

ENGLISH BRIDGE UNION



Conditions of contest for Simultaneous Pairs

1 General

The purpose of publishing Conditions of Contest in Simultaneous events is to provide unified regulations in circumstances which will otherwise be infinitely variable. No one can hope to arrive at a situation where heats are conducted in accordance with a strict pattern but at no time should circumstances be allowed in which a participant could be said to have potential access to the hands, or information concerning them, prior to the heat. It is not supposed that advantage might be taken of such a possibility, but it is important that players should be protected from any suspicion by means of security measures that are plain for all to see. These regulations apply to events organised or licensed by the English Bridge Union but are also intended to be in force whenever not superseded by regulations published by another body. These regulations are required to be available at the club on the occasion of the heat, for any participating players to study.

2 Conditions of Contest

Club rules will apply to Simultaneous Pairs events except where these are superseded by any Regulations published by the Sponsoring Organisation. Clubs are encouraged to accept entries from non-members of the club.

3 Eligibility

The Sponsoring Organisation reserves the right to refuse entry to the competition by any non-member of the relevant Union. Unless otherwise stated, a person who in consequence of the prescribed disciplinary procedures of any National Body is suspended from membership thereof, or from participation in one or more of its sponsored or licensed bridge competitions or is expelled from its membership, shall not participate nor be connected with any activity or competition of the English Bridge Union during the period from commencement to the termination of such suspension or expulsion. Only clubs affiliated to the EBU may participate.

4 Systems

The systems policy of the club in which the event is to be played shall prevail.

5 Date of the Event

The event must be played on the date specified by the sponsoring Organisation.

6 Procedure

- The hands for setting in the boards and the books of the hands shall be packed as two separate sealed packages and sent to a named official of the club.
- The sealed package of the books of hands shall remain unopened until conclusion of the play of the heat.
- The hands for setting in the boards will be printed on travelling score slips, and will be contained in the second sealed package.

7 Making up the Boards

- a) The sealed package containing the hands for setting in the boards shall be taken unopened to the heat [unless c) below applies], when it should be opened by the Director or other responsible person, and the travellers distributed to the players who shall then make up the boards.
- b) The participants making up the boards shall only see the hands that are being made up at their own table, and they will not then play these particular boards during the course of the event.
- c) Alternatively (usually in the case of a club wishing to use a Howell, rather than a Mitchell movement), the package containing the travellers/curtain cards is to be delivered sealed to a **non-participant** in the event, who shall set the hands in the boards and retain the boards and the hand records in a place of security. If a Duplimate file is requested, then it may be sent by email or on diskette to the person who is to deal the boards, who must be a non-participant in the event. The boards must then be retained in a place of security; no information shall be divulged to any third person, and no access shall be allowed to the boards or hand records.

8 Security

No person shall participate in the competition who has had access to the hands; this shall mean in particular that no member of a household in which, or by members of which, the boards have been made up. Arrangements shall be made for the made-up boards to be delivered securely to the club in which the heat is to be played; this shall be done preferably by a non-participant, but should this not be possible, then by members of more than one participating partnership.

9 Scoring (after the end of the Play Period)

The score slips should be collected by the Director or two officials of the Club; if people who have played collect in the score-slips this shall be done jointly by members of more than one partnership.

The travelling score slips shall be forwarded to Anna Gudge, Simultaneous Pairs Organiser for the English Bridge Union, in the condition in which they are collected. Nothing may be written on them and no alteration made to the entry made on them by the players; any such alteration is improper and contrary to Law. If the club wishes to retain copies it may require the players to enter two score-slips, so that two slips exist for each board. If the official score-slip has no result recorded for a round nothing shall be entered on it, but the Director should provide whatever details he is able in his scoring report. The results must be posted to the organisers within 48 hours of completion of play period.

When the club is able to score the event using the program provided (or other program suitable for the purpose) and upload to the Ecats Scoring System in accordance with the General Instructions provided, the travellers are not required to be forwarded to the EBU Simultaneous Pairs Organiser with other paperwork requested, but should be kept easily available for reference in case of query. We may request that they be sent for verification in some circumstances.

10 Score Corrections

If it is suggested that any score is incorrectly entered, details are to be supplied on a separate sheet of paper signed by the Director. This may take the form of rewritten match point score slips, showing the correct scores, stapled in each case to the original slip. The Director **MUST NOT** alter the actual score slips himself, and the scorer of the competition will apply Law 79 etc.

11 Master Points

Affiliated Clubs are expected to award local points at local club duplicate rate. If for any reason they are not intending to do so it must be announced in advance to the competitors. Master Points on a specially formulated National Scale will be awarded by the English Bridge Union to the top third of the field on the overall ranking.