Wellington Bridge Club – Supplementary Regulations

Finals - Poppy Roberts Tournament (5A)

Dates and Start Times	The finals tournament is to run over three evenings in November (see the Wellington programme book or Wellington Bridge website for dates). Start time for the all sessions is 7:30pm.
Qualification	Poppy Roberts Finals is preceded by 7 Poppy Roberts qualifying sessions, of which the top 5 count towards the final qualifying score. The top 22 pairs from the qualifying sessions will qualify for the Poppy Roberts final. In the event of a tied result, the process outlined in the NZ Bridge Manual will be used to break the tie. In the qualifying rounds players can play with as many different partners as they like, but to qualify must play with their qualifying partner for at least four of the five nights counting towards qualifying. At least one individual from each qualifying pair must be able to play for all three nights of the finals, otherwise their place will be allocated to the next highest ranked pair from the qualifying rounds. Non qualifiers can play in the Poppy Roberts Plate which will be run as a separate pairs event over the same evenings as the finals.
Substitution	Pairs in the finals must be both of the players that qualified, and must play together at least two of the three sessions, with one player playing all 3 sessions. One substitute is permitted only as a last-minute entry to allow the smooth operation of the event and, then, only with the prior permission of the Director. It is preferable that the substitute should not be of a higher standard than the player substituted for. The director will review all substitutions in each final night, and decide on their eligibility in accordance with the NZ Bridge Manual and the rules of the contest. The Director's decision is final.
Rights	Please advise the club Manager at the time of qualification if seating rights are requested.
Playing Format	The finals will be over three sessions of 28 boards, 84 boards in total. The format has been designed to ensure that over the three sessions, each pair will play an equal number of boards against every other pair. Each night will consist of a 7 table Mitchell section and a 4 table Howell section. A pre-defined seating plan will be in effect which will assign players to one of the sections each night. Each round will consist of 4 boards and 25 minutes will be allowed to play the round. There will be no mid-session tea break in any of the final sessions.
Scoring	For each session, scores will be calculated across all sections. The correction period for score changes for the first 2 sessions shall be 30 minutes after personal score cards have been made available, but to facilitate timely finalisation of results the correction period after the final session will be reduced to 10 minutes. Score changes shall only be made with agreement of the opponents, using the official score change request form available near the Directors desk.

Carryover	In the final there is a 40% matchpoint carryover from the qualifying stage which will be added to the matchpoints earned in the first finals round. There are five steps to the calculation of the carryover for the Poppy Roberts finals event: 1. The total match-points available over 5 qualifying rounds is calculated by taking the total matchpoints over the 7 nights, dividing by 7 and multiplying by 5. The Match Committee has accepted that this is an acceptable approximation, as the alternative of adding up match-points for each pair for each of their five best qualifying nights is not automated and is too time consuming. 2. For each pair, their matchpoints are calculated by multiplying their average percentage score over their best five qualifying nights (calculated by Scorer) by the total matchpoints available over 5 nights. 3. The match-point difference for each pair is then normalised by subtracting from each value the matchpoints of the bottom pair. This means the lowest value in the range is now zero. There are then two further adjustments to the matchpoints to get the final carry-over. 4. The matchpoints are adjusted to reflect the fact that there are less matchpoints available in the finals due to a smaller field (i.e. the matchpoints are multiplied by the matchpoints per board in the finals (20) divided by the average matchpoints per board in the preliminary rounds. 5. Finally, the matchpoints are multiplied by 40%. The Match Committee has determined that only 40% of the match-point difference from the preliminary rounds should be carried over. This is purely to ensure that the relative impact of play in the preliminary rounds does not outweigh the play in the finals rounds but at the same time give some weight to preliminary play performance.
Slow Play	The Director will monitor the field for slow play. The Director will advise players who are playing slowly, and if play has not caught up in the next round, may issue a slow play warning. If play is not caught up in the round after the warning round, the Director may allocate a procedural penalty equal to 10% of the available matchpoints for one board. The director's decision is final.
Bidding Systems	As advised by NZCBA, in the qualifying stages, the following systems are permitted: Green Systems All Blue Systems All Red Systems Limited to those that exclude: • An opening bid of one of a major that does not show at least 4 cards in a specified suit; • Brown Sticker conventions. In the Finals of the tournament, all Green, Blue and all Red systems are allowed. Yellow systems are not allowed in the qualifying or final rounds. Psychic bidding must be registered by the player making the psyche bid - see the Director.
System Cards	System cards in NZBridge format with at least the two outer pages filled in must be

	available at the table for opponents' reference.
Alerting	Players are reminded that as per NZ Bridge policy, the principle of full disclosure should be followed. At the start of a round or match, pairs should acquaint each other with their basic system, length of their 1-level opening bids, the strength and style of their opening 1NT and any **unusual** self-alerting calls that may catch their opponents by surprise (eg doubles that are neither for penalty nor for takeout, or high-level transfer pre-empts). In addition to the above, the partner of a player who makes a 1C or natural 1NT opening bid, shall promptly announce their systemic agreement. The use of Stop Cards is mandatory.
Alterations to these Supplementary Regulations	During the course of this Tournament, the Match Committee may make additions and/or alterations to these Supplementary Regulations if it considers it in the best interests of the Tournament to do so. Where it is necessary for reasons of expediency to make a change during a session, the Director in Charge will consult with any of the Match Committee who are playing. When this is not possible, the Director in Charge is fully authorised to solely make such changes on behalf of the Match Committee.
Appeals Committee/Match Committee	The Director in Charge for the event is Phillippa Gardiner Prior to the finals matches, the Director in Charge will obtain the approval of a small number of people to serve on an Appeals Committee should this be required. If an appeal is lodged, the Appeals Committee will be selected from a subset of this group. The Match Committee consists of: The Director in Charge Wellington Bridge Club Chief Director Wellington Bridge Club Office Manager