

## BY-LAWS OF THE GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

### A. GENERAL

1. These by-laws apply to all persons on the club's premises, whether or not club members and/or players.
2. Bridge proprieties in conduct and play, as set out in "Laws of Contract Bridge – 2007", must be observed at all times.
3. Mobile phones must be turned off during play (see QBA Regulations on Electronic Communication Devices).
4. Each pair must have at least one adequately completed ABF system card on the table during play (one such system card for each player during all competitions).
5. In restricted sections (or the lowest section of graded events), green and blue systems are allowed. In other sections/events, green, blue and red systems, and brown sticker conventions are allowed, with yellow systems allowed only if approved by both the director and any opponents against whom the yellow system is proposed to be used.
6. At least 10 minutes before the scheduled starting time each player physically present (and only those players) must fill out (or cause to be filled out on their behalf), and place on the table at which they intend to play in the first round, an attendance slip noting their presence. The club may grant a physically disabled person the facility to reserve a table and/or have an attendance slip filled out on their behalf without that player being present. The club may withdraw such facility at any time without reason.
7. Slow play is subject to penalisation (see QBA Regulations). A timing clock is usually set after the 1<sup>st</sup> round. Bidding on a new board must not be started after the warning bell has gone.
8. The defender on opening lead and dummy must not delay making the opening lead, or putting their hand down (as appropriate), to enter the contract on their personal scorer or in the Bridgmate.
9. Each player is responsible for entering their club number in the Bridgmate. North/South pair is responsible for entering the score and East/West for checking. North/South is responsible for placing and moving boards. East/West is responsible for removing cups, paper, etc and putting chairs, side-tables and bidding boxes in their proper place at the session's end.
10. The club has and implements a policy on player behaviour (see separate document "Best Behaviour at Bridge".)
11. Bidding boxes are in use at the club, and ABF rules pertaining to them must be observed.
12. Dress code – smart casual. No singlets or rubber thongs.
13. The Tournament Committee may designate some sessions as "Handicap Sessions". Handicaps are determined by the scoring system. Overall winners retain master-points. Nett winners receive any prize ticket issued.
14. The club has the right to use photos/video taken in the playing area to publicise the club and/or bridge generally.
15. Subscriptions run from 1 September to 30 August, and are due on 1 September each year.

### B. DIRECTORS

1. The director must be called for any infraction of the laws, including rudeness or other inappropriate behaviour.
2. The ruling of the director must be accepted at the table. However an appeal may be lodged through the director within 30 minutes of the end of the session.
3. Scoring errors should, if noticed, should be reported to the director during play. The right to appeal a scoring error, or an adjustment made by the director to an apparent scoring error, expires (except when a title or prize money is awarded promptly after the session ends), 48 hours after the official score has been published on the internet or otherwise made available for inspection.
4. The director has the right to refuse entry to any person into the Club Rooms.

### C. COMPETITIONS

1. If an event has an entry/nomination form on the club's competition notice board, a player must submit the entry form or nominate on the nomination form (before the announced cut-off date, if any) to ensure a place in such event. A player so entering/nominating, but failing to attend, may be required to show cause why they should not be disciplined.
2. Player substitution policy is as per QBA Regulations, except (a) substitutes are permitted for convenience, and need not be sought in advance of the event, (b) The substitute should, in the director's opinion, be of a similar standard to the replaced player, (c) the power of the director to waive, in an emergency, substitution requirements is not limited to congress events, (d) In a 2 session pairs event, if a player plays for only one session, no member of the pair for either week is eligible for the event's title, trophy, or prizemoney, or the overall event masterpoints.
3. Entry to Club Championship events is not open to non-members.
4. The club will normally appoint a director who is not playing in the event for the following events: Club Pairs Championship, Club Teams Championship, Gold Coast Bridge Club Cup, President's Cup and the Club's Masters Pairs.
5. Breaking of Ties – QBA policy applies.
6. An extra fee will apply for all red masterpoint events. If insufficient players are present for a non- red masterpoint side event/section, and players are absorbed into the Red Point competition, they are to pay the Red masterpoint fee.
7. In the Club Masters Pairs event, ranking is determined by the number of master points a player has at the end of the quarter before the event.
8. If an event is being seeded, in determining the seeding, the director may take into account factors such as master points and their assessment of the current standard of the relevant player/s.
9. If any prize money is not claimed within 3 months of the completion of a competition it may be forfeited to the club.