

# **KNOCKOUT RUBBER BRIDGE EVENT – 2023**

*Calling all Rubber Bridge enthusiasts and those who want to take up this different style of bridge where the luck of the cards can give you the opportunity to shine!*

We are now calling for entries to the Wellington Regional play-offs to find the top pair (or hopefully two pairs) to represent our Region in the National play-offs at Bridge Congress 23-30 September. For most of the last ten years we have had the highest number of pairs of any Region which has entitled us to send our top two pairs to Congress to compete on a knock-out basis against the top pair from the other 6 Regions. Please support this **free** fun event and help us get two pairs to National Congress again. We also have a Cup for the Wellington Regional winners.

In the Wellington Metro area, we will continue with the usual knock-out format played at homes after doing a random draw by ballot. However, Waikanae Bridge Club are likely to again have a separate draw in their "Kapiti" area, with their winning pair (or top 2 pairs?) eventually merging into the main Wellington Metro draw at an appropriate time.

We would also welcome a separate pool in the Wairarapa area (last year 3 pairs) if players in the Masterton and South Wairarapa clubs are interested. This could be run on the same basis as the "Kapiti" pool. If an individual or club in the Wairarapa is prepared to co-ordinate this, please let me know and I will be very happy to assist. Kairangi Bridge Club may also consider a separate pool.

It would be appreciated if clubs could promote this event amongst their members.

We require entries from pairs in the Wellington Region to be sent to me by **31st March**. Entries from the Kapiti zone / pool, plus any entries from the Wairarapa, or other "Club Pools," will also need to be sent to me by 31 March. We will want to complete the first round of matches no later than early May. The last round of matches to find the pair (or two pairs) to go to National Congress, must be completed by the end of August, if not earlier.

**Entry Fees:** The Regional Committee has decided entry to the Rubber Bridge Regional knock-out event will be **free for 2023**. Clubs or zones organising local heats prior to amalgamating in the main Wellington Regional Pool, may wish to make a small charge to defray any costs etc.

**Format:** For those pairs in the general draw (Wellington Metro area), there will be a random draw as to which pair they will play. The random draw for the Wellington Metro area will be made ASAP after entries are received on 31 March and advised to all contestants. The draw will eventually include winners at an appropriate time, from any heats run outside the Metropolitan area.

**Note** – such "local area heats" must also be based on a random knock-out system.

***So, why not enter with your favourite partner and give it a go!***

- Top prize money at the National Congress (\$1,000 to the winning pair)
- Luck of the cards can have a major bearing on the result
- Less experienced players are encouraged to participate by allowing only systems used in Junior tournaments (unless otherwise agreed to by both pairs, with no coercion)
- Different from both regular Pairs or Teams play and more relaxing
- Knockout format with a random draw, each round comprising 30 deals against another pair until we come up with a winning pair (possibly two) to represent Wellington Region at National Congress in early October, with generous financial subsidies for qualifiers
- Played at a time and location (usually at home) mutually agreed by you and your opponents, or if necessary, by the Convenor's ballot
- Depending on interest, a tutorial and practice session may be arranged
- Full updated rules of the contest will be emailed to all contestants after entries are received, along with the initial draw for those not playing in a club heat

**Entries or enquiries to: [grahamlcheater@gmail.com](mailto:grahamlcheater@gmail.com)  
04-904-9917 / 027-448-3938**

**Entries from individuals or Clubs (listing all pairs) to be received by 31 March.**