Eva Bitel Tournament 2020

The Australian Backgammon Federation Inc (AusBGF) is proud to announce the inaugural Eva Bitel Tournament. We see this as a major opportunity to remember our friend Eva and all that she did to promote backgammon in Australia.

We want to encourage participation from all level of backgammon players – from novices to high rollers – the only requirement is that you are a member of AusBGF.

With that in mind, entry for novices is only $5 – for that you are guaranteed at least 7 matches with Trophies for the Winner and Runner-Up. For the more experienced player, there is a $50 entry where you compete for prizes (full equity returned to the field) plus Trophies. For those that want even higher stakes, there is a separate $100 side pool that will go to the highest placed player (that is $150 total entry).

The format is a series of Round Robin groups, with each group comprising seven or eight players – novice and side pool players will be randomly allocated to each of the groups with standard entries filling the remaining places. For instance, if there are 20 novice entries and 50 standard entries (with 20 of the latter electing for the side pool) then there will be ten groups of seven, with 2 novices and 2 bonus pool players in each group of seven players.

You will have two weeks to play your round robin matches. Results should be notified to results@ausbgf.org.au.

You can play these matches on whatever platform you and your opponent agree on – there are many options; you may even play "live" if you can arrange a suitable venue. Players should make every effort to accommodate the wishes of their opponent. AusBGF advice is that you should have an account, and be familiar with, at least Safe Harbor Games and backgammongalaxy.com (Galaxy). On Galaxy, clocks can be set to casual to allow for short breaks (by agreement) and possible dropouts. The use of a platform that uses a clock is preferred over one that does not have a clock (such as FIBS.com).

Please be aware that if you drop a connection (for whatever reason) on Galaxy and are not able to reconnect in time then you will lose the match. Some other platforms save matches that have not concluded and enable a restart.

At the conclusion of the Round Robins, there will be one knockout including all novice entries and a separate one for the standard and side pool entrants. For the latter, the first two in each Group (ties split on points scored for and against) plus anyone with no more than two losses will go into a knockout phase. AusBGF reserves the right to adjust the size of the knockout group depending on the distribution of qualifiers.

To ensure that the winner of each knockout will have won the most matches, players winning all of their round robin matches will be advanced two rounds and players with one loss will be advanced by one round in the knockout phase compared with players with two losses. The Tournament Director will allocate byes as required to ensure a fair distribution.

Play will commence on 4 September 2020. Entries will close on Monday 31 August. Entries will not be accepted from non-members.

The form for membership of AusBGF can be found at
https://ausbgf.org.au/home/membership/.

To enter simply send an email to Treasurer@ausbgf.org.au clearly stating name and phone number, novice $5 or regular $50 tournament, whether you want to go into the side pool ($100), and paying ABF membership fee of $10 if not already a member. Deposit the appropriate amount to the account of:

Australian Backgammon Federation Inc
BSB 082 048
Account 839 626 033

We will confirm your entry to the tournament once email and payment have been received.