

28 August 2020

BULLETIN- INTERNATIONAL TEAMS 2021

As I write, Auckland is still at level 3 with the promise of joining the rest of the country at level 2 in the next few days. Face to face bridge is on hold. We do not know what the future will bring but we do want to make plans as far as we are able for the return of international bridge.

The WBF has announced that at this stage the World Bridge Team Championships will be held in 2021. We presume, as in the past, that the timing will be between August and October. In case there is any confusion this event will comprise:

- Bermuda Bowl Open Teams
- Venice Cup Women's Teams
- d'Orsi Senior Trophy Seniors Teams
- The Wuhan Cup Mixed Teams

We expect that New Zealand will enter a team for all 4 events.

NZB has decided that we should now form a squad of players from which the teams will be chosen to contest the event, assuming that the world may be a safe place to travel by then. We invite partnerships to enter by submitting by email their names, contact details and NZB number to the Secretary by 18th September. If you have been in a squad previously with the same partner, you do not need to submit further information at this stage. If you are applying to enter for the first time, or have a different partner, we would like a CV covering the last year. Further information, including signing a Representation Agreement, will be necessary should you be chosen for a team. We will advise applicants whether they have been accepted into the squad by the end of September.



We would welcome entries from pairs who may think they are not at international level yet but aspire to play for New Zealand especially in the Open and Women's categories. Experience gained from mixing with experienced international players will be invaluable for the future.

The teams to represent New Zealand will be determined by the Selectors.

We hope to be able to appoint a National Coach soon and that person will spend considerable time with the squad. We also plan to have a specific weekend of competitive bridge for the squad early in the New Year.

As in the past, squad pairs will be encouraged to play frequently together over the course of the next year, including playing in major events such as the North and South Island teams. Money may be made available to subsidise the cost of air travel to these events.

Regards

Derek Evennett
Chef de Mission