



2021

PACHABO CUP

12th – 13th June 2021

Online on RealBridge

**Programme
(25/26 teams)**

1 Introduction

Welcome to the 2021 Pachabo Cup. This year the event is online on RealBridge: players unfamiliar with EBU events on Real Bridge should read section 10, and consider playing a RealBridge taster session before the event.

The total anticipated entry is 26 teams, which means that we will be playing 25 x 4-board rounds – but if there are 25 teams, each team will sit out one round.

Team numbers and starting positions have been drawn in advance, see section 11. We would ask all players to be seated and ready for play by 11:25am on Saturday in order that we can make a prompt start to the competition.

2 Schedule of play

Saturday	11:30am – 2:45pm	Session 1: 24 boards
	3:30pm – 7:20pm	Session 2: 28 boards
Sunday	11:30am – 2:45pm	Session 3: 24 boards
	3:30pm – 6:45pm	Session 4: 24 boards

The sessions will consist of 6 or 7 matches of 4 boards.

3 Format

By the end of the event each team will have played a 4-board match against each other team in a series of head-on matches. Teams may only score up with their teammates if they finish a match early enough to do so. Otherwise they must continue straight on to the next match and check their scores at the end of the session. The RealBridge platform will only display IMP scores, the official scoring will be done at the end of each session.

4 Prize awards

As previously announced, since this is a county representative event there are no longer any cash prizes for this event. The entry fee has been reduced appropriately and medals will be presented to the winners.

5 Scoring method: hybrid Point-a-Board / IMPs

The Pachabo Cup is the EBU's inter-county teams of four championship. The scoring method for this event was changed in 2015 to a combination of Point-a-Board (PaB) and IMPs. This method more transparent than the previous method – whilst retaining the interest of using an element of Point-a-Board scoring.

For this new Pachabo (PaB + IMPs) scoring method, there are 2 points available for each board – 2 for a win, 1 for a draw, and 10 aggregate points constitute a win/loss so that ten tricks in 3NT will beat ten tricks in 4H or 4S.

This means that for each 4-board match in the Pachabo there will be 8 PaB points available and in addition there will be a further 8 VPs available for the overall match score, calculated by converting IMPs to VPs according to the scale below. So each match will have a total of 16 points available and will depend in equal measure on Point-a-Board and IMPs converted to VPs.

It is important that you are aware of certain details with regard to scoring: The first principle is that you are not required to calculate the match score for yourselves.

All match scores will be calculated and posted on the EBU results page www.ebu.co.uk/results/815 after each session, using the data from RealBridge.

Teams may prefer to score-up for themselves at the end of each 4-board match. Teams will be able to score up when both tables finish and the pairs are returned to their home table. But there is no time set aside for scoring – the EW pair will be moved to their next table when the next round starts.

The hybrid scoring method is not within the scope of the National Grading System (NGS) so this event will not contribute to the players' NGS.

Pachabo VP scale 4-board matches	
IMPs	VP s
0	4–4
1 – 2	4.5–3.5
3 – 5	5–3
6 – 8	5.5–2.5
9 – 11	6–2
12 – 15	6.5–1.5
16 – 20	7–1
21 – 26	7.5–0.5
27+	8–0

6 Master Point awards

All Master Points are awarded to the top half of the field and are expressed in terms of Green Points per player (in teams of 5 or 6, a player must have played at least one-third of the boards to be eligible for an award).

Tied places share equally any Master Point award due, even though a tie for 1st place will be resolved in order to determine the winners of the Pachabo Cup and the recipients of the medals.

The winning team receives 16.00 points, and the minimum award (for finishing half-way) is 2.00 points. Awards for intermediate places are in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

7 Miscellaneous

7.1 Systems and conventions

You are required to have a system cards online that should make available to your opponents at the start of each round, by posting a link in the table chat. This event is a Level 4 event and you must use an EBU system card (you may not use WBF system cards, which are only permitted in EBU Level 5 events).

You can use any existing link to your system card. Otherwise, system cards can be emailed in advance to 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".

System cards must be emailed by Thursday 10 June to be used in this event.

7.2 Scoring regulations

The EBU White Book contains specific provisions which apply to this event.

An artificial adjusted score on a board shall be scored as 1 PaB point each if both teams are partially to blame, or 1.5/0.5 PaB points in respect of a team in no way to blame/entirely to blame respectively. However, the IMP score on the board will then be deemed to be zero in all such instances.

Assigned adjusted scores, including weighted scores, will be scored as contributing to both PaB and IMP scores.

7.3 Unplayed matches and sit outs

An unplayed match (for whatever reason) will be scored as 9.6 – 6.4 in favour of the non-offending team. The unplayed match award will be increased if the non-offending team achieve an average of greater than 9.6VP per match over all matches played in the competition, or if the offending team achieve an average of less than 6.4. Any fractions obtained in such a calculation will be retained – to one decimal place (e.g. a match score of 10.2 is entirely possible). A further penalty could be imposed on the offending team in aggravated circumstances.

This does not apply to the sit-out round when an odd number of teams takes part, in which case all teams will be required to sit-out for one round. On the current ranking lists teams who have sat out will have an adjustment of 10 VP or teams who have not sat out will have an adjustment of –10 VP. There will not be any adjusted score in respect of the sit out round in the final scores.

7.4 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!

7.5 Telephones and other electrical communication

Mobile phones and other electronic communication devices may not be used during play, except in an emergency.

8 Seating rights and change of line-up

There are no seating rights in this competition. Teams who wish to change line-ups during a session should inform the TD in advance.

A team may change its line-up at the conclusion of any 4-board match but the team may concede seating rights unless line-up changes are notified in advance.

9 Starting positions

Players should log on to RealBridge with their name and EBU numbers and sit at their team table.

10 RealBridge

10.1 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.

Players who have not played EBU events on RealBridge may wish to have a practice on RealBridge in advance of the congress. RealBridge offers taster sessions of 8 boards – you can sign up here <https://realbridge.online/try-realbridge.html>. By playing a short session in advance, you should be more able to enjoy the congress on RealBridge.

Players are expected to use video and audio during play. If you develop problems with audio/video, you will be allowed to 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.

10.2 Delayed kibitzing

There will be delayed kibitzing of this event via <https://kibitz.realbridge.online/>

Spectators will be able to see the calls (and explanations) and cards played, but do not have access to the audio and video streams. As for the players, spectators will only see live scores in IMPs, not the official hybrid scoring.

10.3 Procedures

You should remember that you will be seen and heard by your opponents and should take care to avoid distracting behaviour such as eating while visible/audible 'at the table'.

10.3.1 Alerting/Announcing/Explaining

This event will be in open-table mode (not screens) with self-alerting and written explanations. Follow-up questions can be to the player who made the call (via private chat or verbally).

Note that 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 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.

10.3.2 Online Regulations

The EBU 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)

If there is a request for an UNDO in the auction, the TD should be called – it may be necessary to reject the request in order to call the TD. The TD will rule whether Law 25A applies and if so, will instruct the other side to accept the request.

If the other side accept the request for an UNDO, without calling the TD, they will usually be deemed to have accepted the replacement call (Law 25B1 – 'the second call stands and the auction continues').

11 Draw

1	Worcestershire
2	Wiltshire
3	Lancashire
4	Hants & IOW
5	Notts
6	Somerset
7	Merseyside/Cheshire
8	Manchester
9	Yorkshire
10	Devon
11	Surrey
12	Staffs & Shrops
13	Berks & Bucks

14	Cornwall
15	Kent
16	Herts
17	Norfolk
18	Sussex
19	Dorset
20	Northamptonshire
21	Leicestershire
22	Gloucestershire
23	Oxfordshire
24	Middlesex
25	Essex
26	Cambs & Hunts

The schedule of matches will be in a separate document on the results page.



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