Club Social and Charity Events

As with any other kind of club or social group, most bridge clubs organise social events to enable their members to get together for a pleasant evening with more time to get to know each other and enjoy each other's company in different circumstances.

Most clubs will hold at least one party event a year, perhaps a summer party or Christmas party. This can be as simple as having a break half way through an evening's duplicate for mince pies and crackers, or a more elaborate dinner on a non-club evening with some informal duplicate bridge.

Some clubs regularly organise groups for outings to theatre performances, concerts and other events. Clubs with their own premises have more scope for social events and may run regular less formal nights with special prizes and a light meal, say, on a Saturday evening.

Many clubs like to support local charities by running a charity evening or a duplicate bridge event open to non-members, not necessarily on the usual club night. The official charity supported by the EBU is Childrenin-Need and many clubs the length and breadth of England take part in the <u>Children-in-Need Simultaneous Pairs</u> for a whole week in November each year. The club may or may not be able to afford to give the whole of the event's table money to Children-in-Need, but there are many other ways of raising funds including the ever-popular club raffle or tombola with prizes donated by members and friends.

• EBU Policy on Charitable Giving

Of course, special anniversaries such as a club's 25th should not be allowed to pass without some kind of suitable celebration.

All of these activities help to create a strong sense of community spirit in the club, which can be a key factor in its success.

See also the section on 'Fun Party Bridge Games'.