



EBU Event Focus

Issue 23: October 2014



THE AUTUMN CONGRESS

17th - 19th October 2014, Peterborough

Join us for the 70th Autumn Congress, with a new format and a new venue

To mark the anniversary, there will be some changes to the format of the Two Star Pairs. The qualifier for this will take place on Friday with shorter matches and matchpoint scoring. The top twenty pairs will qualify for the Two Stars Pairs; the next twenty for the Satellite pairs.

Those who don't qualify for the main finals, and those who choose not to play on the Friday, will play in a more traditional style of Swiss Pairs on the Saturday.

So there are two different sorts of Swiss Pairs events on offer, each independent of the other, as well as the main finals for those who qualify.

The Two Star Pairs is part of the **Championship Series**, in which points can be earned towards the [Player of the Year Championship](#).

We also have our 2-session multiple teams event on the Sunday for the Eastbourne Bowl (Premier) and the Burlington Cup (Secondary). All non-qualifiers play in the Sussex Cup.

For more information please [visit the event webpage](#)



The new venue is in Peterborough.

There is time in the schedule to visit the sights in the area, which include Peterborough Cathedral and Burghley House



**New for 2014 - Really Easy Afternoon.
Friday 17th October, at 2pm**

An event at the Autumn Congress aimed at less experienced players, intended as an introduction to 'congress bridge'. The same hands will be played at [Richmond Bridge Club](#) and [Bradford Bridge Club](#), with the competition scored across the three venues.

The event at each venue is open to all - EBU members and non-members alike (although please note that the heat at Richmond is full). Please pass this information on to any friends or family who may be interested.

ENTRY DEADLINES

Tollemache Cup - 5th November

The Tollemache Cup is the inter-county championships for teams of eight.

The qualifying round is held in Birmingham on 22nd - 23rd November. The final is on 14th - 15th February.

All entries must be made by the county secretary.

INTERNATIONAL TRIALS

Trials for the Teltscher Trophy (the Senior Camrose)

19th - 21st December 2014
West Midlands BC, Solihull

The trials for the Teltscher Trophy - the 'Seniors Camrose' competition - are open to all members born in 1955 or earlier. The winning team will represent England in the 2015 Teltscher Trophy.

To enter please email [Dawn Mertens](#). The closing date for entries is 3rd November.

The Teltscher Trophy takes place in Ireland, 15th - 17th May 2015.

Trials for the Lady Milne Trophy

23rd - 25th January 2015
Richmond Bridge Club, London

The Lady Milne Trophy is the competition for the Women's Teams of the Home Nations. As host nation in 2015 we will enter two teams; England and EBU.

The winners of the trial will be invited to join the England team with two exempted pairs - Jane Moore & Gillian Fawcett and Sarah Teshome & Catherine Jagger. The next three placed pairs will form the EBU team.

To enter please email [Dawn Mertens](#). The closing date for entries is 5th January.

The Lady Milne Trophy takes place in Birmingham, 17th - 19th April 2015.

THE SENIORS CONGRESS

31st October - 2nd November 2014, near Birmingham

A three day congress for those born in 1954 or earlier

The weekend starts with a two-day Championship Pairs – two qualifying rounds on Friday, and two finals on Saturday, with both a Championship Pairs final and a Satellite Pairs final, each comprising three mini-sessions.

On Saturday there is a Swiss Pairs Championship, open to pairs eliminated from the Championship Pairs at the end of Friday evening, and to players joining the congress on Saturday. It is a two session event, with seven 8-board matches.

There is a Swiss Teams Championship on Sunday. It is a two-session event, with a total of seven 7-board matches.

For more information please [visit the event webpage](#).



The new venue is the Holiday Inn close to Birmingham airport, so there are great transport links to the rest of the country. The hotel also runs a complimentary shuttle service to Birmingham International railway station.

Trains to central Birmingham take 12 minutes, run approximately every ten minutes, and cost as little as £3 return.

YEAR END CONGRESSES

27th - 30th December 2014, London

28th - 30th December 2014, nr Blackburn

What better way to spend the final days of the year than playing bridge. Shed that sluggish feeling brought on by one too many mince pies and too much television by joining us at one of our Year End Congresses.

Each congress has a Swiss Pairs, Swiss Teams, an Open Pairs and a Mixed Pairs competition. At the London event the Swiss competitions are stratified.

For the timetable for each congress please visit our website - [Year End Congress - London](#); [Northern Year End Congress](#).

Year End Congress - London

The event is held at the Royal National Hotel near Russell Square in the heart of London.

Accommodation packages are available at its sister hotel, The Imperial.

The packages include room, meals and parking. Bookings should be made via the hotel's Central Reservation Office:

Tel: 020 7278 7871

Fax: 020 7837 4653

Email: info@imperialhotels.co.uk

Northern Year End Congress

New venue for 2014 -
[The Dunkenhalgh Hotel](#)

This 4-star hotel, only a few miles from both Burnley and Blackburn, offers a wide range of facilities including a gym, swimming pool and golf course (for those who enjoy a wintery round).

Favourable accommodation rates are available through the [EBU Accommodation Booking Service](#).

Wroxton Really Easy Autumn Break

24th - 26th October 2014

This is a weekend designed for more experienced novice players of up to 5 years experience.

There are four bridge sessions and an instructional session on Saturday morning.

Held at the Wroxton House Hotel near Banbury, and a bespoke dinner, bed and breakfast package has been arranged.

For more information see [the event webpage](#).

The National Pairs

If you wish to enter the National Pairs your club can host a heat. Heats can be hosted by any EBU affiliated club, and the heats can be part of an ordinary club night as not every pair need make themselves eligible - any game with at least three tables can generate qualifiers.

Heats must be completed by mid-February. If you are interested then ask your club secretary or chairman to look on [our website](#) or to contact [Peter Jordan](#) (01296 317203).



Dates for your diary

3rd - 7th November:

[Blue Point Holiday](#)

Helidon Lakes Hotel, nr Northampton

17th - 18th January:

[National Teams Congress](#)

Holiday Inn, nr Birmingham Airport
Includes Swiss & Point-a-Board events

5th - 11th February:

[Bridge Overseas Congress](#),
Lanzarote

20th - 22nd February:

[Harrogate Spring Congress](#)

Cairn Hotel, Harrogate



Thanks for reading. We hope to see you at one of our events in the not too distant future.

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How to enter

More information on any events mentioned can be found on our website. It's easy to enter any of the events by visiting www.ebu.co.uk/members and booking online through your personal members' area.

You can also contact [Peter Jordan](#) or [Dawn Mertens](#) during office hours on 01296 317203/219 or by emailing comps@ebu.co.uk.

Please don't forget to look at the [diary changes webpage](#) for any changes to the details of future events since the diary went to print.