

South African Bridge Federation

Seniors' Trials 2021

Announcement of Trials

For a Seniors' Team to represent South Africa in the African Zonals to be held in June of this year and if successful in the WBF Bermuda Bowl (date and venue still to be announced).

Dates and venue of Trials

The Seniors' Trials will be held from the 17th to 19th April on BBO. Please note that the exact length of trials will depend on numbers of entries accepted and the period above is the time framework within which playing sessions will take place. Prospective entrants should reserve these dates.

Closing Dates for Entries

Closing date for entries in Senior's Trials is midnight on 9th April 2021

Entrants in the Seniors' Trials will be informed whether their entry has been accepted no later than the 11th April. The format, schedule and playing times will also be announced on or before the 11th April.

The SABF reserves the right to accept late entries in this category.

Conditions of Entry, Entry Fee and Individual Subsidies

Trials are open to all South African citizens and residents who satisfy the WBF residency criteria found at

www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/BonaFideResidencecriteria.pdf

The entry fee will be determined once the number of entries is known. WBF rules stipulate that any entrant in the Seniors team trials must be 62 years or older during the year in which the competition is held.

The Entry Fee for the WBF World Bridge Games will be paid in full by the SABF. Subsidies will be paid to team members at the committee's discretion and the SABF will strongly support fund-raising efforts by players in our national teams.

Seniors' Trials Format

To be determined once the number of entries is known.

Withdrawal of Qualified Pairs

In the event that an individual or a pair withdraws from any of the S A Teams for any reason at any time prior to the Zonals or Bermuda Bowl, if the format used was based on the top 3 pairs qualifying then the pair finishing fourth in that category will be approached to replace that pair. If they are not available then the fifth pair will be approached and so on down the table until the team is once more complete. If the format was teams based then the remaining team members will be approached to choose a pair from one of the other competing teams. If a player or a pair in a South African team in any category withdraws at any time prior to the start of play in one or other of the above events, an acceptable replacement player or pair must be found, failing which, the S A team may be withdrawn from the event.

If a non-playing captain is nominated by the team, this must be approved by the SABF. No husband/wife/"significant other" of any player in a team may be nominated as captain of the team. The playing or non-playing captain of each team will be responsible for:

- i) Organising practice sessions before the event
- ii) Organising a review of the opponents convention cards and taking relevant copies to the event, distributing when needed
- iii) Ensuring that the teams convention cards are submitted for the relevant events in accordance with WBF policy
- iv) Having the final say in determining the line ups for the events themselves (the team may have input, but the captain's word should be final)
- v) Ensuring all admin tasks are dealt with timeously during the event (captain's meetings, line ups etc)
- vi) Reporting back to the SABF subsequent to the event

Acceptance for Entries for Trials

The SABF will continue to screen all entries for the Trials and evaluate the record of each player in terms of the existing benchmarks set up for this purpose, namely, his/her achievement in National and/or International events, Provincial events and "premier" Regional events (including SAWBA where applicable). The Masterpoints and Performance Index of each entrant will be taken into account and a successful entrant should have attained at least 3 of the following within the past 3 years:

Events	Open	Women	Seniors
National Teams	Top 5 Teams	Top 10 Teams	Top 10 Teams
National Pairs	Top 11 Pairs	Top 22 Pairs	Top 22 Pairs
Interclub	Top 5 Teams	Top 10 Teams	Top 10 Teams

Inter-provincial	Top 2 Teams	Top 3 Teams	Top 3 Teams
Provincial Teams ¹	Top 2 Teams	Top 3 Teams	Top 3 Teams
Provincial Pairs ¹	Top 3 pairs	Top 5 pairs	Top 5 pairs
SAWBA Teams	n/a	Top 6 Teams	n/a
SAWBA Pairs	n/a	Top 12 Pairs	n/a

All players at Grandmaster level and players who have represented South Africa within the last 3-5 years will be accepted as trialists.

The SABF retains the discretion to accept an entry for trials if there are deemed to be valid reasons to do so.

The SABF reserves the right to allow, or invite, additional pairs to enter trials after entries have closed if there is a valid reason to do so.

Members of a representative team are awarded S A colours if SA citizens or Federation colours if residents.

It is important to note that no member of the SABF Committee can discuss or provide advice to a player as to the suitability of his/her partner in terms of whether or not an entry is likely to be accepted for trials in any category. Correspondence or verbal discussions are not possible due to the confidentiality of the process of screening entries.

Those wishing to enter Trials must enter online.

If an entry is accepted, Proof of Payment of the entry fee (where applicable) to the Bank Account: Nedbank Rosebank Account number 1 777 000 327 will be required within a week of the announcement of the accepted entries for Trials.

SABF 20th March 2021