



# Gold Coast Congress 2025 Information Manual

Updated 11/06/24

Headings with yellow highlighting require updating

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## 2025 DATES

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## 2026 DATES

### To be advised

## ABF NUMBER

All players will need an ABF number to play in the Gold Coast Congress. Please email [masterpoints@abf.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@abf.com.au) with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. Alternatively, email Jacqui Dudurovic and she will get the ABF number for you.

If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

Once you have an ABF number, you need to be **registered with MyABF** to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Jacqui Dudurovic - [gccentries@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:gccentries@qldbridge.com.au)

New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email [masterpoints@abf.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@abf.com.au) with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - [ABF Masterpoint Centre](#).

To sign up to [MyABF](#), please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

Once you have done this, you will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

When you activate your account, you will be taken you to a site with your profile. Include your email address, mobile phone number and date of birth.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

## ACCOMMODATION

For accommodation enquiries, contact Sue Smith –  
M - 0429 056 445 or E – [Sue.gccongress@gmail.com](mailto:Sue.gccongress@gmail.com)

Some accommodation options are listed on the GCC website: [ACCOMMODATION](#)

## ADVERTISING IN BULLETIN

**Events** Any ABF event and any QBA Gold Point event can have a free advertisement – size is the Editors prerogative. Strict guidelines must be adhered to. Deadlines set by Editor with Tournament Organiser's approval.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**Advertisements** are \$300 a page. The editor has the prerogative to negotiate with prospective advertisers regarding possible columns to be published in the Bulletins for advertising.

## ADVISORS

TBA

## AIR CONDITIONING – PLAYER COMFORT

There are approximately two thousand players at the venue, ensuring the comfort of ALL players is a challenge.

Over time the organisers have noticed that there are areas where it is particularly cold due to air pockets coming from the air conditioner.

The room sometimes leaks from condensation due to the amount of air conditioning we are using.

What you **CAN** do to improve your personal comfort level:

- as advertised in all communication, please bring a jumper or shawl to keep you warm;
- we have a supply of pashminas and wraps so please just ask a caddy who will bring it to you - we do ask -that you return these to the caddy at end of the session.
- if it is obviously too cold for you and those around you, please ask the caddy to report the table number and section to the Bridge Admin Officer who will bring the thermometer to see if it can be fixed or perhaps, we can move the table.

Things you can do that will **NOT** improve your comfort level:

- discuss the issue with a Director

## ALERTS - SUMMARY

### PRE-ALERTS

List your unusual or complex treatments in the pre-alerts section of the system card. For instance – RCO 2s, Bergen raises, DONT Dbl vs 1NT, unusual carding (leading low from doubletons should be noted in the “leads” section of system card).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announce the number of clubs contained in a 1♣ opening and the HCP range of a 1NT opening. Those playing a strong club system just need to announce 1♣ as “Strong 16+”.

### ALERTS DURING THE AUCTION

Alert by circling partner's call and saying “Alert” but don't offer an explanation unless asked (then aim to be concise, yet complete).

**DON'T ALERT:**

- Any double or redouble.
- Any call beyond 3NT, except a conventional opening bid
- A bid of a suit *bid* or *shown* by an opponent.
- Any 2♣ response to a 1NT opening bid in an uncontested auction (e.g. *Stayman*)
- Any Jump Raise in a contested auction.

For our New Zealand players, we do **NOT** use STOP Cards

**DO ALERT:**

All other conventional calls (such as Transfers, 2♥=hearts and a minor)

'Unusual' natural bids. These include: weak jump shift responses, pre-emptive jump raises (but only in uncontested auctions), inverted minors, canapé tendency, negative free bids, transfer accepts that deny four trumps, etc.

At the end of the auction, the declaring side should mark any unusual calls that weren't alerted at the time. Do this with a plus sign (+).

**IF PARTNER STUFFS UP**

**Declarer/Dummy:** If partner fails to alert or provides a wrong or misleading explanation, you should wait until the **end of the auction** before calling the Director and correcting.

**Defenders:** wait until the **end of the hand** before piping up.

**BBO OR REAL BRIDGE**

THE BBO/Real Bridge liaison Officer **is to be advised**. Open Finals will be the only matches on BBO/Real Bridge. BBO/Real Bridge will only be available if operators come forward to assist.

**BRIDGE MATES**

If you have never used the Bridgemate Scoring Units we suggest you arrive a few minutes before your first session and ask a Director for a quick tutorial. We are confident that your opponents will also help you to use this user-friendly technology.

**BRIDGE MATES II – PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS**

During the team events, when you turn on the Bridgemates, you will be asked to enter your player numbers. This is NOT your ABF number. Each player in every team has been assigned a number. These will be found on the bright orange sheet which will be on your table at the start of play. NS at the home table should enter the player numbers for the players in your own team.

The reason for this is that, if done correctly, the scoring team will produce a summary of the results for each pair in your team, comparing their results against the average score across your section on each board (the datum). These results have no official status and are just for your own interest. It is a service we are happy to be able to provide, but to take advantage of it, it is important that the player numbers are accurately entered each round.

Our observations from recent years show that over 90% of teams sit in the same seats for the whole event. To simplify the process for entering player numbers for these teams, from Round 2 onwards if your team is sitting in the same seats as in Round 1, you may just enter "1" for all four players. The unit will display "same as Round 1" as the player names and the system will correctly record the pairs.



**BULLETIN**

Barbara Travis and Lauren Travis with the capable assistance of Barry Rigal, are the Bulletin Editors. The quality of the Bulletin is enhanced with contributions from players of all standards. Quality play, defence or bidding or humorous stories from the tournament or even general comments or criticisms are greatly appreciated. There are many ways to make a submission including:

- see a Bulletin Editor – there is often one at the venue
- phone or SMS the number on the header of the Daily Bulletin (0468 459 351)

send an email to the address on the header of the Daily Bulletin [EMAIL TBA](#)

**CALENDAR 2025**

**2025 GCC Programme**

Fri 31-Jan	Sat 1-Feb	Sun 2-Feb	Mon 3-Feb	Tue 4-Feb	Wed 5-Feb	Thu 6-Feb	Fri 7-Feb	Sat 8-Feb
Walk-In Pairs No Frills	Bobby Richman Matchpoint Pairs Championship			Teams Championship			Teams Finals	Open Teams Finals
	Saturday Qualifying Sunday & Monday AM Finals							
	Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs	Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs	Monday Butler Swiss Pairs	Matchpoint Pairs 0-50 MP #1&2	Matchpoint Pairs 0-50 MP #1&2	Butler Swiss Pairs 0-50 MP #1&2	Friday Butler Swiss Pairs	
		Rookie Pairs 0-10 MP				Rookie Pairs 0-10 MP	Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs # 1,2 & 3	
	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X2	Walk-In Pairs X1

**Session Start Times:**

- Morning sessions start at 10 AM every day.
- Afternoon sessions from Saturday 1st Feb to Thursday 6th Feb start at 2.30 pm
- Afternoon sessions from Friday 7th Feb to Saturday 8th Feb start at 2.00 pm

**CATEGORIES - TEAMS**

All teams should have nominated their categories when submitting their entry. *\*Mixed category requires at least 1 male and 1 female player*

Check that you have selected the correct category as once winners are announced, no correspondence will be entered into.

**Open** Categories: Same Sex, Mixed\*, Queensland and Best New Zealand Team

**Under 1500** MPs Categories: Same Sex, Mixed\*, Queensland

**Intermediate** Categories: Same Sex, Mixed\* and Queensland

**Restricted** Categories: Same Sex, Mixed\* and Queensland

**Novice** Categories: Same Sex, Mixed\* and Queensland

## **CATEGORY PRIZE POLICY - TEAMS**

Special category prizes are awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series or third place. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category by the Manager.

## **CHANGES TO LOWER DIVISIONS**

No changes to lower masterpoint divisions are permitted on the starting day of the event without permission from the Chief Director and Chief Scorer.

## **CHARITY 2025 – ZEPHYR FOUNDATION**

Please see [ZEPHYR FOUNDATION](#)

## **CLOSING TIMES FOR ENTRIES FOR EVENTS**

All events except Friday events (mentioned below) close 24 hours before the event starts, or prior within the final week if it suits the movement of the event. Online entry via MyABF is preferred.

Friday events:

<b>Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs</b>	Thursday 8.00pm
<b>Friday Butler Swiss Pairs</b>	Thursday 8.00pm

Only way of entering the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs and the Friday Butler Swiss Pairs after February 1<sup>st</sup> is via My ABF.

Any player making changes to their entries at the venue will be charged an administration fee of \$10 per player.

No changes to lower masterpoint divisions are permitted on the starting day of the event without permission from the Chief Director and Chief Scorer.

No withdrawals or changes can be made after 8.00 pm to entries for Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs or the Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Withdrawals for Friday events (not finalists) will be charged at least 25% of the entry fee.

## **COFFEE, TEA AND WATER**

As a service to participants, volunteers will be operating a tea and coffee service for this event. Coffee is made from ground coffee beans with fresh milk and will cost \$4 a cup. The service will start around one hour before play and continue until late into the last session.

Please understand that the service is run for the benefit of players by volunteers. Coffee, Tea and Water can be individually purchased via EFTPOS or cash.

There will be \$40 vouchers available for purchase from the Coffee Shop. \$40 voucher entitles you to 11 coffees.

As we are not allowed to run the free water service in the playing area, we will be selling bottles of water at \$2.00 from the coffee shop. These can be purchased via your \$40 voucher in lots of 2's.

We cannot, under any circumstance, give free – a cup of hot water so please don't request – it is a public liability issue. We will not be doing double shots this year.

VOUCHERS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE COFFEE SHOP VIA EFTPOS OR CASH. No refunds once a voucher has been purchased.

## **CELEBRITY SPEAKERS**

Located upstairs opposite Administration. No lift access.

Min \$5 contribution to ABF Youth Bridge – EFTPOS AVAILABLE (free for Youth)

100 participants maximum – GCCEC Health & Safety Regulations

**Celebrity Speakers will be finalised in January 2025**

## **COLOUR CODING FOR SECTIONS**

For player convenience, playing areas will be colour coded for the whole event through the use of coloured tablecloths and matching coloured flag. This will help to identify your section, results and playing area.

- **Open Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Blue
- **Under 1500 Teams** - Orange
- **Intermediate Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Yellow
- **Restricted Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Green
- **Novice Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Maroon
- **Rookies/0-50/Walk-Ins** – Fuchsia\*\*
- **Open Saturday, Sunday, Monday Butler Swiss Pairs** in Orange
- **0-500 Saturday, Sunday, and Monday Butler Swiss Pairs** – Purple
- **Friday Open Butler Pairs** – Purple\*\*

*\*\*This may change on the day depending on the layout approved by the GCCEC*

## **CONGRESS SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS 2025**

Supplementary regulations will be published on the website on 1 January 2025.

## **CONTACTS FOR GCC STAFF**

The main contacts are:

<b>General Enquiries</b>	Kim and Ray Ellaway 0412 064 903 <a href="mailto:manager@qldbridge.com.au">manager@qldbridge.com.au</a>
<b>Tournament Organiser</b>	Tim Runting 0458 448 765 <a href="mailto:gccconvenor@qldbridge.com.au">gccconvenor@qldbridge.com.au</a>
<b>On-Site Manager</b>	Richard Ward 0419 729 470 <a href="mailto:wardjrc555@gmail.com">wardjrc555@gmail.com</a>
<b>Partnership Enquiries</b>	Toni Bardon Mobile 0401 082 054 <a href="mailto:tmbardon@hotmail.com">tmbardon@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Accommodation Enquiries</b>	Sue Smith 0429 056 445 <a href="mailto:Sue.gcccongress@gmail.com">Sue.gcccongress@gmail.com</a>
<b>Entry Enquiries</b>	Jacqui Dudurovic 0414 448 844 <a href="mailto:gcccentries@qldbridge.com.au">gcccentries@qldbridge.com.au</a>
<b>Chief Director</b>	Dr Laurie Kelso 0412 559 171 <a href="mailto:skelso@ihug.com.au">skelso@ihug.com.au</a>

New Zealand Enquiries TBA

## **CORRECTION OF SCORES**

**Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456 587 765 – accepts text messages only**

After each session, a printout of the results for each pair or team will be made available. For the last session of a stage of an event, you may obtain a copy on request from the Scoring Enquiries Desk – located in the Administration Office during the pairs and outside the playing area thereafter.

If you believe that there is a mistake, you need to follow this procedure:

1. on the board where you believe that there was an error, agree with your opponents that the score was entered incorrectly;
2. make the correction on your printout and have them sign it;
3. give the corrected printout to the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon, under the sign “SCORING ENQUIRIES” next to the Scoring Room. She will check that you have provided all the necessary information. The correction will be made by the scorers during the following session and a new personal printout will be made available for you to collect.

Agreed scoring errors need to be advised within the scoring correction period for the session in which the error occurred. The scoring correction periods are displayed prominently near the scoreboards. At the conclusion of the scoring correction period, scores become final and, under the Laws of Bridge, no further changes can be made. **This is critical for the last rounds when the correction period is limited, and scorers may not pick up anomalies. You are responsible for your own actions - or lack thereof.**

The Scoring team may be advised of potential scoring errors via text to 0456-587-765 (receives texts only). Include the following information: Event, Session/Match, Pair number, Board number, Contract, Declarer, Score, What you believe is correct. The scoring team has a protocol to follow to determine if a result is manifestly wrong. If it is not accepted or if the error relates to the number of tricks taken, you will need to obtain written confirmation from your opponents as described above.

## **DIRECTOR, CHIEF TOURNAMENT**

Laurie Kelso is the Chief Tournament Director

## **DIRECTORS GET TOGETHER**

A Directors Get Together will be conducted by Chris Snook on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February from 8.30am to 9.30am, upstairs in Meeting Room 12 opposite administration office. Enquiries: Chris Snook 0413136435 [chris@snook.id.au](mailto:chris@snook.id.au)

## **DISCOUNT ENTRY FEES - YOUTH BRIDGE PLAYERS**

All players born on or after 1 January 2007 are entitled to free entry. If a free-entry Youth wins a cash prize, half the value of entry fee to be deducted before payment.

All players born on or after 1 January 2000 are entitled to a 50% discount.

Your state-based bridge association or local bridge club may also offer a subsidy – it doesn't hurt to ask!

## DISCOUNT PERIOD FINISHING DAY

The \$20 discount per person for most entry fees applies if prepaid by midnight Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Discount for Walk-In Pairs is available if you pre-purchase 3 or 5 vouchers, otherwise it is \$15 per player, payable at the Walk-In Desk or Pre-paid from the GCC Office. No entry fees will be collected at the table.

## DOCTOR

During session time, if you need a doctor or medical assistance you can contact the Bridge Office. They will direct you to the inhouse Doctor. Please do not abuse this free service we offer to players.

Outside of session time, contact the Broadbeach Family Practice on 07-55399177, Qube Building, 29 Queensland Avenue, Broadbeach.

After-hours service: National Home Doctors Service on 137425 who do bulk bill.

## DRAW FOR NEXT ROUND PAGE

The draw for the next round in the Teams and Swiss Pairs events will be published on the web at the same time it is displayed on the projector screens at the venue. So, if you are "[connected](#)" you can check your standings and the draw online.

## DRESS UP THEME DAY

We encourage all players to dress in keeping with the Gold Coast Annual Theme for Wednesday Teams Sessions. The 2025 theme is ***Silly Shoes and***

***Kinky Boots!***  
your most outrageous  
when play finishes  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
some combination of



Please celebrate our 63<sup>rd</sup> year and wear shoes. The photography will commence and the parade from 2:15pm to 2:30pm February. Prizes will be available for groups, pairs or individuals.

## ELIGIBILITY

[gcc2025-EligibilityRequirements.pdf \(qldbridge.com.au\)](#)

General eligibility\* is based on awards processed as officially released by the ABF and rankings released by NZB in October 2024.

Players must individually meet the eligibility criteria to compete in the events. This includes Team/Pair events where all players must be under the stated masterpoint range or age as per below.

New eligibility restrictions for 2025 are:

1. New Zealand Players - as at the cut-off date the following eligibility restrictions apply; - Restricted MUST be below the rank of NZ Provincial Master - Under 500 MPs MUST be below the rank of NZ Master.

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2. Overseas Players may only play in Open events unless they provide evidence from their National Bridge Organisation that their ranking (i.e. experience and skill level) is such that warrants entry into a lower division.
3. Grand Slam players must state their rating when entering the following events. Eligibility includes;
  - 54% and under for Novice,
  - 56% and under for Restricted,
  - 57% and under for Under 500 MPs
  - 59% and under for Intermediate
  - 62% and under for Under 1500 MPs.

Any player may not have previously won two or more ABF events with the same masterpoint restriction, or higher, as the one entered. Notwithstanding, players who have already entered a restricted category at the time of winning their second such ABF event will be deemed eligible.

CATEGORY	GENERAL ELIGIBILITY as at 30/09/2024*	NZ ELIGIBILITY as at 30/09/2024*
<b>0-10MP's (Rookie)</b>	Under 10 MPs	Novice
<b>0-50 MP's</b>	Under 50 MPs	Less than NZ Club Master
<b>NOVICE</b>	Under 100 MPs	Less than NZ Local Master
<b>RESTRICTED</b>	Under 300 MPs	Less than NZ Provincial Master
<b>Under 500 MPs</b>	Under 500 MPs	Less than NZ Master
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	Under 750 MPs	Less than NZ National Master
<b>0-1500 MP's</b>	Under 1500 MPs	Less than NZ Life Master
<b>MIXED</b>	Required to have at least 1 male and 1 female player	
<b>YOUTH</b>	Must be under the age of 25 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025	

\* Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress the following players are entitled to free entry;

- Players under the age of 18 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025, and
- Players over the age of 100 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025

and the following players are entitled to a 50% discount; - Players under the age of 25 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025.

ABF Policy requires entrants to provide their birth date to receive free entry or a 50% discount.

### ENTERING

On-line entering with [MyABF](#) is the preferred and only option to enter. Jacqui Dudurovic from Entries, and Kim and Ray from Enquiries can assist in these areas.

Jacqui Dudurovic 0414 448 844 [gccentries@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:gccentries@qldbridge.com.au)

Kim & Ray Ellaway 0412 064 903 [manager@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:manager@qldbridge.com.au)

**You need to be registered with MyABF** to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Jacqui Dudurovic - [gccentries@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:gccentries@qldbridge.com.au)

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email [masterpoints@abf.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@abf.com.au) with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

To sign up MyABF website, please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this

link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

Once you have done this, you will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

Once you have activated your account, it will take you to a site with your profile. Include your mobile phone number and select the box for notifications if you would like to receive your results via text message.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

### ENTRIES

Please ensure you get your entries in and remember they need to be paid by 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to receive the early bird discount. Never rely solely on your team-mates to do it for you.

MyABF is the preferred option for entering. Jacqui, Kim and Ray are available to assist.

No changes to lower masterpoint divisions are permitted on the starting day of the event without permission from the Chief Director and Chief Scorer.

Entries close 24 hours prior to all events starting. Late entries for Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs and Friday Butler Swiss Pairs will be accepted up to 8.00pm on Thursday 6th February 2025. There will be no cancellations or changes to entries after this time.

Refunds are automatically given to those pairs who qualify for teams final. Youth players claiming a reduction in fees must disclose DOB at time of entry.

### ENTRY DISCOUNTS

Youth Players and Senior Players are entitled to free entry (see DOB eligibility details in table below). GCC Prize Money Policy applies. Players born on or after 1 January 2000 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Players claiming a discount must disclose DOB at time of entry (ABF Policy). Early Bird Prices only apply if entry payment is received by 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## ENTRY FEES

Entry Fees – A few players, because of extenuating circumstances, have not been able to pre-pay their entry fee. If this means YOU, then please proceed to Bridge Administration Desk and take care of the matter. **Your team or pair cannot commence play if an entry fee is unpaid.**

Entry Fees for the events are as follows –

- Bobby Richman Pairs Championship: \$360 p/pair (\$320 if paid by 26/01)
- Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 p/pair (\$130 if paid by 26/01)
- Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 p/pair (\$130 if paid by 26/01)
- Monday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 p/pair (\$130 if paid by 26/01)
- Teams Championships \$880 p/team (\$800 if paid by 26/01)
- Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs \$240 p/pair (\$200 if paid by 26/01)
- Rookie Pairs \$100 p/pair per session (\$60 if paid by 26/01)
- 0 - 50 Masterpoint Pairs (2 sessions) \$160 p/pair x Tuesday (\$120 if paid by 26/01)  
\$160 p/pair x Wednesday (\$120 if paid by 26/01)  
\$160 p/pair x Thursday (\$120 if paid by 26/01)
- Friday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$170 per/pair (\$130 if paid by 26/01)
- Walk In Pairs: \$15 per player (Pre-pay)

The payment options are:

- Purchase 1 x pre-paid Walk-In game token for \$15
- Purchase 3 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$42 – equals \$14 / game.
- Purchase 5 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$65 – equals \$13 / game.

\*\* Please note the pre-paid Walk-In game tokens are not refundable however they are transferrable. There is no free entry due to age for any of the walk-ins.

The pre-paid Walk-In game tokens can only be purchased from the GCC administration office or from the Walk-In area 30 minutes before play, twice a day each day. Fifteen minutes before play commences proceed with your partner to the Walk-In play area, take a seat at a table and wait for someone to come around and collect the tokens before the commencement of play.

Players born on or after 1 January 2007 (under 18 years) and born on or before 1 January 1925 (over 100 years) are entitled to free entry - courtesy of Gold Coast Congress. Players born on or after 1 January 2000 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Please advise DOB when entering (ABF Policy).

If you have not paid, you must go to the Bridge Administration Desk before play starts. Entry to the Ivy Dahler Pairs and Friday Butler Swiss Pairs will be accepted up to 8.00pm on Thursday.

**Early bird discount applies to each person for most events if entry and entry fee is received prior to midnight Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

## ENTRY FORM

There is no official Entry Form but there is a form you can complete if you would like to post/email an entry. Control/Click this link: [Entry Form](#)



## EVENT ORGANISERS

Tournament organiser – Tim Runting  
On-Site Manager – Richard Ward  
Chief Tournament Director – Dr Laurie Kelso  
Chief Scorer – Matthew McManus

## EVENT INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

**OPEN:** Carries ABF Open Playoff Points. Swiss Pairs Events do not carry playoff points.

**YOUTH:** Open to players born after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2000.

**0-1500:** Open to players who have not attained 1500 MPs as at 30 Sept 2024

**INTERMEDIATE:** Open to players who have not attained 750 MPs as at 30 Sept 2024

**0-500:** Open to players who have not attained 500 MPs as at 30 Sept 2024

**RESTRICTED:** Open to players who have not attained 300 MPs as at 30 Sept 2024

**NOVICE:** Open to players who have not attained 100 MP's as at 30 Sept 2024

**UNDER 50 MP:** Open to players who have not attained 50 MPs as at 30 Sept 2024

**ROOKIE:** Open to players who have not attained 10 MP's as at 30 Sept 2024

## FINALISTS

Those teams qualifying for a berth in the Finals series of the Teams Championships in all sections do so only on the condition that they are willing and available to progress to the conclusion of their respective events.

For the Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice - If one or two teams are not available the play off for the finals to be given to third and/or fourth place. If no two teams are available, the team willing to participate in the finals series to be given the title and prizemoney with the runner up to be given second place status. Cash prizes will be payable via Bridge Credits.

## FINALS INCLUDING TOP 4 AND SEMI FINALS

For those making all teams finals, your entry to the Friday events will automatically be refunded to bridge credits.

The top 2 from each field of Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice teams will play in finals beginning at 10.00 am on Friday. The top 6 in the Open Field will play finals on Friday and then the top 2 on Saturday.

### OPEN - TOP 6 AT END OF MATCH 12

Round of 4 - 3rd to 6th

Friday 9:00am                      24 Boards (2x12 Board Stanzas)

**Losing teams in the round of 4 are no longer permitted to feed into the Ivy Dahler Pairs.**

### OPEN - SEMI FINAL

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and winners of the Round of 4

Friday 2:00pm                      36 Boards (3x12 Board Stanzas)

### OPEN - FINAL

Saturday 9:00am                      48 Boards (4x12 Board Stanzas)

### UNDER 1500, INTERMEDIATE, RESTRICTED and NOVICE,

Top 2 at the end of Match 12

Friday 10:00am                      48 Boards (4x12 Board Stanzas)

## FINDING US ONLINE

[QBA GCC website](#), [My ABF GCC website](#) or [Facebook](#)

## GOLD POINTS

Gold points are awarded for all events except Walk In Pairs.

For further information regarding masterpoint allocation, please refer to [Masterpoints](#) .

## HELP BEFORE PLAY

Help will be available as follows: ([Link to flyer](#))

Rookies	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am
Under 50s	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am
Novices	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> February Novice Pairs start 10.00am help from 9.30am Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February Novice Teams start 10.00am help from 9.30am Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs starts 10am help from 9.30am

Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

Date	Day	Event	Help from	Play Starts
1/02/2025	Saturday	BR Novice Pairs	9.30am	10.00am
2/02/2025	Sunday	Rookies	9.30am	10.00am
4/02/2025	Tuesday	Novice Teams	9.30am	10.00am
4/02/2025	Tuesday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am
5/02/2025	Wednesday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am
6/02/2025	Thursday	0-50s	9.30am	10.00am
6/02/2025	Thursday	Rookies	9.30am	10.00am
7/02/2025	Friday	Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs	9.30am	10.00am

## HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT AND KEEPING COSTS DOWN

There has been an increasing trend for players to read the Daily Bulletin online. This has enabled us to reduce the print runs of the bulletin reducing our carbon footprint and keeping down the costs for you the players.

## HOUSE TEAMS AND PAIRS

Any nominations are welcomed in the event that House Teams or Pairs are required. House players are eligible to win prizes and master points.

## IMPORTANT POINTS

- Gold Points are awarded in all events except Walk-in Pairs
- [List of prizes](#) are published on the My ABF GCC website
- [System regulations](#) are available on the MyABF GCC website
- Supplementary regulations will be published on the website on 1 January 2025
- Seating for Pairs and Teams Championships are available on website 24 hours prior to event
- Gold Coast Congress Compendium updated regularly as information comes to hand

## INTERMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 750 MP's as at 30 September 2024.

## LATE ENTRIES IVY DAHLER BUTLER PAIRS AND FRIDAY BUTLER PAIRS

**Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs**  
**Friday Butler Swiss Pairs**

Thursday 8.00pm  
Thursday 8.00pm

Only way of entering the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs and the Friday Butler Swiss Pairs after February 1<sup>st</sup> is via My ABF.

Any player making changes to their entries at the venue will be charged an administration fee of \$10 per player.

No changes to lower masterpoint divisions are permitted on the starting day of the event without permission from the Chief Director and Chief Scorer.

No withdrawals or changes can be made after 8.00 pm to entries for Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs or the Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Withdrawals for Friday events (not finalists) will be charged at least 25% of the entry fee.

If you make the finals, you will automatically receive a refund via Bridge Credits.

## LUNCHES

The Convention Centre Kiosk, The Combi, will sell a few sandwiches, salads and sausage rolls. Alternatively, here are some suggestions nearby from the GCCEC – [Cafes near GCCEC](#)

## MASTERPOINTS

Walk-In Pairs are awarded Red Masterpoints.

All other events including Rookies and 0-50mps are awarded Gold Masterpoints.

### Masterpoint Awards:

Sat/Sun/Mon Butler Swiss Prs

Sat/Sun/Mon 0-500 Butler Swiss Prs

Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

### Gold in main events, red for walk-ins

0.36 gold masterpoints for each win

0.29 gold masterpoints for each win

0.32 gold masterpoints for each win

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Open Teams	1.12 gold masterpoints for each win
Under 1500 MPs Teams	0.56 gold masterpoints for each win
Intermediate Teams	0.50 gold masterpoints for each win
Restricted Teams	0.41 gold masterpoints for each win
Novice Teams	0.36 gold masterpoints for each win
Open Butler Swiss Pairs	0.64 gold masterpoints for each win
Intermediate Butler Swiss Pairs	0.29 gold masterpoints for each win
Restricted Butler Swiss Pairs	0.23 gold masterpoints for each win
Novice Butler Swiss Pairs	0.16 gold masterpoints for each win
0-50 MPs Butler Swiss Pairs	0.16 gold masterpoints for each win

Substantial awards for outright places (top half of field in pairs, top third of field in Teams and Swiss pairs). All Masterpoint awards are subject to final field size.

### MINOR SPONSORS

Voucher Sponsors are entitled to free advertisements. A \$50 voucher is entitled to an advertisement equivalent to the size of 1/6th of a page. \$500 of vouchers will provide a daily advertisement of the same size.

### My ABF – SIGNING UP

All players will need an ABF number to play in the Gold Coast Congress. Please email [masterpoints@abf.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@abf.com.au) with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. Alternatively, email Jacqui Dudurovic [gccentries@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:gccentries@qldbridge.com.au) for assistance.

If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - ABF Masterpoint Centre.

Once you have an ABF number, you need to be **registered with MyABF** to submit an entry to any event. International players may submit their entries via Jacqui Dudurovic - [gccentries@qldbridge.com.au](mailto:gccentries@qldbridge.com.au)

New Zealand players will need an ABF number before you can sign up. Please email [masterpoints@abf.com.au](mailto:masterpoints@abf.com.au) with your gender, NZB number and date of birth. If you already have an ABF number but don't remember it, you may search for it [here](#) - [ABF Masterpoint Centre](#).

To sign up to [MyABF](#), please follow these instructions. It only takes a couple of minutes:

Sign up at this site <https://www.myabf.com.au/view>

Click on 'SIGN UP', which will take you to this link <https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register> where you will need to enter **ABF number, Name, Email address and a password** that's easy to remember to avoid having to reset password.

You will be sent an email to activate your account. Check spam for the activation email if you haven't received it.

Once you have activated your account, it will take you to a site with your profile. Include your email address, mobile phone number and your date of birth.

For information on registering - [MyABF resources and how to sign up](#)

## My ABF REFUNDS

Should you withdraw from the event prior to publication of the draw, and you would like a refund of your entry fees, please refer to these instructions:

[My ABF How to Withdraw an Entry and Request a Refund](#)

## NEW ZEALAND MASTERPOINT CONVERSION

CATEGORY	NZ ELIGIBILITY as at 30.09.2024
Rookie	Novice
Under 50	Less than NZ Club Master
NOVICE	Less than NZ Local Master
RESTRICTED	Less than NZ Provincial Master
0-500 MPs	Less than NZ Master
INTERMEDIATE	Less than NZ National Master
Under 1500	Less than NZ Life Master
Youth	Must be under the age of 25 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025

\* Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress the following players are entitled to free entry;

- Players under the age of 18 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025, and
- Players over the age of 100 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025

and the following players are entitled to a 50% discount; - Players under the age of 25 years at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025.

ABF Policy requires entrants to provide their birth date to receive free entry or a 50% discount.

## NIGHT PLAY

No night bridge apart from No Frills Walk In Pairs

## NO FRILLS WALK-IN PAIRS

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January – 1 Session: 6.00pm

## NOVICE ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 100 MP's as at 30 September 2024.

## NOVICE AND ROOKIE ACTIVITIES

NOVICE & ROOKIE ACTIVITY	VENUE	DATE/TIME
<b>GCC Bobby Richman Novice Pairs Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC Rookie Pairs Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC 0-50 MP Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC Novice Teams Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC 0-50 MP Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC Rookie Pairs Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC 0-50 MP Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Fuchsia Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am
<b>GCC Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs Welcome</b> Assistance with System Cards and How it all Works etc	Maroon Tablecloths Main Playing Area	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Help from 9.30am

Helpers for this will be wearing Yellow Hi Viz vests.

[GCC Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

## NOVICE EVENTS

**ROOKIE PAIRS** – under 10 masterpoints (2 separate events)

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 10.00am (min 24 boards) finish approx. 1.45pm

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 10.00am (min 24 boards) finish approx. 1.45pm

\$100 per pair (\$60 if prepaid by 26/01)

### 0-50 MASTERPOINT PAIRS

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$160.00 (\$120 if paid by 26/01) per pair

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$160.00 (\$120 if paid by 26/01) per pair

### 0-50 BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$160.00 (\$120 if paid by 26/01) per pair

**Small tea break will be held during sessions of 0-50 and 0-10 masterpoint sessions**

### 0-500 BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb - 2 session event 10:00am & 2.30pm finish 5.45pm approx.

(must play both sessions) \$170.00 (\$130 if paid by 26/01) per pair

### FRIDAY IVY DAHLER NOVICE PAIRS – under 100 masterpoints

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am & 2pm; Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> 10am (3 sessions). Finish approx. 1.30pm Saturday

\$240 per pair (\$200 if prepaid by 26/01)

## **NOVICE BR PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP – under 100 masterpoints**

5 sessions must play all

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 10.00am & 2.30pm finish approx. 5.45pm – Qualifying 2 sessions

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 10.00am & 2.30pm finish approx. 5.45pm. Final Session 1 and 2

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 10.00am – Final Session 3

\$360 PER PAIR (\$320 if prepaid by 26/01)

## **NOVICE TEAMS – under 100 masterpoints - 12 matches**

Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10:00am & 2.30pm (4 matches) finish 6.00 pm approx.

\$880 PER TEAM (\$800 if prepaid by 26/01)

(Top 2 at the end of match 12 play the finals at 10am Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb – 4 x 12 board stanzas)

## **NOVICE HELP BEFORE PLAY**

Help will be on hand half an hour before the start of play for all 0-50, Rookie and Novice players. Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

Novice Bobby Richman Pairs Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Feb play starts 10am – help from 9.30am

Novice Teams Tue 4<sup>th</sup> Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

Novice Ivy Dahler Pairs Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

## **ONLINE ENTRIES**

Enter online via MyABF <https://www.myabf.com.au/>. Online entries close 48 hours prior to event. Phone entries may be accepted up to 24 hours prior to play starting, however for events on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, entries will be accepted until 8.00pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

## **ONSITE PERSONNEL**

Attending the congress during the tournament will be:

### **World Bridge Federation:**

TBA

### **Australian Bridge Federation:**

TBA

### **New Zealand Bridge Federation:**

TBA

### **Queensland Bridge Association:**

TBA

### **IBPA**

TBA

## **OPEN PAIRS and TEAMS PLAYOFF POINTS**

[https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024\\_PQP\\_Table.html](https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024_PQP_Table.html)

BR Open Pairs Championship carries ABF Open Playoff Points. Swiss Pairs Events do not carry playoff points. PQP's awarded are:

**1<sup>st</sup> = 36, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 28, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 20, 4<sup>th</sup> = 12, 5<sup>th</sup> = 6**

Open Teams Championship carries ABF Open Playoff Points. PQP's awarded are:

**1<sup>st</sup> = 48, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 24, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 18, 4<sup>th</sup> = 12, 5<sup>th</sup> 8, 6<sup>th</sup> 4**

Australian Playoff Points are allocated to Open and Mixed events. Australian players entering the Gold Coast Congress Open Teams will be eligible for Open PQPs, irrespective of the category for which their team nominates.

## **OVERSEAS ELIGIBILITY**

**New Zealand eligibility is publicised. Overseas players other than NZ, must play in the Open. However, they may apply to play in a lower section.**

**ROOKIE 0-10 MP's:** Novice as at 30/09/2024

**0 – 50 MP's:** Less than NZ Club Master as at 30/09/2024

**NOVICE:** Less than NZ Local Master as at 30/09/2024

**RESTRICTED:** Less than NZ Provincial Master as at 30/09/2024

**0 – 500 MP's:** Less than NZ Master as at 30/09/2024

**INTERMEDIATE** under 750 MP's: Less than NZ National Master as at 30/09/2024

**Under 1500:** Less than NZ Life Master as at 30/09/2024

**Youth:** Players under the age of 25 at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025 are entitled to a 50% discount. Players under the age of 18 at the cut-off date of 01/01/2025 are entitled to free entry.

## **PARKING**

Parking will be available for \$15 per entry per day or \$63 for a weekly pass with unlimited entry from Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February to Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February inclusive.

The Bridge Administration Desk is the ONLY place you can obtain a weekly pass. It will be open on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January from 1pm until 5pm, then from Saturday one hour before play to half an hour after play finishes. Weekly passes can only be used from Saturday to Saturday inclusive.

For those requiring casual day parking, a one entry one exit ticket will be available from the machine upon entry. Those parking will need to pay \$15 on departure at the pay stations which are located at the centre lifts as you are exiting. Note that the \$15 ticket is a one entry and one exit ticket so if you intend to leave between sessions you will be required to pay a second \$15 parking fee.

## **PARTNERSHIP REQUESTS**

The Partnership request facility is available on My ABF. This is via the PARTNERSHIP DESK button directly above the Program. Alternatively, you may put in a partnership request with Toni Bardon 0401 082 054 or [tmbardon@hotmail.com](mailto:tmbardon@hotmail.com).



## **PAYING AN ENTRY THAT'S ALREADY BEEN LODGED**

A detailed "How to" guide illustrating this is on the My ABF Resources website [here](#):

## **PAYMENT OF PRIZE MONEY**

All cash prizes will be paid via Bridge Credits.

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

1. Direct Deposit BSB: 484-799 Account No: 452338505 Name: QBA
2. Cheques payable to: "Queensland Bridge Association". Post to Jacqui Dudurovic
3. Credit Card (complete details below)

Please charge my credit card the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type: Mastercard Visa

Card holder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Card holders signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entries to Jacqui Dudurovic PO Box 612 Clayfield Qld 4011

ONLINE ENTRANTS: If you enter on-line and promise payment by cheque or mailed credit card details, you **need to provide your name and event** along with the cheque or credit card details.

## **PENS**

Pens will be issued at the start of the Pairs and start of the Teams and belong to the players who are responsible for carrying their own pens from table to table. There will be no replacement pens.

## **PHOTOS POLICY**

The Gold Coast Congress photographer takes random photos of winners and players during the week of the congress. Should any player not wish to have their photo taken, they should advise the GCC Manager in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the congress.

## **PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS USING BRIDGEMATE II**

See [BRIDGE MATES II – PLAYER NUMBERS FOR THE TEAMS](#)

## **PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS**

Please refer to [PQPs – PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS](#)

## **POLICY PHOTOS**

The Gold Coast Congress photographer takes random photos of winners and players during the week of the congress. Should any player not wish to have their photo taken, they should advise the GCC Manager in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the congress.

## **POLICY REFUNDS**

Late refunds are issued at the Gold Coast Congress Management's discretion, ideally before the draw for the event is published. Gold Coast Congress Management reserve the right to charge an administration fee of 25% of the entry fee.

## **POLICY TEAM CATEGORY**

Special category prizes (awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category.

## **POLICY – QBA WELLNESS GUIDE**

**WELLNESS GUIDELINES:** Players and officials are asked not to attend any event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.

## **POLICY – WALK IN PAIRS**

Anything up to and including 10 tables will be a Howell movement, More than 10 tables will be a Mitchell movement.

The payment options are:

- Purchase 1 x pre-paid Walk-In game token for \$15
- Purchase 3 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$42 – equals \$14 / game.
- Purchase 5 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$65 – equals \$13 / game.

\*\* Please note the pre-paid Walk-In game tokens are not refundable however they are transferrable.

The pre-paid Walk-In game tokens can only be purchased from the GCC administration office or from the Walk-In area 30 minutes before play, twice a day each day. Fifteen minutes before play commences proceed with your partner to the Walk-In play area, take a seat at a table and wait for someone to come around and collect the tokens before the commencement of play.

## PQPs – PLAYER QUALIFYING POINTS

PQP's are earned as per table below:

[https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024\\_PQP\\_Table.html](https://www.abfevents.com.au/events/pqp/standings/2024/2024_PQP_Table.html)

EVENT	TYPE	1 <sup>ST</sup>	2 <sup>ND</sup>	3 <sup>RD</sup>	4 <sup>TH</sup>	5 <sup>TH</sup>	6 <sup>TH</sup>
Gold Coast Pairs	MP Pairs	36	28	20	12	6	
Gold Coast Teams	Teams	48	24	18	12	8	4

Australian players entering the Gold Coast Congress BR Open Pairs and Open Teams will be eligible for Open PQPs, irrespective of the category for which their team nominates..

## PRIZES

Link with the list of prizes will be published on the GCC website.

Please see the prize board near the office. Qualifying Rounds – First to Tenth in each Open Qualifying Section, First to Fourth in Intermediate and Novice Qualifying Rounds and First to Sixth in Restricted will be entitled to receive Gold Coast Prize Pens. Winners of each final round are entitled to a Gold Coast Prize Pen.

House players are eligible to win prizes.

Youth players who had free entry to an event and win a prize, will have half the entry fee deducted from their prize should the prize money exceed \$150.

All cash prizes will be paid via Bridge Credits.

## PRIZE MONEY 2025

(Draft as at 9/6/24)

	<u>PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP</u>				
	<u>OPEN</u>		<u>INTER</u>	<u>REST</u>	<u>NOVICE</u>
	<u>Champ</u>	<u>Plate</u>			
First	\$1800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
Second	\$ 800.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$350.00
Third	\$ 600.00				

**Best Women's Pair** \$ 200.00

**Best Queensland Pair in each category** \$ 200.00 (V)

**Qualifying** – pens to top 10 N/S and E/W in Open for each qualifying round. Pens to top 4 N/S and E/W in Intermediate and Novice for each qualifying round and Pens to top 6 N/S and E/W in Restricted for each qualifying round

### Other Sections

First	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$300.00
Second	\$100.00 (C) & 100.00 (V)	ditto open	ditto open	ditto open

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Prize of Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

### **SATURDAY/SUNDAY /MONDAY/FRIDAY BUTLER SWISS PAIRS**

0-500 Field only applies to the Sunday and Monday events.

One field only

#### **Open**

First \$200.00  
Second \$150.00 (v)

#### **0-500**

First \$150.00  
Second \$125.00 (V)

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre. Sessional winners to receive pens

### **TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP**

	<b><u>Open</u></b>	<b><u>U1500</u></b>	<b><u>Inter</u></b>	<b><u>Rest</u></b>	<b><u>Novice</u></b>
First	\$5000.00	\$2000.00	\$2000.00	\$2000.00	\$1500.00
Second	\$3000.00	\$1500.00	\$1500.00	\$1500.00	\$1000.00
Third	\$1500.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$ 700.00
Third	\$1500.00				
Fifth	\$1000.00				
Fifth	\$1000.00				

#### **Categories**

First \$400.00 (C \$300 & V \$100) in all categories  
4 categories 3 categories 3 categories 3 categories 3 categories

Prize of Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

### **IVY DAHLER BUTLER SWISS PAIRS**

#### **Open - 2 fields**

First NS/EW \$400.00 X 2  
Second NS/EW \$300.00 X 2

#### **Intermediate**

\$400.00  
\$250.00

#### **Restricted**

\$400.00  
\$250.00

#### **Novice**

\$400.00  
\$250.00

#### **ROOKIE PAIRS**

First \$ 80.00 for both North South and East West  
Second \$ 60.00 for both North South and East West – (Vouchers)

#### **UNDER 50 PAIRS**

First \$160.00  
Second \$120.00 (Vouchers)

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre Foyer

#### **WALK INS**

\$50/\$60 Restaurant vouchers for North/South and East West Daily Winners when more than 10 ½ tables. One prize only for 10 tables or less. **No Frills Walk Ins** – Sectional and Directional Winners to receive wine and pen

## PRIZES – PAYMENT

All cash prizes will be paid via Bridge Credits.

## PRIZES – YOUTH

If a youth player has paid no entry fee and he/she wins a prize over \$150, half price entry fee to be taken out of the prize.

## PROBLEMS

Tim Runting is the Convenor and Richard Ward, the On-Site Manager. If you experience any problems with the events, see either of them. Tim can be contacted on 0458 448 765 at any time during the congress. Richard may be contacted on 0419 729 470.

## PROGRAM

[gcc2025-ProgrammeA.pdf \(qldbridge.com.au\)](http://qldbridge.com.au/gcc2025-ProgrammeA.pdf)

Fri 31 Jan	<b>No Frills Walk-In Pairs</b> 1 session	6.00pm. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid
Sat – Mon 1-3 Feb	<b>Bobby Richman Pairs Championship</b> <b>5 sessions (Matchpoint Pairs)</b> (all pairs play in all sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open</li> <li>▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	<b>2 qualifying sessions</b> Saturday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm <b>3 finals sessions</b> Sunday 10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 6.00pm. Monday 10.00am <b>Open</b> Pairs Championship will be playing for the Bobby Richman Trophy Best <b>Women's</b> pair will be playing for the Gerda Stern Trophy – sponsored by David Stern. Best <b>Qld</b> Pair in each category receives a voucher prize. Best <b>Intermediate</b> Pair will receive a Trophy. <b>Restricted</b> Pairs Championship will receive a trophy <b>Novice</b> Pairs Championship will be playing for the Tony Jackman Shield.
Sat 1 Feb	<b>Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> 2 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open</li> <li>• 0-500</li> </ul>	10.00am and 2.30pm. Butler Swiss Pairs event Separate NS and EW fields in the Open. 6 x 9 board matches over 2 sessions finishing by 5.45pm
Sun 2 Feb	<b>Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> 2 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open</li> <li>• 0-500</li> </ul>	10.00am and 2.30pm. Butler Swiss Pairs event Separate NS and EW fields in the Open. 6 x 9 board matches over 2 sessions finishing by 5.45pm
Sun 2 Feb	<b>Rookie Pairs</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs 10am</b> <b>Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm</b>	10.00am finishing approx. 1.30pm. Single session Matchpoint pairs for players under 10 MPs – 24 boards minimum. <b>Walk-In Pairs</b> - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid

GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

<p>Mon 3 Feb</p>	<p><b>Monday Butler Swiss Pairs -</b> 2 sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open</li> <li>• 0-500</li> </ul> <p><b>Walk-in Pairs 10am</b> <b>Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm</b></p>	<p>10.00am and 2.30pm. Butler Swiss Pairs event Separate NS and EW fields in the Open. 6 x 9 board matches over 2 sessions finishing by 5.45pm</p> <p><b>Walk-In Pairs</b> - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid.</p>
<p>Tue to Thu 4 - 6 Feb</p>	<p><b>Teams Championship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open</li> <li>• Under 1500 MPs</li> <li>• Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>• Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>• Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Comprising 12 x 14-board matches for all sections.</b></p> <p><b>Open</b> Teams field will play for the Stepbridge Trophy. <b>Under 1500</b> will play for a Trophy, <b>Intermediate</b> Teams will play for the Two Men and a Truck Trophy. <b>Restricted</b> Teams Trophy is in memory of Pauline Evans. <b>Novice</b> Teams will play for the Therese Tully Trophy.</p> <p><b>Matches:</b> Starting times each day – 10.00am &amp; 2.30pm (4 matches per day), finish by 6.00pm.</p> <p><b>Finals:</b> Fri-Sat – see Teams Finals below</p>
<p>Tue 4 Feb</p>	<p><b>0-50 MP Pairs</b> Sessions 1 &amp; 2 <b>Walk-in Pairs 10am</b> <b>Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm</b></p>	<p>Two-session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 50 MPs - 10.00am and 2.30pm</p> <p><b>Walk-In Pairs</b> - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid.</p>
<p>Wed 5 Feb</p>	<p><b>0-50 MP Pairs</b> Sessions 1 &amp; 2 <b>Walk-in Pairs 10am</b> <b>Walk-In Pairs 2.30pm</b></p>	<p>Two-session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 50 MPs - 10.00am and 2.30pm</p> <p><b>Walk-In Pairs</b> - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid</p>
<p>Thu 6 Feb</p>	<p><b>Rookie Pairs</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs - 2 Sessions</b> <b>0-50 MP Butler Swiss Pairs</b></p>	<p>10.00am. Single session matchpointed pairs for players with fewer than 10 MPs.</p> <p><b>Walk-In Pairs</b> - No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid</p> <p>10.00am and 2.30pm. Two-sessions with 6 x 8 board matches for players with fewer than 50 MPs</p>
<p>Fri and Sat 7 - 8 Feb</p>	<p><b>Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open</li> <li>▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	<p>Comprises 10 x 8-board matches over 3 sessions: Friday 10.00am and 2.00pm, session finishing by 6.00pm, and Saturday 10.00am finishing by 1.30pm.</p> <p>Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice players will be playing for the Ivy Dahler Trophies.</p> <p>Two fields in Open section. Single fields in Intermediate, Restricted and Novice sections.</p>

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Fri and Sat 7 - 8 Feb	<b>Teams Finals</b>	<p><b>Open Round-of-Four</b> for 3rd to 6th places Friday 9.00am 2x12-board matches. <b>Drop-ins to Ivy Dahler Pairs will not be permitted.</b></p> <p><b>Open Semi-Finals</b> for 1st and 2nd and two winners from Round-of-four Friday 2.00pm 3x12-board matches</p> <p><b>Open Finals</b> for 2 Semi-finals winners Saturday 9.00am 4x12board matches.</p> <p><b>Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice Finals</b> for top 2 at the end of Match 12 Friday 10.00am 4x12-board matches</p>
Fri 7 Feb	<b>Friday Butler Swiss Pairs Open - 2 Sessions</b>	10.00am and 2.00pm, finishing by 5.15pm. Comprises 6 x 8 board matches over 2 sessions. Saturday finish 1.30pm
	<b>Walk-in Pairs - 2 Sessions</b>	10.00am and 2.00pm. 2 separate sessions. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid.
Sat 8 Feb	<b>Walk-in Pairs - 1 Session</b>	Starts 10.00am. No registration necessary. Entry fee \$15 per player, pre-paid.

### PROTECTED PAIRS

Pairs playing a **GREEN** system can apply for an Orange sticker if both are below Life Master or one is below State Master.

This affords protection from **BROWN STICKER** conventions in all events where they are permitted with the exception of the major Final of the Open Pairs.

### RECORDERS

The ABF is keen to ensure events are played in the spirit of sportsmanship, and that players have an enjoyable experience at events run under the auspices of the ABF. The recorders at this event fulfil an important role in supporting this objective.

Recorders may receive oral or written communication from players at the end of each session regarding issues that have arisen during the event relating to player ethics or behaviour. Please feel free to consult with them about any concerns you might have.

The recorders for this event are TBA.

### REFUNDS

Should you withdraw from an event prior to the event closing and the draw is done, and you would like a refund of your entry fees, please refer to these instructions from MyABF.

[How to Withdraw an Entry/Request a Refund](#)

### REFUNDS POLICY

Late refunds are issued at the Gold Coast Congress Management's discretion, ideally before the draw for the event is published. Gold Coast Congress Management reserve the right to charge an administration fee of 25% of the entry fee.

## RESTRICTED ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have less than 300 MP's as at 30 September 2024.

## REVIEWERS

TBA

## REVIEW CONSULTANTS

TBA

## ROOKIE (0-10) ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 10 MP's as at 30 September 2024.

## ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50 AND NOVICE COLOURS

- **0-50** in Fuchsia
- **Rookies** in Fuchsia
- **Novice** in Maroon

## ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50 AND NOVICE EVENTS

Please refer to [NOVICE EVENTS](#)

## ROOKIE (0-10), 0-50, AND NOVICE HELP

Help will be available as follows:

Rookies	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am onwards Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am onwards
Under 50s	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00am help from 9.30am Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00 help from 9.30am Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February play starts 10.00 help from 9.30am
Novices	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February Novice Pairs start 10.00am help from 9.30am Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February Novice Teams start 10.00am help from 9.30am Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February Ivy Dahler Novice Pairs 10am help from 9.30am

Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.



## ROOM SET UP – COLOUR CODING

For player convenience, playing areas will be colour coded for the whole event through the use of coloured tablecloths and matching coloured flag. This will help to identify your section, results and playing area.

- **Open Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Blue
- **Under 1500 Teams** - Orange
- **Intermediate Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Yellow
- **Restricted Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Light and Dark Green
- **Novice Pairs/Teams/Ivy Dahler** - Maroon
- **Rookies/0-50/Walk-Ins** – Fuchsia\*\*
- **Open Saturday, Sunday, Monday Butler Swiss Pairs** in Orange
- **0-500 Saturday, Sunday, and Monday Butler Swiss Pairs** – Purple
- **Friday Open Butler Pairs** – Purple\*\*

*\*\*This may change on the day depending on the layout approved by the GCCEC*

## SCORE BOOKLETS

Scoring booklets are provided at the start of each event. Should you require another one, please ask a caddy, and if available, another will be supplied.

## SCORING ISSUES

The Scoring Liaison Officer is Toni Bardon. She will act as liaison between players and the Scoring Unit. Any problems and concerns you have about scoring and results should be addressed to Toni – she has a desk outside the Scoring Room. Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456587765 – accepts text messages only.

## SCORING CORRECTION PERIODS

See also [CORRECTION OF SCORES](#)

Errors in scoring must be advised to the Scoring Enquiries desk before the following times:

### Pairs Championships

Qualifying One	3.00pm Saturday
Qualifying Two	One hour after scores are posted
Final One	3.00pm Sunday
Final Two	One hour after scores are posted
Final Three	One hour after scores are posted

### Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3.00pm Saturday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

### Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3.00pm Sunday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

### Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Matches 1-3	3.00pm Monday
Matches 4-6	One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

### Teams Championships

Matches 1, 3, 5, 7, 9	One hour after the end of the next even numbered match
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## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Matches 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 At the start of the next even numbered match  
Matches 11, 12 8:30pm Thursday for corrections affecting Final series qualification. Midnight, Thursday, for all other corrections

### **Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs**

Matches 1-3 3:00pm Friday  
Matches 4-7 11.00am Saturday  
Matches 8-10 One hour after scores for Match 10 are posted

### **Friday Butler Swiss Pairs**

Matches 1-3 3:00pm, Friday  
Matches 4-6 One hour after scores for Match 6 are posted

### **All Other Sessions**

**Sessions Not Listed Above** 20 minutes after scores for the session are posted

World Championships have been awarded based on scoring errors. E/W Pairs should not simply acknowledge the scores on the Bridgemates but should check them carefully. Incorrect scores can change the result of an event even though the relevant pairs may have nothing to do with the scoring error. They may also affect draws for Teams and Swiss Pairs events, Masterpoints, Playoff Qualifying Points.

## **SEATING**

Seating for Pairs and Teams Championships are available on the GCC website 24 hours prior to the event.

## **SERVICES**

During session time, if you need a doctor or medical assistance you can contact the Bridge Office. They will direct you to the inhouse Doctor. Please do not abuse this free service we offer to players.

Outside of session time, contact the Broadbeach Family Practice on 07-55399177, Qube Building, 29 Queensland Avenue, Broadbeach.

After-hours service: National Home Doctors Service on 137425 who do bulk bill.

## **SESSION TIMES**

All session times are shown in the online Daily Bulletin each day.

### BR Pairs Championship – Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice

Saturday - Qualifying 10.00am, 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm  
Sunday – Finals 1 & 2 10.00am, 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm  
Monday – Final 3 10.00am

### Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs

Saturday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

### Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs

Sunday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

### Monday Butler Swiss Pairs

Monday 10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

### Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs – 2 sessions

Tuesday	10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm
Wednesday	10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm
Thursday	10.00am and 2.30pm finishing 5.45pm

### Rookie Pairs – two separate events

Sunday	10.00am – 1.15pm Short coffee break during session
Thursday	10.00am – 1.15pm Short coffee break during session

### Teams Championship

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00am – 1.30pm and 2.30pm – 6.00pm

**NOTE – The top 2 from each field of Under 1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice teams will play in finals beginning at 10.00am on Friday. The top 6 in the Open Field will play finals on Friday and then the top 2 on Saturday.**

### Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday	10.00am – 1.30pm; 2.00 pm – 6.00pm (Approx finish times)
Saturday	10.00am – finished by 1.30pm

### Friday Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday	10.00am – 1.15pm and 2.00pm finishing 5.15pm
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### Walk In Pairs

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	6.00pm
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am and 2.00pm
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00am (finish time 1.30pm)

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

TBIB Daily Prize Wheel. You Must be Present to Win. A TBIB lucky star under a chair in main playing area for a spin opportunity - Foyer GCCEC

TBA Directors Get Together - Hosted by Chris Snook  
0413136435 [chris@snook.id.au](mailto:chris@snook.id.au) - Upstairs Room 12

5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2.00pm-2.15pm **SILLY SHOES & KINKY BOOTS** Parade –  
Foyer GCCEC

## **SPRING NATIONALS PRIZES**

Best Qld Novice Team in the GCC Novice Teams will receive free entry into the Restricted Teams and 2 x pairs entries at the 2025 Spring Nationals in Sydney.

Best Under 1500 Qld Team in the GCC Under 1500 Teams will receive free entry into the Open Teams and 2 x pairs entries at the 2025 Spring Nationals in Sydney.

## SPONSORS – (MINOR)

Voucher Sponsors are entitled to free advertisements. A \$50 voucher is entitled to an advertisement equivalent to the size of 1/6th of a page. \$500 of vouchers will provide a daily advertisement of the same size.

## SPONSORS

The Gold Congress could not run without our sponsors. We are deeply indebted to them and would ask you to show your appreciation by supporting them.

**AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE MAGAZINE:** Australia's national bridge magazine now comes in two different editions, Regular and Novice, so players of all levels will find something of interest. You can subscribe to either magazine at Paul Lavings' book stall or visit [www.australianbridge.com](http://www.australianbridge.com).

**DAVID STERN:** in memory of his late mother Gerda Stern – the best Women's Pair in the Open Pairs will receive prize money and trophy donated by David Stern in Gerda's memory.

**PAUL LAVINGS BRIDGE BOOKS AND SUPPLIES:** Paul has been a stalwart supporter of this event for well over 20 years and all third placed pairs win vouchers for items from his stall. Best way you can support Paul is by checking out his shop in the foyer, you will be surprised by his range of items and reasonable prices. [www.bridgegear.com](http://www.bridgegear.com)

**PENLINE:** Penline has been offering quality stationery for all size businesses since 1980 and has also been a long-time supporter of the GCC, supplying the colourful GCC pens.

**SPRING NATIONALS – NSWBA:** the Spring Nationals offer free entry to two Queensland Teams and four Queensland Pairs to their event. This is done on a reciprocal basis as we give two free entries to the Gold Coast Congress Pairs and Teams.

**STEPBRIDGE:** StepBridge Australia is an Online Australian Bridge Club that offers Novice, Restricted and Open bridge sessions daily, in a friendly and controlled environment. For new players joining StepBridge, 5 free introductory games are provided. StepBridge has a Virtual Club facility that allows face-to-face bridge clubs to organise their own club sessions and congresses. For Youth Players we offer additional introductory free games, no membership fees, and match Participation Point purchases to provide half price table fees. For further information, visit [www.stepbridge.com.au](http://www.stepbridge.com.au) or email [support@stepbridge.com.au](mailto:support@stepbridge.com.au)

**TONY BEMROSE INSURANCE:** TBIB pay \$5000.00 in sponsorship plus the Prize Wheel. Take the opportunity to speak to them at the Congress – it is cost free to ask and you may well be pleasantly surprised <https://www.tbib.com.au/abf/>

**TWO MEN AND A TRUCK:** [www.twomen.com.au](http://www.twomen.com.au) An amazing company. They move all our gear from Brisbane to the Gold Coast Convention Centre at a very discounted rate.

**TO THOSE WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS:** We have a few and we can only say thank you.

**THANK YOU TO ALL THE SURROUNDING BRIDGE CLUBS.**

**VOLUNTEERS:** to all those players, friends and family members who donate their hours to make this event the success it is.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU MENTIONED ABOVE.**

Tim Runting and Kim Ellaway

## STAFFING

Our Floor Managers, Kim, Amber, and Kate are dressed in light blue vests. Our Caddies are in purple however they are only here to caddy – see our floor managers if further assistance is required. Also, our Directors led by Laurie Kelso have the navy vests with blue undershirts.

Our Scoring Staff are led by Matthew McManus and can be found wearing Black Shirts. However, all scoring issues should be addressed to the Scoring Enquiries Desk outside the scoring room just inside the doors in the centre of the playing area.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions at the Bridge Administration Desk where there is a team of people only too willing to help.

## SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

Supplementary regulations will be published on the website on 1 January 2025.

## SYSTEM REGULATIONS

[System regulations](#) are published on the My ABF GCC website.

## SYSTEMS AND SYSTEM CARDS

[System regulations](#) are published on the GCC My ABF website.

Each pair is required to have two current ABF approved, systemically identical system cards on the table for the opposing pair before the start of each round. Overseas players will be permitted to use New Zealand and WBF system cards in addition to ABF cards. ABF system cards and guide to completing them are available at this site: <http://www.abf.com.au/member-services/system-cards/>. **Hard copies of blank system cards are no longer available.**

GREEN and BLUE systems are permitted without restriction.

RED systems and BROWN STICKER conventions are permitted in all events except for **Restricted and Novice Pairs and Teams Championships**, all **0-50 Masterpoint events**, **Rookie Pairs**, **Friday Novice Pairs** and **Restricted Butler Swiss Pairs**. In addition, in these events, the CTD may also further restrict a pair from playing any method which the director judges may not be readily understood by a significant proportion of players in the field.

Eligible pairs may claim Protected Pair status in all events with the exception of the major Final of the **Open Pairs Championship**.

Provided the required system submission (detailed below) has been complied with, YELLOW systems will be allowed in the **Open Teams Championship** from Round 3 onwards. They may not be played against a contestant with a current position in the lower two-thirds of the field (decimals rounded up).

Pairs intending to play a YELLOW system must provide the Tournament Organiser with an adequately completed ABF Standard system card and a bona fide defence before 10.00am on 31 January 2025.

**STARTING TIMES**

Fri 31 Jan	<b>No Frills Walk-in Pairs</b> - 1 Session	6.00pm
Sat to Mon 1 - 3 Feb	<b>Pairs Championship</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open</li> <li>▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	2 qualifying sessions Saturday 10.00am and 2.30pm 3 finals sessions Sunday day 10.00am and 2.30pm Monday 10.00am
Sat 1 Feb	<b>Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> – 2 sessions	Saturday 10.00am and 2.30pm
Sun 2 Feb	<b>Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> – 2 sessions	Sunday 10.00am and 2.30pm
Sun 2 Feb	<b>Rookie Pairs</b> - 1 session <b>Walk-in Pairs – 10am</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm</b>	10.00am 10.00am and 2.30pm
Mon 3 Feb	<b>Monday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> – 2 sessions <b>Walk-in Pairs – 10am</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm</b>	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Tue to Thu 4 - 6 Feb	<b>Teams Championship</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open</li> <li>▪ Under 1500</li> <li>▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	10.00am and 2.30pm
Tue 4 Feb	<b>0-50 Masterpoint Pairs</b> – 2 sessions <b>Walk-in Pairs – 10am</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm</b>	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Wed 5 Feb	<b>0-50 Masterpoint Pairs</b> – 2 sessions <b>Walk-in Pairs – 10am</b> <b>Walk-in Pairs – 2.30pm</b>	10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Thu 6 Feb	<b>Rookie Pairs</b> - 1 session <b>Walk-in Pairs</b> – 2 sessions <b>0-50 MPs Swiss Butler Pairs</b> – 2 sessions	10.00am 10.00am and 2.30pm 10.00am and 2.30pm
Fri and Sat 7 - 8 Feb	<b>Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open</li> <li>▪ Intermediate (under 750 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Restricted (under 300 MPs)</li> <li>▪ Novice (under 100 MPs)</li> </ul>	<b>3 sessions</b> Friday 10.00am and 2.00pm Match 1-7 Saturday 10.00am Match 8-10

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

Fri and Sat 7 - 8 Feb	<b>Teams Finals</b>	<b>Open Round-of-Four</b> for 3rd to 6th places Friday 9am <b>Open Semi-Finals</b> for 1st and 2nd and two winners from Round-of-four Friday 2pm <b>Open Finals</b> for 2 Semi-finals winners Saturday 9am <b>Novice, Restricted and Intermediate Finals</b> for top 2 at the end of Match 12 Friday 10am
Fri 7 Feb	<b>Friday Butler Swiss Pairs</b> – 2 sessions <b>Walk-in Pairs</b> – 2 separate sessions	10.00am and 2.00pm  10.00am and 2.00pm
Sat 8 Feb	<b>Walk-in Pairs</b> - 1 Session	10.00am

### SUBSTITUTES

If you need a substitute during the week, see Toni Bardon at the Scoring Desk. Except in case of emergency, substitutes are not permitted in Matches 8-10 of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs.

### TEA, COFFEE AND WATER

As a service to participants, volunteers will be operating a tea and coffee service for this event. Coffee is made from ground coffee beans with fresh milk and will cost \$4 a cup. The service will start around one hour before play and continue until late into the last session.

Please understand that the service is run for the benefit of players by volunteers. Coffee, Tea and Water can be individually purchased via EFTPOS or cash.

There will be \$40 vouchers available for purchase from the Coffee Shop. \$40 voucher entitles you to 11 coffees.

As we are not allowed to run the free water service in the playing area, we will be selling bottles of water at \$2.00 from the coffee shop. These can be purchased via your \$40 voucher in lots of 2's. We cannot, under any circumstance, give free – a cup of hot water so please don't request – it is a public liability issue. We will not be doing double shots this year.

**VOUCHERS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE COFFEE SHOP VIA EFTPOS OR CASH. No refunds once a voucher has been purchased.**

### TEACHING

Any Celebrity Teaching Session held will be publicized in the Bulletin so look for details in the daily bulletin. Refer to [Celebrity Speakers](#)

### TEAM CATEGORIES

All teams should have nominated their categories when submitting their entry. The lists of categories received will be published at various points around the Convention Centre. Please check to see you are entered correctly into the various categories as once winners are announced no correspondence will be entered into.

## TEAM CATEGORY PRIZE POLICY

Special category prizes (awarded to the highest placed team not qualifying for the finals series. Teams must nominate a single category for which they wish to contend prior to the category nomination closing time specified by the TO. There must be at least 6 teams within a category for a prize to be awarded. If there are fewer than 6 teams in a category at the close of entries, such teams will be moved to a different category. Cash prizes will be paid via Bridge Credits.

## THEME DAY

We encourage all players to dress in keeping with the Gold Coast Annual Theme for Wednesday Teams Sessions. The ***Kinky Boots!***

your most outrageous when play finishes Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> some combination of



2025 theme is ***Silly Shoes and***

Please celebrate our 63<sup>rd</sup> year and wear shoes. The photography will commence and the parade from 2:15pm to 2:30pm February. Prizes will be available for groups, pairs or individuals.

## TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

<b>Tournament Organiser:</b>	Tim Runting - 0458 448 765
<b>On-Site Manager:</b>	Richard Ward – 0419 729 470
<b>Chief Tournament Director:</b>	Dr Laurie Kelso – 0412 559 171
<b>Bulletin Editors:</b>	Barbara Travis, Lauren Travis and Barry Rigal Ph or SMS – 0468 459 351
<b>Chief Scorer:</b>	Matthew McManus
<b>Reviewers:</b>	TBA
<b>Review Consultants:</b>	TBA
<b>Recorders:</b>	TBA
<b>ABF on site representatives:</b>	TBA

## TRANSPORT TO BROADBEACH

Transport to Broadbeach from Brisbane Airport:

Train and tram is the cheapest way to get to Broadbeach - approximately \$45 per person - [Airtrain.com.au](http://Airtrain.com.au)

Door to Door shuttle service - approximately \$55 per person - [Con-X-ion](#)

Transport to Broadbeach from Gold Coast Airport:

Taxi is approximately \$80 depending on time of arrival and road works

Public Transport information may be found at [Gold Coast Airport website](#)  
[Con-X-ion](#) Shuttle service and [Link Transfers](#) offer Door to Door service



## TROPHIES and SPONSORSHIP

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OR DONATING TO THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS,  
PLEASE CONTACT TOURNAMENT ORGANISER – TIM RUNTING**

EVENT	TROPHY DEDICATION / SPONSOR / NAME OF TROPHY
Open Pairs Championship	Trophy is in the memory of Bobby Richman. The trophy went missing from the 2024 event.
Open Pairs Championship – Women’s	Trophy is in the memory of Gerda Stern. Prize money is donated by David Stern.
Intermediate Pairs Championship	Trophy
Restricted Pairs Championship	Trophy
Novice Pairs Championship	Shield is in the memory of Tony Jackman.
Open Teams	StepBridge Trophy – Prize money is partially sponsored by StepBridge.
Under 1500 Teams	Trophy
Intermediate Teams	Sponsored by Two Men and a Truck
Restricted Teams	Trophy is in the memory of Pauline Evans
Novice Teams	Therese Tully Trophy
Butler Pairs Open/Intermediate/Restricted/Novice	Ivy Dahler Shields – dedicated to the memory of Ivy Dahler. The trophy went missing from the 2024 event.
Saturday Butler Swiss Pairs Open and Under 500	No Trophy for either event
Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs Open and Under 500	Trophies however named Weekend Swiss for both
Monday Butler Swiss Pairs Open and Under 500	Trophy for both
Under 50 MPs Pairs Events	No Trophy
Rookie Events	No Trophy
Awarded to the pair with the <b>highest VP score</b> over any three of the four one day events, being the Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Friday Butler Swiss Pairs events.	Joan McPheat and Reg Busch Shield and Trophy dedicated to their memory.

## UNDER 1500S ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 1500 MP’s as at 30 September 2024.

## UNDER 50S ELIGIBILITY

Open to players who have not attained 50 MP's as at 30 September 2024.

## UNDER 50s HELP BEFORE PLAY

Help will be on hand half an hour before the start of play for all 0-50, Rookie and Novice players. Assistance will be available for filling out system cards, helping you find your seat & working out where you go, where the boards move and using Bridgemates etc. We can also assist with any queries regarding alerting or anything else you might like to know, but also refer to the timetable of activities. Helpers can be identified by their bright yellow, fluorescent jackets.

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb play starts 10.00am - help from 9.30am

[Gold Coast Congress Novice Handy Guide](#) is highly recommended reading for first time participants.

## UNIFORMS

Administrative Staff - Shirt with Gold Coast Logo or Black Admin Jacket

Floor Managers – Light Blue Jacket

Directing – Blue shirts Navy Directors Jackets

Scoring – Black shirts with Gold Coast Logo

Caddies – Purple shirts with Gold Coast Logo

## WALK-IN PAIRS AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS

Walk In events mean you do not have to pre-register. You turn up with your partner and pre-pay at the Walk-In Desk in the playing area or GCC Office. Cost is \$15.00 per player. Discount is available for vouchers of 3 or more. No entry fees are collected at the tables. Walk ins are master pointed with redpoints.

The payment options are:

- Purchase 1 x pre-paid Walk-In game token for \$15
- Purchase 3 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$42 – equals \$14 / game.
- Purchase 5 x pre-paid Walk-In game tokens for \$65 – equals \$13 / game.

\*\* Please note the pre-paid Walk-In game tokens are not refundable however they are transferrable.

The pre-paid Walk-In game tokens can only be purchased from the GCC administration office or from the Walk-In area 30 minutes before play, twice a day each day. Fifteen minutes before play commences proceed with your partner to the Walk-In play area, take a seat at a table and wait for someone to come around and collect the tokens before the commencement of play.

Players born on or after 1 January 2007 (under 18 years) and born on or before 1 January 1925 (over 100 years) are entitled to free entry - courtesy of Gold Coast Congress. Players born on or after 1 January 2000 (under 25 years) are entitled to a 50% discount. Please advise DOB when entering (ABF Policy).

## GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL

All walk in pairs sessions are sponsored by Broadbeach Restaurants and Paul Lavings Bridge Supplies.

Voucher Prizes for each Session Winner.

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	6.00pm No Frills Walk In Pairs – BYO water
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am, Walk In Pairs 2.30pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am and 2.00pm
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Walk In Pairs 10.00am

\*\*\*No Frills Walk Ins – 6.00pm – No Frills means exactly that. No Outlets opened, no coffee, no water, no food.

### WEB DRAW FOR NEXT ROUND PAGE

The draw for the next round in the Teams and Swiss Pairs events will be published on the web at the same time it is displayed on the projector screens at the venue. So, if you are “[connected](#)” you can check your standings and the draw online.

### WEBSITE

The Gold Coast Congress website is :

[Gold Coast Congress - Queensland Bridge Association \(qldbridge.com.au\)](http://qldbridge.com.au)

### WITHDRAWALS

Players are permitted to withdraw from all divisions of the Championship Pairs (Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice) Finals (Sunday/Monday) at the end of the qualifying rounds, provided that they notify the Chief Director or Bridge Administration Desk within **ONE HOUR** of the qualifying scores being posted. No portion of the entry fees will be refunded.

### YOUTH & OTHER CONCESSIONAL ENTRY FEES

#### ADVISE DOB WHEN ENTERING

Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress, players born on or after 1 January 2007 are entitled to free entry. In accordance with Australian Bridge Federation policy, all players born on or after 1 January 2000 (under 25) are entitled to a 50% discount on entry fees.

Courtesy of the Gold Coast Congress, all players born before 1 January 1925 are entitled to free entry except for Walk-Ins.

Youth Walk-Ins - Unless you have the appropriate token, there will be no free places at the Walk Ins. Tokens can only be obtained from the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon or Kim Ellaway. Youth can only claim half price regardless of date of birth. Youth definition for Walk-ins is born on or after 01/01/2000.

**YOUTH - PRIZES**

If a youth player has paid no entry fee and he/she wins a prize over \$150, half price entry fee to be taken out of the prize. Paid in Bridge Credits.

**ZEPHYR FOUNDATION (GCC Charity)**

TBA

2025