



## Cost of Play:

**Members:** Non -Special events \$6.00 or 1 token per game (10 tokens can be purchased for \$50.00)  
Special Events for some sessions \$12.00 or 2 tokens per game

**Non-members:** Non-special events \$7.00 per game. *(Not eligible to play in Special events)*

## EVENTS AT MAITLAND BRIDGE CLUB

### NON-SPECIAL EVENTS

- I. **Green point events, Nationwide Pairs and Supervised bridge sessions** are Non-Special events.
- II. Bookings for Non-Special Pairs events are made online via Maitland Bridge Club website calendar or members' area.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- I. Special events are classified as Championship events including but not limited to Club Pairs Championships, Championship Mixed Pairs, State Mixed Pairs, State Open Pairs, Grand National Open Teams (GNOTS), Club Teams Championships, Country Teams and Club Mixed Teams **and Red Point events**.
- II. Players who participate in Special events must be a financial member of MBC and have played at Maitland Bridge Club in Non-Special events at least six (6) times in the six (6) months prior to the start of the event, unless exempted by the President of MBC due to illness, extended travel or substantiated isolation.
- III. Whenever a substitution is made, the MBC Secretary or a member of the Management Committee must be messaged on their mobile number as soon as possible. If you require a substitute, please endeavour to find a suitable substitute. If you are unable to find one, the Management Committee will endeavour to assist. The Management Committee delegate/s responsible for finding substitutes will ensure that any/every substitute meets the requirements of the MBC Tournament Regulations.
- IV. Registrations for Special Pairs events close 72 hours prior to the commencement of each Special event. Registrations for team events close one week prior to the event and entry is via writing on the relevant form on the Maitland Bridge Club sign on table. Registration for all pairs events is online via the Maitland Bridge Club website calendar or members' area.
- V. For other compulsory criteria for Special events at Maitland Bridge Club see Maitland Bridge Club Tournament Regulations on the website under "information".
- VI. Eligible players representing MBC at Regional, Zonal or State level will have their entry fee partly subsidised by MBC.

## Rules of Play

This is a list of references to the:

[Laws of Duplicate Bridge 2017](https://bit.ly/2YatX8I) (LDB2017) which can be found at this link. <https://bit.ly/2YatX8I>

[Australian Bridge Federation](https://bit.ly/3msfaP1) (ABF) which can be found at this link: <https://bit.ly/3msfaP1>

1. Players should call the Director if there is any doubt concerning conduct during the game of bridge.
2. System cards are mandatory. *(ABF Systems Regulations)*.

3. A player may make any call or play without prior announcement provided only that such call is not based on an undisclosed understanding between partners. *(Law 40A3, LDP 2017)*
4. N/S pairs are responsible for moving the boards in duplicate play. *(Law 8A2, LDP 2017)*
5. Announcements / alerting *(ABF Regulations August 2017)*
  - Bids below 3NT, which opponents may reasonably misinterpret, must be alerted by calling 'alert' and circling on the bidding pad;
  - 1C and 1NT must be announced as to their meaning (e.g. 2 plus or 15-17);
  - Any 2C response to a 1NT opening is self-alerting in an uncontested auction.
6. Calls or play out of rotation may be penalised. *(Laws 28-32, Law 57, LDB 2017)*
7. Partners may only communicate by legitimate bids. *(Law 73A1, LDB 2017)*
8. The following notations only are permitted *(Law 18A1, LDB 2017)*:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
C	D	H	S	NT		
/	//	X	XX			

9. Gestures, mannerisms and 'table talk' are not permitted *(Laws 73, 74, LDB 2017)*. For example:
  - a player must not look intently at another player *(74C5)*;
  - a player must not indicate approval or disapproval of a call *(74C2)*;
  - a player must not fold one's cards before the end of the auction *(74C6)*;
  - a player must not comment or act during the auction to call attention to any aspect of play or bidding *(74C4)*;
  - a player must not infer a lack of interest in further bidding *(74C6)*, e.g. by placing one's pen in an inactive position out of one's hand;
  - any extraneous information from partner that might suggest a call or play is unauthorised. *(16B1 and 73B)*
10. Bid or play cards within time limits set, without undue hesitation or emphasis. Claim where you can, stating your line of play. *(Laws 74, 68C, LDB 2017)*
11. Opening lead is to be placed face down on the table, and if there is an irregularity (e.g. lead from incorrect position) the Director must be called. *(Law 41A LDB 2017)*
12. Players must not touch other player's cards without permission. *(Law 7B3, LDB 2017)*
13. The player who is dummy is only permitted to move cards at the specific direction of the declarer. *(Laws 42A3 and 45F, LDB 2017)*
14. Each player's hand should be shuffled before being returned to the board. *(Law 7C, LDB 2017)*

15. An appeal on the grounds of an error in scoring must be made within **6 hours of the official score being made available for inspection. This is to allow time for players who travel to view the results. These appeals must be sent via the 'Contact Us' form on the MBC website so they are timestamped to ensure the 6 hour timeframe is applied.** All other appeals must be made through the director.

16. Should a board be found to be 'fouled board' after the bridge session has finished, an appeal must be made within 24 hours of completion of that session. *(ABF Regulations for Appeals)*

17. **Etiquette** *(Law 74, LDB 2017):*

A player should remain courteous at all times by refraining from the following: *(Laws 74A, 74B, LDB 2017)*

- Paying insufficient attention to the game
- Making gratuitous comments during bidding and play
- Detaching a card before turn to play
- Prolonging play unnecessarily for the purpose of disconcerting an opponent
- Summoning and addressing the director in a manner discourteous to the director or other players.

### **Maitland Bridge Club Local Rules**

Players must arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the advertised starting time of each session, unless the director has been advised of a late arrival which will not adversely affect the conduct of the session.

If one card has been played when 3 minutes or more remain on the clock for that round, the hand may be played. If less than 3 minutes is remaining, play of the board may be stopped and manually scored at the discretion of the director. Normally the unplayed board will be averaged 50%/50%, but in the instance of a pair who are continually slow at bidding or play, the director may apply a 40% score to the offending side, and 50% to the non-offending side.

Only the authorised Scorebridge/Compscore operator, or Director, is authorised to manually score a board, or alter an entered score.

The Director must be notified should any player leave a session prematurely. All unplayed boards will be manually scored 50%/40% in favour of the remaining pairs.

**Original document adopted by MBC Management Committee 4 October 2021**

***This document updated following:***

***Directors' Meeting on 5/6/2023***

***MBC Management Committee meeting on 16/10/2023***

***MBC Management Committee meeting on 13/11/2023***

***MBC Management Committee meeting on 11/12/2023***

***Annual General Meeting on 7/08/2024***

***MBC Management Committee meeting on 16/12/2024***