



John Arkinstall State Teams Finals – 2025

Supplementary Regulations

This competition is conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017, supplemented by the Bridge NSW Tournament Regulations and these Supplementary Regulations. In case of conflict between these Supplementary Regulations and the Bridge NSW Tournament Regulations, the Supplementary Regulations shall apply.

1. The Event

- 1.1. The event will be held online using the RealBridge platform. All players on RealBridge should have working video and audio connections. Players may only turn off their camera with the permission of the Director.
- 1.2. The event will consist of a round robin Qualifying Stage to be held on Friday, 28 November (7.00pm – 10.15pm) and Saturday, 29 December (10.00am – 5.15pm) and a Final stage on Sunday, 30 November (10.00am – 5.00pm).

2. Systems

Yellow systems are not permitted. Pairs may not claim protected pair status.

3. Qualifying Stage

- 3.1. Ten teams contest the Qualifying Stage of the Final – two from the Metropolitan Final, two from the Metropolitan Online Final, and six from the country zones (two from the Northern Zone, two from the Hunter-Central Coast Zone, one from the Southern Zone and one from the Western Zone).
- 3.2. A round-robin of 9 x 9 board matches will be held, scored using the WBF continuous VP scale for 9 board matches. At the end of the Qualifying Stage, the two highest placed teams will qualify to the State Teams Final. If a Country Team has qualified for the State Teams Final they will have the option to contest the Country Teams Final and forego the State Final. If a Country Team does so, their place in the State Final will be taken by the next best placed team. The two highest placed Country Teams excluding any teams that qualified for the State Final and elected to play it, will contest the Country Teams Final.

4. Finals

- 4.1. The State Teams Final and the Country Teams Final will be played over 4 x 12 board stanzas. Screen mode will be used.
- 4.2. The team with the higher qualifying score will have a 0.1 VP carry-forward in each Final. Ties will be broken as per regulation 6.
- 4.3. The play in both Finals will be broadcast on the RealBridge kibitzing site with a 30 minute delay.

5. Seating rights

- 5.1. In the Qualifying Stage seating is determined by the RealBridge software.
- 5.2. In the Final(s), the higher ranked team from the Qualifying Stage will have seating rights and may choose to sit first in either the odd- or even-numbered stanzas.

6. Tie Breaks

Critical ties which occur at the end of the Qualifying Stage will be broken (in order) as follows:

- a) in the case of two-way ties, the winner of the match between the two equally scoring teams shall be ranked higher;
- b) the team with the greatest number of wins in VPs (a draw is equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ win) shall be ranked highest;
- c) the team with the greatest net IMP difference shall be ranked highest;
- d) the total VP scores shall be recalculated by successively deleting the worst result, then second worst result, *etc.* of each of the tying teams;
- e) lot.

7. Score Correction Period

- 7.1. The correction period for the qualifying stage ends at 9.00 pm on Saturday 29 November.
- 7.2. The correction period for the finals ends at midday on Tuesday 2 December 2025.

8. Substitutes

- 8.1. A maximum of 7 substitutions per team may be approved for the Qualifying Stage. The team must be without substitutes for at least 6 of the 9 matches. Substitutes must be approved in advance via the Bridge NSW on-line substitution form, <https://bridgensw.com.au/substitution/>
- 8.2. A maximum of 2 substitutes per team in one session may be approved for the Sunday Final(s). The team must be without substitutes for 3 of the 4 stanzas. Substitutes must be approved in advance via the Bridge NSW on-line substitution form, <https://bridgensw.com.au/substitution/>.

9. Prizes

First in the John Arkinstall State Open Teams: Medals for each team member plus \$400.
Second in the John Arkinstall State Open Teams: \$200.

First in the Country Teams Championship: Medals for each team member plus \$300.
Second in the Country Teams Championship: \$160.

All prizes will be paid as MyABF Bridge Credits.