



## WhatsApp Partnership Groups Policy and Procedures

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# WhatsApp Partnership Group Rules

Welcome to the [Club Name] WhatsApp Partnership Groups! These groups are designed to help like-minded bridge players of similar standards connect and find partners for both online and face-to-face games. Please read through the following rules and guidelines to ensure a smooth and positive experience for all members.

## 1. Purpose of the Group

These groups aim to help players of similar skill levels connect for bridge games. The groups are divided based on performance and activity, and include:

- **Online Grands:** Grand Masters and above who play regularly online.
- **F2F Grands:** Grand Masters who play regularly face-to-face.
- **Online Gold:** Players who regularly achieve 50%+ in Online Open.
- **F2F Gold:** Players who regularly achieve 50%+ in F2F Open.
- **Online Silver:** Players who achieve below 50% in Online Open.
- **F2F Silver:** Players who achieve below 50% in F2F Open.
- **Online Bronze:** Regular Online Rookie and Restricted players achieving 50%+.
- **F2F Bronze:** Regular F2F Rookie and Restricted players achieving 50%+.
- **Online Copper:** Regular online Rookies playing regularly.
- **F2F Copper:** Regular face-to-face Rookies playing regularly.
- **Supervise:** Supervised players and those finishing Beginner Bridge courses
- **Anita's Students:** Members who have attended Anita Curtis lessons

## 2. Grading and Group Selection

- **Choose Your Group:** Grading is subjective, and not an exact science, so please select the group that best reflects your playing level. If you find you are in the wrong group, you may not have success finding a partner.
- **Groups Are Not Exclusive:** If you are in the wrong group, feel free to join another if you believe it better reflects your playing style or ability. However, some groups may be more active than others, so please be aware that you may not always find a match.

## 3. Group Etiquette

- **Respectful Communication:** Be courteous and kind in your messages. Swearing, negative comments, or personal attacks are not tolerated. Let's keep it respectful!
- **Support Each Other:** Bridge is a competitive game, but we're here to encourage and support one another. Please keep the atmosphere positive.
- **Chatting privately:** If you have found a partnership and want to chat, it is of no interest to the rest of the group - please chat privately. To see instructions on how to chat privately on WhatsApp - [click here](#).

## 4. Game Requests

- **Only Respond If Available:** When someone posts asking for a game, reply only if you are available to play. You can respond privately to the individual or publicly in the group. To see instructions on how to chat privately on WhatsApp - [click here](#).
- **Let Others Know When a Match Is Found:** Once a match is secured, inform the group so others know and don't continue to respond to the request.

## 5. Opt-in Process

It's simple, please click the group you want to join and follow the prompts, WhatsApp must be installed on the device you are clicking from. When you join a group, please post a message of "Hi" as this will pre-load your name. If you don't do this all members will see your phone number and they won't know who you are until you message.

- **Grands Online** – Grand Masters and above
- **Grands F2F** – Grand Masters and above
- **Gold Online** – Players regularly achieving 50%+ in Open sessions
- **Gold F2F** – Players regularly achieving 50%+ in Open sessions
- **Silver Online** – Players achieving below 50% in Open sessions
- **Silver F2F** – Players achieving below 50% in Open sessions
- **Bronze Online** – Regular Rookie and Restricted players achieving 50%+
- **Bronze F2F** – Regular Rookie and Restricted players achieving 50%+
- **Copper Online** – Regular Rookie players still building experience
- **Copper F2F** – Regular Rookie players still building experience
- **Supervised Players** - Beginners starting out or playing regularly in Supervised Sessions
- **Anita's Students** - Members who attend Anita's lessons and play similar systems.

## 6. Managing Notifications

To avoid being overwhelmed by constant notifications, you can mute the group chat:

- Open the group chat.
- Tap the group name at the top of the screen.
- Select "Mute Notifications."
- Choose your preferred time (8 hours, 1 week, or Always).
- This way, you can check messages when convenient without receiving constant notifications.

## 7. Be Respectful of Different Goals

- **Respect Everyone's Goals:** Different players have different objectives—some may be seeking casual games, while others may be looking for long-term partnerships. Let's be understanding of these varying goals.
- **You Don't Have to Accept Invitations:** If you don't want to accept an invitation, simply decline. This is a space for everyone to find a match that suits their needs.

## 8. Confidentiality

- **Respect Privacy:** Any personal or sensitive information shared within the group should stay within the group. Do not share conversations or private details without permission.

## 9. Reporting Issues

If you encounter any problems, or if someone is not adhering to the group rules, please report the issue by emailing the club manager at **manager@northshorebridgeclub.com.au**. We will take appropriate action to ensure a positive environment for everyone.

## 10. Admin Role

- **Admins:** The group admins are here to assist with organizing the group and ensuring it runs smoothly. Admins may remove members who do not follow the group rules, and they will also help with pairing players.

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By joining these groups, you agree to follow these guidelines. Let's keep the atmosphere friendly, respectful, and enjoyable for everyone.

Enjoy your games and happy partnering!