



# **NATIONAL POINT-A-BOARD TEAMS CONGRESS**

**Online on RealBridge**

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Programme  
(Revised: 2021-01-21)**

# Programme

<b>Wednesday</b>	Before midnight	Deadline for sending system cards to <a href="mailto:EBUConventionCards@gmail.com">EBUConventionCards@gmail.com</a>
<b>Saturday</b>	11:30am – 2:45pm	4 x 6-board matches
	3:30pm – 6:40pm	4 x 6-board matches
<b>Sunday</b>	11.30am – 2:00pm	3 x 6-board matches
	2:45pm – 6:00pm	4 x 6-board matches

## Point-a-Board Teams

*for the Geoffrey Fell Trophy - holders:*

***Kevin Castner, Phil King, Stefan Skorchev, Petar Ivanov, Dessy Malakova***

The format of the congress has varied depending on the number of teams entered. The format as played before 2019 comprised two distinct stages: the qualification stage; then an eight team all-play-all final of 7 x 7-board matches on the Sunday, with a consolation final for all the remaining teams.

The format this year is the same as last year: a complete (all-play-all) round robin played over both days, with no separate consolation event. The expected entry is sixteen teams: there will be 15 rounds of 6-board matches.

## Seating rights and line-ups

All rounds are head-to-head matches; teams can play different line-ups for different matches. There are no seating rights – line-ups are blind. Teams who will change line-up during a session should inform the TDs (via [robin@ebu.co.uk](mailto:robin@ebu.co.uk)) before the start of the session. If other line-up changes become necessary, the opponents may be offered seating rights.

## Prizes

If there is no consolation event, prizes in the overall event go to third place:

1st £240, 2nd £120, 3rd £80

All prizes are per team, whether for a team of four, five or six players. Tied places share equally any prize award due, including a tie for first place, even though such a tie will be broken in accordance with standard EBU regulations (full details are available on request) for the purpose of determining the trophy winner.

Prizes will be credited automatically to the captain's EBU account, and may be claimed at any time on application to the EBU.

## Master Point awards

All awards are quoted in terms of Green Points per player. Awards for matches won in all matches in the round robin, qualifier or finals are enhanced by 50% as follows:

- 0.21 Green Point per four-board match won (0.11 for a draw),
- 0.26 Green Point per five-board match won (0.13 for a draw),
- 0.32 Green Point per six-board match won (0.16 for a draw),
- 0.38 Green Point per seven-board match won (0.19 for a draw),
- 0.42 Green Point per eight-board match won (0.21 for a draw),
- 0.52 Green Point per ten-board match won (0.26 for a draw).

Bonus ranking awards to half-way overall (or to all teams in the main final):

First place: 5.00; last place: 0.50.

Awards for intermediate places as per the standard EBU Green Point Competition formula, expressed to 2 decimal places.

# General Regulations

## System Cards

You are required to have an online system cards (EBU20B or WBF) and you should exchange a link to your system with your opponents at the start of each round.

You can use any existing link to your system card. Otherwise, system cards should be emailed in advance to [EBUConventionCards@gmail.com](mailto:EBUConventionCards@gmail.com) to receive an online link that you can provide to your opponents at the table. Please send your System Cards in PDF format named "Surname-Surname.pdf" – before 23:59 on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

**If you do not have a properly completed system cards available online for your opponents, you will be subject to a procedural penalty.**

This is an EBU Level 5 event and so WBF convention cards **are permitted**.

## Special Circumstances

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

## **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!

## **Telephones and other electrical devices**

Please do not use your phone during play – except for emergencies, including connection problems.

## **Appeals Advisors**

There is no appeals advisor for this event. If you are considering an appeal and would like to discuss it with someone first, ask a tournament director to introduce you to an appropriate person.

## **Point a Board Scoring**

2 points are awarded for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 for a loss. A difference of 10 or more aggregate points between a team's two scores constitutes a win/loss.

The "standard amount" for artificial scores is 0.5 points (i.e. 25% of a win). See **Artificial Scores** below.

The "standard penalty" (minimum procedural penalty) is 1 point, and the minimum disciplinary penalty is 2 point.

The minimum unit of scoring is 0.1 points. Exact multiples of 0.05 are rounded in favour of any team that has an above-average score on the board.

## **Assigned Scores**

If an assigned adjusted score is awarded, it is used for scoring in the usual way. If split scores are awarded, the points awarded to the two teams need not total 2.

## **Artificial Scores**

When a score is unable to be obtained at either table, a score of AVE/AVE+/AVE- is awarded according to fault in the usual way, with AVE = 1 point, AVE+ = 1.5 points and AVE- = 0.5 points – average plus or minus the "standard amount". In the event of a team having an overall score for the whole stage of the event greater than 75%, their artificial score will be adjusted upwards accordingly.

## **Weighted Scores**

If weighted scores are awarded, the points deriving from each score are calculated and then weighted. Example:

<b>NS score</b>	<b>EW score</b>	<b>Points</b>	
+120	20% of -110	20% of 2	= 0.4
+120	40% of -120	40% of 1	= 0.4
<u>+120</u>	<u>40% of -140</u>	<u>40% of 0</u>	<u>= 0.0</u>
<b>Total</b>			<b>= 0.8</b>

## Unplayable Boards

It will not be possible to play a substitute board: if neither table has played the board, it will be scored as AVE/AVE+/AVE- in the usual fashion.

If one table has played a board and the other cannot, the valid score is match-pointed against all the other tables that have played the board. This match-point score (in percentage) is added to an artificial score assigned to the other table of the same match (40%/50%/60% according to blame in the usual manner), and this total is converted back into points, rounded to one decimal place. So if a team was directly at fault at a table that couldn't play the board, and their team-mates scored better than any other table on the same board, they would get 100% + 40% = 1.4 points.

## NGS

This competition **will** be graded for NGS, based on match-point scoring across the field. If applicable, the qualifying sessions count as one event, and the final and consolation final as two separate events.

# RealBridge

## Instructions

RealBridge uses computer video and audio for communication between players. Player can and should test their video/audio by logging into the system in advance.

During a session. if you have problems with audio/video, you should continue to play using text until you have time to try to sort it out, rather than delaying play.

It may be necessary to refresh the video feed every hour or so: this can be done (without logging out) by clicking the refresh button on your name bar.

## Procedures

Please remember that your opponents will have sight of you whenever you are logged in at a table and always act accordingly – opponents can hear and see what is going on in the room around you.

## Alerting/Announcing/Explaining

RealBridge has different modes of operations: open table v. screen mode, partner-alerting v. self-alerting, verbal v. text explanations. Different rules for alerting/announcing/explaining are appropriate for different modes of operation.

This event will be in screen mode with self-alerting and written explanations. Follow-up questions can be to the player who made the call (via private chat) or verbally to the screen mate. Note: the partner of the player who made the call will not have seen the written explanation.

Calls are alerted by the player making the call, the alert is made by clicking the alert strip. Alert calls that would be alertable or announced face-to-face, including opening NT ranges, and provide a written explanation when making the call.

Exceptionally, **bids and passes** above 3NT should be alerted and explained if they are artificial or unexpected. Doubles and Redoubles need only be alerted if required by the face-to-face rules.

## Calling the TD

When the TD is called, the TD can hear and speak to both sides of the screen – but the players cannot hear the players on the other side of the screen. It is difficult for the TD if both sides of the screen are talking.

When the TD is called only the player who called the TD should speak to the TD. The TD can then ask questions of the different players on either side of the screen, before instructing the table how to proceed.

If the TD appears at the table and you did not call the TD, please wait to be asked to speak – so that the table does not all speak at once.

## Online Regulations

The [Sky-Blue Book](#) applies to this event. In particular

- Players may consult their own system card and other notes at any stage (1.1)
- UNDOs are permitted in the auction but not in the play (4.3)



English Bridge Union  
Broadfields, Bicester Road,  
Aylesbury HP19 8AZ  
tel: 01296 317200  
e-mail: [postmaster@ebu.co.uk](mailto:postmaster@ebu.co.uk)  
web site: [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk)