



YEAR END CONGRESS 2014

Royal National Hotel
LONDON

Saturday 27th to Tuesday 30th December 2014

featuring:

the Really Easy Afternoon

the Swiss Pairs Championship for the Philip Broke Trophy

the Mixed Pairs Championship for the Durrant-Weissberger Trophy

the Open Pairs for the Rixi Marcus Trophy

the Swiss Teams Championship for the Grattan Endicott Bowl

THE PROGRAMME

**Welcome to the Year End Congress in London
– we hope you have a most enjoyable time.**

For the first time at this congress, we have the Really Easy Afternoon on Saturday for players making the first step from club bridge to playing in an EBU tournament. We offer a particularly warm welcome to all of them, and hope to see them at other EBU events in the future.

Your congress host for this event is John Vos; please feel free to speak to him at any time between sessions about any non-bridge related matters involving this Congress.

Saturday, December 27th

3:30pm – 7:00pm

Really Easy Afternoon

3:30pm – 7:45pm

Swiss Pairs, session 1

(4 x 8-board matches)

Sunday, December 28th

11:30am – 2:45pm

Swiss Pairs, session 2

(3 x 8-board matches)

3:45pm – 8:00pm

Swiss Pairs, session 3

(4 x 8-board matches)

Monday, December 29th

11:30am – 3:00pm

Mixed & Open Pairs

session 1

4:00pm – 7:30pm

Mixed & Open Pairs

session 2

Tuesday, December 30th

11:30am – 2:30pm

Stratified Swiss Teams

session 1 (3 x 7-board matches)

3:30pm – 7:30pm

Stratified Swiss Teams

session 2 (4 x 7-board matches)

SWISS PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

for the Philip Broke Trophy – 2013 winners Phil King & Waseem Naqvi

This three-session Swiss event is stratified into three categories:-

A] at least one member of the pair is a Life Master or above.

B] at least one member of the pair is a Regional/National Master (including Premier Regional/Premier National).

C] neither player is of the rank Regional/National Master (including Premier Regional/Premier National).

Overseas players, whose records are held outside this country, are normally treated as though they are at least of Life Master rank. Ranking of players for this purpose is based on points earned rather than points registered.

Assignments are on a current round basis. Session 1 (on Friday) comprises 4 matches of 8 boards, session 2 (the Saturday afternoon session) comprises 4 x 8-board matches, and the final session (session 3 of the event) comprises 3 x 8-board matches.

Starting instructions:

Please draw for a starting position from the Tournament Director just outside the main playing area from 2:30pm onwards.

Prizes:

All prizes are quoted in terms of £ per pair.

Main prize list (all three categories combined) 12 prizes.

1st £280, 2nd £240, 3rd £200, 4th £160, 5th £160, 6th £140, 7th £120, 8th £100, 9th £90, 10th £80, 11th £70, 12th £60, 13th £50, 14th £40.

'B' and 'C' list combined - 4 prizes

1st £120, 2nd £80, 3rd £60, 4th £40.

'C' list only – 2 prizes

1st £60, 2nd £40.

Master Point awards (Swiss Pairs):

0.28 Green Point per match won (0.14 for a draw). Bonus awards based on final ranking will be awarded to the top quarter of the field. 1st place 7.00 Green Points, last award receiving position 0.50; awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU competition formula.

MIXED PAIRS

for the Durrant-Weissberger Trophy
– 2013 winners *Abbey Smith & Christopher Wilson*

A match-pointed pairs event, scored across the mixed field, comprising two sessions of about 26 boards per session.

Starting instructions:

Please collect a starting position from the Tournament Director just outside the main playing area from 10:45am onwards.

Session 2:

The “lines” will be moved in accordance with the Tournament Director’s instructions.

Prizes:

To the leading 6 pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £100, 3rd £80, 4th £60, 5th £50 and 6th £40 (per pair).

Master point awards:

Green Point awards to the top half of the field. 1st place 4.00 Green Points, last award receiving position 1.00; awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU competition formula.

OPEN PAIRS

for the Rixi Marcus Trophy
– 2013 winners *Simon Gillis & Espen Erichsen*

A match-pointed pairs event, scored across the field comprising two sessions of about 26 boards per session.

Starting instructions:

Please collect a starting position from the Tournament Director from just outside the main playing area from 10:45 am onwards.

Session 2:

The “lines” will be moved in accordance with the Tournament Director’s instructions.

Prizes:

To the leading 3 pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £80 and 3rd £40 (per pair).

The leading Men's Pair and leading Women's Pair are guaranteed a minimum of £100. However prizes are not cumulative.

Master Point awards:

Green Point awards to the top half of the field. 1st place 3.00 Green Points, last award receiving position 1.00; awards for intermediate places in accordance with the standard EBU competition formula.

SWISS TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

for the Grattan Endicott Bowl

– 2013 winners Frances Hinden, Jeffrey Allerton, Peter Lee, Graham Osborne

This two-session event is stratified into three categories:-

A] at least two members of the team are Life Masters or above.

B] at least two members of the team are Regional/National Masters (including Premier Regional/Premier National) and no more than one is a Life Master or above. No member of the team may be a Grand Master or above, nor may they be in the Gold Point top 60, nor may they have the NGS rank of Ace.

C] no more than one player is of the rank Regional/National Master (including Premier Regional/Premier National), and in any case no single player is a Life Master or above.

Overseas players, whose records are held outside this country, are normally treated as though they are at least of Life Master rank. Ranking of players for this purpose is based on points earned rather than points registered.

Three matches of 7 boards will be played in the first session. Four matches of 7 boards will be played in the second session.

Starting instructions:

Please collect a starting position from the Tournament Director just outside the main playing area from 10:45am onwards.

Prizes:

All prizes are quoted in terms of £ per team.

Main prize list (all three categories combined) [7 prizes]

1st £320, 2nd £240, 3rd £180, 4th £140, 5th £120, 6th £100, 7th £80.

'B' and 'C' list combined [3 prizes]

1st £160, 2nd £120, 3rd £80.

'C' list only [1 prize]
1st £80.

Prizes are limited to one prize per team, which shall be the highest one available to them. Any prize so released will be awarded to the next team in line in the appropriate category.

Master Point awards

0.25 Green Point per match won (0.13 for a draw), with bonus ranking awards as follows:-

Main ranking list (all three categories combined): a top award of 5.00 Green Points, with a minimum of 0.50.

Category 'B' and 'C' combined: a top award of 2.50 Green Points with a minimum of 0.25.

Category 'C' only: a top award of 1.25 Green Points, with a minimum of 0.13.

Awards extend to one-fifth of the field on each such list. Awards for intermediate places on each stratified list will be in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

Teams which feature in the ranking awards on two or three of the lists take the highest award available to them (i.e. awards are not cumulative).

GENERAL INFORMATION

A Prizes

All prizes will be automatically credited to the member's EBU account, and may be redeemed at any time on application to the EBU. The prize values quoted assume a certain level of entry, and are subject to alteration should the actual entry be significantly different from that originally envisaged. An appropriate announcement would be made before the half-way stage of the tournament in question should this eventuality arise.

B Permitted Systems and Conventions

You are required to have a pair of identical completed convention cards and you should exchange them with your opponents at the start of each round. If you do not have two completed convention cards, you may be provided with an EBU Simple System card and required to play it. WBF convention cards are **only** permitted in EBU Level 5 events. Since all competitions in this event are Level 4 you may not use WBF convention cards.

C Master Points

All Master Points will be awarded by direct credit. Ranking lists are available from our web site at www.ebu.co.uk.

D Split Ties

A tie for first place will be split in accordance with standard EBU procedures solely in order to determine the published winners/trophy winners of a particular tournament. Notwithstanding the above, any tied places share equally any Master Point or prize award which may be due, even if the tie has been split as outlined above.

E Special circumstances

General EBU regulations apply in relation to any matter not detailed in these conditions (eg protest time). However, any conditions, whether they be general or specific to this competition as set out in this programme, may be varied upon the special instruction of the Chief Tournament Director in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstance and in order to facilitate the smooth running of this Congress.

F Appeals and protests

Any player who has received a Tournament Director's ruling, and who believes that a review of that ruling should be considered (ie is contemplating lodging an appeal), is encouraged to consult a neutral adviser on the subject before proceeding with the appeal. You are not obliged to take advantage of the Appeals Consultant service before lodging an appeal and nor do you have to follow any advice which you may be given. An Appeals Committee will not enquire whether such advice has been sought, or what it was. It follows that advice that leads you to lodge an appeal is in no way a suggestion that your appeal will be successful.

The purpose of the service is to offer genuine assistance to any player who requires advice on how the Laws of the game operate (or are supposed to operate).

Appeals Committees have been instructed to keep deposits should they determine that an appeal has no foundation, or it is frivolous.

Graham Osborne is the Appeals Advisor for this event. If you are considering an appeal and would like to discuss it with someone first, ask a tournament director to introduce you to him.

G Best Behaviour at Bridge

Please be nice to your partner, be pleasant to your opponents and be polite to the Tournament Directors. Otherwise you may well be given a Disciplinary Penalty!

H Bridgemates

North (or South) is responsible for entering the contract & result into the Bridgemate, and East (or West) must be shown it to verify its accuracy by pressing the ACCEPT button.

It is best to enter the contract, declarer and lead at the end of the auction – this saves time, reduces the risk of entering the wrong board number, and ensures the lead is fresh in your mind.

Entering the lead accurately not only provides extra information of interest to players, but can also assist the scorer in resolving errors of data-entry.

Bridgemate UK is the EBU's "Official Wireless Scoring Provider".

I Telephones and other electrical devices

Please switch off your mobile phone. If you must have it on for emergencies, switch it to silent and leave the playing area before answering it. You may not use any electronic equipment within the playing room for texting, emailing or otherwise communicating. You may not use electronic cigarettes in the playing room.

**To contact EBU Staff at an event please use the Tournament Mobile:
07780 673522**

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