

KNOCKOUT MATCHES PLAYED ONLINE



SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Various general regulations and conditions of play apply to all English Bridge Union competitions which involve matches played privately.

This document contains regulations that vary those general regulations, to take account of the different conditions that apply when the option to play a match online has been exercised. They should be read in conjunction with the specific regulations that apply for the competition in question. Please note that the EBU Online Knockout Bridge Competition has its own specific regulations, which should be referred to rather than using this document.

All these regulations and conditions are supplementary to, and in certain cases a replacement of, general EBU regulations as contained in various EBU publications (e.g. 'Blue Book', 'White Book', Diary, Website). All such general EBU regulations continue to apply unless specifically stated otherwise.

Any correspondence or enquiries regarding such competitions should initially be addressed to:

The Competitions Secretary
The English Bridge Union
Broadfields, Bicester Road
Aylesbury, HP19 8AZ.

Tel: 01296 317203 or 317205

Fax: 01296 317220

E-mail: knockout@ebu.co.uk

SPECIAL ONLINE MATCH REGULATIONS

1. The default online “venue” for online knockout matches is Bridge Base Online www.bridgebase.com, which is free to join. Alternatively teams may agree with each other to use a different online provider, eg Bridge Club Live.
2. Information about running teams matches on BBO can be found at http://www.bridgebase.com/help/v2help/team_games.html. Please note that users with fewer than 100 logins are unable to create teams matches on BBO. Team captains who anticipate that none of the players in a match will fulfill these criteria should contact gordon@ebu.co.uk in advance of the match being played so that arrangements can be made for it to be hosted by a non-player.
3. One team will have been designated as the Home team and the other as the Away. The Away team has the privilege of offering dates (as in sections 2-5 of the [Knockout Competitions Regulations](#)), and the Home team may exercise seating rights as in section 4 below.
4. Seating rights operate as follows:
 - (a) For matches of 24 boards there is a compulsory change of opponents after 12 boards, and the captain with seating rights may place his pairs after the opponents have nominated their line-up.
 - (b) Otherwise, the captain of the team with seating rights may take the first choice or may pass that choice to his opponent.
 - (c) To allow for changes in seating line-up each stanza, the software might require that the match be set up as several smaller matches and then combined (eg 2 x 12-board or 4 x 8-board matches).

Choices are made as follows:

- (d) Matches of four stanzas – 1st choice: the captain selects one stanza in which he will have seating rights (ie how to place his own pairs after the opponents have nominated their line-up); 2nd choice: the other captain next selects two of the remaining three stanzas in which he will have seating rights, and the remaining stanza is then taken by the captain who had first choice.
- (e) Matches of six stanzas – 1st choice: the captain selects two stanzas, which may not be both stanzas 5 & 6 (but may be one or the other of these), in which he will have seating rights (ie how to place his own pairs after

opponents have nominated their line-up); 2nd choice: the other captain next selects three of the remaining four stanzas in which he will have seating rights. The remaining stanza is then taken by the captain who had first choice.

(f) Matches of five stanzas – 1st choice: the captain selects two stanzas, which may not be both stanzas 4 & 5 (but may be one or the other of these), in which he will have seating rights (ie how to place his own pairs after opponents have nominated their line-up); 2nd choice: the other captain then has seating rights in the three stanzas which remain.

5. For the purpose of determining late arrival, a player is considered to have arrived when logged in to the online game provider, and ready to play.
6. The following settings should be used when creating online teams matches, unless the software makes this impossible:
 - (a) Scoring should be by IMPs;
 - (b) Kibitzers should not be allowed;
 - (c) “Undos” should be allowed, but only during the auction. Players should be clear that they only exist for mis-clicks and do not allow changes of mind – ie they effect changes that would be allowed under L25A. Since cards are not “designated” when playing online, L45C4b does not apply;
 - (d) If possible the auction should not be visible during the play period;
 - (e) If possible the play of quitted tricks should not be visible;
 - (f) If possible the match should not be “barometer” – ie the players should not know how they are scoring until the end of the stanza;
 - (g) “Use random deals” should be selected.
7. Players should not be in the same room as any other member of their team or within hearing range of them while playing.
8. Teams should exchange system cards with each other before the start of play. This can be done in advance by email, or by having completed online system cards available for their opponents to refer to before the start of the match.
9. Players should alert any calls that would be alertable or announceable in a face-to-face match, as well as calls above 3NT that are not natural. They should alert their own calls, ensuring that only their opponents and not their partners can see the alerts and explanations.

10. If a ruling by a director is needed or an appeal against a ruling to be lodged, the procedure described in the [Knockout Competitions Regulations](#) should be followed.
11. Should connection or power problems interfere with a match and cause its completion to be postponed, the result of all boards that have been played by both tables will stand; results that have only been played at one table will be cancelled.



English Bridge Union
Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury. HP19 8AZ
Tel: 01296 317200 - Fax: 01296 317220
e-mail: postmaster@ebu.co.uk
website: www.ebu.co.uk