## **Australia-Wide Pairs scoring**

Local scores vs National scores - visual explanation

This page contains a simplified visual explanation of the difference between National and Local scores. For a more detailed bridge-related explanation, visit the following page: http://www.australianbridge.com/2015AWNP\_scoring.pdf

On the day of the event, each player will receive a percentage score as usual, based on the result within the club. This is the pair's *Local Score*. Once all the results are matchpointed nationally, the pair will also receive a *National Score*. The final results are based on the National Score.

The National Score is more accurate than the Local Score. The Local Score reflects how well you performed compared against other members of your club, while the National Score reflects how well you performed compared against the rest of Australia.

Your National Score may be very different from your Local Score. Here is an analogy to explain why this might be the case. Imagine two people are asked to draw a random number (0 to 10) out of a hat, and this process is repeated ten times. The results might look something like this:

Round	Player 1	Player 2	Local score:	Player 1	Player 2
1	7	6		TOP	BOTTOM
2	5	3		TOP	BOTTOM
3	6	7		BOTTOM	TOP
4	3	4		BOTTOM	TOP
5	9	5		TOP	BOTTOM
6	4	5		BOTTOM	TOP
7	5	6		BOTTOM	TOP
8	4	5		BOTTOM	TOP
9	8	5		TOP	BOTTOM
10	4	5		BOTTOM	TOP
Total	55	51		40%	60%

An average result would be a total of 50. In this example, both players have done better than average, but Player 1 is a clear winner with 55 out of a possible 100. This example reflects how the National score is calculated: a precise total of the actual scores you received.

In your local score (inside your club's walls), your score does not reflect how objectively good or bad your result is; it merely shows whether you did better than the people sitting at the next table(s). In this example, Player 1 has scored a "top" on Boards 1, 2, 5 and 9, while Player 2 won the other six boards. If this were a local club game, Player 1 would score 10 points for each top (40 points total) while Player 2 would score six tops (60 points total). This would appear on the wall of your club as a landslide win to Player 2, with a 60% score against Player 1's 40%.

However, the National Score reflects the reality after numbers from around the rest of the nation have been included: Player 1 actually scored a very solid 55%, while Player 2 was barely above average with 51%. In reality, none of the scores in this room were actually tops or bottoms at all.

This is an extreme example (reflecting a two-table game) but even with five or six tables, this rounding of tops and bottoms can have a significant effect on your Local score. Your Local score will be distorted even more drastically if your in-house competitors are a lot weaker than you: any board that looks like a "ten" in your room, might be only a seven in the wider community.