meet the terms of eligibility for a Restricted Team), then the Pair/Team will henceforth be deemed to be ineligible for prizes, trophies and Master Points arising from the event.

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- 4.1.7 Substitution shall be permitted only for cause such as illness or personal emergency, not for convenience. The Director shall report to the Match Committee any instance where he/she is of the opinion that the substitution was for insubstantial cause. The Match Committee may treat a substitution without proper cause as an unauthorised withdrawal by the Player concerned.

4.2 Augmentation

For all NZ Bridge Tournaments, augmentation of a Team of four or five Players to a Team of five or six Players may be made after entries have closed or during the course of the event provided that Paragraphs 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 below are satisfied.

4.2.1 After entries have closed but before play has commenced.

A Team of four or five Players may augment to a Team of five or six Players (provided that the Conditions of Contest make provision for Teams of five or six) by application to, and approval by, the Tournament Organiser.

4.2.2 During the course of an event

- (a) Except as defined by Paragraph 4.2.2(b) below, a Team of four or five Players may be augmented to a Team of up to six Players by application to the Match Committee. The Match Committee, at its sole discretion, may approve the augmentation provided that the Players to be added to the Team are not members of another Team that is already playing in the event. The formula determining up to what point in an event the said augmentation may occur is $0.5n + 1$ (rounded down to the nearest whole number, where n is the scheduled number of rounds for the event).
- (b) No augmentation shall be permitted:
 - (i) after nominations close and during Tournaments used for selection purposes;
 - (ii) after the qualifying stage of any Scheduled Tournament.

5. Systems, System Cards, Seating and Declaration of Line-ups

5.1 Systems

The "NZ Bridge Systems Regulations" apply to all NZ Bridge Tournaments (page D41).

5.2 System Cards (page D52)

5.2.1 A partnership's knowledge of its system

A partnership is expected to know its own system and to be able to give an accurate explanation of it. The Director in Charge may impose a procedural penalty upon any Pair that consistently displays ignorance of its system and, in an extreme case, may require the Pair to cease playing its system and to revert to a more natural system for the remainder of the session. The Match Committee and/or the Director in Charge may prohibit the partnership from playing its system in subsequent sessions and/or events unless and until the partnership is able to demonstrate a satisfactory knowledge of the system.

5.3 Seating

5.3.1 Unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, the assignment of seating rights in single stanza Teams matches shall be:

- (a) pre-determined by the Director and/or scoring program;
- (b) determined by the two respective Team Captains via a coin toss; or
- (c) effected via the independent (blind) submission of line-ups by the respective Team Captains at a time and place specified in the Supplementary Regulations.

This regulation applies to:

- (i) events with a Swiss format;
- (ii) events with a single-round-robin format;
- (iii) the first round of events with a double-round-robin format; for the second round of a double round robin, seating rights reverse;
- (iv) other events with similar formats.

5.3.2 Seating rights in knockout matches, unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, shall be determined by the Team Captains via a coin toss. The winner of the toss may choose whether to sit first or second for the first stanza. Thereafter, seating rights alternate with each stanza. This alternation applies also in matches with an odd number of stanzas, unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations.

5.3.3 A Contestant's compass orientation may be determined by the Director and/or shall be consistent with any entry into the scoring program and the requirements of the Conditions of Contest (if any) and/or Supplementary Regulations applicable.

6. Generation of Hands and Replication and Recording of Boards

- 6.1 It is NZ Bridge Tournament policy that boards should be pre-dealt and replicated and that hand records should be available (including for provision to Contestants at the conclusion of each session) for all NZ Bridge Tournaments.
- 6.2 Hands shall be generated using a dealing program approved by NZ Bridge.
- 6.3 It is NZ Bridge policy that Players should not be required to replicate boards for Tournaments. However, in circumstances where it is necessary for boards to be replicated at the table, all Players shall assist in, and be equally responsible for, the replication procedure.

7. Punctuality and Slow Play

- 7.1 Unless otherwise stated in the Supplementary Regulations, the duration of a session in NZ Bridge Tournaments is determined on the basis of 7 minutes per board without screens and 7.5 minutes per board with screens. Where the facilities exist to monitor and thus minimise slow play, an application asking NZ Bridge to determine a faster rate of play may be filed. NZ Bridge will consider the application but is free to accept or reject it.
- 7.2 It is the responsibility of the Players to know when sessions are due to commence. It is desirable that Players should be seated 5 minutes before the start of play.
- 7.3 Late arrival
 - 7.3.1 A Player, Pair or Team not seated within 5 minutes after the start of a session may, at the discretion of the Director, be penalised according to the following scales.

- (a) Late arrival for a Teams match or a Butler Pairs match

0–5 min	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5–10 min	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10–15 min	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15–20 min	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20–30 min	5 VPs (15 IMPs)
30+ min	See Section 7.3.2(b) (page D25)

Boards withdrawn because of time constraints resulting from late arrival are cancelled. The non-offending side shall be awarded 3 IMPs for each such board in Teams matches of more than 10 boards or 2 IMPs for each such board in Butler-scored matches or in Teams matches of 10 boards or less.

- (b) Late arrival for a match-pointed Pairs event

For each board that cannot be completed because of late arrival, the offending Pair shall receive 40% of the available match points, or the average of the score that they obtained for

the session (stanza), whichever is lower, and the opponents shall receive 60% of the available match points, or the average of the score that they obtained for the session (stanza), whichever is higher. It is an offence, subject to disciplinary penalty, for the offending Pair to hustle the non-offending Pair in order to complete the boards on time; it is also an offence, subject to disciplinary penalty, for the non-offending Pair deliberately to play slowly in order to maximise the likelihood of score adjustment due to non-completion of boards.

7.3.2 Director's discretion

- (a) In other cases of late arrival, the Director has the power to impose penalties that he/she deems to be equivalent to the above scales (refer to Sections 7.3.1(a) and 7.3.1(b) of these Regulations).
- (b) For delays of over 30 minutes, the Director may assess a more severe penalty, including default of the match and/or disqualification from the event. A substitute Pair may be used by the Director to complete the movement.

7.4 Slow play

It is the Director's responsibility to take whatever action is needed to limit the impact of slow play on the efficient conduct of an NZ Bridge event. The Director may make time calls or call attention to delays in completing individual matches, but Contestants should not rely upon this. The Director may appoint monitors to observe rates of play.

7.4.1 Slow play during the course of a session

Failure to complete a session or stanza on time is not the only index of slow play. The Director has the power to penalise a Contestant at any time if he/she deems that their slow play is disruptive of the movement and/or the proper conduct of a Tournament, Championship, Festival or Congress.

7.4.2 Failure to complete a stanza on time in an IMP-scored event

- (a) In an IMP-scored event, it is desirable wherever possible that all boards be completed. However, this might not be possible when one stanza closely follows the previous stanza. In this circumstance, a Director may cancel one or more boards. Otherwise, all boards shall be played and the penalty provisions of Paragraph 7.4.2(d) shall apply.
- (b) Where a stanza, session or match is not completed in the time allotted, both Pairs or Teams at the offending table(s) may be penalised unless the Director has been called to the table during the session and has ruled that one Pair is not responsible for the delay or has reduced liability for the slow play; or unless the Director, or a monitor appointed by the Director, has sufficiently observed the table to rule that one Pair shall be exempt from, or have a reduced, penalty.

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- (c) The Director has the power to issue warnings for slow play.
 - (d) After a "slow play" warning has been issued, a penalty may be imposed at the expiry of the time for a stanza or session for boards not completed by a Pair. Where the Director cancels boards under Paragraph 7.4.2(a), the Director may determine whether or not a penalty applies. Penalties shall be as follows:
 - (i) One board 1 VP (3 IMPs)
 - (ii) Subsequent boards 2 VPs (6 IMPs) per board
 - (e) Where a stanza or session is not completed on time, and boards are not removed, the Director may apply a penalty (to one or both Pairs) according to the following scale:

0–5 min	warning for first offence, then 1 VP (3 IMPs) for each subsequent offence
5–10 min	1 VP (3 IMPs)
10–15 min	2 VPs (6 IMPs)
15–20 min	3 VPs (9 IMPs)
20–30 min	5 VPs (15 IMPs)
 - (f) A warning given at any stage of an event applies throughout that event irrespective of the number of stanzas and stages.
- 7.5 Where a Pair is penalised for a late start, the starting time for the purpose of calculation shall be considered to have been the official commencement time for the session.
- 7.6 Upon the advice of the Director, the Match Committee may alter the length of a session (including changing the number of boards to be played) at one or more tables in order to facilitate or maintain the orderly progress of the event.
- 7.7 Slow play in match-pointed Pairs or Individual events may be penalised at the Director's discretion after one warning at the rate of one-quarter of the maximum possible score on a board for each subsequent offence. Warnings carry forward from session to session, but not from stage to stage.
- 7.8 Penalties for slow play are not removed in calculating carryover from one stage of an event to another, pursuant to Paragraph 8.10.1 (**page D28**).
- 7.9 Warnings and penalties are not subject to appeal, but an application may be made to the Director in Charge requesting that he/she review the assessment. In considering each application, the Director in Charge is free to reduce, remove or increase the size of any penalty.
8. Scoring, Carryover and Concessions
- 8.1 Wherever possible, reputable computer scoring programs should be used for all forms of scoring.

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Differences of fractions of a match point, amounting to 0.01 (based upon double match pointing) shall be sufficient to determine placings in a match-pointed Pairs event.

- 8.2 Where electronic scoring is in use, the NZ Bridge Tournament Regulations **(page D82)** shall apply.
- 8.3 In multi-session events, unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, errors in entering the score agreed upon at the table may be corrected within 30 minutes of the posting of scores for the session or up to 30 minutes before the start of the next session, whichever is later.
- 8.4 In head-to-head matches, notwithstanding other provisions of this section, errors made by the Players outside the deadlines specified above may be corrected with agreement between the Team Captains and with the consent of the Director in Charge or the Match Committee.
- 8.5 Unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, scoring errors made by officials and detected shall be corrected as follows:
 - (a) for all stanzas of a stage except the last stanza, at any time up to the beginning of the last stanza; and
 - (b) for the last stanza of the stage, 30 minutes after the scores have been displayed.
- 8.6 Unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations, at the conclusion of an event, the results will become final 30 minutes after the posting of scores, after which time no correction may be made.
- 8.7 Unless otherwise specified in any Supplementary Regulations, for the last round of Swiss movements and until the commencement of play, a draw that is defective, because of the result of an appeal, correction of scoring errors and similar circumstances, may be corrected. For other rounds of Swiss movements, a defective draw will not normally be corrected; however, the Director has the power to alter a grossly defective draw. In exercising this power, the Director will attempt to cause minimal disruption to the movement.
- 8.8 Discrepancies
 - 8.8.1 Primary information relating to verification of scores comprises:
 - (a) the contract and declarer; and
 - (b) the number of tricks made.
 - 8.8.2 Where there is an obvious discrepancy on the official score sheet between the score entered and the contract, declarer or number of tricks made, the Director shall make every effort to contact the Players involved to ascertain the correct details. Where this is not possible, the Director may change the score only:
 - (a) where an impossible score is recorded;
 - (b) where there is an error according to vulnerability.

8.8.3 In other instances of obvious discrepancy, the Director may rule that both Pairs are at fault and award a score of average to both sides.

8.9 Correction of scores when electronic scoring devices are in use

At the end of each round/match, the Players must verify all previously entered data. Any errors that are discovered must immediately be corrected. Subsequent requests (i.e. after the conclusion of the round) to alter an apparently consistent (although possibly incorrect) score must be made within the official (**Law 79C**) "score correction period".

Scores may be corrected by the Director after the conclusion of the round if both Contestants agree as to the correct result and that result varies from the result recorded. If one or more of the Pairs is unavailable for consultation or if there is no agreement as to the correct result, the score may be altered if the Director is satisfied on the basis of the ascertainable facts as to what the score should be. If the Director is in doubt as to what occurred, the score as originally recorded shall stand. Any correction that is to be made must be determined before the end of the correction period (see also **Law 79B2**).

8.10 Carryover

8.10.1 In multi-stage NZ Bridge events, some carryover of scores or proportions of scores from one stage to the subsequent stage may be appropriate. Carryover fractions are not rounded off or up (unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations).

8.10.2 The Match Committee shall determine what carryover, if any, is applicable from one stage to the subsequent stage of multi-stage events. In making its determination, the Committee shall ensure that:

- (a) In determining whether a carryover is appropriate and/or how the carryover is applied, consideration is given to the form of movement in the earlier stage of the event. Where such movements are imperfect, carryover should not apply or should be modified according to the degree of the imperfection. (An imperfect movement is defined as a movement in which the Contestants in a group do not meet all the opponents that are met by the other Contestants in that group.)
- (b) The carryover must not be so great as to compromise the integrity of that subsequent stage and, therefore, the event as a whole.
- (c) Tied Contestants must share the available carryover.

8.10.3 Wherever appropriate, the Supplementary Regulations shall contain a clause giving details of carryover. Should the Supplementary Regulations make no reference to carryover, it is deemed that no carryover shall apply.

8.11 Concession of knockout Teams matches

8.11.1 It is NZ Bridge Tournament policy to discourage concessions. Notwithstanding this policy, in Teams matches with multiple stanzas, a Team may concede to its opponents at or after the halfway point of a match if it considers its chances of winning the match to be negligible. A Team shall not concede deliberately to benefit another Team or for reasons that are whimsical. Any concession that is deemed to be unacceptable by the Match Committee shall be regarded as an unauthorised withdrawal under Clause 10.1.2 (**page D30**).

8.11.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph 8.11.1 above, a Team shall not concede a match that is scheduled for BBO broadcast without consultation with the Tournament Organiser (see also Paragraph 18.3.2 of these Regulations; **page D36**). Should a concession appear to be inevitable, the Tournament Organiser must make every attempt to give advance notice to the organiser(s) of the Vugraph presentation (usually the BBO National Co-ordinator), and should make every attempt to arrange for a substitute match to be broadcast.

8.12 The Director may sanction the use of Datum Sheets to assist in the calculation of datums for display purposes or for Tournament records.

9. Forfeits

9.1 In the case of matches forfeited in Teams events with Swiss and round-robin formats, and in Butler Pairs events, where matches are scored according to a WBF IMP/VP scale, the scores for the forfeited round are adjusted as follows.

For the purpose of making the draw:

- Non-offending Contestant 13 VPs and the mean IMPs for 13 VPs;
- Offending Contestant 10 VPs and 0 IMPs.

For the purpose of calculating final placings:

- Non-offending Contestant
 - 13 VPs and the mean IMPs for 13 VPs; or
 - the Contestant's mean VP/IMP score for all other rounds of the event, whichever is higher; or
 - the complement of the opponents' VP scores for all other rounds of the event.
- Offending Contestant
 - 0 VPs, and the minimum IMPs for a 20–0 VP loss.

9.2 In the case of a match forfeited in knockout events, including semi-finals and finals, the non-offending Contestant is deemed to have won the forfeited match.

- 9.3 A Contestant that forfeits two matches is disqualified from the event. Such a Contestant is considered to have withdrawn and the provisions of Section 10 of these Regulations **(page D30)** shall apply to the adjustment of scores.
- 9.4 The Director shall report all forfeits in the Director's Report. In aggravated circumstances, the Director may refer the matter to NZ Bridge, which may, in turn, exercise its disciplinary powers under Section 3 of these Regulations **(page D18)**.

10. Withdrawals and Disqualification

10.1 Categories of withdrawal

After the commencement of play in an NZ Bridge event, there are two categories of withdrawal, namely authorised and unauthorised.

10.1.1 **Authorised withdrawal.** A withdrawal that is endorsed by the Match Committee will be considered to be an authorised withdrawal. Such a withdrawal must be justified on the grounds of illness or compelling personal reasons. The Match Committee will consider the justification before authorising the withdrawal. It will be preferable if application for authorisation is made in advance but, in appropriate circumstances, an application may be made ex post facto. An authorised withdrawal may be for a limited period of up to two rounds or for the remainder of the event. An authorised withdrawal for more than two rounds shall be regarded as authorised withdrawal from the remainder of the event.

10.1.2 **Unauthorised withdrawal.** Any other withdrawal, including suspension and/or disqualification under provisions of the Laws, and these Regulations, is regarded as unauthorised and may be subject to the disciplinary provisions of these Regulations. See Clause 3.1(f) **(page D19)**.

- 10.2 A Pair will be deemed to have withdrawn from the Tournament unless both members of the partnership are in attendance and ready to play every deal that they are scheduled to play at the time or times respectively set down for this purpose except in the case of an approved or ratified withdrawal as aforesaid.
- 10.3 A withdrawal for one or two matches, either authorised or unauthorised, is treated as a forfeit and the provisions of Section 9 of these Regulations relating to the adjustment of scores following a forfeit shall apply **(page D29)**.
- 10.4 A withdrawal, either authorised or unauthorised, from the remainder of the event shall be dealt with by adjustment of scores.
- 10.5 In events with round-robin and Swiss formats, where the withdrawal occurs during the first two-thirds (rounded up) of the event, all scores obtained by the offending Team or Pair up to the point of withdrawal shall be expunged and the remaining scores including datums shall be recalculated from and including round 1.

In events with round-robin and Swiss formats, where the withdrawal occurs during the last one-third (rounded down) of the event:

- the scores obtained by the withdrawing Contestant shall be expunged;
- the scores of the opponents of the withdrawing Contestant (up to the point of withdrawal) shall stand; and
- all remaining scores including datums shall stand.

For round-robin formats, each remaining match scheduled for play by the withdrawn Contestant shall be treated as a forfeit and the provisions of Section 9 of these Regulations relating to the adjustment of scores shall apply **(page D29)**.

In events with Swiss formats, the Director may deal with a withdrawal by using a substitute Contestant (such Contestant to enter the field at its central point). If the withdrawal has the effect of reducing the field to an even number of Contestants, no substitute Contestant will be employed. If the withdrawal reduces the field to an odd number and no substitute Contestant is available, a notional Contestant is placed at the central point of the field, and the score of the Contestant drawn to play the notional Contestant is determined by application of Section 9 of these Regulations **(page D29)**.

In the case of a withdrawal from a knockout match, the non-withdrawing Team is deemed to have won the match.

In the case of a withdrawal from a match-pointed Pairs event, the Director shall endeavour to find a substitute Pair that he/she considers to be appropriate under the provisions of Paragraph 4.1.3 of these Regulations **(page D21)**.

Should it not be possible to obtain an appropriate substitute Pair:

- (a) Where an authorised withdrawal occurs, all scores up to the point of withdrawal stand. Each other Pair in the field drawn to play against the withdrawn Pair after the withdrawal will "sit out" and, for each board not played, will receive an adjusted score of 60% or its mean score for completed boards, whichever is higher.
- (b) Where an unauthorised withdrawal occurs, all scores obtained by the withdrawn Pair are expunged and the session is re-scored as if the (unauthorised) withdrawn Pair had never participated.

10.6 Contestants unavailable for the next stage of an event

10.6.1 A Contestant who qualifies for a berth in the next stage of an event does so only on the condition that they are willing and available to progress to the conclusion of that event.

10.6.2 Should a Contestant be unavailable for the next stage of an event, the Contestant will be replaced by the next-ranked Contestant in the qualifying stage. Where the field was divided into two or more qualifying groups, namely a NS field and an EW field, the replacement Contestant will come from the group from which the withdrawal took place.

10.6.3 The number of replacements from any one section shall not exceed the number of replacements from the other section(s) by more than two. To satisfy this clause, third and subsequent replacements will come from a different section from that of the withdrawing Contestants.

11. Dress and Etiquette

11.1 Contestants in any NZ Bridge Tournament shall adhere to any minimum standard of dress required by the Tournament Organiser and/or Match Committee, and these Regulations.

11.1.1 Additional regulations in regard to attire may be included in the Supplementary Regulations.

11.1.2 Players competing in any NZ Bridge Tournament must present themselves well-groomed and dressed in a manner that other members of the Tournament do not find offensive. The decision of the Match Committee in this respect is final.

11.2 Good manners are considered to be an essential part of bridge and the Director is specifically empowered to require Players to adhere to a high standard of manners, decorum and general hygiene.

In addition, the Director may, by written report (Section 20 of these Regulations; **page D37**) made after the Tournament, inform the Tournament Organiser of any departure from these standards by any Player.

12. Anti-Doping

NZ Bridge has adopted the World Bridge Federation (WBF) Anti-Doping Code (as amended from time to time). The Code is available on the WBF website at: www.worldbridge.org/departments/rules/default.asp.

In line with NZ Bridge's obligations, all Players competing in any Scheduled Tournament are required to comply with the Code.

13. Smoking and Alcohol

13.1 Smoking

Smoking is prohibited at all times in the playing areas of NZ Bridge Tournaments, and in all other parts of the venue and/or grounds specified by the Tournament Organiser. In addition, Contestants shall fully observe the regulations regarding smoking that have been promulgated by the controlling body of the venue, including associated grounds, as well as any relevant bylaws and/or legislation of local and national government.

13.2 Alcohol

13.2.1 At all NZ Bridge Tournaments, the Tournament Organiser may promulgate Supplementary Regulations concerning the use and/or availability of alcohol at the venue.

13.2.2 NZ Bridge has zero tolerance for poor behaviour as a result of alcohol intoxication and the Tournament Organiser and/or Director in Charge can be expected to apply the provisions of the Laws and the Regulations in such circumstances with due regard to that threshold.

14. Mobile Phones, Other Electronic Communication Devices and Computers

14.1 Mobile phones (and similar electronic communication devices) must be switched off during session time, i.e. until the scheduled finishing time of the session. If, anywhere within the playing area, a Player's mobile phone sounds during session time, or if a Player consults a mobile phone during session time, that Player shall receive a warning for the first offence and shall be penalised 3 VPs (plus the mean number of IMPs consistent with the IMP/VP conversion scale in use for the event) for each subsequent offence in an IMP-scored event and 50% of a top in a match-point-scored event.

Note that individual Players and Contestants are entitled to only one warning per Contestant.

14.2 Any Player, for pressing professional or personal reasons, may request the Director to grant an exemption from the provisions of Paragraph 14.1 of these Regulations. If the request is granted, the Director may make whatever arrangement he/she deems to be appropriate to allow the Player to use the mobile phone. In making such an arrangement, the Director must be cognisant of the amenity of other Players.

14.3 Before the commencement of each match or stanza, the Director should instruct Players to switch off their mobile phones. However, Players cannot rely upon such an instruction and failure of the Director to issue it in no way diminishes:

- (a) a Player's obligation to observe all regulations that apply to mobile phones, or
- (b) the penalties that apply.

14.4 During any session that is broadcast on BBO, no kibitzer or Player may consult any type of electronic communication device.

14.5 Players reaching the (semi) finals of all Teams events will be required to lodge their mobile phones and other electronic means of communication with the Tournament staff for safekeeping during each play period.

14.6 The Supplementary Regulations may impose additional restrictions and/or penalties on inappropriate use of mobile telephones and other electronic devices.

15. Spectators and Captains

15.1 Spectators and Captains are allowed to watch play subject to **Law 76** and the following conditions.

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- Spectators and Captains are allowed to watch play at a table in the open room(s) but not to move from table to table.
 - There shall be no spectators in the closed room(s) unless specifically permitted by the Tournament Organiser, e.g. to allow for press coverage.
 - Spectators and Captains must be seated and should refrain from looking into more than one hand or moving round the table during the bidding or play.
 - Spectators and Captains must observe the regulations relating to dress, etiquette, smoking, alcohol and mobile phones (Sections 11 through to 14 of these Regulations).
 - Spectators must remain silent during play unless spoken to by an official. Players should not converse with spectators.
 - Spectators who leave the table must not return.
 - When screens are in use, spectators may not sit so that they can see both sides of the screen.
- 15.2 Provided that a spectator observes the provisions of Paragraph 15.1 (immediately above) and matters of general etiquette, a Player should not object to the spectator's presence at the table.
- 15.2.1 Notwithstanding the preceding, if, in the opinion of the Director in Charge, a Player has a valid objection to the presence of a spectator, the Director in Charge is within his rights to ask the spectator to leave the vicinity of the table, or the playing room.
- 15.2.2 The Director in Charge is fully authorised by these Regulations to instruct for cause a spectator to leave the playing room (and, if need be, the venue and/or grounds).
- 15.2.3 Spectators are required to comply with the standards of dress and etiquette as per the provisions of Paragraph 11 of these Regulations **(page D32)**.
- 15.3 A Captain may watch play in the closed room but only at the table at which his/her Team is playing. He/she is not entitled to leave the closed room while the match is still in play except as approved by the Director.
- 15.4 No persons other than Players, Captains, working officials or Directors are entitled access to the closed room except at the express request of the Director.
- 15.5 Except as noted in (a) through (f) of this Paragraph, a Non-Playing Captain, or a playing Captain who is not playing, may not converse with members of his/her Team (or the opponents) once any Player has withdrawn a hand from the board on the table until all the hands have again been replaced. However, he/she may intervene for the following purposes.
- (a) To protect the rights of his/her Team if he/she believes them to be jeopardised in any way.

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- (b) To require that a Director be called to the table.
 - (c) To intimate the intention to make an appeal on behalf of the Team in reference to any matter.
 - (d) To curtail unnecessary discussions.
 - (e) To restrain misbehaviour on the part of any member of his/her Team.
 - (f) To decline to allow a Pair or his/her Team to lodge an appeal.
- 15.6 A playing member, except a playing Captain who is not playing, may not watch at any table where his/her own Team is playing, even when the member is not playing the stanza. A Player, having completed play in a session, may not watch at any table where the boards in play include those that the Player has previously played.
- 15.7 Officials such as those performing the duties of a Director, a scorer, a board-dealer or a caddy are prohibited from also acting in the role of a Non-Playing Captain at the event for which they are, or have been, engaged.

16. Monitors and Match Recorders

- 16.1 The Director or the Match Committee may appoint monitors to observe and report about:
- (a) Contestants suspected of slow play;
 - (b) matters relating to ethics or etiquette and decorum; and
 - (c) any other matter relating to the smooth running of the Tournament.
- 16.2 A monitor has no jurisdiction relating to the Tournament other than to report his/her observations to the Director or to the Match Committee. Monitors are to refrain from any conversation with the Players and are not to discuss their observations with anyone except the Director or members of the Match Committee.
- 16.3 The Director or the Match Committee may appoint match recorders for particular matches to record the bidding and play. A match recorder should refrain from conversation with the Players except to enquire about details of bidding and play and to confirm the number of tricks made. Such enquiries should be kept to a minimum.

17. Audio and Visual Recording

- 17.1 No audio or visual recording is permitted at a Tournament, except for official audio and/or visual recording that has been authorised by the Tournament Organiser, the Match Committee or, for reasons of expediency, the Director in Charge.
- 17.2 From time to time, the Tournament Organiser or the Match Committee or, for reasons of expediency, the Director in Charge may grant permission for still photographs or video recordings (including audio) to be taken during the

course of an NZ Bridge Tournament for publicity, for news presentation or for other reasons.

- 17.3 Insofar as is possible, the Director must ensure that the photography or video recording does not intrude on Players' amenity.
- 17.4 Provided the photography has been approved by the Tournament Organiser, the Match Committee or the Director in Charge, Players may refuse to be photographed only for religious or cultural reasons that are deemed to be valid by the Match Committee.
- 17.5 Official photographs taken during the course of an NZ Bridge Tournament may be used for any legal purpose.

18. Vugraph

NZ Bridge regards Vugraph, Bridge Base Online (BBO) and similar broadcasts as desirable adjuncts to the efficient conduct of NZ Bridge Tournaments and the promotion of bridge.

- 18.1 Tournament Organisers are urged to use Vugraph for the finals of National Tournaments and also, where feasible, in earlier rounds.
- 18.2 The Tournament Organiser shall be responsible for deciding which matches should be broadcast on Vugraph.
- 18.3 The Tournament Organiser is responsible for the promulgation of and adherence to Vugraph and BBO schedules. Schedules should be promulgated in the Supplementary Regulations. Deviation from Vugraph schedules that have been advertised on BBO is not permitted without the approval of both the Tournament Organiser and the Director in Charge.
 - 18.3.1 Before deviating from an advertised BBO schedule, the Tournament Organiser must advise the broadcaster of the deviation.
 - 18.3.2 A Contestant is not permitted to concede a match that is scheduled for BBO broadcast without consultation with the Tournament Organiser.
- 18.4 The Players themselves shall not be permitted to decide whether or not they should appear on BBO. Notwithstanding, in a Teams event where BBO is to be presented from one table only, if a particular Team's total Master Points (top four Players) number less than 1000, the Captain of that Team has the right to decide which of the two tables should appear on BBO.
- 18.5 There shall be no alteration to the deadlines for the posting of seating arrangements, as directed in the Supplementary Regulations, as the result of the scheduling of a match for BBO presentation. All Players in such a presentation must take their seats in timely fashion so that the presentation can commence at the advertised time.
- 18.6 The Director shall ensure that BBO does not intrude on Players' amenity or impede the speed of play. It is the responsibility of the BBO operators to keep pace with the play, not the reverse. Notwithstanding, should the BBO presentation "crash", the Tournament Organiser shall decide whether play

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should be suspended until service is restored or whether play should continue.

- 18.7 BBO operators should refrain from conversation with the Players except to confirm the number of tricks made. Such enquiries should be kept to an absolute minimum.
- 18.8 If, in the opinion of the Director and/or the Match Committee, it is in the better interests of the integrity of the Tournament to do so, both rooms may be declared to be "closed", and the provisions of Section 15 of these Regulations relating to "the closed room" shall apply (**page D33**).
- 18.9 The Director in Charge is responsible for all matters pertaining to security when Vugraph is in operation. These responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following.
 - 18.9.1 Ensuring, during session time, that there is no contact between Players and non-Players (who may have access to information via online broadcasting).
 - 18.9.2 During Vugraph presentation, Players must not at any time walk in front of the computer screen. They should leave the table by walking away from the computer area.
- 18.10 It is a requirement for Teams events that the boards be broadcast in numerical sequence, commencing with the first board of the stanza at both tables of the same match.

19. Eligibility of Players for Titles

- 19.1 Merely being a member of a Team that wins an NZ Bridge event does not automatically entitle every member of that Team to be classified as a "title-holder", including for event record purposes.
- 19.2 Unless the Supplementary Regulations specify otherwise, to be eligible for the classification of title-holder, a member of a winning Team must have played at least one-quarter of the total number of stanzas (rounded up) in the qualifying stage of the event and must have played at least one-quarter of the total number of stanzas (rounded down) in the final stages (if any) of the event, including at least one stanza in each stage of the final series.
- 19.3 Insofar as is feasible, the Director shall keep records of the number of stanzas played by each Player. However, it is the responsibility of the Team Captain to provide the Tournament Organiser, if so requested, with a roster of which Players played in each match and each stanza.

20. Director's and Recorder's Reports

20.1 Director's Report

- 20.1.1 At the conclusion of every National NZ Bridge Tournament, the Director in Charge shall prepare a Director's Report outlining the salient details of the Tournament and providing complete details of incidents that occurred during the course of the Tournament. The

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Director's Report shall be forwarded to the Chief Director, the Tournament Organiser and the Secretary of NZ Bridge within 5 working days.

- 20.1.2 If so requested by the Match Committee at the end of any session, the Director in Charge shall prepare and provide to the Match Committee a report of any pertinent incidents that occurred during that session. Such reports shall be appended to the Director's Report.

20.2 Recorder's Report

The Recorder may, at his discretion, forward a report, or a version of it from which sensitive material has been removed, to the Tournament Organiser and/or Chief Director.

21. Supplementary Regulations and Conditions of Contest

- 21.1 The Tournament Organiser is responsible for drafting the Supplementary Regulations of the Tournament and setting any Conditions of Contest. The former of these tasks is usually delegated to the Match Committee and/or the Director in Charge.
- 21.2 Where the Tournament or event Organiser has a compelling operational or administrative reason to promulgate Conditions of Contest that are in conflict with these Regulations (including any Supplementary Regulations), the Tournament or event Organiser must seek prior approval from the Secretary of NZ Bridge or the Chief Director before such conflicting provision or provisions are included.
- 21.3 The Supplementary Regulations must be consistent with these Tournament Regulations. They should address only those points that are not explicit in the Tournament Regulations.
- 21.4 Any Supplementary Regulation that conflicts with these Tournament Regulations or with a decision of NZ Bridge relevant to the Tournament shall be null and void.
- 21.5 In framing Supplementary Regulations, the Tournament Organiser has discretion in all areas where these Tournament Regulations are not specific and where decisions of NZ Bridge are not relevant.
- 21.6 During the course of a Tournament, and within the limits contained in these Regulations, the Director in Charge or the Match Committee may make additions and/or alterations to the Supplementary Regulations if it considers it in the best interests of the Tournament to do so.

22. Mutual Responsibility

The concept of mutual responsibility applies to all Tournaments, Championships, Festivals or Congresses conducted by NZ Bridge or on its behalf.

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- 22.1 It is the responsibility of NZ Bridge to prescribe guidelines in keeping with world's best practice for the conduct of all Scheduled Tournaments in New Zealand.
- 22.2 It is the responsibility of NZ Bridge to observe world's best practice in the conduct of all Regional and National Tournaments, by, inter alia:
- (a) providing appropriate venues where bridge can be played under suitably comfortable environmental conditions and in a congenial, amenable social atmosphere;
 - (b) employing competent, personable staff;
 - (c) providing readily visible, attractive displays;
 - (d) providing accurate scoring and prompt, comprehensive display of scores and, in match-pointed Pairs events, frequencies;
 - (e) observing punctuality in adhering to advertised starting and finishing times;
 - (f) providing pre-dealt, accurately duplicated boards and easily legible hand records;
 - (g) showing consideration of Players' wishes with respect to free time and breaks in play;
 - (h) providing information not only about the Tournament itself but also about the locality (e.g. places to dine, tourist information etc.).
- 22.3 It is the responsibility of the Players to assist NZ Bridge in running good Tournaments by, inter alia:
- (a) following correct procedures for entering an event (method, time, payment of fees and system details where required);
 - (b) being familiar with the Supplementary Regulations of the Tournament, especially those relating to starting times, seating arrangements, mobile phones, system regulations and consumption of alcohol;
 - (c) being punctual;
 - (d) observing time limits; each partnership should use no more than 50% of the time allocated for a stanza or session; should a partnership use more than its share of allocated time, then that partnership must accept responsibility for doing so when and if questioned by the Director;
 - (e) entering and checking scores correctly prior to their submission; where electronic data entry devices are in use, it is necessary to confirm that all scores have been entered before leaving the table;
 - (f) assisting the scorers by checking that scores have been posted correctly (particularly on return to the venue after a break); it is highly

desirable that any errors from a previous session be corrected during the course of the following session;

- (g) listening to the Director's instructions and allowing others to do the same; Players should be particularly attentive to instructions about board movement;
- (h) being courteous at all times to one's partner and Team mates, one's opponents and the Tournament staff and other staff at the venue.

22.4 Expectations regarding Players' conduct

22.4.1 In accordance with the Introduction to the 2007 Laws, Paragraph 1, Players should be ready to accept gracefully any rectification or adjusted score awarded by the Director.

22.4.2 Players should promptly and without rancour comply with all requests, instructions and rulings of the Director.

22.5 A Tournament Director should aim to achieve equity for all Players at all times and in all situations.

- (a) Restoring equity not only should be done but also should be seen to be done.
- (b) A Director should endeavour to ensure that his/her rulings are fully explained to and understood by all Players at the table.
- (c) When in doubt about a ruling, a Director should consult other Directors.
- (d) If a Director realises that he/she has given an incorrect ruling, he/she shall do all in his/her power to correct the ruling promptly, and to restore equity.
- (e) Before deciding whether there are "logical alternatives" to an action taken at the table by a Player in receipt of unauthorised information from his partner (see **Law 16B**), a Director should, insofar as is feasible, poll Players of a standard similar to that of the recipient of the unauthorised information.
- (f) Before making a ruling based on "bridge judgement", a Director should, insofar as is feasible, consult with other Directors and poll uninvolved Players of appropriate standard.
- (g) A Director should endeavour to make rulings as promptly as practicable.

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23. Appendix 1. National Tournaments

National Tournaments are NZ Bridge Tournaments for which NZ Bridge is also the Tournament Organiser **(page D13)**.

23.1 All events at the National Bridge Congress including:

- New Zealand Pairs Championship
- New Zealand Teams Championship
- New Zealand Swiss Pairs Championship
- New Zealand Mixed Pairs Championship
- New Zealand Intermediate Pairs Championship
- Final rounds of the National Rubber Bridge Competition

23.2 Island events

- 20A Point New Zealand Island Teams Championship
- 20A Point New Zealand Island Pairs Championship

23.3 Regional events

- 15A Point New Zealand Teams Championship
- 15A Point New Zealand Pairs Championship
- 15A Point New Zealand Swiss Pairs Championship

23.4 New Zealand National Representative Team Selection Trials

23.5 Interprovincial Teams Championship

24. Appendix 2. NZ Bridge Systems Policy

24.1 Introduction

The NZ Bridge Systems Policy seeks to provide guidelines rather than an exhaustive list of permitted conventions. Players and Directors are expected to observe the spirit of these guidelines in considering conventions or treatments not specifically mentioned. In the event of a dispute, the Director's interpretation is final and may subsequently be referred to the Chief Director for ratification or resolution by the appropriate committee of the Board of NZ Bridge.

It is important to understand that the Policy covers partnership agreements and that, to depart from a partnership agreement (a psyche), is not a violation of the Policy **(page D80)**.

Unless otherwise specified by NZ Bridge, the following are allowable systems or conventions for each Tournament grade.

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24.2 3B Point (Junior) Tournaments

- (a) **Green Systems** All

Note: Although the Multi 2♣ or Multi 2♦ (described in *Green Systems* below) is a *Green* system convention, it is **not permitted in Junior Tournaments**.

- (b) **Blue Systems** Those basically natural systems
(i.e. without relays or many artificial bids)

Note 1: The following Precision opening bids and standard responses are allowed:

1♣ (with 1♦ response);

1♦ (with no limits on diamond length);

2♣ (with 2♦ one-round forcing response).

Note 2: A 2NT opening must show a strong hand with no singleton or void.

A 2♦ opening must show 5+ diamonds.

The two preceding Notes apply only to Blue Systems.

24.3 5B Point (Intermediate) and 8B Point (Open / Restricted) Tournaments

- (a) **Green Systems** All

- (b) **Blue Systems** All

- (c) **Red Systems** Limited to those that **exclude:**

- an opening suit bid at the 1 level that does **not** show, in the bid suit, at least 2 cards if clubs, at least 3 cards if diamonds and at least 4 cards if hearts or spades;
- a 1NT opening bid that does not show a balanced hand, or that has a minimum HCP count of less than 11;
- transfer opening bids below the level of 2NT;
- **Brown Sticker** conventions;

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- any opening bid of 2♣ to 3♠ that may be weak and does not promise at least 4 cards in a known suit. The sole exception is an opening bid of 2♣ or 2♦ that may show a weak hand with 6 cards in either major only, or as an option among any number of strong hand types;
- relay-based systems.

24.4 "A" Point (Open) Tournaments

- (a) **"Pairs style"** Less than eight boards are played in succession against the same Pair.

Green Systems All

Blue Systems All

Red Systems Limited to those that **exclude**:

- an opening bid of one of a major that does **not** show at least 4 cards in a specified suit;
- **Brown Sticker** conventions.

Exception: These limitations do not apply to the Final or Semi-final (**if applicable**) of A Point Pairs Tournaments run with a qualification stage.

- (b) **"Teams style"** Eight boards or more are played in succession against the same Pair.

This category will include nearly all Teams Tournaments and some Swiss Pairs Tournaments, the deciding factor being the number of boards being played in each match/round.

Green Systems All

Blue Systems All

Red Systems All

Yellow Systems All

- (c) **"National Rubber Bridge Competition" – (page D7).**

24.5 Exceptions

Specific exception to the NZ Bridge Systems Policy may be made. If the Tournament Organiser (be it a Club or a Regional Committee) wishes to apply to NZ Bridge for such an exception for a Tournament that it is planning, then an application should be made through the Secretary, giving reasons and an appropriate amount of time for consideration to be given to the application before the Tournament Notice needs to be sent out.

24.6 Classification of systems

(a) Definitions

Average Hand	A hand containing 10 HCP with no distributional values.
Weak	High-card strength below that of an average hand.
Strong	High-card strength a King or greater than that of an average hand (i.e. 13+ HCP).
Natural	A call or play that is not a convention.
Length	3 cards or more.
Shortage	2 cards or less.
Balanced	For the purpose of classifying NT opening bids, balanced shall mean a hand with no more than one (1) shortage and that shortage shall be not fewer than two (2) cards in length.
Convention	A call that, by partnership agreement, conveys a meaning other than a willingness to play in the denomination named (or in the last denomination named), or high-card strength or length (3 cards or more) there. However, an agreement as to overcall strength does not make the call a convention.

(b) Random actions

It is forbidden to open or overcall hands that, by agreement, may contain fewer than 8 HCP and for which no further definition is provided (i.e. bids that promise nothing more than 13 cards in a Player's hand). However, Pairs employing Highly Unusual Methods may open hands at the 1 level that conform to the definition for **Yellow** Systems described below (**page D46**).

(c) Encrypted signals

Additional to the restrictions on bidding methods and conventions set out in these Regulations, Players may not use signalling methods by which the message or messages conveyed by the signals are hidden from the declarer because of some key available only to the defenders (i.e. encrypted signals are not allowed).

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(d) **Green** Systems – all natural systems

The following conventions/treatments are specifically allowed. However, this is not an exhaustive list and, if a question regarding a convention not specifically covered is raised, then analogy may be made to the type of conventions/treatments allowed for.

- General
 - Gerber or Blackwood, including modified forms.
 - Negative doubles, including modified forms.
 - Any defence to an opponent's 1NT opening.
 - Immediate cue bid of opener's suit as:
 - natural **or**
 - any strong hand.
- Openings
 - An opening suit bid at the 1 level that promises, in the bid suit, at least 2 cards if clubs, at least 3 cards if diamonds and at least 4 cards if a major.
 - A 1NT opening must be more than 10 HCP and balanced.
 - A 2NT opening bid must be more than 17 HCP and balanced; **or**
 - A 2NT opening bid must be weak and show at least 5 cards in either minor and at least 4 cards in the other minor.
 - The bid of a suit at the 2 level that is strong and promises at least 5 cards in the bid suit and at least 4 cards in another suit; **or**
 - The bid of a suit at the 2 level that is weak and promises at least 5 cards in the bid suit and at least 4 cards in another suit and may contain a strong no trump option.
 - Any other 2-level bid by partnership agreement must show a single-suited hand (at least 6 cards) in a known suit; **except**
 - Any 2♣ or 2♦ opening that shows a strong hand and is forcing for at least one round of bidding; **and except**
 - Any 2♣ or 2♦ opening that may show a weak hand in either major (6 cards) only or as an option among any number of strong hand types.
 - A gambling 3NT opening.

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- Responses to NT openings or overcalls
 - Baron or Stayman, including modified forms; **and**
 - transfer responses.
- Immediate cue bids
 - Michaels style showing a 2-suited hand (5+/5+) with at least one suit specified, either weak or strong – but not both;
 - If the immediate cue bid is unlimited, the convention is **Red**.

(e) **Blue Systems** – strong club systems

These systems are characterised by a strong artificial 1♣ or 1♦ opening (16+ HCP).

Alongside this may sit any conventions / treatments categorised as **Green**.

In addition, the following are allowed:

- A 1♦ negative to the strong 1♣ opening.
- An opening of 1♦ or 2♦ that together provide a "catch-all" and may be as short as a void.

(f) **Red Systems** – artificial systems

This category includes all systems that do not fall under the definition of **Green**, **Blue** or **Yellow** systems. **This category also includes any otherwise Green or Blue system that contains a Brown Sticker convention.**

(g) **Yellow Systems** – highly unusual methods (HUMs)

A system that exhibits one or more of the following features, **as a matter of partnership agreement**.

- (i) A pass in the opening position that shows at least the values generally accepted for an opening bid of one, even if there are alternative weak possibilities.
- (ii) An opening suit bid at the 1 level that may be weaker than a pass.
- (iii) An opening bid at the 1 level that may be made with values a King or more below average strength (**0–7 HCP**) and insufficient compensating distributional values.
- (iv) An opening bid of one of a major with alternative possible meanings that the hand may be long or short in a specified suit (**i.e. the use of "wonder" bids**).

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- (v) An opening bid of one of a major with alternative possibilities that show length in one specified suit or length in another specified suit (i.e. the use of multi-meaning bids that do not guarantee an "anchor" suit). **Exception:** one of a minor in a strong club or strong diamond system.

(h) Defences against Yellow Systems

In Open Teams Tournaments, unless otherwise specified in the Supplementary Regulations for the event:

- (i) A Team using a **Yellow** system must make two copies of their fully completed System Card available to the Director prior to the start of the event, along with a suggested defence to the HUM components of their system for their opponents to use.
- (ii) A Pair opposing a Pair using a HUM is allowed to prepare its own notes detailing a defence to the **Yellow** system (not exceeding one A4 sheet). A copy of these notes must be given to the opponents and is considered to be part of the HUM Pair's System Card; therefore, it may be consulted by the Pair at the table during the auction period and during the play period only for the purpose of responding to a question from the Pair using the HUM.

(i) Loss of seating rights

In Open Teams Tournaments, whenever a Team with one or more Pairs using a **Yellow** system opposes a Team that has no such Pair, the HUM Team loses any seating rights and lines up first throughout.

(j) "**Brown Sticker**" conventions

The following conventions or treatments are categorised as "**Brown Sticker**".

- Any opening bid of 2♣ through to 3♠ that
 - could be weak (may, by agreement, be made with values below average strength) **and**
 - does not promise at least 4 cards in a known suit.

Exception: When all the weak options guarantee at least 4 cards in one known suit and only the strong options do not.

Exception: A 2-level opening in a minor that may show a weak hand in either major (6 cards) only or as an option among any number of strong hand types.
- An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least 4 cards in a known suit.

Exception: A natural overcall in no trumps.

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Exception: Any cue bid suit that shows a strong hand.

Exception: A jump cue bid in opponent's known suit that asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit.

- Any "weak" 2-suited bids at the 2 or 3 level that may, by agreement, be made with 3 cards or fewer in one of the suits.
- None of the foregoing restrictions pertain to conventional defences against strong, artificial opening bids or defences against **"Brown Sticker"** or **HUM** conventions.

(k) Defences against "Brown Sticker" conventions

A Pair may prepare a written defence (not exceeding one A4 sheet) against the **"Brown Sticker"** elements only of any system. Two copies of these notes should be given to the opponents and are considered to be part of the opponents' System Card; therefore these notes may be consulted by the Pair at the table during the auction period and during the play period only for the purposes of responding to a question from the Pair using a **"Brown Sticker"** convention.

24.7 Non-Compliance with System Regulations

When it is brought to the Director's attention that a Pair have transgressed the System Regulations, whether in the system played or the convention(s) used, the Director should consider whether the opponents have been damaged and, if so, whether to award an adjusted score(s).

When damage has been proved, and the Director decides that awarding an adjusted score is justified, it is suggested that the adjustment should be **60%/40% – Law 12C2**.

In addition, the Director may assess a disciplinary penalty, taking into account the following.

- Whether the non-offenders have been damaged.
- The standard of the offending Pair.
- The standard of the field, especially Pairs that have been affected.
- Was it reasonable for the offenders to have been aware that they were transgressing the Systems Regulations.
- Did they take steps to check any doubtful points with the Director prior to the event; or with NZ Bridge.

This list is not exhaustive. If desired, it would be appropriate for a Director to consult with a National Director.

25. Appendix 3. Systems for Junior and Intermediate Tournaments

The following short summary has been prepared to assist Junior and Intermediate grade Players with regard to the basic requirements and treatments approved to be incorporated within systems proposed to be played at Tournaments approved by NZ Bridge to be restricted to such Players. For more extended detail, please refer to the NZ Bridge Systems Policy (**page D41**).

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25.1 Opening bids

Call	Treatment allowed at both levels	Allowed at Intermediate but not Junior
1♣	Minimum suit length ¹ , 2 cards; opening strength ²	
	Simple Precision, with no relay or artificial responses other than the negative 1♦ response	Precision style (strong ³ ; forcing; any distribution); may include relay or artificial responses
1♦	Minimum suit length, 3 cards; opening strength Precision style (opening strength; any distribution)	
1♥ 1♠	Minimum suit length, 4 cards; opening strength	
1NT	Balanced; lower limit, at least 11 HCP	
2♣	Very strong ⁴ ; forcing; any distribution	Multi-style; weak ⁵ with 6-card major; with or without strong option(s)
	Opening strength; minimum suit length, 5 cards (Precision style)	
2♦	Very strong; forcing; any distribution	Multi-style; weak with 6-card major; with or without strong option(s)
	Opening strength; minimum suit length, 5 cards	Precision style (opening strength; 3-suited with shortage in diamonds)
	Weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards	
2♥ 2♠	Strong; minimum suit length, 4 cards	Weak with 5+ cards in suit and 4+ cards in another suit (which may be unspecified)
	Weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards	
2NT	Balanced; lower limit, at least 18 HCP	Weak with length in minor suit(s)
3NT	Very strong or "gambling" (with long minor suit)	
Suit bid, 3+ level	May be weak; minimum suit length, 6 cards	May specify a suit that is different from the suit named in the bid (i.e. a transfer bid)

Notes

"Precision" may also include any convention / treatment that is allowed to be played at this level with a natural system.

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¹ Unless otherwise noted, the suit to which the "minimum length" applies must be the suit named in the bid.

For the purposes of these tables, the following definitions of strength apply.

² "Opening strength": At least 11 high-card points (HCP) or equivalent with allowance for distribution (for which the guideline is: *add one point for every card after the eighth in the two longest suits*).

³ "Strong": At least 15 HCP or equivalent.

⁴ "Very strong": At least 19 HCP or equivalent.

⁵ "Weak": Less than opening strength.

25.2 Responses to opening bids

Treatment allowed at both levels	Allowed at Intermediate but not Junior
Any artificial negative response to forcing opening, including "impossible" 1♦ response to Precision 1♣	
Artificial forcing responses promising trump support (e.g. 2NT, splinter bids)	
Stayman or Baron responses to NT bids, including modified forms	
Transfer or range-finder responses to NT bids	
2NT enquiry response to weak 2-suit opening	Enquiry response to Multi 2-suit opening
2♦ enquiry response to Precision 2♣ opening	Enquiry response to Precision 2♦ (with diamond shortage) opening

25.3 Calls over opponents' natural 1-suit opening

Treatment allowed at both levels	Allowed at Intermediate but not Junior
Any suit bid that promises 4+ cards in the suit	
Cue bid showing a very strong hand	
Bid (including a cue bid) showing 2 suits (5+/5+), at least one specified; must be either "weak only" or "strong only"	Artificial bid showing 2 suits, at least one specified; strength may be variable
Jump cue bid asking partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in that suit	

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25.4 Others

Treatment allowed at both levels	Allowed at Intermediate but not Junior
Any defence to opponents' 1NT opening	
Any defence to opponents' artificial forcing opening	
Any meaning of double in any sequence	
Any ace-asking bids (including RKCB) and responses	
Any treatment for a cue bid made after the first bid by one's own side	

For treatments not listed in these tables, please consult the NZ Bridge Systems Policy (**page D41**).

26. Appendix 4. System Cards

NZ Bridge is seeking to make the carrying and use of System Cards an integral part of the way the game is played. Their use helps to protect Players from passing unauthorised information to their partner through a question or a reply to a question. In the event of dispute about partnership agreements, the System Card aids the Director (and the Appeals Committee) to make an informed decision.

For those reasons, Clubs are encouraged to actively promote the use of System Cards in Club Sessions.

From 1 September 2013, the NZ Bridge Standard and Basic System Cards were replaced by a single System Card.

Initially, hard copies of the blank System Card will be available from NZ Bridge and eventually from suppliers of bridge stationery.

A comprehensive System Card editor complete with help file can be downloaded from the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz. Players can use this to create and print their own partnership System Cards. The file can be saved and subsequently edited if changes are made. It is the expectation that widespread use of the System Card editor will become normal practice for Tournament Players.

The new System Card comprises two sides when folded in two and results in two outer pages and two inner pages.

26.1 Policy for System Card use

- Players in "A" Point Tournaments must carry an NZ Bridge System Card with at least the outer two pages (**panels 1–7**) fully completed with their partnership agreements.
- The use of any other System Card (except the ABF Standard System Card) is not permitted.

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- For System classification and permissible conventions at Junior, Intermediate or Open 8B and Restricted Tournaments, refer to the NZ Bridge Systems Policy (**page D41**).
- Players in all Tournaments run under the auspices of NZ Bridge will be expected to carry an NZ Bridge System Card with the outer two pages fully completed with their partnership agreements.
- In addition, Players participating in 10A Point or higher Tournaments must fully complete all parts of the System Card and, if necessary, use the supplementary notes page available as part of the e-version of the System Card at www.nzbridge.co.nz.
- At the commencement of each session of a Tournament, NZ Bridge requires that all Directors make Players aware of their obligations to fully disclose their agreements and the requirement to carry their System Card.

27. Appendix 5. Regulations for Written Bidding

- 27.1 The Tournament Organiser may prescribe written instead of spoken bidding for any event conducted under its auspices.
- 27.2 The Tournament Organiser should prescribe the form of bidding sheet to be used, which should not differ substantially from the attached Figure 1 (**page D55**).
- 27.3 The dealer and the vulnerability are not to be marked on the bidding pad.
- 27.4 Bidding shall proceed with designated marks as follows:
- (a) A diagonal line (/) = pass
 - (b) A "C" = clubs
 - (c) A "D" = diamonds
 - (d) An "H" = hearts
 - (e) An "S" = spades
 - (f) An "NT" = no trumps
 - (g) An "X" = double
 - (h) An "XX" = redouble
 - (i) A double line (//) indicates that the bidding is ended [e.g. in Figure 2 (**page D56**), West passed, North opened one spade, East doubled, South passed, West bid one no trump and all passed].
 - (j) Obviously, numerals are used ("1" rather than "one" etc.).
 - (k) **Alerts:** The Player's partner should immediately circle any bid that requires an alert.

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- (l) **Delayed alerts:** Delayed alerts should be indicated by declarer or dummy after the auction is finished but before the opening lead is made with a small plus sign (+) in one corner of the appropriate square of the bidding pad.

- 27.5 Where a Player makes part of a bid out of turn, the Director should first satisfy himself/herself that the bid, as defined above, is incomplete. If so, the Director will cancel the partial bid out of turn and instruct the Players that the turn reverts to the correct Player.

Should, in the opinion of the Director, extraneous information have been conveyed by the incomplete bid, then he/she should inform the partner to be careful not to take any advantage of this extraneous information and should inform the non-offending side that, although they may use the extraneous information, they do so at their own risk. At the end of the hand, the non-offending side may apply for an adjusted score under **Law 16B** if they feel that the offender's partner may have taken advantage of the extraneous information.

- 27.6 All calls must be made in neat, legible, handwriting. Where there is any doubt about what is written, Players should seek verbal clarification. A Player has no redress if he/she has made a call based on his/her own misunderstanding (**Law 21A**). However, if, in the opinion of the Director, a Player has made a call as a result of an opponent's illegible handwriting, **Law 21B** applies. The Director's decision is final.
- 27.7 The bidding sheet should be turned over after the opening leader's partner has played to the first trick. **Law 20** gives him/her the right to demand a review of the bidding up to that point. The duty of turning over the bidding sheet is that of dummy but, if he/she omits to do so, all Players have the right to rectify his/her omission.
- 27.8 The laws as to inflections, changes of call and so on apply mutatis mutandis to written bidding.
- 27.9 Players are required to use the same designations each time they call and not to vary the way in which they make their bids. Full stops should not be used as a matter of practice.

Figure 1

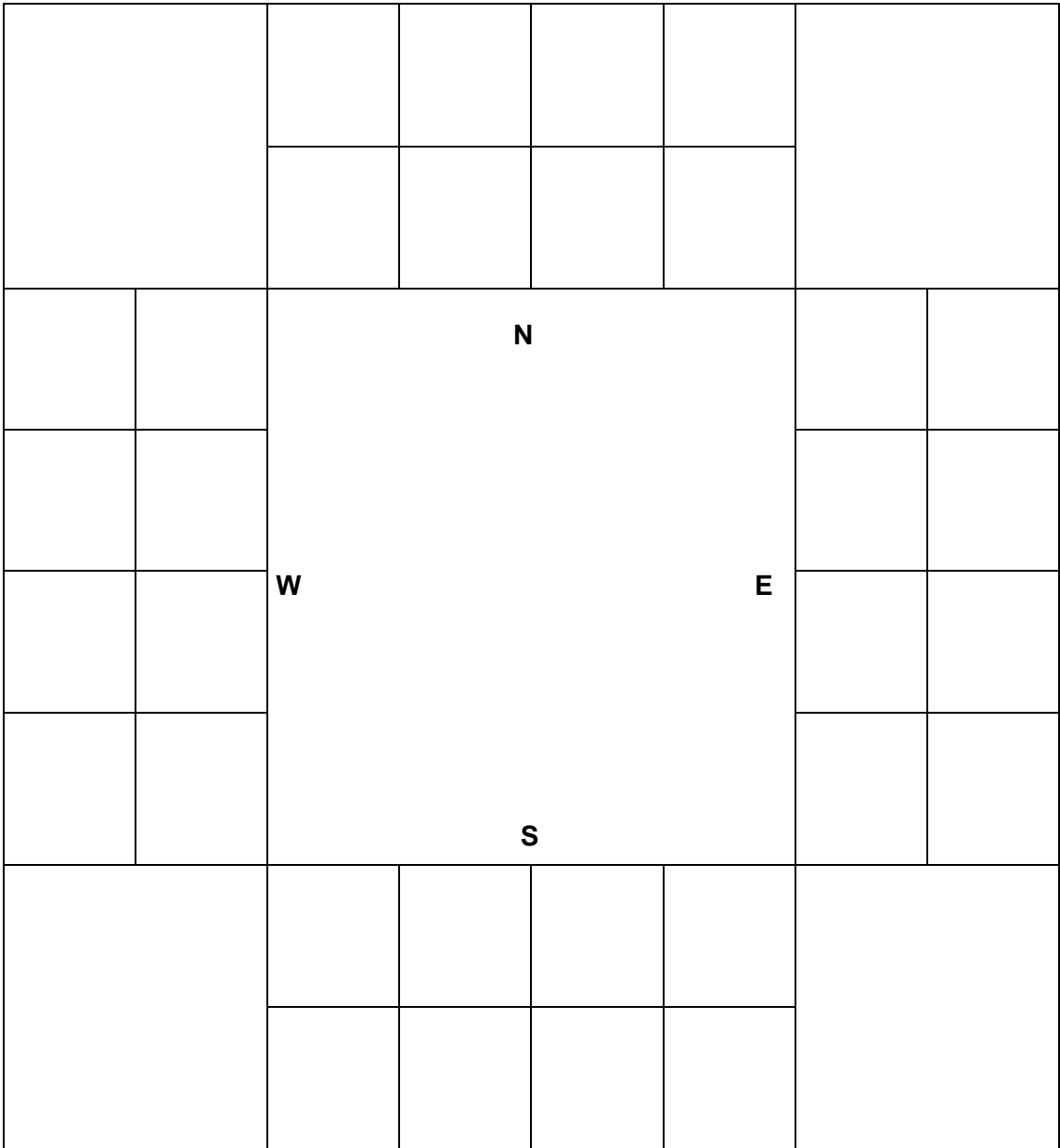
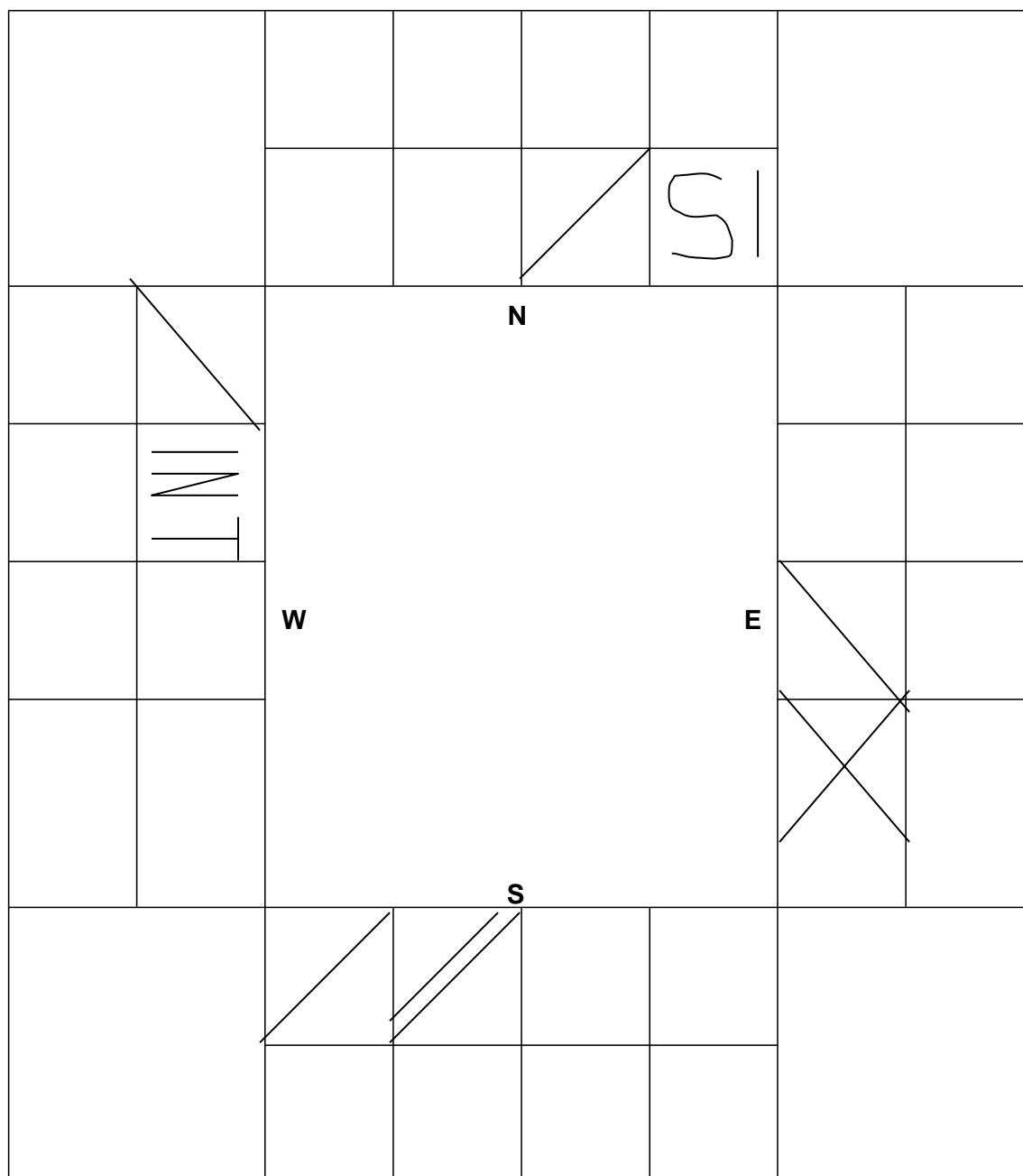


Figure 2



28. Appendix 6. Bidding Boxes

- 28.1 The Tournament Organiser may prescribe the use of bidding boxes rather than written or spoken bidding for any event under its auspices.
- 28.2 The bidding cards must be placed in front of the Player making the bid, starting from the left and facing the Player's partner. All calls should remain visible. The cards should be placed toward the centre of the table so that all Players can see the auction clearly at a glance.

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- 28.3 A call is considered to have been made (without screens) when a bidding card is removed from the bidding box and held, face up, touching or nearly touching the table or maintained in such a position to indicate that the call has been made. Note: Players should avoid fiddling with the bidding cards or withdrawing them from the box while they consider their call as this may give rise to unauthorised information (**Law 16B**) or, worse, mislead an opponent (**Law 73D2**).
- 28.4 For calls resulting from mechanical errors in removing the cards from the bidding box, the Director will apply **Law 25A**.
- 28.5 The bidding cards must be left in place until the third card has been played to the first trick. The cards are then removed.
- 28.6 Where an alertable call is made, the partner of the Player making the bid should use the alert card to indicate that to the opponents.

29. Appendix 7. Stop Cards

The use of Stop Cards is mandatory in all "A" Point Tournaments and is recommended in all other Tournaments.

The "STOP CARD" is used during the auction as a Skip Bid Warning.

Before a Player makes a bid that skips one or more levels, a Stop Card should be placed face up on the table to left-hand opponent, before making the (skip) bid. After allowing for any alert that may be required and any questions by left-hand opponent to be answered, the person who made the bid waits for approximately 10 seconds (but less at one's own discretion) before removing the Stop Card and left-hand opponent may bid.

When a Player omits to use the Stop Card before making a skip bid, or to pause for the mandatory 10 seconds when required, the failure to do so may be taken into account by the Director, and subsequently by an Appeals Committee, when assessing what action to take under **Law 16B** (extraneous information from partner).

In addition, frequent omissions may attract a procedural penalty.

30. Appendix 8. Alerting Regulations

30.1 Introduction

It is an essential principle of the game of bridge that you may not have undisclosed agreements with partner, whether in bidding or in play. Your agreements must be fully available and fully disclosed to your opponents.

You should use the principle of full disclosure in following these Regulations and in explanation of calls. Your principle should be to disclose, not as little as you must, but as much as you can, and as comprehensibly as you can. A careless failure to follow this policy may result in an adjusted score, where opponents have been damaged. If you make a positive effort to meet your obligations under full disclosure, you will rarely, if ever, fall foul of these Regulations.

Your agreements include not only specific agreements appearing on your System Card but also partnership understandings that have arisen through partnership discussion or experience. The opponents are entitled to know about these understandings. General bridge inferences, like those a new partner could make when there has been no prior discussion, are not alertable, but any inferences that can be drawn from partnership experience must be disclosed.

30.2 Definitions and general principles

30.2.1 Conventional calls defined

Any bid that shows the denomination named and another denomination also is conventional. All opening bids and overcalls that show two or more suits, even if one of the suits is specified, are by definition conventional.

Opening bids of 1♣ or 1♦ that may contain less than 3 cards in the opened suit are conventional.

Certain calls may not convey any meaning, e.g. the enforced 3♣ after Lebensohl 2NT. Such calls are construed as conventional.

30.2.2 Natural calls defined

A **bid is natural** if it meets any of these criteria:

- conveys a willingness to play in the denomination named (but does not come under the definition of a conventional call); **or**
- shows high-card strength or length (3+ cards) in the suit named.

A **natural NT bid** is defined as one that shows a preparedness to play in NT, and conveys no specific information about your suit holdings.

A **natural pass** is defined as a pass that does not convey any conventional message about strength or suit holdings.

Natural calls as defined above in general do not require an alert, but there are important exceptions.

The bid is natural, but you have an agreement by which your bid is forcing or non-forcing in a way that your opponents are unlikely to expect.

Examples

- Responder's first-round jump shift on weak hands.
- A non-forcing suit response by an unpassed hand to an opening suit bid (whether or not after intervention).

The bid is natural, but its meaning is affected by other agreements, which your opponents are unlikely to expect.

Examples

- A natural NT overcall in the direct position, which does not promise a stopper in the opener's suit.
- A jump raise of opener's 1-level bid, which may be weak or pre-emptive.
- A single raise of partner's suit, which may be strong or forcing, e.g. 1♦–2♦ forcing.
- The rebid in a canapé sequence where the second suit may be longer than the first suit.
- A 1♥ opening that denies holding 4+ ♠.

30.2.3 Cue bids defined

For the purposes of these Regulations, a cue bid of an opponent's suit is defined as a bid of any denomination bid by the opponent or of a suit shown by the opponent's bid. Example: If an opponent opens 1♦ showing spades, then 1♠ and 2♦ are both cue bids. Similarly, a 2NT overcall of 1NT is also a cue bid.

30.2.4 Self-alerting calls defined

There are four different types of self-alerting calls, namely:

- doubles;
- redoubles;
- cue bids of an opponent's denomination/suit;
- all conventional bids at the four level or higher, but **excluding** conventional opening bids on the first round of the auction (these bids still require an alert during the auction).

In addition to the above, the following bids are in such common use that they are deemed to be self-alerting:

- 2♣ game force opening bids (and 2♦ negative responses); alert other uses;
- simple Stayman 2♣ responses to 1NT opening bids and the 2♦ response denying a 4-card major (alert all other uses including a natural 2♣ and responses). Stayman after an opponent's double should be alerted.

These calls carry their own alert and should not be alerted. It may be risky to make assumptions as to the meaning of such a call. You are entitled (at your turn to call) to ask for your own protection, but bear in mind that unnecessary questions may be more helpful to the opponents than to your own side, and may convey unauthorised information, thereby limiting partner's options.

30.3 Clarification for overcalls

All of the principles for the definitions of conventional and natural opening bids and responses apply equally to overcalls.

For example: Do not alert:

- 1NT in the pass-out seat that will contain a stopper in opener's suit.
- Single-suited overcalls showing only the suit named, whether weak, intermediate or strong.

Over opponent's takeout double, alert:

- Any bid in a new suit that is non-forcing (except by a passed hand).
- Pre-emptive jumps.
- Fit-showing jumps.

Over an opponent's suit overcall, alert:

- Any bid in a new suit that is non-forcing (except by a passed hand).
- Any natural NT bid that does not promise a stopper in the opponent's suit.

30.4 Alert stages

There are three stages of the alerting process. All are important.

- The pre-alert before the round starts.
- Alerts during the auction.
- Delayed alerts by the declaring side before the opening lead.

30.5 Pre-alerts

At the start of a round or match, Pairs should acquaint each other with their basic system, length of their 1-level opening bids, the strength and style of their opening 1NT and any unusual self-alerting calls as defined above that may catch their opponents by surprise (e.g. doubles that are neither for penalty nor for takeout, or high-level transfer pre-empts).

Examples

- Acol, 5-card spade suit, 12–14 point 1NT.
- Precision, 5-card majors, 15–17 point 1NT, 4-level opening bids are transfer pre-empts.

Calls that require an alert during the auction need not be pre-alerted.

Highly unusual carding (e.g. leading low from doubletons) should also be pre-alerted at this stage.

30.6 Alerts during the auction

30.6.1 Announcing of 1C and natural 1NT opening bids

The partner of a Player who makes a 1C or natural 1NT opening bid shall promptly alert the opponents by announcing their systemic agreement using the following descriptions.

- **For 1C opening bids in:**
 - **Natural (Green) systems**
The appropriate length of the club should be announced, i.e. ("2 plus", "3 plus", "4 plus" etc.).
 - **Strong Club (Blue Systems)**
The word "Strong" together with the minimum HCP holding (e.g. 16+) should be announced.
 - **System options other than those above (e.g. a Polish 1C)**
The word "Unusual" should be used.
- For a natural 1NT opening bid:
 - "12 to 14" (or the appropriate range).
- **Note: For mistaken announcements**
 - The opening bidder may not correct the error during the auction; neither may he/she indicate in any manner that a mistake has been made. If, at the end of the auction, he/she is to be declarer or dummy, then the Director must be called before the opening lead is made and his/her opponents informed that in his opinion an error has been made. If he/she is a defender, the Director must be called at the end of play, but not earlier (**Law 20F5**).
 - The opening bidder must carefully avoid taking any advantage of unauthorised information arising from an incorrect announcement by partner; **Law 16B** may apply.
 - For calls made by opponents that are based on the incorrect announcement of the system agreement, **Law 21B** applies.

30.6.2 You must promptly alert any other call during the auction if it is conventional (see Alerting procedure on **page D62**).

30.7 Delayed alerts

At the end of the auction, the declaring side should draw attention to any unusual features, particularly any unusual non-alerted calls. Upon enquiry, you must disclose fully, not only the specific meanings of all calls, but also any inferences you have drawn from the auction based on partnership experience (as distinct from general bridge knowledge). These explanations

may occasionally need to include negative inferences, such as hand types partner probably does not have for his/her bidding. Defenders must not, at this time, draw attention to their own calls, nor voluntarily offer explanations (they must of course fully disclose upon enquiry).

Takeout/negative-type doubles and penalty doubles do not require a delayed alert. If interested, the opening leader should enquire before leading, or his/her partner may enquire after the opening lead has been made face down.

30.8 Alerting procedure

Any bid or pass that requires an alert must be alerted promptly by the partner of the person making the call using the method described in the Alerting Regulations / Written Bidding [(page D53) when using written bidding, (page D57) for alerts with bidding boxes without screens and (page D64) for alerts with screens], or as amended by the Supplementary Regulations for the event.

Note: Alerts are compulsory and you may not ask the opponents not to alert.

Self-alerting calls should not be alerted.

Delayed alerts should be indicated by a small plus sign (+) in one corner of the appropriate square of the bidding pad as evidence of the delayed alert. (If bidding boxes are in use, the declaring side should verbally indicate which unusual calls require a delayed alert.)

A Player may not be sure whether a call should be alerted. This could be because the Player has forgotten the agreement, has forgotten whether there is an agreement or is unsure whether an agreement applies. In such cases, it is generally safer to alert the call and, if asked, explain the circumstances. However, the uncertainty about the meaning of the call is unauthorised information to the Player's partner.

Do not explain your alerted calls or delayed alerted calls unless a request has been made.

30.9 Explanations

Merely to name a convention (e.g. Michaels, Lebensohl etc.) is not an acceptable explanation. There are many variations of most conventions, and a more specific explanation is normally required. Similarly, the use of "standard" or "natural" to describe calls, signals or leads is rarely sufficient – nor the terms "weak", "strong" or "intermediate" – without appropriate qualification.

30.10 Tournament Director's responsibility

- (a) Tournament Directors will not allow Players to manipulate these Regulations to their advantage. For example, opponents must be allowed enough time to alert; a speedy action out of tempo followed by a claim for a late alert will receive little sympathy. Likewise, experienced Players claiming damage through a technical failure to alert will need to present a strong case.

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- (b) When Players claim damage due to failure to alert (but are likely to be aware of probable alternative meanings of a call), their claim will be unsuccessful if they failed to protect themselves, because they could have enquired as to the meaning of the call before damage occurred (unless they can demonstrate the inability to enquire because, in so doing, they would have conveyed unauthorised information, and/or given the opponents information to which they were not entitled).
- (c) Tournament Directors are urged, when giving a ruling at the table, to consider whether the principles of active ethics and full disclosure have been adhered to by the Players.

31. Appendix 9. Regulations for Play with Screens

31.1 Introduction

- (a) When screens are in use, these Regulations apply as varied by the Supplementary Regulations and at the discretion of the Director in any manner necessary to facilitate the reasonable conduct of the event.
- (b) Each Player must provide his/her screen mate with a correctly filled-in System Card and any relevant system notes.
- (c) From the time that the screen is closed at the beginning of a hand to the conclusion of the play of that hand, there is to be no oral communication at the table and no Player is permitted to communicate with Players on the other side of the screen except through the Director.
- (d) All queries are to be made and responded to in writing. The written queries and responses must remain on the table to be collected by the Tournament Director for retention until the expiry of the correction period.
- (e) The duties of a match recorder are to record the bidding, the play and the score. A match recorder is entitled to reserve any position including either corner of the screen (NE or SW). A match recorder is not permitted to draw attention to, or summon the Director to report, any irregularity.
- (f) When both Non-Playing Captains are present at the same table, they must both sit on the side of the screen selected by the Captain of the N/S Pair. They may not occupy positions that might impede a match recorder in the performance of his/her duties.
- (g) Where the Director determines that one or more boards in a round or session are to be arrow-switched, the Players on the same side of the screen must change seats. The relative orientation of the boards with respect to the screen must not be varied.

31.2 Screen operation

- (a) The screen is placed diagonally across the table in such fashion that North and East, and South and West, are screen mates.

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- (b) The board must remain on (the centre of) the table throughout play. The board is placed in the centre of the movable bidding tray ("tray") or on the written bidding record sheet or on the table under the screen in such a position that it can be seen on both sides of the screen.
- (c) West closes the screen so that the bidding tray can just pass under it.
- (d) The Players now remove their cards from the board.
- (e) The auction is carried out by using written bidding record sheets or bidding boxes.
 - (i) Written bidding record sheets: Each call is entered in the next vacant box working from left to right of a Player's segment of the record sheet.
 - (ii) Bidding boxes: Each call is made by placing bidding cards silently on a Player's section of the tray, starting from the extreme edge and neatly overlapping so that all calls are visible and faced towards partner. After the final pass, Players remove their bidding cards.
- (f) A call is not valid until the Player has written the appropriate symbol with an appropriate numeral, if necessary, (written bidding) or released the bidding card on to the tray (bidding boxes).
- (g) North and South transfer the tray under the screen after their screen mate has called, ensuring that all calls are visible on the other side.
- (h) A Player who removes his/her bidding cards from the tray may be deemed to have passed.
- (i) Alerts are made by displaying or indicating an alert card or by placing it on the screen mate's segment of the tray. The recipient must acknowledge the alert or remove it from the tray. The Player who makes an alertable call must alert the screen mate. After the bidding tray is transferred under the screen, the partner must alert the opponent on the other side of the screen.
- (j) All requests for information (**Law 20**) about the auction or any alerted call must be made with the screen closed. They are made, and responded to, by the screen mate in writing. A claim of misinformation should be supported by written evidence. Failure to do so may invalidate any claim of damage.
- (k) The opening lead is made face down. The opening leader's screen mate announces that the lead has been made; a defender opens the screen in a manner that permits all Players to see all the cards and play proceeds.
- (l) In the absence of a match recorder, South records the score, which West checks and initials.

31.3 Irregularities

31.3.1 The Director should be called at once after a bidding irregularity (**Law 9B1(a)**). The Director removes evidence of the attempted infraction and the auction continues.

31.3.2 The tray is not to be transferred to the other side without the correction of an irregularity. The Director may penalise offending Players.

31.3.3 The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007 apply, except as specified below.

31.3.4 Where screens are in use, the following scheduled adjustments to the normal provisions found in the Laws of Bridge shall apply.

(a) **Law 9A3; Law 42B(3); Law 43A(1)(b) – Dummy's rights**
Dummy may not call attention to a defender's card exposed prematurely by a screen mate, but should try to avoid exposure of a premature opening lead.

(b) **Law 13 – Incorrect number of cards**
The adjusted score and the penalty prescribed in **Law 13B** apply only if the call has been transmitted to the other side of the screen.

(c) **Law 16 – Extraneous information from partner**
During the auction, a breach of tempo may be identified by the slowness or speed with which the tray is returned. If a Player takes more than a normal amount of time to decide upon his/her call, it is an infraction until the end of the play period for either Player on the side of the screen where the variation in tempo occurred to draw attention to it.

If a Player on the side of the screen receiving the tray considers that there may be unauthorised information as a result of an abnormally slow return of the bidding tray, the procedure set out in **Law 16B2** applies (i.e. he/she should immediately indicate in writing to his/her screen mate that he/she wishes to reserve the right to summon the Director later). Neither Player may call the Director until play on the board has been completed and then only if the non-offending side believe that they may have been damaged.

(d) **Law 20 – Review of the auction**
Until the bidding cards are removed from the tray, a Player obtains a review of the auction by inspecting them. At trick one, when a Player is still entitled to obtain a review and an inspection of the bidding cards is no longer feasible, a Player obtains a written review of the auction from his/her screen mate (ii below).

Explanation of calls

(i) During the auction: At any time, a Player may request, in writing, of his/her screen mate a full explanation of an opponent's call. The reply is also in writing.

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- (ii) During the play period: Questions during the play period should be made in writing with the aperture closed. The screen is opened after the response has been made in writing.
 - (iii) At no time prior to completion of the hand is any communication, concerning the auction or explanations given and received, between a Player on one side of the screen and a Player on the other side of the screen permitted.
- (e) **Laws 25 through 32; Law 34; Laws 36 through 39**
Only those calls that comprise the legal auction should pass through the screen. When an irregularity is corrected, the Players on the other side of the screen are not informed of any occurrence. For infractions covered by these laws, the following procedures are used.
- (i) **Tray not passed:** Before the tray is passed, either the offender's screen mate or the offender should call attention to the infraction and summon the Director. The Director shall see that the infraction is put right without any further rectification. Infringing calls may not be accepted and any irregularity must be corrected.
 - (ii) **Both sides at fault:** If an infringing call is nonetheless passed across the screen, both sides being at fault (as when either Player commits a bidding infraction and the proper Player – North or South – moves the tray before rectification), both Players on the other side of the screen are responsible for calling attention to the infraction and summoning the Director. The Player who has passed the irregularity through the screen is deemed to have accepted the opponent's call on behalf of his side in those situations where the normal laws would permit left-hand opponent to accept it (**Laws 25B, 27A, 29A and 32A**). The tray should be returned to the offending Player only for rectification of an infraction to which the laws do not permit acceptance (**Law 35**).
 - (iii) **Only one side at fault:** The infringing call is passed across the screen with only one side at fault (the Player who committed the bidding infraction – East or West – also moved the tray improperly). Either Player on the other side of the screen has the ability to call attention to the infraction and summon the Director. The Player receiving the tray may exercise the right to accept the infraction where such right exists under the Laws of Bridge. If the infraction is not accepted, the Director returns the tray to the offending Player for rectification of the irregularity and applies the appropriate Law.

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(iv) **Irregularity not noticed:** If the infringing call is passed across the screen, and neither Player there draws attention to it, the tray eventually being returned to the side of the screen where the bidding irregularity was committed, the auction stands without correction or rectification. However, in the case of an inadmissible call, **Laws 36A, 37A and 38A** still apply.

(v) **Authorised and unauthorised information:** Information from withdrawn calls (including those not transferred to the other side of the screen) is unauthorised for any partnership at fault but authorised for a Player or partnership that has committed no irregularity (**Law 16D**).

(f) **Law 33 – Simultaneous calls**

The subsequent call is cancelled without restriction.

(g) **Law 40 – Alerts**

When a Player makes an alertable call, he/she should immediately alert his/her screen mate. When the bidding tray arrives on the other side of the screen, his/her partner should immediately do the same.

(h) **Law 41A – Opening lead out of turn**

The offender's screen mate should attempt to prevent any opening lead out of turn. A faced-down opening lead out of turn may be retracted without penalty. A faced opening lead out of turn may be retracted without penalty if the screen has not been opened. When the screen has been opened after a faced opening lead out of turn – through no fault of the declaring side – and

(i) the other side has not yet led face up, the lead is considered to be out of turn and **Law 54** applies, or

(ii) the other side has also led face up, the card becomes a major penalty card.

When the declaring side has incorrectly opened the screen, the faced lead out of turn must be accepted and the Player who first mentioned the denomination of the final contract becomes the declarer. The Director shall award an adjusted score if he/she considers that the Player who opened the screen could have known that it would be to his/her advantage to accept the lead.

(i) **Law 73D – Variations in tempo**

During the auction period, after an opponent has acted quickly, it is proper to adjust the tempo back to normal by either delaying one's own call (place the bidding card faced, in front of, but not on, the tray) or by waiting before passing the tray.

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A delay of the tray on one side of the screen of up to 20 seconds (at any time during the auction and whether or not out of tempo) shall not give rise to any inference of unauthorised information. Players are advised to vary the time in which the tray is passed so that pauses of up to 20 seconds (or perhaps longer in unexpected situations) may be considered not to convey information.

(j) **Law 76 – Spectators**

Spectators may not sit so that they can see both sides of the screen.

32. Appendix 10. Fouled Boards/Forfeited Matches

32.1 Teams or match play

Whenever it is possible to do so, the Director will take the necessary steps to ensure that a board or boards are played in such a manner as to ensure that a valid comparison is obtained between both tables. The Team responsible for the fouling may be fined 0.5 VPs or 3 IMPs in a knockout match (1.5 VPs or 6 IMPs if the cards are exchanged between partners).

When it is not possible to correct the board:

- (a) Where the correct board has already been played at one table and, as a result of an irregularity by one side, no result was possible at the other table, **Law 86D** applies (**page B29**).
- (b) Otherwise, a fouled board should be replaced with the substitution of a new board, provided that the Director is satisfied that the result of the match is not known to the Contestants and that time permits. The Director's decision shall be final.
- (c) Where it is not possible to play a replacement board, **Law 86A** applies (**page B29**).
- (d) A Team responsible for the fouling may, at the discretion of the Director, receive a procedural penalty of 0.5 VPs (1.5 VPs if cards are exchanged between partners), or, in a knockout match, a penalty of 3 IMPs (6 IMPs if cards are exchanged between partners). The Director may increase the penalty for repeated or serious breaches.
- (e) If, in the opinion of the Director, the number of unplayable boards resulting in artificial adjusted scores represents such a significant number of the total (> 50%) that it is not equitable to declare a result, both Teams will be assigned 12 VPs or, after the last match of the round, the average of all the other matches or stanzas, whichever is the greater. In exercising his/her discretion, the Director is advised to consult the Match Committee and/or the Appeals Committee. His/her decision, once made, is final.
- (f) In the event where two Teams have sat in the same orientation at both tables in a match, and the Director at his sole discretion determines that it is not possible to re-play the match, both sides will be assigned 8 VPs. In the event of a match stanza, then, unless the

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Supplementary Regulations specify otherwise, the result of the match will be determined on the valid boards played in the match (but see (c) above).

32.2 Ranking play (match points)

- (a) Provided a board has been played more than three times or by more than one-third of the field, each Pair's score is ranked and match pointed in their own group to obtain (M). Then the final match points to be awarded (F) are calculated for every Pair in the field as follows:

$$F = \frac{(M \times E) + (E - A)}{A}$$

where: F = match points (double) to be awarded to the Pair;
M = match points (double) when ranked in their group;
E = total number of scores in the field;
A = number of scores in the group.

Fractions are rounded to one decimal place.

- (b) For 1, 2 or 3 fouled tables:

1	50%		
2	55%	45%	
3	60%	50%	40%

- (i) Tie Pairs share the difference.
- (ii) Pairs in no way at fault receive an indemnity of 10% and the provisions of **Law 88** apply if their score for the session was greater than awarded here.
- (iii) A Pair partially to blame receives no increase (failure to detect a fouled board puts a Pair partially at fault).
- (iv) A Pair responsible receives a penalty of 10%.

32.3 Forfeited matches

If a Team is unable to play, or complete, a match, and the Director declares the match or stanza forfeited, unless otherwise regulated, the following will apply.

- (a) In a match scored using the WBF VP scale, the Team in forfeit shall score zero VPs and zero IMPs.
- (b) The Team winning the forfeited match shall receive 13 VPs or the average number of VPs won by the Team in all its other matches, or, at the conclusion of the stage, the average number of VPs won by the opponents of the forfeiting Team in matches played against that Team, whichever is the greater.

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- (c) In a knockout match, involving multiple stanzas, the Director shall assign such an IMP score to the non-offending Team for that stanza as he/she shall consider to be equitable.

33. Appendix 11. Tie-breaking Procedures

The following tie-breaking procedures (for qualifying places or for determining the order of qualifiers) are recommended for use at all Tournaments. These are the default tie-breaking procedures and should be used when no other method has been promulgated before the start of the event.

33.1 If the current stage of the event is either Swiss Pairs or Swiss Teams

- (a) Swiss Points

If still tied

- (b) Net IMPs of all matches

If still tied

- (c) Toss of a coin.

33.2 If the current stage of the event is a round robin

- (a) Net IMPs of the head-to-head match. If more than one match, wins versus losses, followed by the net IMPs of all the head-to-head matches

If still tied

- (b) Net IMPs of all matches

If still tied

- (c) Toss of a coin.

33.3 For knockout Teams matches

Successive four-board play-offs.

33.4 For Pairs events

Toss of a coin.

33.5 For determining final placings

Ties are not generally broken, but, if the nature of the prizes requires tie breaking, and if it is so specified in advance, then it is recommended that the tie-breaking procedures for qualifying places be used to determine the prizes, but that the Pairs / Teams remain tied for the purposes of trophies and Master Points.

34. Appendix 12. Appeals

34.1 Introduction

NZ Bridge is concerned that appeals at all levels of the game are handled in a consistent manner, particularly for Tournaments conducted under the Master Point Scheme. This section outlines best practice procedure for conducting appeals and incorporates the WBF Code of Practice for Appeals Committees (see the Directing / Regulations section of the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz and the NZ Bridge Supplementary Regulations (page D38).

The Director has full authority, and is assumed to be perfectly competent, to enforce the Laws of the game, to impose the appropriate penalties for infractions and to award adjusted scores for damage as a result of an opponent's infraction. Nevertheless, many rulings will require the Director to exercise his/her bridge judgement. In doing so, the Director will always resolve any doubt he/she may have in favour of the non-offending side. Therefore, a Player who believes that he/she has a strong case may request a review of any ruling made by the Director at the table.

34.2 Composition of Appeals Committees

The Tournament Organiser or the Director in Charge should, prior to the commencement of the Tournament, announce an Appeals Committee, ideally of three members but in no circumstances more than five. NZ Bridge recognises that, in exceptional circumstances (i.e. small events or restricted grades), a Committee may comprise one or two members. The members of the Appeals Committee need not necessarily be competitors in the event and should be chosen carefully for their experience of Tournament play and their analytical ability. In certain circumstances (i.e. where a relatively inexperienced Director is on duty or for a restricted grade event), it may be desirable that one of the members is selected for their insight into the Laws of bridge (i.e. a Director's qualification) but it is neither that member's task nor the function of the Committee to determine points of Law.

A Committee member who has prior knowledge of the subject matter of an appeal should excuse himself/herself from the Committee.

34.3 Jurisdiction

In the normal course of events, matters involving the Director's interpretation of the Laws or penalties imposed by him/her ought not to be taken to appeal. Players may appeal against a Director's ruling when

- (a) the facts are in dispute, or
- (b) the innocent party believes that he/she has not gained an equitable adjustment for damage suffered through an opponent's infraction, or
- (c) the offending side believes that the Director has erred in the application of the Law or his/her bridge judgement.

Although the Appeals Committee may exercise all the powers assigned by Law to the Director, it is bound by the Director's interpretation of the Law or Supplementary Regulations. Also it may not rescind or vary a disciplinary penalty assessed by the Director. The Appeals Committee is the final arbiter in rulings that required the Director to exercise his/her bridge judgement.

An appeal relating to the meaning of a Law or a Regulation should be decided by the Chief Director of NZ Bridge (Mobile 027 499 1373) or, if he/she is unavailable, the Director in Charge of the event (**Law 81** and (**page B28**)).

This ruling may be further appealed to the Committee but it may not be overturned by the Committee (**Law 93B**). If the Appeals Committee is of the opinion that the Director is wrong in Law and that, as a result, an incorrect penalty has been paid, they should recommend that the Director change his/her ruling. If the Director does not acquiesce in this request, a full report on the matters involved must be sent to NZ Bridge as soon as possible. It is strongly recommended that a qualified, experienced Director's ruling be accepted.

34.4 Lodgement of appeal

An appeal may be lodged only by a side present at the table where the ruling was given and must be made through the Director:

- (a) on the form provided (**page D77**); at the discretion of the Director, this requirement may for operational reasons be waived in whole or in part;
- (b) not more than 30 minutes after the official end of the stanza (see NZ Bridge Regulations (**Law 92B** and (**page B29**)));
- (c) with the consent of both members of the Pair appealing or the Team Captain; if no Captain has been appointed, a majority of the Team must concur;
- (d) at National events, the Chief Director of NZ Bridge (or his/her nominee) may require that he/she or an appeals advisor appointed for the purpose formally review any ruling from the Director at the table before proceeding to the Committee.

34.5 Procedure for hearing of appeals

- (a) If no convenor has been appointed, the Appeals Committee should elect from its members a chairperson whose duties are:
 - (i) in consultation with the Director, to conduct the hearing;
 - (ii) to hear the evidence, ensuring that there is as little interruption as possible;

committee members should refrain from direct exchanges of opinion with other persons in attendance; a wholly courteous manner is as essential in the Committee members as it is in those appearing before them;

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- (iii) to record and deliver the decision.
- (b) Every effort should be made to ensure that all the parties are present and, if any party elects not to attend or cannot attend, the Committee is entitled to proceed in its absence and draw such inferences and conclusions as it sees fit. However, NZ Bridge is concerned that no negative inference is drawn from the absence of a side when the facts are not in dispute and the Director has determined that the respondents are the non-offending side.
- (c) The Director should present:
 - the appeal form;
 - the facts ascertained;
 - the nature of the irregularity;
 - his/her ruling on the meaning of any Law relevant to the appeal;
 - his/her decision on the matter;
 - his/her summary of the reasons for the ruling.
- (d) The party appealing should then be asked to state the reasons for its appeal.
- (e) The other party involved should be asked to reply.
- (f) Both parties should be given the opportunity to make any points in rebuttal.
- (g) The Appeals Committee may then wish to clarify any points of disagreement or evidence. In exceptional circumstances, it may be necessary to seek evidence from other parties on any pertinent disputed fact, but not on matters of bridge judgement.
- (h) The Appeals Committee deliberates in the absence of the appellants and respondents. The Director in Charge (or his/her nominee for the purpose) may remain and participate in the discussion to clarify matters enquired of him/her by the members (including the outcome of any confidential polling of other Players that may or may not have been done) and to direct the Committee on points of Law and correct procedure. He/she may not vote.

34.6 Functions of the Committee

- (a) The expectation is that the Committee will presume initially that the Director's ruling is correct. Where the Committee has jurisdiction (see above), the ruling is varied only on the evidence presented and where, at the conclusion of its deliberations, there is clear agreement by a majority vote.

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- (b) Although the Appeals Committee is expected to come to its decision on the evidence presented, occasionally it may require additional information, in which case the correct procedure is for the Committee to request the Director to make further enquiries.
- (c) The award of an assigned adjusted score as per **Law 12C** is appropriate when a violation of Law caused damage to an innocent side. Damage exists when, as a consequence of the infraction, the non-offending side obtains a table result less favourable than would have been the expectation without the infraction.
- (d) If the damaged side has wholly or partly caused its own damage by its own subsequent (to the infraction) irrational, wild or gambling actions (but not a mere error of bridge judgement), it does not receive relief for the part that was self-inflicted. The offending side will, however, have the score adjusted as per **Law 12C1(b)** as the normal consequence of the infraction.
- (e) Both the Director and the Appeals Committee are authorised to do equity by assigning a single score that takes into account the relative weighting of a number of possible outcomes (**Law 12C1(c)** and (**page B16**)).
- (f) **Procedural penalties:** NZ Bridge wishes to discourage Committees from applying a procedural penalty as a matter of course. For example, a Player who forgets his/her conventions, misbids or misuses his/her bid is not subject to automatic penalty. A procedural penalty may be applied only when there has been a breach of the Laws or Supplementary Regulations and then only in aggravated circumstances. Score adjustment is the way to redress damage.
- (g) **Disciplinary penalties:** Although the Committee does have the power to impose a disciplinary penalty if it is found that there has been a breach of conduct, this should be done only in exceptional circumstances, especially if the Director has elected not to do so.
- (h) **Appeals without merit:** Where an appeal against the Director's ruling is unsuccessful, NZ Bridge Regulations (**Law 92A** and (**page B29**)) require the Appeals Committee to consider the relevant merit of the case and to assess a penalty for appeals that it considers to be without merit. Such penalty would normally be one-quarter of the total match points available on the board, or 6 IMPs or VP equivalent.
- (i) **Appeals to the National Authority:** A further appeal to the National Authority is possible in certain circumstances. NZ Bridge has established procedures for this (**page D75**).

34.7 Dishonourable practice

- (a) It is unethical to make a public accusation of cheating against any other Player. Any such accusation must be made to the Director alone.
- (b) If a Director or Appeals Committee has reason to believe that a Player has been guilty of cheating, it should assemble all relevant statements and information and forward them to NZ Bridge.
- (c) The National Recorder is Malcolm Smith, who is responsible for any complaints relating to possible dishonourable practice, as well as discourteous behaviour not within the purview of the Director (**page A12**).
- (d) The National Recorder is supported in each Region by a Regional Recorder, appointed by the Board of NZ Bridge (**page A12**).

35. Appendix 13. NZ Bridge Review of Appeals Committee Decisions

The Board is concerned to limit the number of Appeals Committee decisions referred to NZ Bridge by disgruntled appellants. Although **Law 93C** confers the right of a qualified review of an appeal to the Laws and Regulations Committee of the Board, there are some unsatisfactory aspects.

- (a) Many appeals are inconsequential to the extent that they relate to normal Club sessions rather than Tournament play.
- (b) In many cases, the facts of the appeal are in dispute and NZ Bridge is not able to undertake an adequate investigation.
- (c) In other instances, inadequate information is supplied to allow a satisfactory judgement to be made.

The Board has the following guidelines for the consideration of appeals.

35.1 Jurisdiction

NZ Bridge will conduct a review only of those appeals relating to Tournament play where the facts are not in dispute. NZ Bridge delegates the review of appeals in any other circumstance to a committee appointed by the Tournament Organiser (i.e. Regional Committee or Club).

35.2 Procedure

For all Tournaments conducted under the auspices of NZ Bridge (**Law 93C1** and (**page B30**)), a Contestant at the table at which the disputed ruling was made may submit a decision of the on-site Appeals Committee to the Board of NZ Bridge for a review provided that:

- (a) The review is lodged on an NZ Bridge Appeal Form with the Director or organising body within 24 hours of the announcement of the on-site Appeals Committee ruling, together with a deposit of **\$25**.

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- (b) Both members of a Pair or, in a Teams event, the Captain must indicate in writing that they concur with the review.
- (c) The facts are not in dispute (NZ Bridge will conduct a review when it is considered that the on-site Appeals Committee or the Director in Charge has made a value judgement of damages that can have no basis in the facts of the case or when it is claimed that misapplication of the Laws has caused injustice).
- (d) The decision of the on-site Appeals Committee is final and the review will not alter the result as declared in the event. The Regulations Committee of the Board will limit its function to clarification / interpretation of the Laws and/or Regulations in order to establish or confirm legal precedent or correct procedure.
- (e) The deposit will be returned only if the Committee considers that the applicant had a material grievance with the on-site appeal decision / procedure.

On notification of a review of an Appeal to NZ Bridge, the Director or Tournament Organiser shall immediately obtain:

- (a) all relevant hand records relating to the review;
- (b) written statements from the Contestants including reasons for referring the matter to NZ Bridge;
- (c) the written report of the convenor of the Appeals Committee explaining the reasons for the Committee decision;
- (d) the Director's report stating the reasons for his/her ruling at the table quoting relevant Laws;
- (e) the deposit from the applicants

and shall forward all the above material, including the deposit, to the Secretary of NZ Bridge, PO Box 5242, Terrace End, Palmerston North 4441, without undue delay.

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36. Appendix 14. NZ Bridge Appeal Form

NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE APPEAL FORM

Date:

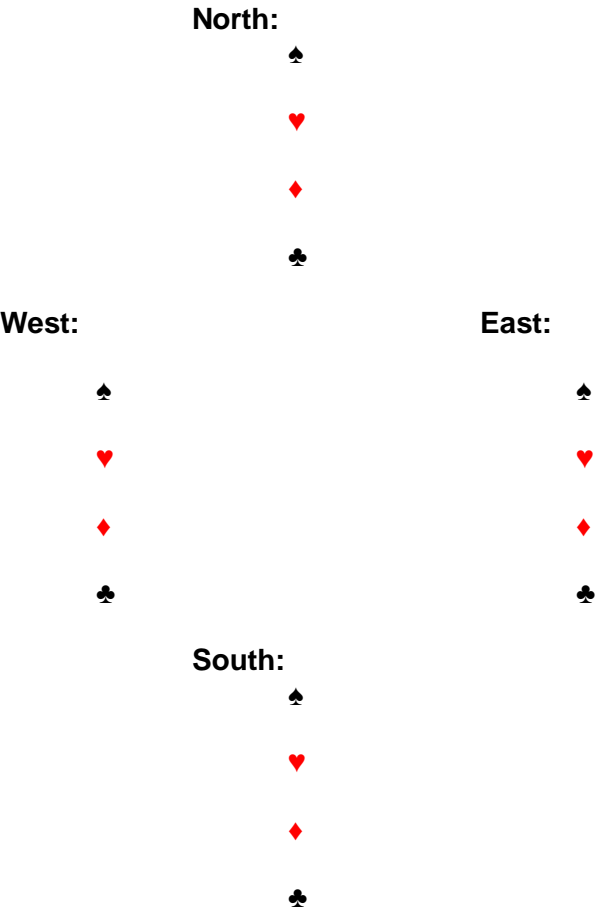
Board Number:

Event:

Vul:

Club:

Dealer:



BIDDING: West North East South

RESULT:

RELEVANT FACTS (e.g. HESITATIONS, EXPLANATIONS etc.):

DIRECTOR'S RULING:

GROUNDS FOR APPEAL:

Signature Appellant

SUBMISSION OF RESPONDENTS:

Signature Respondent

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DIRECTOR'S COMMENT ON SUBMISSIONS AND ADVICE (if applicable):

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR:

DECISION OF APPEALS COMMITTEE (including merit of unsuccessful appeals):

SIGNATURE OF CHAIR:

NAMES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

CHAIR:

NOTES (INCLUDING ANY DISSENTING VIEWS ETC.):

37. Appendix 15. Deceptive Calls and Play

- 37.1 A "psyche" is a deliberate gross misrepresentation of your high card strength and/or the length of one of your suits (Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007, page 3). Note: The key words are "deliberate and "gross".

To make a wrong bid accidentally is not a "psyche" – it is not deliberate. To shade an opening bid by a couple of points is not a "psyche" – it is not gross.

- 37.2 You may depart from agreed partnership methods in an attempt to deceive the opponents as long as partner is unaware of the violation. The opponents have no recourse if they are misled or damaged by a "psychic" bid unless they can establish that they were given an incomplete or erroneous explanation of the opposing side's methods.

However, if your bidding or play is inconsistent with your explanation of partner's bidding, you lay yourself open to an accusation of improper conduct and, if challenged, must establish that your subsequent actions were based on information gained from your opponent's bidding or play or from your own cards and not from a concealed partnership agreement. Any doubt will be resolved in favour of your opponent.

- 37.3 It is prohibited to "psyche" any conventional opening call that has as one of its options a hand that

- (a) may contain 13 or more HCP, **and**
- (b) is unlimited, **and**
- (c) does not show either a specific suit or a balanced hand.

In response to any opening bid, the responder is prohibited from psyching any bid that:

- (a) is by partnership agreement a game try or a game force, **and**
- (b) neither relates to a specific suit or suits nor shows a balanced hand.

- 37.4 It is prohibited to "psyche" a Multi 2♣ or Multi 2♦, as defined on (page D45).

- 37.5 Persistent "psyching" is not permitted. Directors should regard more than two (2) deliberate gross mis-descriptions by a partnership in any one session as evidence of persistent "psyching".

38. Appendix 16. Substitutions

- 38.1 Before the commencement of the event

- (a) All substitutions that conform to the promulgated Conditions of Contest for the event (e.g. Junior, Intermediate, Mixed) are permitted with the approval of the Tournament Organiser.

- (b) Substitutes that do not conform will be permitted only as last-minute entries to allow the smooth operation of the event and, then, only with the prior permission of the Director. It is preferable that the substitute should not be of a higher standard than the Player substituted for. The Director's decision is final.
- (c) Any substitution found not to conform to the Conditions of Contest or to comply with these regulations will not be eligible for the award of Master Points or any prizes. For scoring purposes, the Pair or Team will be treated as a phantom. The Director should notify the Pair or Team concerned.

38.2 During the event

- (a) The Director in Charge is authorised to substitute a Player (or Pair), who for unforeseen circumstances is unable to continue, with a Player (or Pair) who conforms to the Conditions of Contest for the event (e.g. Junior, Intermediate, Mixed). The Director's decision will be final.
- (b) Note: At the National Congress, a valid substitution under Paragraph 38.2(a) is permitted only with the prior approval of the Director appointed to be in charge of the Congress (usually the Chief Director of NZ Bridge).
- (c) If required for the smooth operation of the game, the Director is authorised to make an emergency substitution that does not conform to the Conditions of Contest of the event. It is preferable that the substitute should not be of a higher standard than the replaced Player.
- (d) Any substitution found not to conform to the Conditions of Contest or to comply with these regulations will not be eligible for the award of Master Points or any prizes. For scoring purposes, the substitute will be treated as a phantom for that session. The results for the competing Pair in previous sessions will stand. The Director should notify the Pair or Team concerned.

38.3 Pairs event

- (a) In an event with qualifying sessions, if the substitute conforms to the Conditions of Contest, the substitute becomes the qualifier if playing more than 50% of the boards.
- (b) Non-conforming substitutes disqualify the Pair from qualifying.
- (c) Any C Points earned in a session are awarded to the Player who has played more than 50% of the boards if he/she conforms to the conditions of play.
- (d) Non-conforming substitutes disqualify the Pair from earning Master Points (Paragraph 38.1(c) or 38.2(d) above).
- (e) A Points or B Points earned are apportioned to the Players according to the number of boards each has played; fractions are rounded to the nearest whole number (**page E13**).

38.4 Teams event

- (a) A substitute, who conforms to the Conditions of Contest, in a Team of four or five, becomes a member of the Team and is considered to have been a member for the entire event. For the award of overall Master Points, a Player must have played a minimum of 25% of the boards **(page E13)**.
- (b) A member of another Team that is entered in the same event may not act as a substitute in another Team.
- (c) A Team of six is considered not to need substitutes. If, for exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, such a Team requests a substitute, then it must apply to the Director, whose decision is final.
- (d) A non-conforming substitute disqualifies the Team from receiving Master Points.

38.5 New Zealand National Rubber Bridge Competition

Refer to **(page D4)** for information on substitutions for this event.

39. Appendix 17. Electronic Scoring Devices

39.1 Configuration of scoring units

It is the responsibility of the Tournament Organiser / Director in Charge to ensure that the appropriate protocols are in place with respect to the collection, security and processing of all electronic data.

39.2 Wireless scoring devices should be configured such that:

- The Players always have to key in the number of the board in front of them.
- Wherever possible, E/W confirmation by a PIN number is turned on.
- The device does not check the lead against the hand record (where this facility is available).
- In Teams matches, Player access is only to verify and correct scores on boards played at their own table during the current round or match. Results on the board from other matches must not be displayed until the match is finished.
- During Pairs events, the ability to view scores from previous rounds or from other tables/matches must not be enabled during Tournament play. Neither should a Contestant's "real-time" percentage score, nor their progressive ranking, be accessible to any participant until the end of the session (unless the conditions of the contest dictate otherwise, e.g. in a barometer-scored event).

39.3 Player obligation with respect to data entry

N/S shall be responsible for data entry and E/W shall be responsible for checking the accuracy of that data. Players must record the score for each board immediately after it is played and before the commencement of the next board. Both Pairs are equally responsible for ensuring that the scores have been entered correctly.

The Director may impose procedural penalties upon any Contestant who consistently leaves the table at the conclusion of the round/match without first confirming the completeness and validity of the data entered into the unit.

39.4 Sources of scoring error

The most common problems arise due to the entry and verification of the wrong number of tricks, the recording of the wrong compass direction, the entry of a result against the wrong board number and the failure to supply data for all of the boards played during a round. The resultant scores are calculated solely from the information supplied with respect to "contract" and "number of tricks won".

39.5 Correction of errors

At the end of each round/match, the Players should verify all previously entered data. Any errors that are discovered must be corrected immediately. Subsequent requests (i.e. after the conclusion of the round) to alter an apparently consistent (although possibly incorrect) score must be made within the official **Law 79C** "score correction period".

In deciding whether to authorise a change of score, the Director must first be able to determine the facts to his/her own satisfaction. Normal practice is not to alter any score if the Pairs are unavailable for consultation or where there is no agreement as to the correct result. If the Director has any doubts at all about what has occurred, then the score as originally recorded should stand. **Law 79B2** uses the words "...but there shall be no obligation to increase a side's score", which implies that any favourable change is always at the sole discretion of the Director in Charge.

40. Appendix 18. Duties of Non-Playing Captains and/or Regional Team Managers

40.1 Except as noted below, a Non-Playing Captain (NPC) or a Regional Team Manager may not converse with members of the Team (or their opponents) once any Player has withdrawn a hand from the board on the table, until all hands have been replaced.

The NPC or Regional Team Manager may intervene for the following purposes.

- (a) To protect the rights of the Team if they are believed to be jeopardised in any way.
- (b) To require that the Director be called to the table.

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- (c) To intimate his/her own intention to make a protest or appeal on behalf of the Team in reference to any matter.
- (d) To curtail unnecessary discussions.
- (e) To restrain misbehaviour on the part of any member of the Team.
- (f) To decline to allow a Pair or the Team to lodge a protest with the Appeals Committee.
- (g) To prevent a playing member of the Team watching Team mates in play.

40.2 As soon as possible after the conclusion of the Interprovincial Championships, the NPC or Regional Team Manager must furnish the relevant Regional Committee with a Captain's or Manager's report. Note: The template is available for download on the NZ Bridge website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.



PART E – MASTER POINT REGULATIONS

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DEFINITIONS

1. "A" Point Tournament – A Tournament open to Players of all grades that has "A" Points as the award for the top place getters.
2. Basic Table (also Basic Scale) – A Table used as a basis for the award of Master Points and, where appropriate, multiplied by a given factor.
3. Club – An organisation affiliated to NZ Bridge, which must provide for each of its members the opportunity to participate in the Master Point Scheme on all sessions (except teaching sessions) played.
4. Congress – Three or more Tournaments conducted over at least two days with at least one Tournament available for other than Open grade Players.
5. Contestant – A competing side in an event; in a Teams event, four or more Players playing as Team mates; in a Pairs event, two Players playing as partners; in an Individual event, a Player. In a Pairs event, each individual Player participating in a partnership, and, in a Teams event, each individual Player and each partnership pairing participating in a Team, is also considered to be a Contestant. A House Contestant (as defined in the Tournament Regulations on **page D11**) is deemed to be a Contestant.
6. Deal – The 52 cards distributed to the four Players at a table and considered as a unit, and the auction and play thereof.
7. Eligible Player – A Player who, being a member of an Affiliated Club, or an approved overseas Player, and not being excluded by any restrictions (see **Rules 5 and 6 on (page E8)**), is entitled to play for Master Points.
Note: In all cases, the eligibility of Players is to be determined by reference to their grading. Grading will take effect from 1 January in each year. Grading can also be determined from a Club's Player Status Report during the **current** year.
8. Event – A contest of one or more sessions.
9. Grade – A classification of Players according to their Master Point Rank and/or the number of Rating Points they currently hold.
10. Group – Players who hold identical hands in the course of a session and have their scores compared on those hands. (**See 11 for the definition of Hand.**)
11. Hand – The 13 cards dealt to a Player and considered as a unit.
12. Handicap – A supplementary score or percentage added to or subtracted from a Contestant's total for an event or session.
13. Individual – An event where a Player who is a Contestant plays with a different partner for each set of a session. (**See 30 for the definition of Set.**)
14. Intermediate Tournament (5B) – A Tournament open to all Players who have a grading less than Open as at the preceding 1 January.
15. Junior Tournament (3B) – A Tournament open to all Players who have a grading less than Intermediate as at the preceding 1 January.

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16. Match Play – Play where one Contestant is matched against another for the whole or part of a session or sessions and each such contest is scored as a separate entity.
17. Multigrade Tournament – An 8B Point or 3A Point Tournament open to all Players, or a 5B Point Tournament open to Intermediate and Junior Players, where prizes may be awarded by a Club to various grade combinations but the overall result only receives the Tournament Master Point Award.
18. NZ Bridge – New Zealand Bridge Incorporated.
19. NZ Bridge Board – The executive body of NZ Bridge.
20. Open Tournament (8B) – A Tournament open to Players of all grades that has "B" Points as the award for the top place getters.
21. Pair – Two Players playing as partners throughout an event.
22. Rank – A classification of a Player into one of the ten ranks defined on **(page E6)**.
23. Ranking (of Contestants) – The listing of Contestants in order from highest to lowest according to their scores in an event or session thereof.
24. Regional Congress – Three or more Tournaments conducted over at least two days with at least one Tournament available for other than Open grade Players.
25. Replicate – To provide one or more exact replicas (of a deal) (i.e. to duplicate or triplicate or quadruplicate etc.).
26. Restricted Tournament (8B) – A Tournament open to all Players except those playing in Open–Open pairings. Open Players can compete as long as they are playing with an Intermediate or Junior Player.
27. Round – A part of a session played without progression of Players.
28. Section – A number of tables where Contestants and/or deals progress independently of other tables. In Teams events, the two tables involved in each match may constitute a separate section.
29. Session – A period of play in which a specified number of deals is scheduled to be played. (Usually a session is of sufficient length to allow all the deals in play in the section to be played at each table.)
30. Set – The number of deals played each round. (It is desirable that there be at least two deals per set.)
31. Team – Four, five or six Players, playing as Team mates throughout an event, with any four of them playing as two partnerships in different directions at different tables for a common score.
32. Tournament – An event where the results of two or more sessions are collated to rank the Contestants, provided:
 - an event of only two sessions is played on the same day;
 - an event of more than two sessions is played on the same day or consecutive days.

OUTLINE OF THE MASTER POINT SCHEME

1. Objects

The purpose of the Master Point Scheme is to:

- (a) stimulate interest in Duplicate Bridge;
- (b) provide a means of measuring and recording the achievements of the Players of organised Duplicate Bridge;
- (c) provide NZ Bridge with a source of revenue to be used for the benefit of the game.

2. Administration

The Board of NZ Bridge controls and administers the Master Point Scheme and may vary or add to the rules governing the award of Master Points.

3. Master Point Awards

There are three categories of Master Point awards.

"A" Points Awarded to Players who finish in the top placings of approved "A" Point Tournaments, and to all session winners or Teams match winners of approved "A" Point Tournaments.

"B" Points Awarded to Players who finish in the top placings of approved "B" Point Tournaments and to all session winners of approved "B" Point Pairs Tournaments.

"C" Points Awarded to Players who are successful in any one session of play organised by a licensed Club, a Region or NZ Bridge.

"B" Points are not convertible to "A" Points. "C" Points are converted to "B" Points in the ratio of 100 "C" Points to 1 "B" Point.

4. Master Point Gradings

Master Point gradings are established as at 1 January (or as near to this date as possible) in each and every year.

Open Local Master 0*–4* **and** 100+ Rating Points **or**
Local Master 5* and above **or**
Provincial Master or higher rank.

Intermediate Club Master or lower rank and 30 or fewer Rating Points but 5 or more "A" Points **or**
Club Master or lower rank with more than 30 Rating Points **or**
Local Master 0*–4* **and** 0–100 Rating Points.

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Junior Club Master or lower rank and 30 or fewer Rating Points and fewer than 5 A Points.

See also Overseas Master Points (**page E7**).

5. Master Point Rankings

There are ten ranks that are accorded to holders of Master Points.

Rank	Aggregate of "A" and "B" Points
Certificate of Proficiency	5
Club Master	20
Local Master	50
Provincial Master	100 (including at least 50 A Points)
Master	200 (including at least 100 A Points)
National Master	350 (including at least 175 A Points)
Life Master	500 (including at least 250 A Points)
Grand Master	1000 (including at least 500 A Points)
Silver Grand Master	2500 (including at least 1250 A Points)
Gold Grand Master	4000 (including at least 2500 A Points)

- A Player with fewer than 5 "A" and "B" Points is classified as "unranked".
- On reaching an aggregate of 100+ Master Points, a Local Master who has not earned 50 A Points is accorded the status of Local Master 1 Star.
- At 150 Master Points, the Player becomes Local Master 2 Star,
 - and receives an additional Star for each additional 50 Master Points if sufficient "A" Points have not been attained.

Similarly, Stars are awarded to Masters of other ranks who have not attained sufficient "A" points for promotion to a higher rank.

Example – A 1-star National Master will have acquired 700 plus total Points but not yet attained 250 A Points to move to the rank of Life Master.

6. Rating Points

Rating Points are calculated as previous Rating Points x 0.8 plus the total of "A" and "B" Points earned in the immediate past year.

Example

Previous Rating Points	80
x 0.8	64
Total of "A" and "B" Points earned in past year, e.g. 3 A + 17 B	20
New Rating Points	84

The calculation is currently done at 31 December each year and the new Rating Points come into effect as at 1 January, or as soon as possible in that year.

Note: Results not processed by the cut-off date will not be included in the Rating Point calculation.

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7. Master Point Fees

The Board of NZ Bridge sets the fees it charges Regions and Clubs to issue Master Points and may amend these fees from time to time on giving 3 months' Notice in Writing.

The fee structure (+ GST where applicable) is as follows.

- (a) A specified amount per participating Player per Club Session.
- (b) A specified amount per participating Player per Tournament Session.
- (c) A specified amount per "A" Point awarded.

A 10% discount is offered on Tournament sessions provided the full results and all the relevant Master Point information (**page E21**) are received by the NZ Bridge Secretary no later than **one week** from the date of the Tournament. This information is available at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

8. Overseas Master Points and/or Players

- (a) New Zealand has no formal arrangement with any other country for the transfer of Master Points, with the exception of:
 - (i) Gold Points earned by NZ-registered Players at all Australian Bridge Federation Gold Point events are transferred at the rate of:
1 Gold Point = 1 A Point
 - (ii) Red Points earned by NZ-registered Players on Klinger holidays and cruises are transferred at the rate of:
1 Red Point = 1 B Point
 - (iii) "A" Points earned by Australian-registered Players at the National Congress are transferred at a rate determined by the Australian Bridge Federation.
- (b) All overseas-registered Players are welcome to play in New Zealand Tournaments and Club sessions, but, other than for the specific exceptions listed above, receive no Master Points (**Rule 9 on (page E9)**).
- (c) Overseas Players, now resident in New Zealand, when joining the New Zealand Master Point Scheme, may apply to NZ Bridge for recognition of their overseas ranking. Where such recognition is made, the points allocated will be the minimum required to achieve the equivalent New Zealand Master Point rank.
- (d) All overseas Players, whether visitors or new residents, are graded as Open for Tournament play unless clear evidence to the contrary is provided to the NZ Bridge Secretary. Any review of grade is at the sole discretion of the NZ Bridge Board.
- (e) Gold Points earned by NZ-registered Players at all Australian Bridge Federation Gold Point events, and transferred in the year in which they are earned in Australia to New Zealand "A" Points under **(a)** above, are not eligible to be counted for the Baden Wilson Trophy Awards.

ISSUE OF MASTER POINTS

1. Master Point Authorisation

The following bodies are authorised to issue Master Points:

- (a) Clubs;
- (b) Regions affiliated to NZ Bridge;
- (d) NZ Bridge;
- (d) NZ Bridge may transfer Master Points issued by the Australian Bridge Federation as outlined in the relevant provisions on **(page E7)**.

2. All members of a Club are thereby automatically entitled to play for Master Points in any session of play conducted by an authorised body (unless excluded by grading restriction in accordance with 6 and 7 below).

3. Subject only to Clause 7 (c) (iii), every Club must provide for each member of the Club an opportunity to play for Master Points in every session played (excluding those held for teaching purposes).

4. No Player may be issued with Master Points unless he/she is a member of a Club.

5. Participation in a Tournament by a Player who is not an eligible Player will preclude their partner/Team mates from receiving Master Points. This may be overruled at the discretion of the NZ Bridge Board, for example in the case of emergency substitution.

6. Players must not play in, or receive Master Points from, a grade of Tournament lower than that Player's most recent official grade status.

7. A Club has the right to operate a similar rule to 6 above for play in graded sessions within the Club. **Note:** There is a considerable variation in the practice in different Clubs in their interpretation of the rules that govern the issue of Master Points on **graded nights**.

- (a) Players may of course always receive awards in a higher grade of Club play.
- (b) The procedure when completing the input sheet for such an event is to include the Player's name in the correct rank order but to enter the code number "99900" when entering the computer number for the ineligible Player or Players. This effectively keeps all awards in the correct rank order and discards the unwanted Master Points to limbo. The Player's partner must also be excluded.
- (c) Where a Club chooses to operate grade restrictions on its normal nights of play, it can operate one of three systems:
 - (i) award Master Points to all Players on gross scores before any adjustment has been made to the scores for handicap or penalty, **or**
 - (ii) award Master Points to all Players on handicap scores, provided the Club has an established handicap system in place, **or**

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- (iii) apply a system similar to that outlined for the ineligible Player in a Tournament.

Of alternatives (i) and (ii) above, the first is preferred as better reflecting the intent and objectives of the Master Point Scheme.

- 8. When all conditions for the issue of Master Points have been met, Master Points must be issued to all Players who are eligible to receive them.
- 9. The presence in the top placings of a Player ineligible to receive Master Points does not affect the awards to the other eligible Players. The eligible Players must be awarded the same number of Master Points they would have received if all the place getters had been eligible.
- 10. The Club Master Point Secretary or other person designated for the purpose shall prepare result sheets for the award of Master Points at the conclusion of every session of play.
- 11. Session results must be forwarded at least monthly and "A" Point and "B" Point sheets must be forwarded **within one week of the date of a Tournament** to the Secretary of NZ Bridge.

CLUB SESSIONS

Master Points are awarded for Individual or Pairs or Teams play of Duplicate Contract Bridge only (Contract Bridge, where the results are determined from the scores of identical deals). Rubber Bridge results do not qualify for Master Points.

1. Scoring

1.1 The scoring of each deal may be by:

- (a) Gross score, as defined in **Law 77 of The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007**, for total point or cumulative events.
- (b) Net score, being the difference between each score and a reference score (or datum) such as the average, the median, the highest, the lowest, zero, an estimate par score or some other mathematically determined score.
- (c) Match Point score, where each score is compared with the other scores for the same board and two scoring units (match points or half match points) are awarded for each inferior score, one scoring unit is awarded for each equal score and zero scoring units are awarded for each superior score.
- (d) International Match Point score, where on each board the total point difference between the two scores compared is converted to IMPs according to the scale as defined in **Law 78 of The Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2007**.

1.2 When scoring is by a method other than Match Point scoring, the result of a deal is valid only if all Contestants in the same section have played that deal. When scoring is by match points, it is not necessary for all Contestants to play each deal in the section.

1.3 In a Pairs event, depending on the movement used, a section will consist of:

- (a) two groups (the N/S Pairs and the E/W Pairs in a Mitchell movement) scored separately to produce two lists of results, or
- (b) one group (all Pairs in a Howell or a Scrambled Mitchell movement) scored together to produce one list of results.

2. Basic "C" Point Tables

"C" Points are awarded to successful Contestants for each session in accordance with one or other of two Basic Tables of "C" Point awards:

- 1. Basic Table of "C" Point Awards;
- 2. Basic Match Play Table of "C" Point Awards (IMPs, VPs, Point a Board).

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2.1 Basic Table of "C" Point Awards (Duplicate Pairs)

"C" Points are awarded to Contestants who finish in the top third of the placings (highest to lowest) for each section of all sessions of an event. The winners of each section receive **40 C** Points. The other place getters in the top third receive reduced numbers of "C" Points in descending arithmetic progression according to their placings, the lowest award being not fewer than **6 C** Points. Any fractions are rounded to the nearest whole number. "C" Points are awarded on this basis as set out in the following table.

Basic Table					
No. of Contestants	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
3–4	40				
5–7	40	20			
8–10	40	27	13		
11–13	40	30	20	10	
14–16	40	32	24	16	8

For larger numbers of Contestants, an expanded version of this Basic Table is provided on **(page E26)**.

2.1.1 Minimum number of tables

"C" Points awarded in accordance with this table are conditional on there being at least two complete tables in the section concerned.

2.1.2 Minimum number of deals

To qualify for the maximum award of 40 C Points, **at least 20 deals** must be in circulation per session. If between 11 and 19 deals inclusive are played, "C" Points are awarded at half the Basic Table, with any fraction being rounded upwards.

2.1.3 Ties

Contestants who tie receive either an equal portion of the aggregate of the awards for the placings in contention, with any fraction rounded upwards, or **6 C** Points, whichever is higher. (For example, two Contestants tie for 3rd place. They each receive half the aggregate of the awards for 3rd and 4th places.)

2.2 Basic Match Play Table of "C" Point Awards (IMPs, VPs or Point a Board)

In Club events where one Individual, or one Pair or one Team is matched against another for the whole or part of a session, and each such match is scored as a separate entity, "C" Points are awarded to the winners of each such match. A Player receives **2 C** Points for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match won by his/her Team on the basis on which the event is played.

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Basic Match Play Table

No. of Deals	"C" Points	No. of Deals	"C" Points
1	2	6	12
2	4	7	14
3	6	8	16
4	8	9	18
5	10	10	20

For longer matches, an expanded version of this table is given on **(page E25)**.

2.2.1 Ties

A Player receives **1 C** Point for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match tied by his/her Team.

"A" POINT TOURNAMENTS

1. Conditions

Tournaments are approved for the award of "A" Points on condition that:

- (a) entry forms are circulated to all Clubs in the Region of the Club organising the Tournament;
- (b) entry is either
 - (i) open to all grades of Players, **or**
 - (ii) by invitation as specifically approved by the NZ Bridge Board.
- (c) The prescribed minimum number of deals for the following Tournaments is

3A	=	44 deals, Pairs; 48 deals, Teams
5A	=	60 deals
10A	=	72 deals
15A	=	88 deals
20A	=	110 deals

For the prescribed minimum number of deals in circulation – see 3 below (**page E14**).

2. Overall "A" Point Awards (Pairs and Teams)

The winners of an "A" Point Tournament each receive the maximum award allocated. The other place getters receive progressively reduced numbers of "A" Points according to their placings as set out in the Tables (**page E22**).

2.1 Ties

Contestants who tie receive an average of the awards for the placings in contention. (For example, if two Contestants tie for 3rd place, they each receive half the aggregate of the awards for 3rd and 4th places.)

Tournament Organisers should publish, in advance of the contest, rules for the breaking of ties and the allocation of all Master Points for both session placings and overall placings.

2.2 Substitutes (Pairs)

When a substitute has played in a **Pairs** event, any "A" Points earned are apportioned to the Players according to the number of deals each has played, with fractions being rounded to the nearest whole number (**page D80**).

2.3 Team awards

(a) Final placings

When a Team of five or six Players qualifies for "A" Points, each Team member receives "A" Points according to the Team's placing as set out in the Tables (**page E22**). To qualify for the award of "A" Points, a Player must have participated in the play of at least one-quarter of the deals played by his/her Team.

(b) Fractional "A" Points

- (i) If the event requires "line up sheets" to be completed (such as the Interprovincial Finals), only those Players participating in a match shall receive fractional "A" Points if that match is won or tied.
- (ii) If no records are kept of participants in each match, then:
 - all Players of a five-member Team shall receive four-fifths of the full award as determined above for each match won or tied;
 - all Players of a six-member Team shall receive four-sixths of the full award as determined above for each match won or tied.

3. Session Awards – Pairs Tournaments

3.1 "A" Points

In addition to the "A" Points awarded to the top place getters overall, there is also a session award of **1 A** Point to the winners of each session of approved "A" Point Pairs Tournaments. If more than one Pair is first equal in a session, **1 A** Point shall be awarded to all first-equal Pairs. The award is given to the winners of each group in each section (in a Mitchell movement, the N/S winners and E/W winners of each section receive an award of **1 A** Point).

This session award of **1 A** Point is applicable only to Pairs events approved for the issue of "A" Points, is additional to the normal session award of "C" Points and is conditional on at least **20 deals** being in circulation in the session for which the award is made.

3.2 "C" Points

"C" Points are awarded to successful Players in each session of an "A" Point Tournament according to the Basic Table of "C" Point Awards multiplied by a factor of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, as outlined below.

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Factoring of the Basic Table of "C" Point Awards – Pairs

Status of Event	Factoring of Basic Table
Session of any 3A or 5A Point Event	The Basic Table x 2
Session of any 10A Point Event	The Basic Table x 3
Session of any 15A Point Event	The Basic Table x 4
Session of any 20A Point Event	The Basic Table x 5
Session of any 25A Point Event	The Basic Table x 6

The Basic Table (**page E11**) is used for all Duplicate Pairs Tournaments and is factored according to the status of the Tournament.

3.3 Event played in sections

When a field is divided into sections for the convenience of organisation of the event, each section is considered to be a separate competition for the award of Master Points.

4. Session Awards – Match Play Tournaments (Teams)

In addition to the "A" Points awarded to the top place getters overall, "A" Points or fractions of "A" Points are awarded to the winners of each match in approved "A" Point Match Play Tournaments according to the Basic Match Play Table of "A" Point Awards. The Basic Match Play Table Awards are multiplied by a factor of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, as outlined below.

4.1 Basic Match Play Table of Session "A" Point Awards

In approved 3A, 5A, 10A, 15A, 20A and 25A Point events where one Individual or one Pair or one Team is matched against another for the whole or part of a session, and each such match is scored as a separate entity, "A" Points are awarded to the winners of each such match. A Player receives **0.02 A** Points for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match won by his/her Team.

Basic Match Play Table

No. of Deals	"A" Points	No. of Deals	"A" Points
	0.02	7	0.14
2	0.04	8	0.16
3	0.06	9	0.18
4	0.08	10	0.20
5	0.10	11	0.22
6	0.12	12	0.24

The Basic "A" Point Table used for all approved "A" Point Match Play Tournaments may be subject to factoring according to the status of the event.

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Factoring of the Basic Table of Session "A" Point Awards

Status of Event	Factoring of Basic Table
Match of a 3A or 5A Point Event	The Basic Table x 1
Match of a 10A Point Event	The Basic Table x 2
Match of a 15A Point Event	The Basic Table x 3
Match of a 20A Point Event	The Basic Table x 4
Match of a 25A Point Event	The Basic Table x 5

4.2 Ties

A Player receives **0.01 A** Points for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match in an approved "A" Point Tournament tied by his/her Team.

4.3 "A" Points or "C" Points only for match win

If "A" Points are awarded for a match win, **no** "C" Points are awarded.

5. Scoring Errors

Awards are subject to correction of any scoring error discovered during the correction period (**page B27**) and to changes as a result of a decision of the on-site Appeals Committee (**page B29**).

"B" POINT TOURNAMENTS

1. Conditions

The award of "B" Points is conditional on:

- (a) entry forms being circulated to all Clubs in the Region of the Club organising the Tournament;
- (b) the prescribed minimum number of deals being in circulation.

Tournaments of any grade may be approved for the award of "B" Points, but the number of "B" Points awarded depends on the grading.

8B Open Pairs Tournaments **44** deals or more; Teams, **48** deals or more.

5B Intermediate Pairs Tournaments **44** deals or more; Teams, **48** deals or more.

3B Junior Pairs Tournaments **44** deals or more; Teams, **48** deals or more.

2. Overall "B" Point Awards (Pairs and Teams)

The winners of a Tournament approved for the award of "B" Points each receive the maximum award allocated. The other place getters receive progressively reduced numbers of "B" Points according to their placings as set out in the Tables (**page E22**).

2.1 Ties

Contestants who tie receive an average of the awards for the placings in contention. (For example, if two Contestants tie for 3rd place, they each receive half the aggregate of the awards for 3rd and 4th places.)

Tournament Organisers should publish, for the information of all Contestants in advance of the contest, rules for the breaking of ties and the allocation of all Master Points, both session placings and overall placings.

2.2 Substitutes

When a substitute has played in a Pairs event, any "B" Points earned are apportioned to the Players according to the number of deals each has played, with fractions being rounded to the nearest whole number (**page D80**).

2.3 Team awards

When a Team of five or six Players qualifies for the award of "B" Points, each Team member receives "B" Points according to the Team's placing as set out in the Tables (**page E22**). To qualify for the award of "B" Points, a Player must have participated in the play of at least one-quarter of the deals played by his/her Team.

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3. Session Awards – Pairs Tournaments

3.1 "B" Points

In addition to the "B" Points awarded to the top place getters overall in approved "B" Point Tournaments, there is also a session award of **1 B** Point to the winners of each session of an approved "B" Point Pairs Tournament. If more than one Pair is first equal in a session, **1 B** Point shall be awarded to all first-equal Pairs. This award is given to the winners of each group in a section. (In a Mitchell movement, the N/S winners and the E/W winners of each section receive an award of **1 B** Point.)

This session award of **1 B** Point is applicable only to Pairs events approved for the issue of "B" Points, is additional to the normal session award of "C" Points and is conditional upon at least 20 deals being in circulation during the session for which the award is made.

3.2 "C" Points

For all Tournaments approved for the award of "B" Points, session awards of "C" Points are made according to the Basic "C" Point Tables (**page E26**).

The Basic Table (**page E11**) is used for all Duplicate Pairs Tournaments and is factored according to the status of the Tournament.

Factoring of the Basic "C" Point Table

Status of Event	Factoring of Basic Table
Session of any 3B or 5B Point Event	The Basic Table
Session of any Open 8B Point Event	The Basic Table x 2

4. Session Awards – Match Play Tournaments (Teams)

In approved 3B, 5B or 8B Point Tournaments where one Individual or one Pair or one Team is matched against another for the whole or part of a session, and each such match is scored as a separate entity, "C" Points are awarded to the winners of each such match. A Player receives **2 C** Points for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match won by his/her Team on the basis on which the event is played.

See the Basic Match Play Table (**page E12**).

4.1 Ties

A Player receives **1 C** Point for each deal in which he/she has participated in a match in an approved 3B, 5B or 8B Point Tournament tied by his/her Team.

5. Scoring Errors

Awards are subject to correction of any scoring error discovered during the correction period (**page B27**) and to changes as a result of a decision of the on-site Appeals Committee (**page B29**).

MASTER POINT SECRETARY ADMINISTRATION

1. Basic Duties

The Club Master Point Secretary must:

- (a) Ensure that the Club is currently affiliated to NZ Bridge.
- (b) Ensure that the Club has an updated list of members with computer numbers.
- (c) Allocate computer numbers as supplied by NZ Bridge to new members and send the appropriate addition form to NZ Bridge.
- (d) Ensure that all Club session results are sent at the end of each month to the NZ Bridge office by:
 - (i) Computer disc
Discs are returned to the Club as soon as they have been processed together with an error list (if appropriate) noting non-members, unallocated computer numbers etc. These errors can be corrected before the processing run if the amendments / adjustments are returned to NZ Bridge immediately.
 - (ii) E-mail
An error list (as above) will be returned by e-mail.
 - (iii) Completing the standard Master Point Session Result Sheets.

2. NZ Bridge Master Point Forms

Any of the following information may be sent by e-mail providing all the necessary detail is included.

The Club Master Point Secretary must ensure that the Club has an adequate supply of all NZ Bridge Master Point forms, which can be downloaded from the Master Points section of the website at www.nzbridge.co.nz.

2.1 Master Point Input Forms

Club and Tournament Session results
Tournament Final Master Point results
Teams (Club and Tournament) results

2.2 Maintenance Forms

Addition of Club Member
Resignation of Club Member
Alteration of Members' Information
Master Point Adjustment Sheet

3. How to Fill in Result Sheets

It is essential that both names and computer numbers of Players appear on all sheets.

3.1 Session Result Sheet

Complete all boxes in the sheet header. Complete computer numbers and names in the appropriate finishing order. There is no necessity to list % or points. Highlight equal placings.

3.2 Tournament Master Point Input Sheet

This form must be used for all Pairs Tournaments and all boxes must be completed.

The form must be accompanied by Session Result Sheets (one per session) or the appropriate disc or computer-produced sheets, plus two copies of the overall results. It is essential that both **names** and **computer numbers** appear on all sheets.

3.3 Teams Result Input Sheet

To be used for both Club and Tournament Teams events. Instructions for completion are provided. There are also continuation sheets.

4. Annual, Quarterly and Monthly Processing

Master Points check printouts are processed at the end of each quarter together with invoices and cost reports, e.g. (March, June, September and December). A monthly run (without printing) is also done and individual Players can obtain their updated results from the Master Points section of the NZ Bridge website www.nzbridge.co.nz. The annual run, done at 31 December, includes the Master Point Certificates and Tournament Grade Previews.

Meaningful output will be obtained only if input from Clubs is received on a regular and timely basis, i.e. at the end of each month. Master Point Secretaries should therefore:

- (a) forward all completed Session Result Sheets to the NZ Bridge Secretary on a **monthly** basis;
- (b) check the printout listings received from the computer after each run;
- (c) make any corrections that are necessary on the appropriate amendment forms.

Note – This does not apply to Tournament Results, which should be sent to the NZ Bridge Secretary within one week of the Tournament date.

5. Tournament Master Point Secretary

The Tournament Master Point Secretary must:

- (a) Check the entitlement to Master Points from the authorisation received from NZ Bridge through Regions. This is available from the National Tournament Schedule.
- (b) Prepare a Tournament Master Point Input Sheet using the appropriate Master Point Table (**page E22**). An electronic equivalent is acceptable.
- (c) Prepare either manual or electronic Session Result Sheets showing computer numbers and names. If using the NZ Bridge Scoring Program, the Tournament package must be used for scoring.
- (d) Prepare an overall result sheet for the Tournament, listing all Players, their Home Clubs and the results.
- (e) Arrange despatch of all completed result sheets (**names and computer numbers**) to the NZ Bridge Secretary, PO Box 5242, Palmerston North 4441, **within one week of the date of the event**. All information, overall and sessions (**including computer numbers**), **must** be received before Master Points for Tournaments will be processed.
- (f) Further copies of the result listing should be sent to the Regions and Clubs of participants.

TABLES OF TOURNAMENT AND SESSION AWARDS

The Tables on the following pages indicate the number of Master Points issued to Players in accordance with these rules.

1. Instructions
 - (a) Find the appropriate Table as indicated in **3** below.
 - (b) In all events, the scales refer to the number of Contestants (i.e. the number of Pairs in a Pairs event, or the number of Teams in a Teams event).
 - (c) To find the number of Master Points awarded to each Player, read off the awards listed alongside the number of Contestants.
 - (d) For Individual events, use the Pairs scale and issue the Player awards accordingly.
 - (e) For events where deals are replicated across two or more sections and a large number of Contestants are scored as one group, a special expanded version of the Basic Table of "C" Point Awards is provided on **(page E26)**.
 - (f) "A" Point Tables for Pairs and Teams events are separated and are printed to a maximum of 60 Pairs. For scales above 60 Pairs, contact NZ Bridge.
2. Tournaments sanctioned by NZ Bridge are divided into the following categories and are conducted by, or on behalf of, the Board of NZ Bridge.
 - 2.1 National events **(page C4)**
 - (a) These events are held annually at the National Congress and include:

New Zealand Pairs Championship
New Zealand Teams Championship
New Zealand Mixed Pairs Championship
New Zealand Intermediate Pairs Championship
Other additional events
 - (b) The standard Tables for the award of "A" Points and "B" Points may be varied to suit the size of the fields and the method of running the events.
 - (c) Tables are for information only.
 - 2.2 Island events **(page C4)**

New Zealand Island Pairs Championship – **20A**
New Zealand Island Teams Championship – **20A**

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2.3 New Zealand Championship events

New Zealand Pairs Championship – **15A**
 New Zealand Teams Championship – **15A**
 New Zealand Swiss Pairs Championship – **15A**

2.4 Regional events (page C5)

Regional Provincial Pairs Championships – **10A**
 Main Regional Pairs or Teams Championships
 Regional Interprovincial Teams Trials (Open, Women, Senior and Intermediate)
 Regional Men's, Women's or Mixed Pairs – **5A**
 Regional Teams Tournaments – **5A**
 Regional Congress events
 Metropolitan / Area events

2.5 Local events (page C6)

Open Pairs and Teams Tournaments – **5A**
 Open / Multigrade Pairs and Teams Tournaments – **3A**
 Open / Multigrade Pairs and Teams Tournaments – **8B**
 Intermediate Pairs and Teams Tournaments – **5B**
 Junior Pairs and Teams Tournaments – **3B**

3. Index of Tournament Awards

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- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 3.4 | Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points | E27–E36 |
| 3.5 | National events | |
| | National Congress Master Point Awards (available on request). | |

SESSION

"C" Points: Basic Table

No. of Contestants	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
3-4	40								
5-7	40	20							
8-10	40	27	13						
11-13	40	30	20	10					
14-16	40	32	24	16	8				
17-19	40	33	27	20	13	7			
20-22	40	34	28	22	17	12	6		
23-25	40	35	30	25	21	16	11	6	
26-28	40	36	32	27	23	19	15	10	6

SESSION

"C" Points: Basic Match Play Table

No. of deals per match	C Points	No. of deals per match	C Points	No. of deals per match	C Points	No. of deals per match	C Points
1	2	16	32	31	62	46	92
2	4	17	34	32	64	47	94
3	6	18	36	33	66	48	96
4	8	19	38	34	68	49	98
5	10	20	40	35	70	50	100
6	12	21	42	36	72	51	102
7	14	22	44	37	74	52	104
8	16	23	46	38	76	53	106
9	18	24	48	39	78	54	108
10	20	25	50	40	80	55	110
11	22	26	52	41	82	56	112
12	24	27	54	42	84	57	114
13	26	28	56	43	86	58	116
14	28	29	58	44	88	59	118
15	30	30	60	45	90	60	120

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EXPANDED "C" POINT TABLE

No. of Pairs	C Point Awards
3-4	40
5-7	40 20
8-10	40 27 13
11-13	40 30 20 10
14-16	40 32 24 16 8
17-19	40 33 27 20 13 7
20-22	40 34 28 22 17 12 6
23-25	40 35 30 25 21 16 11 6
26-28	40 36 32 27 23 19 15 10 6
29-31	40 36 32 29 25 21 17 14 10 6
32-34	40 37 33 30 26 23 20 16 13 9 6
35-37	40 37 34 31 28 25 21 18 15 12 9 6
38-40	40 37 34 31 29 26 23 20 17 14 12 9 6
41-43	40 37 35 32 30 27 24 22 19 16 14 11 9 6
44-46	40 38 35 33 30 28 25 23 21 18 16 13 11 8 6
47-49	40 38 35 33 31 29 26 24 22 20 17 15 13 11 8 6
50-52	40 38 36 34 32 29 27 25 23 21 19 17 15 12 10 8 6
53-55	40 38 36 34 32 30 28 26 24 22 20 18 16 14 12 10 8 6
56-58	40 38 36 34 32 31 29 27 25 23 21 19 17 15 14 12 10 8 6
59-61	40 38 36 35 33 31 29 27 26 24 22 20 19 17 15 13 11 10 8 6
62-64	40 38 37 35 33 32 30 28 26 25 23 21 20 18 16 15 13 11 9 8 6
65-67	40 38 37 35 34 32 30 29 27 25 24 22 21 19 17 16 14 12 11 9 8 6
68-70	40 38 37 35 34 32 31 29 28 26 25 23 21 20 18 17 15 14 12 11 9 8 6
71-73	40 39 37 36 34 33 31 30 28 27 25 24 22 21 19 18 16 15 13 12 10 9 7 6
74-76	40 39 37 36 34 33 31 30 29 27 26 24 23 22 20 19 17 16 14 13 12 10 9 7 6
77-79	40 39 37 36 35 33 32 30 29 28 26 25 24 22 21 20 18 17 16 14 13 11 10 9 7 6
80-82	40 39 37 36 35 33 32 31 30 28 27 26 24 23 22 20 19 18 16 15 14 13 11 10 9 7 6
83-85	40 39 37 36 35 34 32 31 30 29 27 26 25 24 22 21 20 19 17 16 15 14 12 11 10 9 7 6
86-88	40 39 38 36 35 34 33 31 30 29 28 27 25 24 23 22 21 19 18 17 16 14 13 12 11 10 8 7 6
89-91	40 39 38 36 35 34 33 32 31 29 28 27 26 25 24 22 21 20 19 18 17 15 14 13 12 11 10 8 7 6
92-94	40 39 38 37 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 9 8 7 6
95-97	40 39 38 37 36 35 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 11 10 9 8 7 6
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110-112	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 7 6 6
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128-130	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 13 12 12 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 7 6 6
131-133	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 14 13 13 12 12 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 7 6 6
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137-139	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 16 15 15 14 14 13 13 12 12 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 7 6 6
140-142	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 17 16 16 15 15 14 14 13 13 12 12 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 7 6 6
143-145	40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 18 17 17 16 16 15 15 14 14 13 13 12 12 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 7 6 6

20A POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** New Zealand Island Pairs Championship – 20A
2. Must play a minimum of **110** deals.
3. **1 A** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 5
5. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
14–17	5	20	16	12	8	4													
18–21	6	20	17	13	9	5	2												
22–25	7	20	18	14	10	7	4	1											
26–29	8	20	18	15	12	9	6	3	1										
30–33	9	20	18	16	13	10	7	5	3	1									
34–37	10	20	18	16	14	12	10	7	5	3	1								
38–41	11	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	7	5	3	1							
42–45	12	20	19	17	15	13	11	9	8	6	4	2	1						
46–49	13	20	19	18	16	14	12	10	9	8	6	4	2	1					
50–53	14	20	19	18	17	15	14	13	11	9	7	5	3	2	1				
54–57	15	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	12	12	10	8	6	4	2	1			
58–61	16	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	6	4	3	2	1		
62–65	17	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	7	6	4	3	2	1	
66–69	18	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

1. Option One – The Tournament is played in two stages – a Qualifying Stage and a Final / Plate Stage (both barometered) – Master Point awards are as follows.
 - (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
 - (b) **Final Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
 - (c) **Plate Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.

2. Option Two – The Tournament is played in two stages – a Qualifying Stage and a Final / Plate Stage (both barometered) together with a separate Consolation event in which additional entries are accepted – Master Point awards are as follows.
- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
 - (b) **Final Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
 - (c) **Plate Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.
 - (d) **3A Consolation Event:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" points awarded as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the Consolation event. Points for overall placings are awarded as per the standard 3A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the Consolation event. A minimum of 44 boards must be played.

20A POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** New Zealand Island Teams Championship
2. Must play a minimum of **110** deals.
3. Fractional "A" Points according to: Basic Match Play Table x 4
4. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10–12	5	20	16	12	8	4													
13–15	6	20	17	13	9	5	2												
16–18	7	20	18	14	10	7	4	1											
19–21	8	20	18	15	12	9	6	3	1										
22–24	9	20	18	16	13	10	7	5	3	1									
25–27	10	20	18	16	14	12	10	7	5	3	1								
28–30	11	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	7	5	3	1							
31–33	12	20	19	17	15	13	11	9	8	6	4	2	1						
34–36	13	20	19	18	16	14	12	10	9	8	6	4	2	1					
37–39	14	20	19	18	17	15	14	13	11	9	7	5	3	2	1				
40–42	15	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1				
43–45	16	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	6	4	3	2	1		
46–48	17	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	7	6	4	3	2	1	
49–51	18	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	10	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

The Tournament must be played in two stages – a Qualifying stage and a Final / Plate stage – Master Point awards are as follows.

- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the Basic Match Play Table for the **Total** field.
- (b) **Final Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall Placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
- (c) **Plate Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 20A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.

15A POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** New Zealand Pairs Championships
2. Must play a minimum of **88** deals.
3. **1 A** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 4
5. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
3–10	3	15	8	4																						
11–14	4	15	11	8	4																					
15–18	5	15	12	9	6	3																				
19–22	6	15	13	10	8	5	3																			
23–26	7	15	13	11	9	6	4	2																		
27–30	9	15	13	11	9	8	6	4	2	1																
31–34	11	15	13	12	10	8	7	5	3	2	1	1														
35–38	13	15	14	12	11	9	8	6	5	3	2	1	1	1												
39–42	15	15	14	12	11	10	8	7	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1										
43–46	17	15	14	13	11	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	1								
47–50	19	15	14	13	12	10	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
51–54	21	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				
55–58	23	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
59–62	25	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

1. Where a Tournament is played in two stages – a Qualifying Stage and a Final / Plate Stage – Master Point awards are as follows.
 - (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
 - (b) **Final Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 15A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.

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- (c) **Plate Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 15A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.
2. Where a Tournament is played in two stages – a Qualifying Stage and then a Final and a separate Consolation event, with additional entries accepted – Master Point awards are as follows.
- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
 - (b) **Final Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 15A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
 - (c) **Consolation Event:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the Consolation event for a 3A Point event. Overall placings as per the standard 3A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the Consolation event. **A minimum of 44 boards must be played.**

15A POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** New Zealand Teams Championships
2. Must play a minimum of **88** deals.
3. Fractional "A" Points according to: Basic Table x 3
4. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3–6	3	15	8	4													
7–9	4	15	11	8	4												
10–12	5	15	12	9	6	3											
13–15	6	15	13	10	8	5	3										
16–18	7	15	13	11	9	6	4	2									
19–21	8	15	13	11	9	8	6	4	2								
22–24	9	15	13	12	10	8	7	5	3	2							
25–27	10	15	14	12	11	9	8	6	5	3	2						
28–30	11	15	14	12	11	10	8	7	5	4	3	1					
31–33	12	15	14	13	11	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	1				
34–36	13	15	14	13	12	10	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	1			
37–39	14	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	2	1		
40–42	15	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
43–45	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

Where a Tournament is played in two stages (a Qualifying Stage and a Final / Plate Stage) rather than a straight Swiss, Master Point awards are as follows.

- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
- (b) **Final Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 15A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
- (c) **Plate Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 15A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.

15A POINT – SWISS PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** New Zealand Swiss Pairs Events
2. Must play a minimum of **88** deals.
3. Awarding of Match Play Fractional "A" Points as per 15A Point Teams Standard Table **(page E32)**.
4. Awarding of Overall "A" Points as per 15A Point Pairs Standard Table **(page E30)**.

10A POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Provincial Pairs Championships
Main Regional Pairs Championships
Regional Congress Events
2. Must play a minimum of **72** deals.
3. **1 A** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 3
5. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3–10	3	10	5	3													
11–14	4	10	7	5	3												
15–18	5	10	8	6	4	2											
19–22	6	10	8	7	5	3	2										
23–26	7	10	9	7	6	4	3	1									
27–30	8	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	1								
31–34	9	10	9	8	7	6	4	3	2	1							
35–38	10	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1						
39–42	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1					
43–46	12	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	2	1	1				
47–50	13	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1			
51–54	14	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1		
55–58	15	10	9	8	7	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	
59–62	16	10	9	8	7	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

Where a Tournament is played in two stages (a Qualifying Stage and a Final / Plate Stage) rather than a straight Pairs movement, Master Point awards are as follows.

- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
- (b) **Final Stage:** Session "C" Points and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 10A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.

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- (c) **Plate Stage:** Session "C" and Session "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 10A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.

10A POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Provincial Teams Championships
2. Must play a minimum of **72** deals.
3. Fractional "A" Points according to: Basic Table x 2
4. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
3–6	3	10	5	3													
7–9	4	10	7	5	3												
10–12	5	10	8	6	4	2											
13–15	6	10	8	7	5	3	2										
16–18	7	10	9	7	6	4	3	1									
19–21	8	10	9	8	6	5	4	3	1								
22–24	9	10	9	8	7	6	4	3	2	1							
25–27	10	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1						
28–30	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1					
31–33	12	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	2	1	1				
34–36	13	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1			
37–39	14	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1		
40–42	15	10	9	8	7	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	
43–45	16	10	9	8	7	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Qualifying / Final and Plate Division of Master Points

Where a Tournament is played in two stages – a Qualifying stage and a Final / Plate stage – Master Point awards are as follows.

- (a) **Qualifying Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the **Total** field.
- (b) **Final Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Final** section. Overall placings as per the standard 10A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field.
- (c) **Plate Stage:** Fractional "A" Points as per the standard Table for the number of Contestants in the **Plate** section. Overall placings as per the standard 10A Point Table for the number of Contestants in the **Total** field, i.e. "A" Points for the Plate Stage will commence from the last placing of the Final Stage.

10A POINT – SWISS PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Swiss Pairs Events – 10A
2. Must play a minimum of **72** deals.
3. Awarding of Match Play Fractional "A" Points as per 10A Point Teams Standard Table **(page E36)**.
4. Awarding of Overall "A" Points as per 10A Point Pairs Standard Table **(page E34)**.

INTERPROVINCIAL TEAMS TRIALS

1. **Applicable to:** Interprovincial Trials (for running on either Pairs or Teams basis).
2. Regions may award Master Points only if trials are open to all registered members of the Region. Should Regions wish to restrict entry (other than for normal reasons of over-subscription or needing an even number of tables) or to partially select teams, then **no** Master Points may be awarded.
3. Must play a minimum of **60** deals for Open, Women and Senior Trials.
Must play a minimum of **44** deals for Intermediate Trials.
4. If the event is run as a Teams event and Master Points are awarded for the winners of matches, then Session "A" Points are awarded according to the Basic Table x 1.

If the event is run as a Pairs event, then Session "C" Points are awarded according to:
 Basic Table x 2 (Open, Women, Senior);
 Basic Table (Intermediate).

	Open / Women / Senior	Intermediate	
	(Proportional on field if fewer than six Pairs or Teams)		
1st	5 A	5 B	Points
2nd	3 A	3 B	Points
3rd	1 A	1 B	Point

INTERPROVINCIAL TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

	Open	Women / Senior	Intermediate	
1st	15 A	10 A	5 A	Points
2nd	8 A	5 A	3 A	Points
3rd	4 A	3 A	1 A	Points

5A POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Regional Men's, Women's, Mixed Pairs Club Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **60** deals.
3. **1 A** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 2
5. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3–10	2	5	1												
11–20	4	5	3	1	1										
21–30	6	5	3	1	1	1	1								
31–40	8	5	4	2	1	1	1	1	1						
41–44	9	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1					
45–48	10	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1				
49–52	12	5	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
53–56	13	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
57–60	14	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

5A POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Regional Teams
Club Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **60** deals.
3. Fractional "A" Points according to: Basic Table x 1
4. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3–5	2	5	1										
6–8	3	5	3	1									
9–11	4	5	3	1	1								
12–14	5	5	4	2	1	1							
15–17	6	5	4	3	2	1	1						
18–20	7	5	4	3	2	1	1	1					
21–23	8	5	4	3	2	2	1	1	1				
24–26	10	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1		
27–29	12	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

5A POINT – SWISS PAIRS EVENT

- 1. Applicable to:** Swiss Pairs Events – 5A
- 2.**Must play a minimum of **60** deals.
- 3.**Awarding of Match Play Fractional "A" Points as per 5A Point Teams Standard Table **(page E40)**.
- 4.**Awarding of Overall "A" Points as per 5A Point Pairs Standard Table **(page E39)**.

3A POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Club Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **44** deals.
3. **1 A** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 2
5. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3–10	2	3	1												
11–20	4	3	2	1	1										
21–30	6	3	2	1	1	1	1								
31–40	8	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1						
41–44	9	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1					
45–48	10	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				
49–52	12	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
53–56	13	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
57–60	14	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

3A POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Restricted Regional Teams Events
Club Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **48** deals.
3. Match "A" Points according to: Basic Match Play Table x 1
4. Overall "A" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3–5	1	3								
6–8	2	3	2							
9–11	3	3	2	1						
12–14	4	3	2	1	1					
15–17	5	3	2	2	1	1				
18–20	6	3	2	2	1	1	1			
21–23	7	3	2	2	2	1	1	1		
24–26	8	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	
27–29	9	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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3A POINT TABLE – PAIRS

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10	2	3	1																						
20	4	3	2	1	1																				
30	6	3	2	1	1	1	1																		
40	8	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1																
44	9	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1															
48	10	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1														
52	12	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1												
56	13	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
60	14	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1										
64	15	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1									
68	16	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								
72	17	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1							
76	18	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
80	19	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					
84	20	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				
88	21	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
92	22	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
96	23	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
100	24	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

3A POINT TABLE – TEAMS

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
5	1	3															
8	2	3	2														
11	3	3	2	1													
14	4	3	2	1	1												
17	5	3	2	2	1	1											
20	6	3	2	2	1	1	1										
23	7	3	2	2	2	1	1	1									
26	8	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1								
29	9	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1							
32	10	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1						
35	11	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1					
38	12	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1				
41	13	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1			
44	14	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		
47	15	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
51	16	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

8B POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Open Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **44** deals.
3. **1 B** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both NS and EW winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. **1 B** Point awarded to the highest placed all Intermediate / Intermediate and Junior / Junior Pairs who finish outside the placings where overall Master Points are awarded.
Note: Master Point Secretaries need to clearly identify the Pairs in their return so that the awards can be applied
5. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 2
6. Overall "B" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3-10	2	8	4												
11-20	4	8	5	2	1										
21-30	6	8	6	4	2	1	1								
31-40	8	8	7	5	3	2	1	1	1						
41-44	9	8	7	5	4	3	1	1	1	1					
45-48	10	8	7	6	5	4	3	1	1	1	1				
49-52	12	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1		
53-56	13	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
57-60	14	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

8B POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. Applicable to: Open Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **48** deals.
3. "C" Points according to: Basic Match Play Table x 2
4. Overall "B" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3-5	1	8								
6-8	2	8	5							
9-11	3	8	5	2						
12-14	4	8	6	4	2					
15-17	5	8	7	5	3	2				
18-20	6	8	7	5	4	3	1			
21-23	7	8	7	6	5	4	3	1		
24-26	8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
27-29	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

5B POINT – PAIRS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Club Intermediate Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **44** deals.
3. **1 B** Point awarded to each session winner in each section.
(To both NS and EW winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 1
5. Overall "B" Points according to the following table.

Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3–10	2	5	3												
11–20	4	5	3	1	1										
21–30	6	5	4	2	1	1	1								
31–40	8	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1						
41–44	9	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1					
45–48	10	5	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1				
49–52	12	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		
53–56	13	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	
57–60	14	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

5B POINT – TEAMS EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Club Intermediate Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of **48** deals.
3. "C" Points according to: Basic Match Play Table x 1
4. Overall "B" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3-5	1	5								
6-8	2	5	3							
9-11	3	5	3	1						
12-14	4	5	4	2	1					
15-17	5	5	4	3	2	1				
18-20	6	5	4	3	2	1	1			
21-23	7	5	4	3	2	2	1	1		
24-26	8	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	
27-29	9	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

3B POINT EVENT

1. **Applicable to:** Club Junior Tournaments
2. Must play a minimum of: **44** deals, Pairs; **48** deals, Teams.
3. **1 B** Point awarded to each session winner in each section in Pairs events only.
(To both N/S and E/W winners in each session where appropriate.)
4. Session "C" Points according to: Basic Table x 1
5. Overall "B" Points according to the following table.

Teams	Pairs	Places	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3-5	3-10	1	3													
6-8	11-20	2	3	2												
9-11	21-30	3	3	2	1											
12-14	31-40	4	3	2	1	1										
15-17	41-44	5	3	2	2	1	1									
18-20	45-48	6	3	2	2	1	1	1								
21-23	49-52	7	3	2	2	2	1	1	1							
24-26	53-56	8	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1						
27-29	57-60	9	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1					
30-32	61-64	10	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1				
33-35	65-68	11	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1			
36-38	69-72	12	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1		
39-41	73-76	13	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	
42-44	77-80	14	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14