

Simultaneous Pairs

In a club duplicate all your pairs play the same set of boards, thereby allowing a comparison to be made to see who played them to best advantage. Now imagine all around England (or even further afield) pairs in different clubs playing the same set of boards at the same time in a single event allowing comparison over the whole of the country. That is in essence what a Simultaneous Pairs event is – an event run concurrently at different clubs over a wider area.

Participants in Simultaneous Pairs (often abbreviated to Sim Pairs or Sims) enjoy being able to compare their results with a much bigger field – literally hundreds or thousands of other pairs – from the comfort of their local club.

Sim Pairs are not expensive to play in, and participants have the benefit of a written expert commentary afterwards, to give them some idea of what they might have done on the hands, as well as generous master point awards due to the larger number of competitors. It is exciting for players to watch the website results and see how they change as more clubs upload their files. Your members can see how they did nationally very soon after the event ... provided your club uploads its results quickly of course!

The advent of the Internet, computer scoring programs and dealing machines has made the organisation and scoring of Sim Pairs events much easier. Even if you don't have access to a dealing machine, you can arrange for the hands to be sent to the club so that someone not participating in the event can pre-deal them for you. Scoring is done afterwards with the aid of your scoring program in the usual fashion.

Organising a Sim Pairs is very simple. If your club has never tried a Sim Pairs, why not give it a go by requesting an organiser pack. From April 2012, all EBU and British Sim Pairs have been run and scored by the EBU in house, allowing us to keep the cost down.

There will be the opportunity for clubs to run sessions in the morning, afternoon or evening with conditions put in place to ensure that individual members only play in one Simultaneous Pairs session per day. Where the events run on more than one day, different sets of hands are played on each day.

The main National EBU Sim Pairs are

- International EBU (Bridge England) Sims – 2 days, February
- Stratified EBU Sims – 5 days, March
- Spring EBU Sims – 5 days, May
- Autumn EBU Sims – 5 days, September

Our British Sims – the replacement for the Bridge Great Britain (BGB) Sims – will run as follows:

- Summer – 5 days, July/August
- Autumn – 5 days, October
- Winter – 5 days, January
- Spring – 5 days, April

All events can be stratified, thus making them attractive to novice and experienced players alike.

The technology is simple, with the process of uploading to the new Sims Results section of our website operating on the same principles as uploading pay-to-play club files.

For further details of forthcoming Sim Pairs events, check the [EBU Website](#).

There are also European Sim Pairs organised by the European Bridge League and Worldwide Sim Pairs organised by the World Bridge Federation.

And finally, there are various other Sim Pairs events licensed by the EBU. These may be National or Local ones - some large and some small, and you should email the [EBU Licensing department](#) for details of these. Do come and join us! Sim Pairs are enormous fun, and we think your club members would really enjoy them.