

BRISBANE ZONE * QBA - GNP

The **Grand National Pairs** is open to players who have **not** achieved Life Master status as at 1 January 2008.

QBA Regulations

All QBA regulations apply to the conduct of club heats and zone final. Please note the relevant section regarding Queensland residential requirements.

Brisbane Zone

Stage 1: Club heats must be in a format conforming to the Conditions of Contest set out by the ABF. Each Club has an entitlement to a certain number of pairs to compete in the Regional Finals and in order to qualify a Club must run a match-pointed pairs Club Selection event. This event must be a minimum of three sessions and a maximum of seven sessions. Clubs may run two or more events, all of which must be a minimum of three and a maximum of seven sessions. However the total number of Club Selection sessions may **NOT** exceed 15.

Each Club has an entitlement for the Regional Finals and for those that run multiple events, this entitlement is based on the **combined** number of tables of GNP eligible players that participate:

Less than 5 tables of eligible players	4 pairs
5 to 7 tables of eligible players	6 pairs
7.5 to 10 tables of eligible players	8 pairs
10.5 to 15 tables of eligible players	10 pairs
15.5 to 25 tables of eligible players	12 pairs
More than 25 tables of eligible players	14 pairs

All events should be completed by 31 August and results sent to the Zone Secretary, Marion Cooke, 3 Leatherwood Drive, Arana Hills 4054 together with a cheque to cover the appropriate fees.

Gold points will be awarded at all stages of this competition and masterpointing and the cost of Gold Points at the Club level are the responsibility of each Club. Club masterpoints must be sent to State Masterpoint Secretary for endorsement.

The entry fee to the Regional Finals will be \$40 per pair payable by the Club and each player in the final will be subject to a maximum table fee of \$10 per player per session.

If a pair that qualifies through Club Selection withdraws from the Regional Final, that pair may be replaced by any other pair that has played in that Club's Selection event.

Club Selection Events are open to all eligible Club members and at its discretion each Club may also accept entries from eligible players who are not members of the Club.

The conduct of the Club Selection event(s) is a matter for the Club itself and it is recommended that the costs associated with sending pairs forward should be borne by the players competing in the event in the form of entry or table fees that befit a gold masterpoint event.

It is particularly important for clubs staging multiple events to specify 1. The precise process of selecting pairs to represent the Club in the Regional Final and 2. What happens in the event of withdrawals or ties.

Players are permitted to participate in more than one Club Selection event in their Club and may participate in Club Selection events in more than one club even if they overlap. A pair that has qualified for the Regional Final at one club may play in other club selection events and may earn gold points but only as a pair not contending for selection for the Regional Final. Their "non-contending status" must be announced when entering subsequent events or immediately it becomes known in the case of overlapping events.

Should any **player** who has qualified through Club Selections for the Regional final, subsequently withdraw for whatever reason, the **partnership** is deemed to have withdrawn. Such a pair's replacement in the Regional Final will be filled at the discretion of the Club through which it qualified.

Stage 2: The Regional Finals will consist of a two-session Swiss match-pointed pairs event to be held on Sunday 5 October at Arana Bridge Club commencing at 9.30 am. There will be a fee per player to be paid by the players.

Stage 3: The top 6 pairs from the zone final receive subsidised travel and free entry to the National finals in Canberra on Saturday and Sunday, 17-18 January 2009. Should a pair that has qualified for the National Finals, subsequently withdraw, that pair shall be replaced by the next highest placed pair.

Conditions

Pairs enter club level heats on the basis that contesting the zone final is optional if they qualify. However, the entry fee is per qualifying pair irrespective of the number who actually proceed to the zone final.

Green and Blue Systems with Red/Brown stickers are permitted in the Regional Final.

Club heats are awarded gold master points on an extended scale, at all stages of the GNP as follows:

Club Selections	75% down the field
Regional Finals	100% of the field
National Finals	100% of the field

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The Director of club heats must provide a report on those heats, stating:

- (a) the **full names** and **ABF numbers** of each member of the pair
- (b) the movement used, the number of boards for each session
- (c) the pairs qualifying for the zone finals and,
- (e) any pairs declining a position in the zone final.

The club shall forward a copy of the Director's report, along with payment of \$40 per qualifying pair, to the Brisbane Zone Secretary no later than 14 September 2008.

A copy of the report should also be sent to the State Masterpoint Secretary.

The Director of the zone final must provide the Zone Secretary and the State Masterpoint Secretary with a report on the finals. This report should state the movement used and the names and ABF numbers of all members of the pairs qualifying for the national finals.

The Zone Secretary will inform the QBA of the zone qualifiers.

6 March 2008

