CD Region Tournament Allocation Policy

Updated 15/10/25

All Clubs will be able to run tournaments in line with NZ Bridge Policy (Part B - Tournament Organisation of the New Zealand Bridge Manual)

Information about CD tournament Policy is provided in italics

A National Tournament Schedule is produced each year and published on the NZ Bridge website. www.nzbridge.co.nz/events.html. Tournaments are graded and are run throughout New Zealand at National, Regional and Club or Local level.

1 Participation, Grading and Award Allocation

1. Participation in Tournaments

All Players participating in any Tournament must be a member of a Club affiliated to NZ Bridge or be an approved overseas Player. All overseas Players are automatically designated as Open Grade until a lesser status has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the NZ Bridge Secretary.

2. Grades of Tournaments

Tournaments are graded as follows, with eligibility based on annual gradings published each year. Changes of grade do not come into effect until the next year's list is published with the exception of novices acquiring a certificate of proficiency whose grade changes at that time.

(a) Novice Tournaments are C point events run for players with <5 B points at the time of entry, without a certificate of proficiency and generally intended for those in their early play after lessons.
(b) Single Session 2B Tournaments are special events to be played face-to-face as charity or fundraiser events, approved by the region on a case-by-case basis and open to players from all clubs.
(c) Junior Tournaments (3B) are for players classified as junior or lower ranked, with 30 or fewer rating points and <5 A points. Master Point awards of B Points for overall placings, B point session awards and C Points for session placings.
(d) Intermediate Tournaments (5B) are for players classified as intermediate or lower ranked. Master Point awards of B Points for overall placings, B point session awards and C Points for session placings.
b) Restricted (8B) with entry open to all Players except those Open Players in Open–Open pairings. Open Players may compete if they are playing with Intermediate or Junior Players. Master Point awards of B Points for overall placings, point session awards and C Points for session placings.

(f) Multigrade

a. (8B) with entry unrestricted and prizes awarded to different grade combinations.

b. (5B) with entry restricted to Intermediate and Junior Players. B Points are awarded to the top placings and C Points for session placings.

(g) 3A Tournaments

a. Restricted Open - open to those from National Master down. Master Point awards of A Points for overall placings, A point session awards and C Points for session placings.

b. Congress Consolation Pairs and Intermediate Events run at National Congress.

c. **Consolation events** held at Regional Congresses – usually held on holiday weekends.

(h) **Open Tournaments** include 5A and above plus 8B tournaments. Master Point awards of A or B Points for overall placings, A or B point session awards and C Points for session placings.

(i) **Other** (non-standard) events may be approved following application by the relevant regional committee to the Board

2 Tournament Schedule

The management of a tournament schedule is to ensure the orderly planning of tournaments with minimal clashes of tournaments locally and nationally. The national tournament schedule is produced at least one year in advance and published on the NZ Bridge website.

Guiding principles:

• National Events (Congress and the Major Regional Events) take precedence over other tournaments. Regions will not be able to hold other A Point Tournaments on a weekend NZ Bridge are hosting a face-to-face National Event.

• The Tournament Scheduler will work with the Major Events Co-ordinator in relation to national congress and the seven major regional events. Adjustments are made for:

- Easter and Matariki as these dates change each year.
- Any advised major non-bridge events that may impact bridge tournaments.
- Popular Australian bridge events.
- Date creep from year to year.

• The balance of the tournament schedule is rolled over from the previous year as confirmed events.

• Clubs through their regional committees can amend this schedule and will consider the following before advising the National Tournament Schedule Co-ordinator to update the schedule:

- Allocate a scheduled event to a different club in the region.
- Change the day on the same weekend.
- Change the weekend but must be satisfied for A point events they do not create a clash:
  - No other 5A point event within two hours' drive or 150km.
  - No 10A event in the same or a neighbouring region.
  - No Major Regional Events are being held anywhere.

- Cancel the event in which case it will not appear next year either.
- Add extra events up to 5A points.

3 Types of Events

1. National Events (Page C5)

a) These events are held at the National Congress and are organised and managed by NZ Bridge through the Major Events Co-ordinator. The events include:

- NZ Open Teams (40 A)
- NZ Open Pairs (30 A)
- Other national events such as mixed pairs, Restricted/Intermediate/Junior pairs/teams as determined.

c) There are seven Major Regional Events (20A) each year, allocated on a rotating basis one to each region. The region has the option to run these events face-to-face and to specify the club that will host the events. If the region chooses to run the event online, this will then be managed by NZ Bridge.

Clubs may apply to host a National Tournament but consideration needs to be given to venue size, club resources, transport and accommodation requirements. The regional committee will ask for expressions of interest from clubs in running National Tournaments.

2. Regional or Provincial Events (Page C5)

Each Region is entitled to run the following events each year.

(a) Three 10A events, including at least one teams, and one pairs event.
(b) Up to two Regional Congresses which can each include an additional 10A pairs and 10A team's event. To be classified as a congress there must be events scheduled for multiple (but not all) grades: Open, Restricted, Intermediate, and/or Junior ranked players.
(c) Trials for the Regional Championships (Open, Women, Senior and Intermediate).
(d) Preliminary rounds of the National Rubber Bridge Competition.
(e) Special character events such as men's, women's, mixed, senior or other limited entry events at the 5A point level.

Current CD regional events as at 12 September 2025

I. *Marion Hill Pairs (10A) – This event is attached to the Taranaki Congress. (Marion Hill was a Taranaki Player)*
II. *John Fullarton Teams (10A). Can be hosted by any club in the region.*
III. *Zelda Morris Pairs (10A) - This competition is normally allocated to an East Side Club. (Zelda Morris was from the Hawkes Bay)*
IV. *Regional Championships Trials – If trials are held any club in the region can host.*
V. *Taranaki Congress*
VI. *Hawkes Bay Congress*

Regional Committee involvement in regional tournaments and congress

i. *All regional events are required to have a regional committee member as a member of the match committee.*
ii. *Regional events will be allocated to clubs by the regional committee at least 6 months prior to the event*
iii. *Geographical location will be a consideration in the allocation.*
iv. *Any change to the format of Regional Congresses must have the approval of the Regional committee before the programme can be amended.*

3. Metropolitan or Area Events or Series (Page C5)

These events are generally run mid-week and not on a single or consecutive days. They must still attract players from multiple clubs and are therefore held where there are multiple clubs within easy reach. These are included in the national schedule the same as other events. Events may be as pairs or teams.

Each Region may hold up to eight metropolitan events. Of these events, up to four may be for the award of A Points (3A or 5A); the balance shall be B Point Tournaments.

These competitions:

(a) must satisfy NZ Bridge that they are genuine tournaments with entries from several Clubs.
(b) must meet the minimum requirements for the grade of tournament for the total number of boards played and the number of boards per session.
(c) must comply with the NZ Bridge Tournament Regulations (page D9 onwards or in the Toolkit).
(d) may have a qualifying, final and plate format.
(e) may consist of up to 10 sessions.
(f) may have each session held at a different venue.
(g) may have two or more sessions held on the one day; Master Points are awarded only for the sessions and not for the aggregate scores for the day.
(h) Each A point event must have a minimum of 20 qualifying Pairs. Failure to meet this minimum requirement in two consecutive years will result in the event being reclassified as an 8B for the following year.

4. Local (Club) Events (Page C6)

Existing tournaments are rolled into the next year as of right. Additional tournaments may be included by a club, in consultation with their regional committee. This can include one-off special event tournaments. The tournament schedule must be updated at least six-months before the planned event.

Clubs, in association with their regional committee are entitled to run B point events as they choose, subject to not creating clashes or other problems for neighbouring clubs.

4 On-line and Face to Face (Page C6)

The following rules apply to the running of on-line tournaments:

1. Major Regional Events (as outlined above) may be run either face-to-face or online at the discretion of the Region hosting the event with the proviso that there will be a mix face-

to-face and online in each year. If a region elects not to host a Major Regional Event in any year, NZ Bridge will run it as an online event.

2. Mid-week 8B tournaments may be held online or face-to-face but if online may only be run in the daytime.
3. Metropolitan tournaments run over several weeks/months may be run online mid-week in the daytime if they are B point tournaments. Metropolitan A point tournaments must be run face-to-face.
4. There will be three weekends a year set aside for the running of online tournaments. No other tournaments may be run on those weekends, and any club may apply to their Regional Committee to run one.
5. Online tournaments may also be run on statutory holidays that are not normally part of a long weekend – Waitangi Day and Anzac Day plus Matariki (always a Friday) when this does not clash with other events on that weekend. An application to the Regional Committee needs to be made and the Major Events Coordinator needs to be involved in the final decision.

Regional Committee Tournament Policy

a) It is the intention of the Regional Committee that all tournaments that fit the above criteria for Local Events or Metropolitan or Area Events or Series will be approved subject to a suitable date being available.

b) Additions, deletions, and changes to the tournament schedule will be managed by the Regional Tournament Coordinator, with oversight by the Regional Committee.

*c) Clubs that wish to run new tournaments that fit the above criteria must apply in writing to the Regional Secretary using the Tournament Change Request Form at least **seven months** before the proposed date. Requests to run similar grade tournaments within the lesser of **2 hours** or **150km** travel may be rejected.*

*d) Clubs that wish to amend existing tournaments must apply in writing to the Regional Secretary using the Tournament Change Request Form at least **seven months** before the date of the affected tournament. Changes to tournaments submitted with less than six months' notice will not be accepted unless there is an exceptional reason.*

e) When submitting proposals for new tournaments, or to amend existing tournaments, Clubs are required to

- *(i) Check for clashes within the Central Districts region.*
- *(ii) Check for clashes with the Waikato Bays or Wellington regions, if located near to those regions.*

*f) Clubs that wish to delete existing tournaments must notify the Regional Secretary using the Tournament Change Request Form at least **six months** before the date of the tournament.*

*g) Clubs may not contact the National Tournament Schedule Coordinator directly. The National Tournament Schedule Coordinator **will only** process change requests forwarded to them by the Regional Tournament Coordinator.*

h) In the case of dispute with the above policy, Part C – Tournament Organisation of the New Zealand Bridge Manual shall apply.