

## SYSTEMS - PAIRS

Green, Blue and Red systems and Brown Sticker Conventions and Treatments will be permitted in all State Championship Pairs events including qualifying rounds except that in the Novice Pairs Championship and the lowest section of Graded Events, Green and Blue Systems only will be permitted. The QBA recommends that Clubs adopt the above policy for their congresses.

## SUBSTITUTION - PAIRS

Substitutes will be permitted, at the discretion of the Director, for adequate cause, giving consideration to the rights of other contestants and the integrity of the tournament. (See specific regulations for substitutes for QBA Events and Selection Trials). Except in urgent cases, permission must be sought in advance of the event.

Subject to further regulation of specific events, a player may use a substitute for fewer than 50% of the boards scheduled to be played in an event.

Qualifying Sessions are to be treated as a separate event from Finals Sessions that follow.

A substitute who replaces an entrant before a single stage event is half way through may acquire the rights of the original player.

A substitute who replaces an entrant before a qualifying event is half way through may acquire the rights of the original player should the original player be unable to continue.

Should each player in a pair require a substitute during an event, whether it be single stage, qualifying or finals, then the total number of boards played by substitutes shall be fewer than 50% of the boards scheduled to be played in the event.

A player may not be a substitute for more than one other player during an event.

For a congress event and emergency situation only, the Director may waive the above substitution requirements to maintain the integrity of the tournament, whilst considering the rights of the other contestants. All such substitutions must be reported to the Chairman, Tournament Committee.

For events graded by rank or which are age or gender specific, a substitute must meet the entry requirements of the event for the pair to remain eligible.

## LATE ARRIVAL PENALTIES - PAIRS

**Except where otherwise specified an adjusted score of 60% will be awarded to the non offending pair for boards unable to be played and 0% will be awarded to a pair arriving late for an event. A pair who arrives more than 30 minutes after the specified starting time shall cease to be a contestant. The Director may use his discretion when adequate cause exists.**

## BREAKING OF TIES – PAIRS

1. Ties will not be broken for awarding cash prizes. The available prize money will be divided between the tying pairs.
2. Ties will be broken in the finals of QBA Championship events for the purpose of deciding a championship or plate title. A tie will be broken on the basis of the head to

head match between the tying pairs; if still unbroken, the matches against the next ranking pair will be used, and so on.

3. For masterpoint purposes, tie breaks will not affect the ranking.

**Tie Breaking in Pairs for Purposes of Qualification:**

Within the one field except in 2 above the following will apply:

On boards played by two or more tied contestants: each contestant is awarded two points for each board on which his matchpoint score was higher than that of another tied contestant, one point where he is equal

Where boards were not played by all the tied contestants (e.g. a skip movement where tied contestants would have skipped different sets of boards): award points on the basis of the matchpoints in relation to average. Thus 2 points for above average, one point for average.

**Comparison of Scores Across Different Fields for Qualification Purposes**

For example, where you may need to find the best thirds to qualify into a championship.

1. Where Mitchell movements have been used, the NS and EW fields should be treated separately. Thus, if you need to find the best two thirds, you must find the best third NS and the best third EW.
2. The best third will be the pair with the highest score (after any necessary factoring for comparison purposes). Exception: An equal second in one section will always outrank a third in another section, even if the third has a higher score. Ties: If there is a tie between two or more pairs in different fields, the winner will be that pair closest in matchpoints (after necessary factoring) to the pair above; then if necessary to the pair further above; then if necessary to the pair furthest above the next lower ranking pair.

**Exemption for Swiss Pairs**

If tie cannot be broken using the above formula because both tying pairs have not played the third placed pair and/or the fourth pair then, for a QBA Championship event, the tie will not be broken.

## SCORING – PAIRS

“When there is a discrepancy on the official score sheet between the score entered and the contract, declarer or number of tricks made, the director shall make every effort to contact the players involved to ascertain the correct details. Where this is not possible, the director may only change the score recorded when:

- an impossible score is recorded or
- there is a definite error in scoring according to the vulnerability.

**On boards where a score is apparently recorded on the wrong side, the director may not change the score, but will award an average on that board to both sides.**

## FOULED BOARDS - PAIRS

Provided there are at least four scores in each section, divide the scores into two groups; matchpoint each group separately; then add one matchpoint to all pairs for each score in the other group.

If one of the sections has fewer than 4 scores averages are awarded in the smaller group as follows:

1 score: 60% NS and EW

2 scores: 65% to the higher NS score (55% to their EW opponents). 55% to the lower NS score (65% to their EW opponents).

3 scores: 70% to the highest NS score, (50% to the their EW opponents); 60% to the next highest NS score (60% to their opponents), 50% to the lowest NS score (70% to their EW opponents).

If computerised scoring is available, the following should be applied:

$$M = N/S(X+1)-1$$

Where M = final matchpoint score

N = normal number of results on the board

X = score allotted without reference to the other group

S = number of results in the group under consideration

Thus a top score in a 8 table group wins:  $12/8 \times (14 + 1) - 1 = 22.5 - 1 = 21.5$

**Under this formula, pairs in the smaller group will receive 2, 8, 14 and 20 matchpoints respectively, while pairs in the larger group get between 0.5 and 21.5. The formula also produces the correct board check totals.**

**A board is not necessarily fouled merely because it is different from that shown on the hand record.**

### Split Scores

Where a Director or Appeals Committee has awarded a split score on a board, the Director (scorer) should score the board as an average then adjust for the individual pairs which is the same as scoring the NS and EW fields separately.

## REPORTING RESULTS FOR MASTERPOINTING – PAIRS

It is essential that the State Masterpoint Secretary be able to properly identify all players earning masterpoints. Bear in mind that players often misquote their own ABF numbers, and even more often their partners' numbers. The minimum requirement for reporting is each player's surname, initial and ABF number. The preferred data are surname, first name, ABF number and club or club number. First names are essential where the surname is a common one, and where husband and wife are both registered players.

### REQUIREMENTS

Name and date(s) of congress.

Name(s) of Director(s). If more than 30 tables, the name of the assistant director should be provided.

Full description of the movement for all sections and all sessions including section/session name, number of tables and number of boards.

Sufficient additional information, relevant to the format used, is to be provided so that masterpoint entitlements can be assessed for example:

Matchpoint Pairs with matches of up to 6 boards: Overall results listed in rank order and results for all sessions listed in rank order.

Matchpoint Pairs and Butler Pairs with matches of 7 or more boards: Overall results listed in rank order. Results of each match listed in rank order or a summary of wins/draws/losses as defined in the ABF Masterpoint Scheme Manual.

A draw for matchpoint pairs matches of 7 or more boards is 47.5% to 52.5% inclusive.

Masterpoint Entitlement

For matches of up to 6 boards: The top half of the field in each section or each session (depending on format) and overall. For outright points, list all places in the championship and the top half of the field in other finals.

Matchpoint Pairs and Butler Pairs with matches of 7 or more boards: The top third of the field overall and for wins and draws for each match as defined ABF Masterpoint Scheme Manual.

For sections with odd numbers of tables (Mitchell) or odd number of pairs (Howell), the top half is found by rounding down e.g. 4 pairs for a 9T Mitchell, 5 pairs for an 11 pair Howell.

## ILLEGAL SYSTEMS – PAIRS

When a pair is found using an illegal system the director may at his/her discretion impose a procedural penalty proportionate to the degree of damage/benefit reasonably suspected to have been caused/received in the event to date. This might range from one only 10% of a top where no grounds for leniency exist and discovered early in the event to large points deductions for repeat offences or for particularly damaging illegal systems used by experienced tournament players and discovered well into an event. Furthermore if play of a board is in progress, the director may award an adjusted score in accordance with Law 12A.