



49th Summer Meeting

14th – 23rd August 2015

Hilton Metropole Hotel, Brighton



Chief Tournament Director

Gordon Rainsford

Congress Manager

Peter Jordan

also featuring

The Mercian Travel Seniors Congress

Really Easy Congress

Players' Handbook

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LATE NIGHT SPEEDBALLS

We have Speedball games each Friday, Saturday and on Wednesday. They start at 11:30pm and are light-hearted events for which there is no entry fee, prize money or master points. They do not count for the NGS.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2015 EBU Summer Meeting, the 49th such summer congress and the final one in Brighton, since from 2016 we will be holding this congress in Eastbourne. We hope to have a really great final Brighton!

We have our usual comprehensive range of events including the 12th Really Easy Congress and the Mercian Travel Seniors Congress. This year we once again have our 'One-day events' - two one-day 'bracketed' events on the first weekend and two one-day stratified Swiss Pairs on the second. The 7:00pm 'Early Bird' sessions, which have proved popular the last few years, will be available again for all single session midweek pairs' events. Other popular innovations being repeated this year are the two-session Under 25s Pairs Championship on Tuesday 18th August and the Point-a-Board teams on the afternoon of Friday 21st August.

The Durham Hall is provided as a meeting and rest area. The bar will be open from 10:30am each morning and will not close before midnight. It will of course stay open later when we have the Late Night Owls Speed Ball in the Oxford Hall on both Fridays and Saturdays and on the Wednesday. These now all start at 11:30pm. During the congress you will be able to browse the EBU Bridge Shop as well as our regular stand from Brian Senior Books, and we will have some information available about Eastbourne.

We welcome your comments about this congress and you will find questionnaires at the main EBU reception desk in the Durham Hall. We do hope that you enjoy your holiday in Brighton and we look forward to seeing you all in Eastbourne next year, where you will be able to claim a £50 discount on a full congress entry if you entered and paid for full congress this year:

Eastbourne 19th – 28th August 2016.

A smart casual dress code applies for both afternoons and evenings at this event. This means that tailored shorts are permitted at any time, but beach shorts are not.

EBU Congress Desk

This is located in the Durham Hall in the main exhibition hall area of the hotel. The congress staff will help you with any queries regarding the congress itself. Telephone enquiries can be made between 10:30am and 1:00pm on 07948 268731/4. Alternatively, you can email us at comps@ebu.co.uk.

Tournament Host

Kevin Comrie is the Tournament Host on both weekends and midweek it will be the EBU Communications Officer, Peter Stockdale. If you need any help in non-bridge-related matters, or wish to discuss any aspect of the tournament, they will be happy to speak to you, and should be available at EBU reception at the start and end of sessions.

INTRODUCTION

System Cards

You are required to have a pair of identical completed system cards and you should exchange them with your opponents at the start of each round. **If you do not have two completed system cards, you will be provided with blank ones to fill out before play may continue, receiving a score of average minus for any boards unplayed due to the time lost in doing this.** WBF system cards are not permitted in any of the competitions in this event. Visitors from abroad are asked to take particular care to comply with this.

Best Behaviour at Bridge

Please be nice to your partner, be pleasant to your opponents and be polite to the Tournament Directors. Otherwise you may well be given a Disciplinary Penalty!

Bridgemates

North (or South) is responsible for entering the contract & result into the Bridgemate, and East (or West) must verify its accuracy by pressing the ACCEPT button.

It is best to enter the contract, declarer and lead at the end of the auction – this saves time, reduces the risk of entering the wrong board number, and ensures the lead is fresh in your mind.

Entering the lead accurately not only provides extra information of interest to players, but can also assist the scorer in resolving errors of data-entry.

Failure to enter results causes great inconvenience. For example in the Swiss Pairs when all eight scores for each match have been entered, the Bridgemate will show the message 'End of Round' or 'End of Session'. Both pairs should ensure that such a message appears before they leave the table.

Bridgemate UK is the EBU's "Official Wireless Scoring Provider".

Telephones and electronic devices

Please switch off your mobile phone. If you must have it on for emergencies, switch it to silent and leave the playing area before answering it. You may not use any electronic communications devices in the playing area, nor may you use electronic cigarettes.

Prizes

All prizes will be automatically credited to the member's EBU account, and may be redeemed at any time on application to the EBU. The prize values quoted are subject to alteration should the actual entry be significantly different from that originally envisaged. An appropriate announcement will be made before the half-way stage of the tournament in question should this happen.

INTRODUCTION

Split Tie Procedures

A tie for first place will be split in accordance with standard EBU procedures if necessary. Except in the Knock-out Teams, tied places share any prize awards equally even though the tie may be split for other purposes.

Special Circumstances

General EBU regulations apply in relation to any matter not detailed in these conditions (eg protest time). However, any conditions, whether general or specific to this competition as set out in this programme, may be varied by the Chief Tournament Director in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstance and to facilitate the smooth running of the Congress.

Issue of Masterpoints and Ranking Lists

All Master Points will be awarded by direct credit and will appear on your record within a month of the end of the congress. Ranking lists are available from our website at www.ebu.co.uk and results will be automatically emailed to anyone registered with Pianola under EBU Events. If you are not currently registered and would like to be, please email gordon@ebu.co.uk.

The Brighton Hub

Once again we will report results, information and assignments on the Brighton Hub at <http://www.ebu.co.uk/brighton> along with a series of articles by Brian Senior. We would be interested in any exciting hands or amusing stories that would be suitable for the Brighton Hub. Please contact Brian Senior via the EBU Congress Desk or the Communications Officer Peter Stockdale peter.stockdale@ebu.co.uk.

Appeals Consultants

Should the need arise, if you wish to speak to an appeals consultant, then these are:

First Weekend

Neil Rosen
Brian Senior

Midweek

Malcolm Pryor
Brian Senior

Second Weekend

Frances Hinden
Graham Osborne

Results

Results for each match within each sub-field of the main Swiss events will be posted in the relevant playing area. In addition, results of the last match of each session will be posted on the main notice board.

FIRST WEEKEND

SWISS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP *for the Harold Poster Trophy*

Holders: Mark Teltscher & Tom Townsend

Friday 7:45pm; Saturday 1:00pm & 7:45pm; Sunday 12:30pm

Pairs will play 14 matches of 8-boards per match. Scoring will be by match points (the normal pairs scoring system) within each sub-field, converted to Victory Points on a 20 to 0 scale. The Victory Point scale will graduate from 10–10 for scoring between 49.35% and 50.65% of the available match points over 8 boards, to 20–0 for scoring more than 68.35%.

Assignments will be made on a 'current-round' basis within each sub-field. The field will be regrouped into sub-fields, according to cumulative score, at the end of each session.

Starting arrangement: session 1

Please draw for a starting position from the Durham Hall. Positions may be drawn from 6:00pm onwards on Friday evening.

Please fill in your names on the name-slip, and have the slip ready for collection from your table at 7:45pm.

Restarting arrangements: sessions 2–4

The event as a whole will be divided into three sub-fields of up to 48 tables per sub-field. Thus, the area in which you play for session two onwards will depend upon your score at the end of the previous session. Starting positions for session two onwards will be posted on the main notice board. A further copy of the assignments for any given sub-field will also be posted in the room in which that particular sub-field will be located, and they will also be displayed on our website. We recommend that you arrive in good time for each session if you need to view the printed lists to find your starting position, so as to avoid undue congestion just prior to the start of the new session.

Master Point awards (see also 'Stratification')

To reflect the status of this event within our calendar, enhanced awards of 0.42 Green Point will be awarded for each match won (0.21 for a draw), plus bonus ranking awards to the top third of the field.

1st place 16.00, last award receiving position 0.56. Awards for intermediate places will be in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

FIRST WEEKEND

Prizes (see also 'Stratification')

Prizes to 30th place, quoted in terms of £ per pair as follows:

1st	£500	9th	£210	17th	£130
2nd	£420	10th	£200	18th	£120
3rd	£360	11th	£190	19th	£110
4th	£320	12th	£180	20th	£100
5th	£280	13th	£170	21st to 22nd	£90
6th	£240	14th	£160	23rd to 24th	£80
7th	£230	15th	£150	25th to 27th	£60
8th	£220	16th	£140	28th to 30th	£50

Tied positions share equally any prize awards due, even if the tie has been split for some other purpose (eg to determine a trophy winner). In the case of a 2- or 3-way tie for the last prize position, all such contestants shall receive the full prize due: should four or more pairs be involved in the tie, then all such pairs would receive an equal share of £150 (ie 3 x the basic minimum).

A further 9 stratified prizes as follows:

'B' + 'C' stratification: 7 prizes

1st £150, 2nd £120, 3rd £100, 4th £80, 5th £70, 6th £60, 7th £50.

'C' stratification: 2 prizes

1st £80, 2nd £50.

Additionally the *Brighton Plate* will be awarded to the leading 'C' stratification pair.

Brighton Plate Holders: Dave Mullen & John Bowen

OPEN PAIRS will be played on the first Sunday evening (starting at 7.45pm), as well as Monday to Friday afternoons (see page 11).

OPEN TEAMS is also available on the first Sunday evening, when the choice of event is yours.

Entry to the Sunday evening event is free of charge to any player who has been playing in the Swiss Pairs tournament. This also applies to the Friday afternoon Open Pairs event and the Friday afternoon Point-a-Board teams, which are free to the second weekend players.

MIDWEEK

THE MERCIAN TRAVEL SENIORS CONGRESS

CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS

For the Mercian Bridge Travel Trophy - Holders: Patrick Jourdain & Bill Hirst

SWISS TEAMS

*For the John Carter Trophy - Holders: Anthony Milford, Irving Gordon
Liz McGowan & David Liggat*

Monday	7:45pm	Championship Pairs qualifier
Tuesday	2:00pm	Championship Pairs semi-finals
	7:45pm	Championship Pairs finals and Consolation event
Wednesday	1:00pm	Swiss Teams, session 1: 4 x 8-board matches
Thursday	1:00pm	Swiss Teams, session 2: 4 x 8-board matches

Seniors players must have been born in or before 1955.

The total anticipated entry for both the pairs and the teams is a little over 40 tables.

Format of the pairs event (Mercian Bridge Travel Trophy)

The Pairs Championship comprises a qualifying round, a semi-final and a final. A generous proportion of the field (approximately 60%; certainly greater than 50%) will qualify from the qualifying round into the semi-final. There will be a carry-over into the semi-final session equivalent in weight to one-half of a session (i.e. half the qualifying round percentage will be added to the percentage scored in the semi-final). The top 23 pairs will then qualify from the main semi-final into the 'A' final. There will then be a further carry-over into the final – again, the equivalent of one-half of the total semi-final score (so the actual carry over into the final is half the semi-final percentage plus a quarter of the qualifying round percentage). The next 16 pairs (positions 24th-39th in the semi-final) will qualify for the 'B' final. There is no carry-over into the 'B' final. This example is based on an anticipated entry of about 40 tables and may be altered when final numbers are known.

MIDWEEK

Pairs who do not qualify for the main semi-final will play in the consolation semi-final, with no carry-forward score. From here the top 3 pairs overall will qualify for the main 'A' final, thus making a 26 pair 'A' final. Their carry-over into the 'A' final shall be two-thirds of their session two percentage (i.e. of their consolation semi-final percentage), subject to this not being greater than the carry-over of the 12th placed pair in the main semi-finals and not less than the equivalent carry-over of the 24th placed pair in the main semi-final. The next 10 pairs (positions 4th-13th) from the consolation semi-final will qualify for the 'B' final, thus also making a 26 pair 'B' final. There will be no carry-over into the 'B' final.

There will be a consolation event on Tuesday evening for all non-qualifiers viz. for positions 40th or below from the main semi-final, and positions 14th or below from the consolation semi-final.

Format of the teams event (John Carter Trophy)

This is a straight-forward Swiss Teams event with Australian assignments, comprising 8 x 8-board matches; four matches on each of two days.

Master Point awards

Pairs

Qualifying round: Not applicable.

Semi-final: Blue Points on the regional scale (36+ boards) based on the total original entry [awards to the equivalent of the top half of the original entry].

Consolation semi-final: Blue Points to the top third of the field on the standard regional scale (18-35boards).

'A' final: 1st 5 Green Points; 26th 0.50. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula

'B' final: Half the 'A' final awards above.

Consolation event: Awards to the top quarter of the field. 1st 1.25, last award receiving position 0.25.

Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Teams

0.28 Green Point per match won (0.14 for a draw), with bonus awards to the top quarter of the field. 1st 3.50; last award receiving position 0.25. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

MIDWEEK

Prizes

All prizes are quoted in terms of £ per pair or £ per team as appropriate.

Pairs

'A' final: prizes to 8th place: 1st £160; 2nd £120; 3rd £90; 4th £80;
5th £70; 6th £60; 7th £50; 8th £40

'B' final: prizes to 3rd place: 1st £60; 2nd £50; 3rd £40

Consolation event: winners only: 1st £40

Teams

Prizes to the top five teams: 1st £260; 2nd £200; 3rd £160; 4th £120; 5th £80.

THE REALLY EASY CONGRESS

The Really Easy Congress is split into two events - the First Step, and the Next Step.

The First Step events are for those who have recently started to learn to play, may have just completed their first year of lessons, and have just started to enter competitions. The First Step event combines a lesson and competitions from Monday morning to Wednesday morning.

The Next Step event is for players who have been playing in a local club and want to try out an EBU congress event for the first time. It combines lessons and competitions, and takes place from Tuesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon.

The sessions will all take place in the Durham Gallery and Hall 4, and will be overseen by Christine McFarlane and Nicole Cook.

MORNING SEMINARS IN THE CAMBRIDGE HALL

DISCUSS IT WITH AN EXPERT

Come along at 11:00am each Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday-Thursday.

Discuss the previous day's hands with a panel of experts starting with

Andrew Robson on the first weekend.

In addition Brian Senior will run an advanced seminar on Fri 21st at 11:00am

MIDWEEK

OPEN PAIRS

First Sunday Evening 7:45pm (also Open Teams)

Monday to Thursday 2:00pm; Friday 1:00pm (Point-a-Board Teams also available on Friday 1:00pm – see p17)

Pairs events will be arrow-switched and match-pointed across the field, and a comparable prize scale will be devised for each tournament based upon the size of the field. For example, with approximately 15 tables (30 pairs): 1st £30 (per pair), 2nd £20.

In teams events, prizes of £40 per team will be awarded to all section winners in a 2-board round multiple teams event, £30 for 3-board round events.

Master Point awards are Blue Points on the National Congress Scale (club awards x 4).

AFTERNOON KNOCK-OUT TEAMS

Holders: David Gold, Kevin Castner, Alistair Kent, Tom Paske, James Thrower & Marusa Basa

Monday to Thursday 2:00pm; Friday 12noon

The arrangements below assume an original entry of 17-32 teams.

If more than 32 teams enter, the semi-finals will be played on Thursday evening. If 16 teams or fewer enter, rounds will be played on as many consecutive afternoons as required, starting on Monday, with the proviso that the final will always take place on Friday. Where byes are required, they will as far as possible be scheduled for Tuesday, and it is hoped this will allow younger players to enter the U25s Pairs Championship as well as the Knock-out Teams.

The draw will be open, with no seeding.

Teams originally entered as four or five players may add two or one extra players, respectively, provided that they do so by 2:00pm on Wednesday.

The first round starts at 2:00pm on Monday. Subsequent rounds on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons (see above) will also commence at 2:00pm, save that matches may begin earlier or later by mutual arrangement between teams, and providing that such arrangements have been notified to the congress desk in advance. A Thursday evening semi-final (if needed) would start at 8:00pm. The final on Friday will start at 12 noon.

All teams entered will play in Round I, and one threesome match will be played if necessary (with two teams qualifying from the three). In Round II, byes will be used so as to regularise numbers for Round III onwards, leading to a two-team final on Friday. *continued on page 14*

PROGRAMME

First weekend

Friday 14th	7:45pm Swiss Pairs , session 1 (3 matches)
	11:30pm <i>Late-night Speed Ball</i> (Pairs tournament)
Saturday 15th	11:00am <i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	12 noon One-Day Bracketed Pairs, 1
	1:00pm Swiss Pairs , session 2 (4 matches)
	3:30pm One-Day Bracketed Pairs, 2
	7:45pm Swiss Pairs , session 3 (3 matches)
	11:30pm <i>Late-night Speed Ball</i> (Teams tournament)
Sunday 16th	11:00am <i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	12 noon One-Day Bracketed Teams, 1
	12:30pm Swiss Pairs , session 4 (4 matches)
	3:30pm One-Day Bracketed Teams, 2
	7:45pm Open Pairs and Open Teams

Midweek

Monday 17th	10:30am <i>Tournament Director training course</i>
	2:00pm Afternoon Knock-out Teams , round 1
	2:00pm Open Pairs
	2:00pm 'Really Easy' First Step Lesson
	7:00pm Early Bird Session (PWTE Pairs)
	7:00pm 'Really Easy' First Step session 1
	7:45pm Seniors Pairs qualifier
	7:45pm 'Play with the Experts' Pairs
Tuesday 18th	10:00am 'Really Easy' First Step Lesson
	10:30am <i>Tournament Director training course</i>
	11:00am <i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	12 noon Under 25s Pairs Championship , session 1
	2:00pm Seniors Pairs , semi-final
	2:00pm Afternoon Knock-out Teams , round 2
	2:00pm Open Pairs
	2:30pm 'Really Easy' Next Step session 1
	2:30pm 'Really Easy' First Step session 2
	4:00pm Under 25s Pairs Championship , session 2
	7:00pm Early Bird Session (Tuesday Pairs)
	7:30pm 'Really Easy' Next Step session 2
	7:45pm Seniors Pairs finals and consolation event
	7:45pm Tuesday Pairs Championship

PROGRAMME

Midweek (continued)

Wednesday 19th	10:30am	<i>Tournament Director training course</i>
	10:30am	'Really Easy' First Step & Next Step -Swiss Pairs
	11:00am	<i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	1:00pm	Seniors Swiss Teams , session 1
	2:00pm	Afternoon Knock-out Teams , round 3
	2:00pm	Open Pairs
	7:00pm	'Really Easy' Next Step session 3
	7:45pm	Mixed Pivot Teams Championship
	11:30pm	<i>Late-night Speed Ball</i> (Pairs tournament)
Thursday 20th	10:00am	'Really Easy' Next Step lesson
	10:30am	<i>Tournament Directors training course</i>
	11:00am	<i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	1:00pm	Seniors Swiss Teams , session 2
	1:30pm	'Really Easy' Next Step session 4
	2:00pm	Afternoon Knock-out Teams , semi-final
	2:00pm	Open Pairs
	7:00pm	Early Bird Session (Mixed Pairs)
7:45pm	Mixed Pairs Championship	

Second weekend

Friday 21st	11:00am	Advanced Seminar– Brian Senior
	12 noon	Afternoon Knock-out Teams , final
	1:00pm	Open Pairs or Point-a-Board Teams
	7:45pm	Swiss Teams , session 1 (3 matches)
	11:30pm	<i>Late-night Speed Ball</i> (Pairs tournament)
Saturday 22nd	11:00am	<i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	12 noon	Stratified Swiss Pairs 1 (3 matches)
	1:00pm	Swiss Teams , session 2 (4 matches)
	3:30pm	Stratified Swiss Pairs 2 (3 matches)
	7:45pm	Swiss Teams , session 3 (3 matches)
11:30pm	<i>Late-night Speed Ball</i> (Teams tournament)	
Sunday 23rd	11:00am	<i>Discuss it with an expert</i>
	11:00am	Four Stars Finals , session 1 (3 matches)
	12 noon	Stratified Swiss Pairs 1 (3 matches)
	12:30pm	Swiss Teams , session 4 (4 matches)
	3:20pm	Four Stars Finals , session 2 (4 matches)
	3:30pm	Stratified Swiss Pairs 2 (3 matches)

MIDWEEK

Afternoon KO teams (continued from page 11)

Matches from Round 1, up to and including the semi-final, will be of 24 boards played in 3 stanzas of 8-boards. The final will be played over 30 boards in 3 stanzas of 10. The captain winning the toss may opt to choose seating rights in any one of the 3 stanzas, with rights in the other two passing to the opposing captain. Alternatively, the captain winning the toss may pass the initial choice to the opposing captain.

Master Point awards

Master Points will be given in the form of Green Points per player for matches won as follows:

Final 2.00, Semi-final 1.50, Quarter-final 1.00, Round of 16 0.75, earlier rounds 0.50.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the winners and runners-up as follows:

Winners £180 per team Runners-up £80 per team

'PLAY WITH THE EXPERTS'

for the Fraser Cup - Holders: Michael Byrne & Adam Bowden

Monday 7:45pm (7:00pm Early Bird session)

A pairs event, employing teams-type scoring. At the end of the event the N/S pairs will be given the original score-card as obtained by a pair of experts playing E/W in the original competition. They will 'imp' their own scores with those of their expert teammates. Similarly, all the E/W pairs will receive an expert N/S score-card (obviously, the same card for all pairs in the same direction).

The trophy and the first prize will be awarded to the overall winner, which will be the leading N/S or E/W pair, and will be established by calculating the average imp score obtained by all pairs in each direction. The actual scores of the pairs concerned will be compared to this average, and the overall winners will be the pair furthest ahead of the average score in their direction.

The overall winner will not necessarily be the pair with the largest net plus score (the leading pair from the other direction could have a higher score in terms of the final method of scoring i.e. after comparison with the average score in that direction). The leading pair in the other direction will be deemed to be the overall runners-up.

Note that your 'expert teammates' score-card will not guarantee you a large plus score (those of you who have played in similar events might be expecting to achieve a large plus – that is not necessarily the case in this competition).

MIDWEEK

Master Point awards (see also 'Stratification')

Blue Points to the top 1/3 of the field on the National Congress Scale (club awards x 4).

Prizes (see also 'Stratification')

Prizes to the leading pair in each direction (N/S and E/W) of £40 per pair, plus an additional £30 to the overall winner. (Thus making £70 in total).

Leading 'B' + 'C' stratified pair in each direction: £20. Leading 'C' stratified pair in each direction: £20.

UNDER 25s PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

Holders: Shahzaad Natt & Chris Derrick

Tuesday 12:00 noon

A two-session pairs event, scored by Cross IMPs. The finishing time will be about 7:30pm so that players who have travelled for the day can get home, and those who wish to play in the evening Tuesday Pairs Championship can do so.

Master Point awards

Green Points to the top half of the field:

1st 4.00, the last award receiving position 0.25. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Prizes

Prizes to 3rd place of £100, £40, and £20 per pair, respectively.

One prize for the highest ranking Under 19 pair outside the main prize list: £20.

The winning pair will, if both players are eligible to represent England, be offered a place on an England team during the following 12 months.

MIDWEEK

TUESDAY PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

for the GCH Fox Trophy - Holders: David Gold & Kevin Castner

Tuesday 7:45pm (7:00pm Early Bird session)

A straightforward Pairs event, match-pointed across the field.

Master Point awards (see also 'Stratification')

Blue Points to the top 1/3 of the field on the National Congress Scale (club awards x 4).

Prizes (see also 'Stratification')

Prizes to 3rd place of £70, £40, and £30 per pair, respectively.

Leading 'B' + 'C' stratified pair: £30

Leading 'C' stratified pair: £30.

MIXED PIVOT TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

*for the Middlesex Cup - Holders: Mahmoud Sadek, Kath Stynes,
Ned Paul & Simon Prager*

Wednesday 7:45pm (no Early Bird session for this event)

A teams-of-four competition, in which you will play 3 rounds of 3-boards per round with each of your teammates in turn as your partner (a 27-board competition). All teams must include at least one man and at least one woman.

Scoring is by net imps. All matches are played 'head-on', in order that a barometer style score-board can be maintained. Should an odd number of teams take part, some teams will be required to sit out one match, and their final score will be factored by 27/24 (all fractions included) to take account of this.

Master Point awards

Blue Points to the top 1/3 of the field on the National Congress Scale (club awards x 4).

Prizes

Prizes to 3rd place of £160, £120, and £60 per team respectively.

MIDWEEK

MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

*for the London Duplicate Club Cup - Holders: Paul Gibbons
& Sharon Baynes*

Thursday 7:45pm (7:00pm Early Bird session)

A straightforward Pairs event for mixed pairs, match-pointed across the field.

Master Point awards (see also 'Stratification')

Blue Points to the top 1/3 of the field on the National Congress Scale (club awards x 4).

Prizes (see also 'Stratification')

Prizes to 5th place of £100, £80, £60, £50, and £30 per pair respectively.

Leading 'B' + 'C' stratified pair: £30. Leading 'C' stratified pair £30.

POINT-A-BOARD TEAMS

Friday 1:00pm

As an alternative to the Open Pairs, this one-session event offers a scoring method only recently used in this country, and will provide an ideal practice for the Point-a-Board Teams at the National Teams Congress in January.

Card Game Books

Gordon Bickley will have a range of bridge books, magazines and ephemera available in the Durham Hall during the first weekend only. Please feel free to browse, stop for a chat, or even buy something. If you missed me, but would like a future catalogue, please email me at gordonarf@aol.com.

SECOND WEEKEND

SWISS TEAMS Four Stars Holders: *Alexander Allfrey, Andrew Robson
David Gold & Tony Forrester*

Mayors Cup ('B' Final) Holders: *Artur Malinowski, Kevin Castner,
Tom Townsend, Mark Teltscher
& Ewa Kater*

Brighton Bowl Holders: *Tim Rees, Sam Punch,
Derek Sanders, Stephen Peterkin*

Friday 7:45pm; Saturday 1:00pm and 7:45pm; Sunday 12:30pm

Starting arrangement: session 1

Please draw for an assignment card from the Durham Hall. Positions may be drawn from 6:00pm onwards on Friday evening. Please fill in your names on the name-slip on your table, including any special categories that may apply (see within) and have the slip ready for collection from your table at 7:45pm.

Restarting arrangements: sessions 2–4

Teams will be re-assigned to the appropriate sub-field based upon their running score at the end of the previous session.

Teams will retain their home table for the whole of each session, and will always be assigned to play against teams on the same floor as themselves. At the start of each session they will be re-assigned a new table, which may be on a different floor. Notices will be displayed on the main notice board, as well as on our website, to advise you of the scores in each sub-field, and showing your assignments for each new session.

Format

The tournament is a straightforward Swiss Teams event, but at the end of the tenth match on Saturday evening, the top 16 teams at that stage will cease to play Swiss Teams and will go forward into one of the all-play-all Four Stars finals. The leading 8 teams will go into the 'A' final and the next 8 teams will go into the 'B' final. Any tie within the top 16 places at the end of Saturday will be split as explained within. There is no carry-forward score into the finals.

The format of each final is a full round-robin of 7 x 8-board matches. The timetable is as follows:

11:00am – 2:30pm, 3 matches; and 3:20pm – 8:00pm, 4 matches

SECOND WEEKEND

As a rule of thumb, experience shows that a ten match score in the high 130s is needed to reach the 'A' final, and a score in the low 130s is needed for the 'B' final. All other teams continue to play in the Swiss Teams, for the Brighton Bowl.

Master Point awards

To reflect the status of this event within our calendar, enhanced awards of 0.42 Green Point will be awarded for each match won in the Swiss or Four Stars final (0.21 for a draw), plus bonus ranking awards as follows:

- i) The Four Stars 'A' final: 1st 16.00 Green Points, 8th 4.00. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.
- ii) The Four Stars 'B' final: 1st 8.00 Green Points, 8th 2.00. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.
- iii) The Brighton Bowl Swiss Teams: awards to the top one-third of the field, including the 16 teams playing in the two finals. Example: an original entry of 132 teams equates to 44 ranking awards, so awards to 28th place in the Swiss. 1st 4.00, last award receiving position 0.56. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Prizes (quoted in terms of £ per team)

Prizes will be awarded to all teams in the two finals, and to the top 6 teams in the Brighton Bowl as follows:

'A' FINAL		'B' FINAL		SWISS	
1st	£600	1st	£360	1st	£260
2nd	£500	2nd	£320	2nd	£200
3rd	£420	3rd	£220	3rd	£120
4th	£360	4th	£180	4th to 6th	£80
5th	£300	5th	£160		
6th	£240	6th	£140		
7th	£180	7th	£120		
8th	£120	8th	£100		

In addition, prizes will be awarded in each of two special categories to teams finishing outside the main prize list. The special categories are:

(N) **Non-expert** The leading two non-expert teams finishing outside the main prize list will receive a prize. A non-expert team is defined as a team no member of which holds the rank of Regional Master or above based upon points earned (regardless of whether registered or not) as on the first day of the Swiss Teams. No player presently or previously based overseas for any substantial period of time can be eligible within this

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category, and neither can a player who has represented his/her country at any level (including Under 25 or Under 20 level) in any British, European or World Championship.

(J) **Junior** The leading two junior teams finishing outside the main prize list, but still scoring above average, will receive a prize. A junior team is defined as a team no member of which has reached the age of 25 on the opening day of the Swiss Teams.

No team may win more than one special category prize. Should a team be eligible for two such prizes, then the prizes will be allocated in the way which causes the higher placed other teams to receive such a prize.

Category prizes are £120 per team for the genuine winners (i.e. including teams finishing in the main prize list and including teams reaching either of the finals) and £80 per team for other places. A genuine winner finishing in the main prize list will receive either the main prize or the £120 prize, whichever is the higher, but two prizes of £80 per team will still be awarded to teams outside the main prize list.

Tied positions share equally any prize awards due, even if the tie has been split for some other purpose (e.g. to determine a trophy winner). In the case of a two-way tie for the last prize receiving position in the Swiss, both teams shall receive the full prize due: should three or more teams be involved in the tie, then all teams shall receive an equal share of £160 (i.e. 2 x the basic minimum).

Scoring with Bridgemates and assigning by computer

The Swiss Teams will be scored with Bridgemates and assigned by computer as follows:

- i) Your team will be given a Swiss Teams assignment card with your team number on it, before play commences. You should complete it accurately throughout the weekend so as to resolve any scoring queries, and use it to record your assignments, but you will not usually have to hand it in.
- ii) Your initial home table will correspond to your team number. Tables will be numbered so that odd numbered tables are on one side of the room and even numbered tables on the other. Tables 1-80 will be in the Oxford Hall, and Tables 81 upwards in the Oxford Gallery.
- iii) Your first match in each session will be against the team at the corresponding adjacent-numbered table (eg 3 v 4, 57 v 58, 124 v 123).
- iv) At the conclusion of each match, ensure that you agree with your opponents that the correct scores have been entered in the Bridgemate.

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- v) Your assignment for the next match will be displayed on the Bridgemate at your home table. When it is announced that the assignments have been made, you should press the OK button once on your Bridgemate and you will see the table number of your new opponents displayed, where your EW pair will go to play.
- vi) You are then ready to start your next match.
- vii) Teams will be allocated new home tables at the start of each session. Please refer to the lists on the wall, or check on the EBU website, to find your new home table. Again, your first match in each new session will be against the team at the corresponding adjacent-numbered table (eg 3 v 4, 57 v 58, 124 v 123).
- viii) You will retain this new home table for the entire session, and the assignments displayed on the Bridgemates will refer to your opponents' home tables rather than their team numbers. The procedure is actually much simpler than it might sound – you will soon get into the swing of things, and we very much hope that you enjoy the Swiss Teams.

ONE-DAY GREEN-POINTED WEEKEND EVENTS

FIRST WEEKEND ONE-DAY BRACKETED EVENTS

Saturday 12 noon

A two session match-pointed pairs event in which the second session is divided into sections based on ranking in the first session. There will be a break of about half an hour half-way through, so as to give a finishing time of 6:30pm.

Sunday 12 noon

A two session multiple teams event in which the second session is divided into sections based on ranking in the first session. There will be a break of about half an hour half-way through, so as to give a finishing time of 6:30pm.

Master Point awards

Ranking awards to the top quarter of the field, for each session. Minimum bonus ranking award of 0.25 Green Points. The winning award depends on the size of the field, but the top bracket can expect to get twice the awards for the qualifier, with each other bracket getting half the awards of the bracket above. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Prizes

Prize awards depend on the size of the field, but are likely to be to the winners only of each bracket.

ONE-DAY GREEN-POINTED WEEKEND EVENTS

SECOND WEEKEND ONE-DAY STRATIFIED SWISS PAIRS EVENTS

Saturday and Sunday 12 noon

Two separate Swiss Pairs events, each comprising six matches of seven boards, scored by matchpoints converted to VPs. Assignments will be on a 'current-round' basis. On each day there will be six matches with a break of about half an hour half-way through, so as to give a finishing time of 6:30pm on each day.

Master Point awards (see also 'Stratification')

0.25 Green Point per match won (0.13 for a draw), plus bonus ranking awards to the top quarter of the field.

Minimum overall bonus ranking award of 0.28. The winning award depends on the size of the field, but typically 3.00 for a 15 table (30 pairs) event. Awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Prizes (see also 'Stratification')

Prize awards depend on the size of the field, but typically in a 15-table (30 pairs event): 1st £80, 2nd £60, 3rd £40 (per pair). Leading 'B' + 'C' stratification pairs £40. Leading 'C' stratification pair £40. One additional prize of £40 for the pair with the best combined score over the two days, and an additional Green Point award of 1.00.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Protest time (Swiss Pairs and Swiss Teams)

Protest time in respect of any match expires at the times shown below. Once protest time has expired, no subsequent request for a ruling, nor any appeal of a ruling already received, will be entertained. Furthermore, no score corrections will then be made even if the published score is subsequently found to be incorrect.

- ◆ In respect of the first match of any session, or in respect of the second match of a four match session: ½ hour after the conclusion of the session.
- ◆ In respect of the penultimate match of a session: upon the commencement of the next session (or one hour after the conclusion of the tournament if this is the final session).
- ◆ In respect of the final match of a session: upon the commencement of the second match of the following session (or as below for match 14, in the final session).

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- ◆ For appeals, the time limits above refer to the session in which the ruling was given, which may be later than the session in which it was first sought.
- ◆ *Exception:* for teams in contention for either the 'A' or 'B' final on Sunday morning, protest time for matches 9 & 10 expires at 12:15am (ie just after midnight).
- ◆ In respect of the final match of the tournament (match 14), protest time expires at 7:45pm on the Sunday evening of the weekend in question (it follows that the final results of the tournament become official at that time), save that any blatant scoring errors which do not affect the final prize list may be corrected up until the Tuesday after the end of the entire congress.

Supplementary regulations

i) Swiss Pairs

Assignments are made on a current round basis e.g. the assignments for match 7 are based on the running scores after 6 matches. In the same way, your sub-field location from one session to the next is based on your running score at the end of the previous session.

ii) Swiss Teams

Any tie which exists within the first sixteen places at the end of the third session will be split as outlined below. Likewise, a tie for first place overall in any of the three events will be resolved as outlined below, although any prize awards or Master Points due will be divided equally.

The first test is the result of the head-on match between the tied contestants, provided that all the tied contestants have played against each other.

Failing that, matches won will decide (a draw in Victory Points is a half-win).

Failing that, 'Tie-break Points' will decide in respect of a tie arising in a Swiss event (ie something other than an all-play-all event). Tie-break Points are the sum of the final scores obtained by each of any given team's set of opponents. For example, team A has played against X, Y and Z. Team X has a final score of 50, team Y has 40 and team Z has 30: team A has a Tie-break Point score of 120. The team with the largest Tie-break Point total would win the tie on this basis (if the results of the previous tests are inconclusive).

Failing all that, details of all subsequent methods of splitting a tie are available on request.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Stratification

The following five pairs events will all be stratified:

- The first weekend main Swiss Pairs event
- Monday evening 'Play with the Experts'
- Tuesday evening 'Pairs Championship'
- Thursday evening 'Mixed Pairs'
- The second weekend one-day 'Swiss Pairs' events.

Stratification levels are as follows:

'A': at least one member of the partnership is a Life Master or above

'B': at least one member of the partnership is a Regional Master or above and neither is a Life Master or above.

'C' neither member of the partnership is a Regional Master or above.

[Ranks are based on points earned, regardless of whether registered or not, on the first day of play. Overseas visitors with Master Point records held outside of the UK are normally obliged to be category 'A' players].

Master Point awards.

Master Point awards are quoted within for the overall 'A' + 'B' + 'C' stratification ranking list only. The top award and minimum award on the 'B' + 'C' list is 50%, and the 'C' list is 25% of that quoted for the overall list.

Prizes

Pairs are limited to one prize per pair, which shall be the highest one available to them. Any prize so released will be awarded to the next pair in line in the appropriate category. Therefore, the number of prizes quoted will always be awarded to the leading 'B' + 'C' and 'C' ranked pairs who finish outside the main prize list.



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