



PRESS RELEASE

2007 World Bridge Championships: *England women's team taking part*

The 2007 World Bridge Championships will be taking place in Shanghai, China from 29 September - 13 October 2007, with the England women's team competing for the Venice Cup. The cup is awarded to the winner of the zonal competition for women players and was first established in 1974 – this is the 16th competition. The team will be competing against twenty one other national teams.

Last year, the England women's bridge team won the bronze medal in the prestigious European Women's Team Championships, meaning they automatically qualified for the World Bridge Championships this month.

The players in the England team are Michelle Brunner, Rhona Goldenfield, Heather Dhondy, Nicola Smith, Catherine Jagger and Sarah Teshome – all of whom have many years of international bridge experience between them. The team have recently successfully practiced their bridge at the EBU National Women's Team event and won the Whitelaw cup against forty other teams.

Updates on the progress of the team will be included on the English Bridge Union page at: <http://www.ebu.co.uk/general/announcements/selections/venicecup07.htm> and for further information on the World Bridge Championships, please visit: <http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Shanghai.07/Shanghai.htm>

For further information on bridge or the English Bridge Union please contact Matt Betts, Communications Officer on 01296 317 215 or matt@ebu.co.uk

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Notes to editors:

Biographies

Biographies of most of the players can be provided, please contact Matt Betts for more information.

About Bridge

Bridge is a trick-taking card game of skill and chance. It is played by four players who form two partnerships (sides); the partners sit opposite each other at a table. The game consists of the auction (often called bidding) and play, after which the hand is scored. Bridge is one of the most enduring and popular games in the world. It is one of the most popular participation sports in Britain, with around 300,000 playing on a regular basis.

About the English Bridge Union

The English Bridge Union Limited (EBU) is a membership-funded organisation committed to promoting the game of duplicate bridge. It is also a National Bridge Organisation in its own right affiliated to the European Bridge League and the World Bridge Federation. Young and new players are the lifeblood of the game and the EBU are keen to encourage them. Further information: www.ebu.co.uk