



North Shore Bridge Club Inc

Club Rules relating to:-

**SUBSTITUTION, AUGMENTATION, ELIGIBILITY & LATE ENTRIES
IN CONGRESSES AND CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

31st August 2011

SUBSTITUTION, AUGMENTATION, ELIGIBILITY & LATE ENTRIES IN CONGRESSES AND CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

1. Preamble

The objective of these rules is to maintain a level playing field throughout an event in the interest of fairness to all participants.

2. Acronyms

ABF: Australian Bridge Federation

NSBC: North Shore Bridge Club

NSBCC: NSBC Committee

NSWBA: NSW Bridge Association

3. General

The Substitution Rules of the NSWBA have been adopted by NSBC with minor variations to suit. **Such variations are highlighted in Red.**

4. Substitution, Augmentation, Eligibility & Late Entries

- 4.1. The number of substitutions allowed in any tournament shall be as provided in the Substitution Rules of the NSWBA as set out hereunder. Emergency substitutions not covered by the Regulations may be allowed for substantial cause by a special ruling of the Director subject in such cases to such terms as the Director may impose. In the last resort, the Director may take whatever action necessary to keep the tournament in motion.
- 4.2. The Director shall report to the Tournament Committee any instance where he is of the opinion that the substitution was outside of the Regulations. The Tournament Committee may treat a substitution outside the Regulations without reasonable cause as an unauthorised withdrawal.
- 4.3. Where an event or sections of an event are restricted to a particular category (*e.g.* to Men's Pairs, Mixed Teams and so on) or where prizes are available to the best performances by players in a restricted category the pair or team in question must play throughout the event so that at all times the members of the pair or team (including substitutes) actually competing fall within the restricted category in question.

4.4. Substitution Rules - Preliminary

4.4.1 Terminology

Unit means the original team, pair or individual, but includes augmented players (in the case of teams events), and players who become permanent (see clause 4.5.5). For a teams event, a unit shall consist of four, five or six members. For a pairs event, a unit shall consist of two members.

Substitute means a non-unit player who represents that unit for one session or a part thereof.

Substitution means the replacement of a unit member by a substitute for one session or a part thereof.

Stage of event means those successive sessions where the size of the field which is eligible to win the competition is not reduced (excluding reduction due to disqualification or withdrawal). In partial knock-out events, all successive knock-out sessions shall constitute the one stage.

Equivalent standard means that degree of equivalence where the ability of the substituting pair is neither significantly higher nor significantly lower than that of the substituted pair. In determining the degree of equivalence, masterpoint rank need not be the determining factor and the relative experience of the partnerships and players should be taken into account.

Ineligible substitutes include those that have entered in the same stage of the competition, those still competing in the competition and those who would not have been eligible to enter the competition.

Altered score is either the actual score obtained in a session, or the average of all the other scores which the unit obtained in that stage of the competition, or the complement of the opponent's score for that stage of the event, whichever is least.

Travel time means the time reasonably allowed for travel prior to and returning from a representative or ABF Gold Point event held interstate or overseas.

- 4.4.2 It is a condition of entry to all **NSWBA NSBC** events that each entrant is obliged to play in all sessions, or arrange a substitute if unable to play. The Director should be notified of this substitution ~~at least 24 hours before the relevant session~~ prior to the commencement of the relevant session and be provided with a completed substitution form prior to the completion of the first round of the session. The entrant shall make every effort to find a substitute of equivalent standard, as defined in these Rules.

- 4.4.3 Each disqualified unit shall be obliged to play in the remaining sessions of that stage of the event, unless the Director, in conjunction with the Tournament Committee, expels the unit from the event.
- 4.4.4 The unit is responsible for the payment of all table money, notwithstanding the use of a substitute.

4.5. Substitution

- 4.5.1 Limits to the number of substitutions permitted in a stage of an event.

No. of sessions in stage (<i>n</i>)	Pairs events (includes Butler)	Teams events
1	No substitutions	No substitutions
2	One substitution	One substitution
3	Two substitutions	Two substitutions
4	Two substitutions	Two substitutions
5	Three substitutions; the unit must play as a pair in three sessions	Three substitutions
6	Four substitutions; the unit must play as a pair in four sessions	Four substitutions
7	Four substitutions; the unit must play as a pair in four sessions; each player must play at least five times	Five substitutions; four sessions must be substitute-free
8	Four substitutions; the unit must play as a pair in five sessions; each player must play at least six times	Six substitutions; five sessions must be substitute-free
9+	The unit must play as a pair in at least 60% of the sessions; each player must play in at least two thirds of the sessions	(<i>n</i> -2) substitutions; the unit must play as a team in at least 60% of the sessions

- 4.5.2 Any unit which does not comply with clause 4.5.1 in respect of a competition will be disqualified except as provided under clause 4.6.4.

- 4.5.3 If a legal substitution takes the form of:

- (a) a substitute pair in a pairs session, or
- (b) three or four substitutes in a teams session, or
- (c) a substitute in an individual session,

then the Director must consider awarding an altered score and record his decision in writing on the substitution form referred to in clause 4.6.2. In all other circumstances the unit shall receive the actual score for the session(s) in which the substitute(s) played.

- 4.5.4 If an ineligible substitution occurs, or one deemed by the Director not to be of equivalent standard, the Director may disqualify the unit and/or award an altered score.

- 4.5.5 Upon application by the unit to the Tournament Committee, a substitute may become a permanent member of a unit by replacing a player of equivalent standard. Such application must be made before the commencement of the next stage of the event. In such circumstances the replaced player will be deemed to have been a substitute. The reconstituted unit must comply with clause 4.5.1.
- 4.5.6 If a player substitutes for a small number of boards, the Director may rule that a substitution has not taken place.
- 4.5.7 A disqualified unit shall be obliged to play in the remaining sessions of that stage of the event, unless the Director, in conjunction with the Tournament Committee expels the unit from the event.

4.6. Procedures and Miscellaneous

- 4.6.1 **Masterpoints.** Substitutes earn sessional masterpoints which are calculated before any alteration to scores. Outright awards are shared between unit members after any alteration of scores, provided the unit has not been disqualified.
- 4.6.2 **Substitution Forms.** In addition to informing the Director, the unit shall arrange to fill out a Substitution Form at least 30 minutes before the session commences. The Director shall complete and sign the form. The Director shall record on the form if he has awarded an altered score and the reasons for his decision. The Director shall ensure that the form is retained for one month after the completion of the event and shall produce it to the Tournament Committee or Appeals Committee if required.
- 4.6.3 A unit may appeal to the **NSWBA NSBC** Tournament Committee against the Director's ruling under clause 4.5.3 or 4.5.4.
- 4.6.4 The Tournament Committee may approve additional substitutions under Section 4 in special circumstances. In particular, absence while representing Australia or NSW or participation in WBF or Zone 6 or Zone 7 Championships or finals of National events **or ABF Gold Point events** may be considered a special circumstance, provided approval is obtained in advance.
- 4.6.5 Where an illegal substitution occurs for one or more sessions of an event, the Director, in conjunction with the Tournament Committee, may at his discretion modify the scores of all the opponents of the unit containing the illegal substitution, where the Tournament Committee considers that the results of a session could have been materially affected by the illegal substitution. If the Director proceeds in this fashion, such modified scores will be equal to the average of the unit's average score for that stage of the event (excluding the matches involving the illegal substitution) and the complement of the altered score awarded as per clause 4.5.4.

4.7. Augmentation

- 4.7.1 *Augmentation* is the addition of one or two players to a team. The resultant team may have up to six players. The augmented players become permanent members of the team.
- 4.7.2 Permission to augment must be obtained from the Director and the Tournament Committee.
- 4.7.3 No augmentation will be permitted after the start of play of the penultimate round of stage 1 of any event.

4.7.4 Augmented players must

- (a) be of equivalent standard (see clause 4.4.1) to the other members of the team. If the Director, in conjunction with the Tournament Committee, is of the opinion that the augmented players have an ability significantly higher (or significantly lower) than the other players in the team, the augmentation will not be allowed.
- (b) not have entered the event.
- (c) be eligible to enter the event.

4.8. Ineligible Units

4.8.1 If permitted by the Supplementary Regulations, a non-eligible unit may enter an event which has restricted entry provided it pays all the entry fees and table monies as though it were eligible.

4.8.2 Ineligible units which enter an event under the provisions of clause 4.8.1:

- (a) are not entitled to any prizes or titles associated with the event,
- (b) may not qualify to any subsequent stage of the event,
- (c) are not entitled to any outright masterpoints, but are entitled to sessional masterpoints.

4.9. Late Entry and Excused from Attendance

4.9.1 Units may be accepted into a field, after the completion of the first session, provided they obtain the Director's permission.

4.9.2 Units which enter an event under the provisions of clause 4.9.1 will be awarded a score of 40% (or the 40th percentile score) for any session they have missed. In a knock-out event with repechage section, such units will be accepted into the repechage section only.

4.9.3 If a pair, or the majority of players in a team, are representing Australia or NSW **or participating in an ABF Gold Point event**, the pair/team may be excused from attendance at conflicting sessions **(including travel time)** and will be awarded a score of 55% in a matchpoint event or 18/25 VPs (or equivalent in an IMP-scored event) **or the average of their scores in sessions played whichever is the lower**, provided:

- (a) approval from the Tournament Committee is obtained in advance;
- (b) no more than 40% of the sessions are missed;
- (c) neither of the last two sessions of the event is involved.

4.9.4 ~~Entry fees~~ **Full entry fee will be payable** for units which enter an event under the provisions of clause 4.9.1 or 4.9.3 ~~will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.~~