

# **South African Bridge Federation**

## **Trials 2020**

### **Announcement of Trials**

For Open, Women and Seniors Teams to represent South Africa at the WBF World Bridge Games in 2020 (date and venue still to be announced)

### **Dates and venue of Trials**

The Open and Women's Trials will be held from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2020 at the Wanderer's club Illovo, Johannesburg. 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.

The Seniors' Trials will be held from the 31<sup>st</sup> of March to the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 in Johannesburg. 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 Open and Women's Trials is midnight on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Entrants in the Open and Women's Trials will be informed whether their entry has been accepted no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> January. The format, schedule and playing times will also be announced on or before the 28<sup>th</sup> January.

Closing date for entries in Senior's Trials is midnight on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

Entrants in the Seniors' Trials will be informed whether their entry has been accepted no later than the 24<sup>th</sup> March. The format, schedule and playing times will also be announced on or before the 24<sup>th</sup> March.

The SABF reserves the right to accept late entries in any 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](http://www.worldbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/BonaFideResidencecriteria.pdf)

The entry fee is R1 500 per player and will be waived for entrants living further than 100 km from Johannesburg. 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.

### **Format of Open, Women's and Seniors' Trials**

The Trials will be held on a cross IMPs pairs basis, the first 3 pairs in each category qualifying to represent South Africa.

Should more than 16 pairs enter in one or more of the categories, again at the discretion of the SABF a pre-qualification event may be held.

Should an odd number of pairs enter one of the above categories the SABF reserves the right to invite one further pair at a comparable level to participate.

### **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 World Bridge Games, 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 a player or a pair in a South African team in any category withdraws at any time prior to the start of play in the relevant Bridge Games, 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 <sup>1</sup>	Top 2 Teams	Top 3 Teams	Top 3 Teams
Provincial Pairs <sup>1</sup>	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. The SABF reserves the right not to send a team to the World Bridge Games in any one of the 3 categories.

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 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019