

Grand National Pairs

What is it? A new event run by the ABF.

Who can play? Anyone under Life Master as at January 1st 2008. This means at least 90% of our club members are eligible.

Why bother?

1. GOLD POINTS.
2. Not just gold points, but . . . for a normal club session, the top 50% of the field get green points. In the Grand National Pairs qualifying round, the top 75% of the field gets gold points each session. In the Regional Final, the WHOLE field gets gold points. Not bad, eh?
3. Canberra! The top 2 pairs from the Regional Final get their air fares to Canberra paid so that they can compete in the National Final to be held January 17 and 18 (as part of that huge Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge we've all heard of but few of us have actually been to).

What's the catch? Well, nothing really. You can play in just one session, or all three sessions of the Qualifying Round without having to leave the comfort of your own clubhouse.

The Regional Final will also be held in Cairns (in September, we think at this stage).

Pairs who agree to (and qualify to) play in the Regional Final are committed to going to the National Final in Canberra if they win.

How about the money? Pairs will have to pay \$10 table fees per person per session in the qualifying round and the Regional Final. The entry fee for the Regional Final is paid by the club.

Individuals who feel that table fees of this order would cause them serious financial hardship are invited to approach the President or Treasurer to have these fees reduced. Such applications would be reviewed on a confidential case-by-case basis.

Should you get there, pairs will also be responsible for table fees, accommodation, meals and alcohol at the finals in Canberra (the subsidy is designed to cover air fares only).

Where can I find further details? A full set of Cairns guidelines is posted on the noticeboard, and is also available on the Cairns Bridge Club website. Alternatively, talk to Ken, Lee, Lesley, Camilla or Rebecca.

I'm not sure if I'm eligible – how do I check? A full list of eligible Cairns Bridge Club members is posted on the noticeboard. Alternatively, check the bright yellow ABF Masterpoint printout on the noticeboard behind the coffee – if you're below a life master then you're eligible!