

Format for the Open, Ladies and Senior Trials

The methods for trials for the Open, Ladies and Seniors' sections are different and hence are dealt with separately. No format was recommended for the Juniors.

The events considered in a 4 year cycle were:

2010 Commonwealth Games – No colours to be awarded for this event
2011 2011 Bermuda Bowl (Open), Venice (ladies) and d'Orsi (Seniors)
2012 Mind Olympics
2013 Bermuda Bowl (Open), Venice (ladies) and d'Orsi (Seniors)

Ladies

1. The objective is to choose the best team
2. The proposed method of trials will apply for all ladies Trials - e.g. Venice Cup, Olympics etc
3. The trials committee will be selected by the SABF. This committee will decide on the eligibility of players to enter trials depending on the criteria outlined in this proposal
4. Trials may be held in other centres in the country depending on the entry from each centre
5. Entry fees will be waived for 'out of town' entrants
6. The union hosting the trials will make every attempt to arrange free accommodation for the 'out of town' entrants
7. If 10 or less pairs enter then team scoring trials will be held, otherwise pair trials will be held on the 'Australian Butler' method. In the Australian Butler method, once the pairs 2 through 5 have been chosen, it must be arranged that the round robin teams must be on a rotational basis, with each pair playing with the other Or the pair qualifying second will be able to choose partners from the remaining three pairs to form a team and play long board matches against the other two qualifying pairs.
8. Trials would be held at least 6 months before players are due to represent the country. Trials will be held in January 2011 for the Venice Cup in 2011
 - The winning pair from these trials will automatically qualify
 - The next 4 pairs will play a further round of trials. Players will play at least 48 boards per match and there will be at least 3 matches
9. Once trials has been completed, the SABF will appoint a coach for the 3 pairs that have qualified. Jeff Sapire will put together a proposal outlining the functions of the coach
10. The team will be expected to commit to the coaching program

Seniors

The format (no. 1 to 8) will be the same as the ladies format.

9. The top three pairs will qualify

Open Team

The format (Nos 1 – 4) will be the same as the ladies.

5. Knock-out teams trials will be held
6. Teams may enter 4, 5, or 6 man teams
7. Should a 4 man team win the trials, they may pick any other pair from a team who has been knocked out.
8. Should a 5 man team win, they may pick any other player from a team who has been knocked out.
9. Teams will be seeded by the trials committee and long board matches will be played.

Criteria for entry for trials

The trial committee will consider the following when deciding on eligibility to enter trials:

1. The previous 3 year's masterpoints earned will be taken into account
2. Frequency of play by the pair will be considered. Thus a player who has not played for many years will need to show commitment to SA Bridge and not simply arrive to get the benefits of playing for SA
3. Recent form
4. All entrants will be required to submit a CV outlining bridge achievements to assist the committee
5. Entrants will be required to commit to coaching and practice as required in the open and ladies teams
6. Players who qualify for the team are expected to take part in the event for which they have qualified. Pairs not wishing to continue must withdraw immediately upon qualification and there may be penalties incurred should players withdraw without a valid reason.
7. Players are required to adhere to ethical conduct regarding play.

Format of Trials

- 1.** Where the trial committee identify possible problematic matches during trials, a monitor will be assigned to that table
- 2.** Any player also has the right to request a monitor for any match
- 3.** A panel may be appointed to review any or all of the boards played during any match

Captains

- 1.** Non-playing captains should be fully sponsored. The teams should raise this money
- 2.** Teams will decide on the captains in consultation with the trials committee
- 3.** A proposal will be drawn up by this committee outlining the captain's duties and responsibilities

Dated April 2010