Release 3.1.1

CHANGES FOR TOURNAMENT ORGANISERS

This document describes the latest changes relevant to Tournament Organisers.

Organisers are advised to also read the changes for players since most of those in this release relate to Congresses.
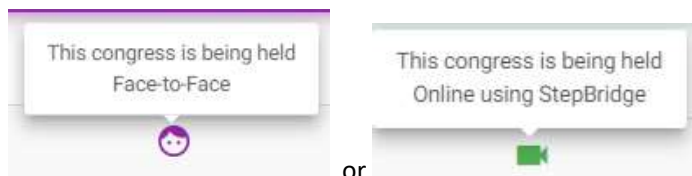
1. Display of congress format (online v face to face)

The Congress listing has been enhanced to now include the congress format – i.e. whether it is run face to face, online (and which platform) or a mixture of both.
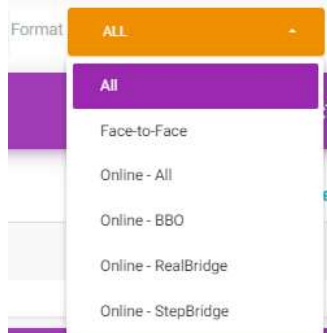

There is a "Format" column which displays icons for face to face 😊 or 📹 online.

On screen if players hover over the icon they will see more information:

Players can also filter the listing by the format using the Format selector at the top:

Note that the format is a setting that Tournament Organisers now need to set up. If the format has not been specified (possible for some existing congresses) players will see a question mark icon instead:

The format setting is created in step 2 of the Congress setup (shown below). There is a "Format" selector and, if "Online" or "Mixed" is chosen, the "Online Platform" selector is also presented. At the moment we include BBO, RealBridge and StepBridge. If there are any other online platforms used for running congresses, please contact My ABF Support and we can add them.

2. "Slugs" - Ability to define a short name for your congress webpage

It is now possible to create a specific name for your congress webpage. This is useful if you wish to provide a more user-friendly link to players.

This is created at the start of the Congress setup area (shown above). Enter in your desired short name and, provided what you have keyed in is unique, you can create a specific link.
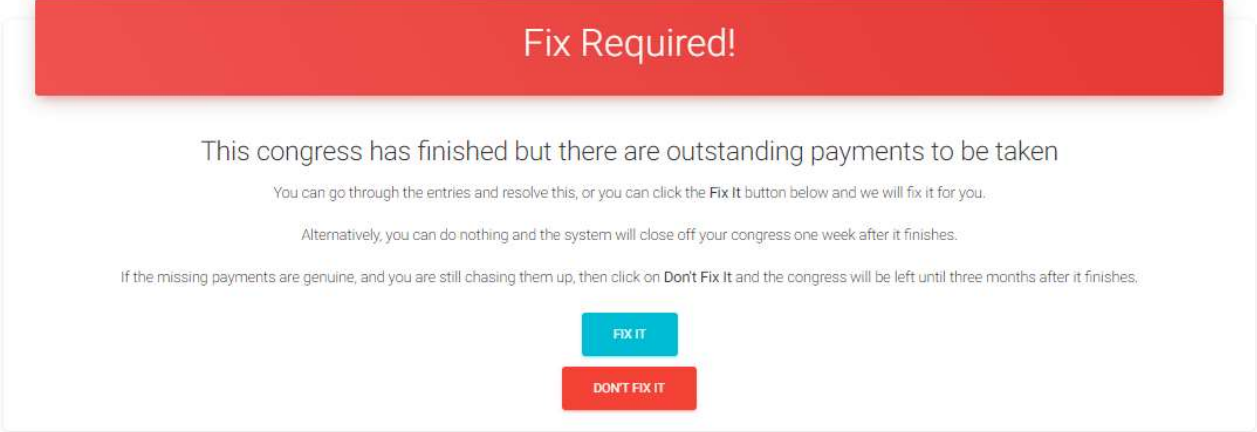

This allows you to present the link with a more user friendly name – as opposed to something like this: https:// myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/2

It is possible to use a single name and then edit the link each year to point to the latest version of your congress (that is done through the Club Administration menu). Alternatively include reference to the year within the name you choose and then choose an updated name next year.

3. Ability to quickly close a congress off

There have been situations where organisers have not completed the financial reconciliation stages for a congress. Occasionally this has meant players have been left with an entry saying it is unpaid when in fact the player almost certainly paid another way on the day – this just has not been reflected in My ABF. Where the entry is marked to be paid with bridge credits, this could even result in a player being charged for that entry when they make another future one as the system has been told their payment is still outstanding – clearly unacceptable.

A new function has been added to allow an organiser to quickly complete congresses. If there are entries still marked as unpaid in a congress then a message in the Congress management area is displayed as soon as the congress is completed:

There are 3 courses of action an organiser can take upon seeing this message:

1. Click "Fix it". This will clear all the outstanding amounts immediately (see below for details of what exactly this does)
2. Click "Don't Fix It". This will leave the congress unchanged but it will be automatically closed off after a period of 3 months.
3. Do nothing. The message will remain on the Manage screen and the congress will be automatically closed off after 1 week.

Actions taken when you click "Fix it" or when a congress is automatically closed off later:
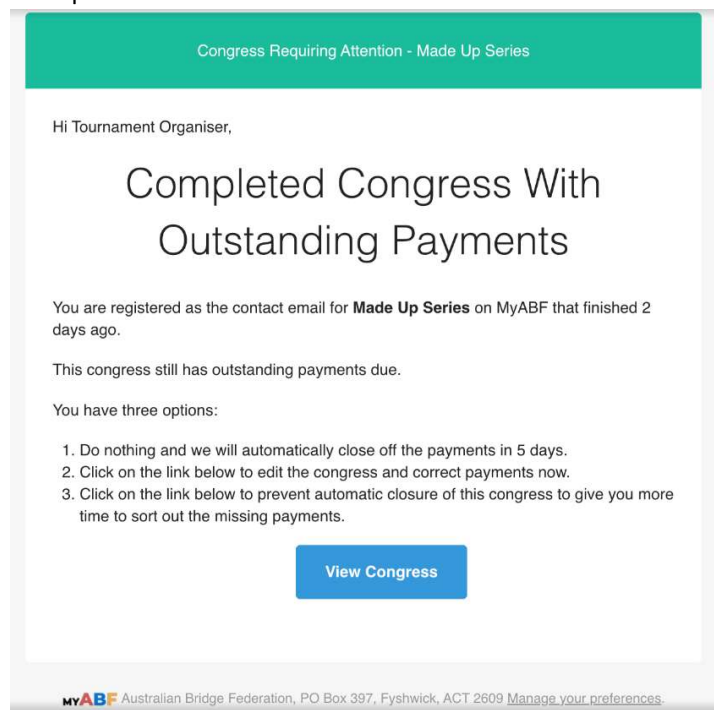
Any entry marked as unpaid will have:

- the payment received field changed to match the entry fee;
- its payment status changed to paid;
- the payment method field changed to "system adjusted"; and
- log entries placed in the entry to describe all the above and provide an audit trail for what's been done.

The effect of this is to remove any entries still marked as Pending with amounts due.
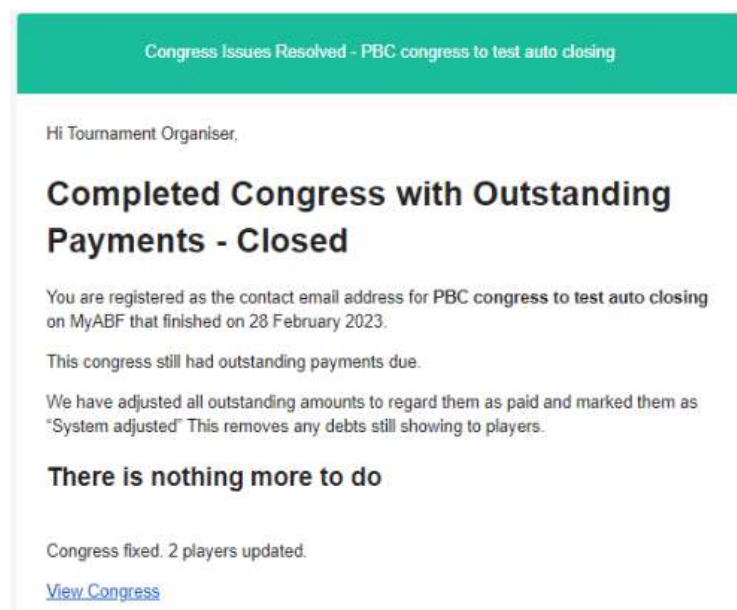
<u>Email notifications to Organiser</u>

NOTE: These emails go to the email set up as the contact email address for the Tournament Organiser in the Congress setup. They do NOT go to everyone with Congress administration access.

Organisers will receive an email notification 2 days after the congress to prompt them. This is an example:

After the congress has been closed off another notification email will be sent indicating that fixes have been applied and how many players have been adjusted (it also includes a link to the congress so the organiser can see in more detail if required):
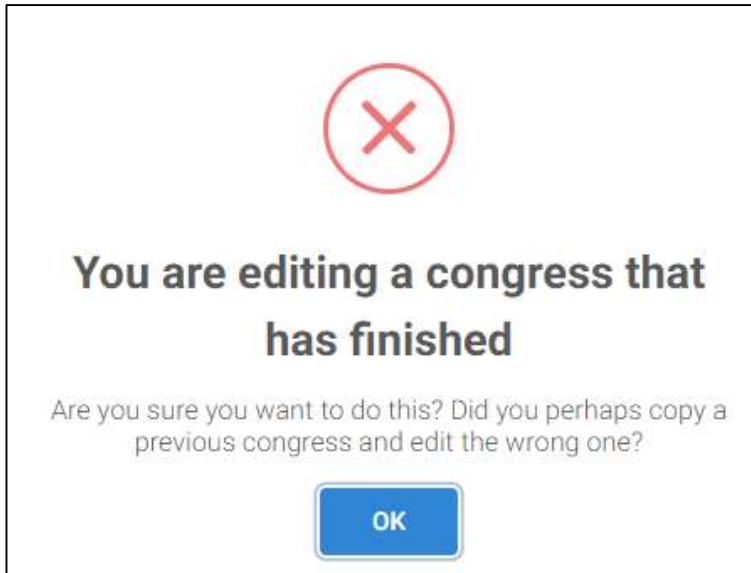

<u>Timing</u>
This email will be sent immediately if the "Fix it" button is used, after 1 week if no action is taken, or after 3 months if the "Don't Fix It" button is used.

4. Editing an old Congress – warning

There have been some instances where organisers have rolled a congress forward but then, instead of editing the newly created draft, they have managed to edit the prior year's congress instead.

As a first step to preventing this a warning has been added. It is very rare for anyone to need to edit a Congress where the dates are already in the past. If this is attempted the user will get a prominent warning on screen:

It is still possible to make edits but this message will come up on each screen.

Future functionality will include an option to lock a congress so it cannot be edited unless it's specifically unlocked by an administrator.

5. Ability to view all draft congresses

Within the Congress page of Club Admin, there is now an option to view all congresses with a Draft Status (regardless of what series they are part of). This will be of value to organisers who are running quite a number of events in My ABF and frequently needing to create and edit new drafts, and keep track of them.

6. Entries can no longer become TBA / TBA

Sometimes players have tried to withdraw an entry from an event by individually removing each of the players instead of using the specific function to withdraw the whole entry.   This has sometimes left an entry in a state where all the players are listed as TBA.
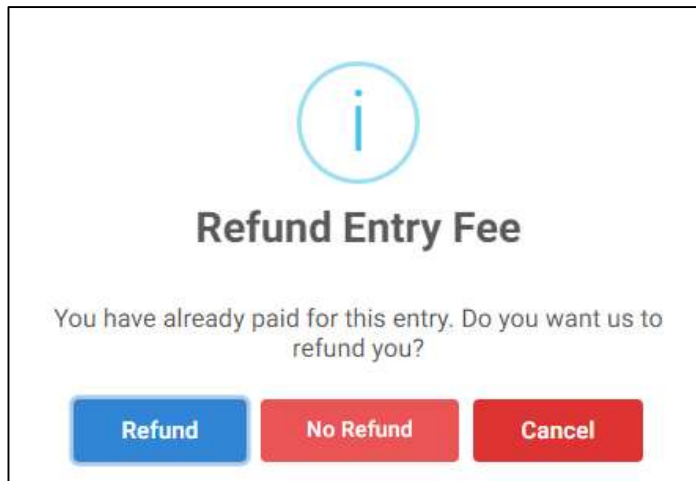
This scenario cannot now arise. If there is only one named player left in an entry, the options to remove players and replace them with TBA are no longer visible. The only option is then to withdraw the whole entry.

Note that these restrictions apply to players but not to organisers. Within the Manage area, organisers CAN still remove player names so they could still arise at an entry comprising solely of TBA's. Clearly there would need to be some special circumstances for that to be genuine though!

7. Ability for players to get individual refunds on withdrawal
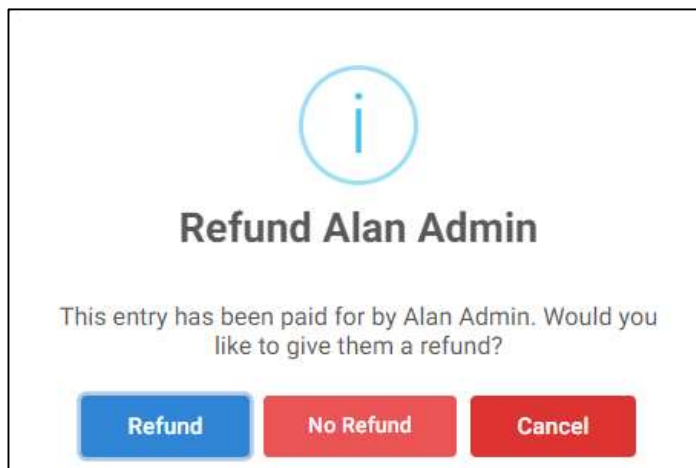
Up to now My ABF automatically generates a refund to players when an <u>entire entry</u> is withdrawn but it has not done so when an individual player within an entry is withdrawn and replaced with someone else (in that case it has been assumed the players will sort it out between themselves).

This has now changed. When an individual player from an entry withdraws they now get an option offering a choice of whether a refund should be made or not:

If someone else has already paid for the player being withdrawn there is also an option offering choice of whether a refund should be made to the person who originally paid or not:

The same options arise when an Organiser uses the Management area to change players in an entry. Organisers can therefore trigger refunds to whoever paid for the withdrawing player. There are, however, some restrictions if an organiser has previously made manual adjustments to the figures for the player. If this is the case the player name can still be changed but the refund option will not be provided. In that case the only way to refund a player is to use the Organisation's bridge credits statement to make a direct transfer to them.

8. Bug fix – Latest News

After a Congress had been rolled forward, it was not possible to properly delete the Latest News section.   This has now been fixed.