



2023/24

TOLLEMACHE CUP

FINAL

Coventry Bridge Club
17th – 18th February 2024

Programme
(2024-01-31)

TIMES OF PLAY

Saturday		from 12:00 noon	Draw for team number
	Session 1	1:30pm – 3:20pm	Match 1 (14 boards)
		3:40pm – 5:30pm	Match 2 (14 boards)
	Session 2	7:20pm – 9:10pm	Match 3 (14 boards)
		9:20pm – 11:10pm	Match 4 (14 boards)
Sunday	Session 3	10:30am – 12:20pm	Match 5 (14 boards)
		12:40pm – 2:30pm	Match 6 (14 boards)
		2:40pm – 4:30pm	Match 7 (14 boards)

Final results and presentation by 5:00pm

These timings are based on an allowance of 1 hour and 50 minutes to play 14 boards, followed by 10 minutes to score (by cross-imps), decide line-ups, and take up positions for the next round.

There will be a 20-minute (tea) break at the end of the first match on Saturday afternoon and a 20-minute (lunch) break after the first match on Sunday.

The venue can provide a cold buffet dinner on the Saturday evening for £7.50 per person – to be ordered in advance, through contacting comps@ebu.co.uk, by Thursday 8th February.

On Saturday night, the bar will close at 11pm, so those who want to have a drink at the end should arrange for one of their team to buy them before the bar closes.

For Sunday lunch, players will be able to pre-order sandwiches the day before, or may bring in your own to eat.

THE QUALIFIERS

The teams are those who finished in the top four in the two groups of the qualifier.

Rank	Red Group
1	Manchester
2	Surrey
3	London
4	Kent

Rank	Green Group
1=	Berks & Bucks Middlesex
3	Gloucestershire
4	Cambs & Hunts

The order of play is determined by reference to team number.

Team captains draw for a team number upon arrival, from 12:00 noon onwards.

THE FORMAT

The final is a single round-robin, involving seven matches of 14 boards per match. There is no half-time scoring within a match and no change of opponents. Thus, each pair will play 14 boards straight through against one particular opposing pair. However, teams of more than eight players do have the option of replacing a playing pair with a sitting-out pair after precisely seven of the 14 boards. To exercise this option, advance notice must be declared on the line-up slip, and the pair to be replaced should confirm this intention to their opponents at the table before play commences.

Cross-imp scoring within each team of eight will apply. Thus, each pair will imp their score card twice: once with each of the two pairs who occupied the opposite compass positions in the round concerned.

Cross-imp totals will be converted to Victory Points on a 20 – 0 scale after the end of each 14-board match.

THE SCHEDULE

Head-on matches will be played throughout, so that scores may be compared and line-ups changed after every 14 boards (see also the above regarding teams of more than eight). All matches will play the same boards simultaneously, so there are no security worries during scoring-up periods.

Written line-ups are required in advance of each match. There are no seating rights, so each team must declare its intended line-up in isolation. Teams of more than eight that intend replacing a pair after seven of the 14 boards must so indicate at the time of declaring the line-up.

There are two sections, Red and White. Each team has a 'home table' in each section, corresponding to their team number. In each match a team sits two of their pairs at their home tables, N/S in the Red Section and E/W in the White Section and two pairs at their opponents' home tables, E/W in the Red Section, N/S in the White Section.

THE ORDER OF PLAY

Home pairs sit N/S Red, E/W White at their own table number. Visiting pairs sit N/S White, E/W Red at their opponents' table number.

Saturday			
Match 1			Results
1	V	8	-
2	V	4	-
3	V	7	-
5	V	6	-
Match 2			Results
2	V	8	-
3	V	5	-
1	V	4	-
6	V	7	-
Match 3			Results
3	-	8	-
4	-	6	-
2	-	5	-
1	-	7	-
Match 4			Results
4	V	8	-
3	V	6	-
5	V	7	-
1	V	2	-

Sunday			
Match 5			Results
5	V	8	-
1	V	6	-
4	V	7	-
2	V	2	-
Match 6			Results
6	V	8	-
2	V	7	-
1	V	5	-
3	V	4	-
Match 7			Results
7	V	8	-
1	V	3	-
2	V	6	-
4	V	5	-

SCORING

It is obviously essential that each team have precisely two N/S pairs and two E/W pairs during any given match! Team captains can help to avoid accidents by issuing clear instructions to their players, and by verifying the positions of the players prior to the start of each match. Players can assist this process by paying attention to their captain's instructions, and by checking visually prior to the start of a match that their team does indeed consist of two N/S pairs and two E/W pairs.

IMP TO VP CONVERSION SCALE

14-board matches

IMP difference	VP	IMP difference	VP
0 – 4	10 – 10	47 – 59	15 – 5
5 – 13	11 – 9	60 – 75	16 – 4
14 – 23	12 – 8	76 – 93	17 – 3
24 – 32	13 – 7	94 – 115	18 – 2
35 – 46	14 – 6	116 – 142	19 – 1
		143 or more	20 - 0

MISSING COMPARISONS

If, for any reason, a team is unable to obtain four comparisons on a particular board (for example, if a table is unable to play a board or if the players are seated incorrectly), then any comparisons which can be made will count (and will be factored to account for missing comparisons). A non-offending team will receive average plus and an offending team will receive average minus for any comparisons which are missing, in accordance with the following scale:

- 1 missing comparison = 3 imps;
- 2 missing comparisons= 4 imps (= 2 imps per comparison);
- 3 missing comparisons= 5 imps;
- 4 missing comparisons= 6 imps (= 1.5 imps per comparison).

A partially offending team will receive average for each missing comparison.

MASTER POINTS AND PRIZES

Master Points (Green Points per player who played at least one-third of the boards in the match involved).

Per match won: 1 Green (draw = 0.5)

For overall ranking: 1st 6, 2nd 3, 3rd 2, 4th 1

No cash prizes are awarded in the Tollemache Cup, but medals will be presented to the winning team.

MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS

1. General EBU regulations as contained in the current White Book apply with regard to any matter not specifically covered by these conditions of contest. For example, a tie for 1st place will be split in accordance with standard EBU regulations.
2. This is an EBU 'level 5' tournament. WBF system cards may be used.
3. Mobile phones must be switched off and no electronic communication devices may be used in the playing area.
4. Electronic cigarettes may not be used in the playing area.
5. Non-playing captains may watch their own team, but must confine their attention to one table only during any particular match. Sitting-out players may not watch their own team.
6. Players are asked to check the scores in the Bridgemates at the end of the stanza. Captains are required to check the final score of the match with the displayed results.
7. It is an offence to try to discover or use the TD Code on the Bridgemates.



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