



# ***EBU Event Focus***

## ***Issue 52: January 2017***

Dear EBU member

Happy New Year! We hope you have a great, bridge-filled 2017, and may all your finesses work (unless you are playing against us).

The first months of the year have a great mixture of events, with new competitions, single-site congresses, and multi-venue tournaments.

As always, if you have any queries about any of the events featured here then please don't hesitate to contact the Competitions Department on 01296 317203/219 or at [comps@ebu.co.uk](mailto:comps@ebu.co.uk). Entries can be made by calling this number, or through the members area of the website - [www.ebu.co.uk/members](http://www.ebu.co.uk/members).

### **Staff vacancy - Competitions Administrator**

The English Bridge Union is looking for a Competitions Administrator. The successful applicant will preferably start at the beginning of March 2017 to allow a handover period with the current administrator, Peter Jordan.

For more information about the position please see [our website](#), or contact Gordon Rainsford at [gordon@ebu.co.uk](mailto:gordon@ebu.co.uk).

### **National Point-a-Board Teams**

*21st - 22nd January*

*Young Chelsea BC, London*

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After three years as part of the National Teams Congress\*, this competition now becomes a congress in its own right.

Saturday - a full day, two-session qualifier.

Sunday - a main final for the top teams, and a consolation final for everyone else.

Enhanced Green Points will be awarded.

Point-a-Board is a scoring method which could be likened to matchplay in golf, so is an exciting format. A short guide to Point-a-Board matches is available [here](#), and articles are available by [David Gold](#) and [Brian Senior](#).

There is limited space, so please do not wait too long before entering.

[More details](#)

\* - The Swiss Teams element of the National Teams Congress is in May at West Midlands Bridge Club - see [here](#) for more details.

## **Harrogate Congress**

*17th - 19th February*

*Cairn Hotel, Harrogate*

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A popular long weekend of bridge in the spa town. Now organised by Yorkshire CBA on behalf of the EBU. The congress includes an Improvers Pairs for less experienced players.

**Reduced entry fees** - As the YCBA is not liable for VAT they have been able to reduce some prices, and include a meal in the cost of entry for others. See the [entry form](#) for more details.

Friday afternoon - Mixed & Open Pairs

Friday afternoon - Improvers Pairs

Friday eve & Saturday - 3-session Swiss Pairs

Sunday - 2-session Swiss Teams

[More details](#)

Please make entries directly with the YCBA.

Please see their entry form for more details: [Harrogate Congress entry form](#).

## **Overseas Congress, Lisbon**

2nd - 8th February

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Join us for some late winter sun, bridge and culture in Portugal's capital.

The venue is the five star Real Palacio Hotel, in a quiet quarter of the city.

The schedule combines competitions (including Green Pointed Swiss events) with enough time for sightseeing.

[More details](#)

### **Ranked Masters Pairs**

25th - 26th February

### **Masters Pairs**

26th February

A group of competitions catering for all Master Point ranks.

The Ranked Masters Pairs is for higher ranks, and is held over two days near Birmingham.

[More details](#)

The Masters Pairs is for lower ranks and is a one-day, two-session competition held at multiple venues around the country. It is scored across all venues and Green Points are awarded.

**Members who have recently attained a landmark promotion to the rank of Master are entitled to free entry.**

Heats will be held at:  
Billericay  
Bradford

Exeter  
Richmond  
Solihull  
Tunbridge Wells  
Welwyn Garden City

[More details](#)

### National Pairs

Regional Finals: 12th March  
National Final: 8th - 9th April

The Regional Finals are open to all and played at various venues around the country. All venues will play the same boards and the event will be scored across the entire field. The top 50 pairs nationally will qualify to play in the National Final.

An additional ranking list will be produced from each region (scored by itself), with the winning pairs awarded regional trophies.

Heats will be held at:  
Billericay  
Bradford  
Brighton  
Bristol  
Exeter  
London (Young Chelsea BC)  
Richmond  
Solihull  
Stamford  
Tunbridge Wells

The event is part of the **Championship Series**, in which points can be earned towards the **Player of the Year Championship**.

[More details](#)

### Portland Pairs

19th March

A national Mixed Pairs competition held at various venues around the country and scored across all venues. It is played over two sessions, and Green Points are awarded.

Heats will be held at:  
Billericay  
Bournemouth  
Brierfield, Lancs  
Bristol  
Bury St Edmunds  
Burnham, Bucks  
Colwyn Bay  
Darlington  
Exeter  
London (Young Chelsea BC)  
Richmond  
Sheffield  
Solihull  
Stamford  
Tunbridge Wells  
Welwyn Garden City

Please enter with the EBU for all venues, except Colwyn Bay (see website for details).

[More details](#)

### Other dates for your diary (click the dates for more information where available)

[27 - 29 Jan](#)



Lady Milne Trials, Young Chelsea BC (for accepted applicants)

[7 - 8 Feb](#)  
[13 - 16 Mar](#)

Bridge England Sim Pairs  
Club Stratified Sim Pairs

[11 - 12 Feb](#)

Tollemache Final (for county representatives), West Midlands BC

**17 - 19 Feb**



Junior Camrose/Peggy Bayer, Ireland

**3 - 5 Mar**



Camrose Trophy - 2nd weekend, Scotland

**4 Mar**

Young Bridge Challenge, Loughborough Grammar School

**4 - 5 Mar**

County Green Point weekend, various counties (see the EBU calendar for links)

This email has been sent to EBU members who have recently played in an EBU organised event. This email was sent to [peter.stockdale@ebu.co.uk](mailto:peter.stockdale@ebu.co.uk). To unsubscribe from future Event Focus newsletters [Unsubscribe here](#). Please note this does not affect your general preferences for emails from the EBU.

Read online at

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/dynamic/sendy/w/SpHwGoAy3763oEUOYMsfv1Rg>



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