January 2026

For all clubs

State Pairs and Teams 2026

https://bridgensw.com.au/state-pairs-and-teams-championship/

Tournament Organiser: Dave Havyatt state.champs@bridgensw.com.au

Bridge NSW invites all clubs to conduct Club Selection Events (CSEs) for the 2026 State Pairs and State Teams. As advised in December, we are changing the format of our premier Pairs and Teams events to add a regional focus, with face-to-face regional finals to be played for both events over one weekend. To increase inclusiveness the two events are being played in three Divisions: Open, Under Grand Master and Under National.

Key dates for the events are:

- 31 March – Intention to hold CSE forms submitted
- 31 August – Returns for CSE in Pairs and Teams
- Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September – Regional Finals in all regions (unless changed for individual regions) .
- Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 December – State Teams Final (online)
- Monday 7 and Monday 14 December – State Pairs Final (online)

Direct entry of pairs and teams to the Regional Finals will be possible, however, seating priority will be given to club representative pairs or teams. There will be no direct entry to the State Finals.

All affiliated clubs can play qualifying sessions and award red masterpoints at state championship level (W = 5.00) - you do not need to send a club representative pair or team to the Regional Final in order to award red masterpoints. These sessions are part of a Bridge NSW State Championship, so they come with a higher weighting and are additional to your B4c allowance.

Over recent years, only a small number of larger clubs played qualifying events for the State Open Pairs and State Open Teams. The new design has been implemented to try to change that. There are two key benefits to participate in these events and hold a Club Selection Events at your club:

- Taking the enjoyment of bridge beyond the walls of your club.
- Ability for the players who aren't just your top players to represent the club at the Regional Final. Holding a CSE is the only way to guarantee a space for your club players.

- Ability for club members to earn red masterpoints. We know players say that masterpoints don't matter; but they still take an intense interest if their masterpoints don't appear.

The regulations allow CSEs to be played either online on the RealBridge platform or face-to-face. Clubs may hold up to three CSEs provided that each is targeted at a different set of players. For example, two separate events held at the time of ordinary day and night sessions, or an event held at a second club venue, or online on RealBridge. CSEs must be held during regularly scheduled club session times.

We recognise that clubs have already planned their activities for 2026. However, any club duplicate session can be changed to a session of a Club Selection Event. CSEs for teams can be played as single session teams events (using New England Relay or American Whist movements) or as an ordinary duplicate pairs with IMPs scoring.

Full details are included in the Supplementary Regulations for the events:

- State Pairs:
- State Teams:

Looking forward to your club's participation,

Fraser Rew
Chair
Bridge NSW Events Committee