

DARLING DOWNS ZONE OF QBA

ZONE EVENT FORMATS

1.1. CLUB QUALIFYING ROUNDS

Each club will conduct a Club Qualifying Round to qualify teams to play in the GNOT Regional Final.

1.1.1. Format

The Club Qualifying Round shall normally be conducted over 2, 3 or 4 sessions, with the length of each match determined by the club provided that it is at least 5 boards duration. A playing Director is permitted. Pre-dealt boards with hand records must be used.

The preferred movement for Club Qualifying Rounds is a round robin (all plays all). If there are too many teams to achieve the necessary match duration with a round robin movement, a Swiss Teams may be used (Approval was given by Richard Wallis, Chair of the QBA Tournament Subcommittee in 2010).

If a club plays multiple round robins movements, then one of the following approaches may be used in determining wins and placings:

- (a) The total IMP's score across all rounds/stanzas will be summed and used to determine VP's and win status; or
- (b) Each match may be scored separately and the appropriate VP scale applied to each. This may only be done if each match is of sufficient duration.

The club must display the scoring method in the written conditions of play, and make a verbal announcement of this prior to play commencing. If no prior announcement is made then condition (a) prevails.

In exceptional circumstances a small club may qualify one team to the Zone Final by alternate means (eg pairs events), provided this is approved by the Zone Secretary in advance.

1.1.2. Number of qualifying teams

One team qualifies for the Regional Final out of every five entrants (or part thereof) in the Club Qualifying Round. For example, if there are 2-5 entrants then one team qualifies, if there are 6-10 entrants then two teams qualify, if there are 11-15 entrants then three teams qualify.

Winning teams from Club Qualifying Rounds are not obliged to take their place in the Regional Final. In such a case, the next qualifier from that Club Qualifying Round will be invited to take their place. This process will continue until no teams are available from the top half of the field in the Club Qualifying Round (rounded up).

A player who has not already qualified for a place in the Regional Final (or the final of another Zone) may play in more than one Club Qualifying Round provided they are eligible to do so.

1.2. GNOT REGIONAL FINAL

The Darling Downs Zone GNOT Regional Final will be hosted by one of the member clubs, rotating amongst the membership. The Zone Secretary will maintain a register/roster of hosting rights.

The GNOT Zone Final shall normally be a round robin format over 2 sessions, with the length of each match determined by the Director provided that it is at least 5 boards duration. Pre-dealt boards with hand records must be used. The total IMP's score across all rounds will be summed and used to determine VP's and win status. If there are too many teams to achieve the necessary match duration, a Swiss Teams movement may be considered but prior approval must be obtained from the Chair of the QBA Tournament Committee. A playing Director is permitted. A Congress Director must be used. If a Congress Director is not available, the Zone Secretary should seek advice from the Chair of the QBA Tournament Committee prior to the event.

All entrants in the Darling Downs Zone Regional Final MUST be prepared to travel to and play in the National Final.

The Director of the GNOT Regional Final must provide a report to the Zone Secretary stating:

- The full names and ABF numbers of all members of every team;
- Their win-loss records; and
- The movement used and number of boards and matches played.

A copy of this report should also be sent to the State Master Point Secretary.

2. ZONE TEAMS

Agreed format for Zone teams is two sessions, played as Round Robin or two-session Whist for less than 10 tables, and Swiss movement with either 7 or 9 board matches for 10 or more. In all cases scoring is by VP.

3. ZONE PAIRS

Agreed format is two sessions, as Mitchell or Howell movements, scored as a multi with one winner.

Zone uses table fees to supplement Zone Subsidy, so if we are fortunate to have higher number of participants, then NS and EW fields will be kept separate and top two from each direction would be supported.