

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 bona 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.