



YEAR END CONGRESS 2018

Royal National Hotel
LONDON

Thu 27th to Sun 30th December 2018

featuring:

the Swiss Pairs Championship for the Philip Broke Trophy
the Jack High Swiss Pairs – sponsored by Funbridge
the Mixed Pairs Championship for the Durran-Weissberger Trophy
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 an enjoyable time.

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

Thursday, December 27th

3:30pm – 7:45pm

Stratified Swiss Pairs, session 1
(4 x 8-board matches)

Friday, December 28th

11:30am – 2:45pm

Stratified Swiss Pairs, session 2
(3 x 8-board matches)

11:30am – 2:15pm

Jack High Swiss Pairs, session 1
(three x 6-board matches)

3:15pm – 6:00pm

Jack High Swiss Pairs, session 2
(three x 6-board matches)

3:45pm – 8:00pm

Stratified Swiss Pairs, session 3
(4 x 8-board matches)

Saturday, December 29th

11:45am – 3:15pm

Mixed & Open Pairs
session 1

4:15pm – 7:30pm

Mixed & Open Pairs
session 2

Sunday, 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 – 2017 winners Kieran Dyke & Marion Robertson

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

‘A’: at least one member of the partnership is a Premier Life Master or above

‘B’: at least one member of the partnership is a Premier Regional Master or above and neither is a Premier Life Master or above.

‘C’ neither member of the partnership is a Premier Regional Master or above.

Ranking of players for this purpose is based on points earned rather than points registered. Overseas players, whose records are held outside this country, and players whose rank is not public are normally treated as though they are at least of Premier Life Master rank.

Assignments are on a current round basis.

Starting instructions:

Please draw for a starting position from the Tournament Director just outside the main playing area from 2:40pm onwards.

Prizes:

All prizes are quoted in terms of £ per pair.

Main prize list (all three categories combined) – 14 prizes

1st £300, 2nd £260, 3rd £230, 4th £200, 5th £170, 6th £140, 7th £120,
8th £100, 9th £90, 10th £80, 11th £70, 12th £60, 13th £50, 14th £40.

‘B’ and ‘C’ list combined - 5 prizes 1st £140, 2nd £90, 3rd £70, 4th £50, 5th £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; in the B ranking, 1st place 3.50, last award 0.25; in the C ranking, 1st place 1.75, last place 0.13; awards for intermediate places in each list in accordance with the standard EBU competition formula.

JACK HIGH SWISS PAIRS

for Funbridge prizes, including software and subscriptions

This new event is aimed at club players who are interested in taking the first steps into congress bridge without jumping straight into a major congress event. The competition is sponsored by Funbridge – the host site of the EBU's online games - and we thank them for their donation of prizes including software and subscriptions which enables you to practise and play on their site.

In order to qualify to play in this event, you must have an NGS of no higher than 'Jack' at the time of entering. We reserve the right to decline entries from those who may meet the NGS requirements, but have significant tournament experience and are not 'congress-novices'. The event will be stratified too so that there are extra Master Points and an extra prize available for pairs of players both ranked '9' or lower.

Only level 2 agreements are permitted.

The format will be six 6-board matches with a break after three matches.

Starting instructions:

Please draw for a starting position from outside the main playing area from ¾ hour prior to the scheduled starting time of the event.

Prizes:

Monetary prizes based on the size of entry will be awarded to the top sixth of the field with an additional prize to the top '*nine and below*' pair.

Master Points (Jack High)

0.21 Green Point for each match won (0.11 for a draw), plus awards based on final ranking as follows:

Awards to the top quarter of the field overall: top award of 2.00, minimum award of 0.50.

Awards to the top one-sixth of the 'nine and below' pairs: top award of 1.00, minimum award of 0.25.

Awards for intermediate places in both categories are in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula.

MIXED PAIRS

for the Durrant-Weissberger Trophy – 2017 winners Peter Hasenson & Gill Stock

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.

Prizes:

To the leading 7 pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £120, 3rd £100, 4th £80, 5th £60, 6th £50, 7th £40 (per pair).

Master point awards:

Green Point awards to the top half of the field. 1st place 5.00 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 – 2017 winners Phil King & Shahzaad Natt

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.

Prizes:

To the leading 5 pairs: 1st £160, 2nd £120, 3rd £80, 4th £60, 5th £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 4.00 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

2017 winners Martin Seligman, David Bakhshi, Heather Bakhshi & Liam Sanderson

This one-day event is stratified into three categories:

'A': at least two members of the team are Premier Life Masters, or any player is a Grand Master or above (or is in the Gold Point top 60, or has the NGS grade of 'Ace').

'B': at least two members of the team are Premier Regional/National/Premier National/Life Masters and no more than one is a Premier Life Master.

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

Ranks are based on points earned, regardless of whether registered or not, on the first day of play. Overseas visitors with Master Point records held outside of the UK and players whose rank is not public are normally obliged to be category 'A'. Players whose NGS grade is not public will be considered to be 'Ace'.

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) [9 prizes]: 1st £360, 2nd £280, 3rd £240, 4th £200, 5th £160, 6th £140, 7th £120, 8th £100, 9th £80.

'B' and 'C' list combined [3 prizes] 1st £160, 2nd £100, 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 6.00 Green Points, with a minimum of 0.50.

Category 'B' and 'C' combined: a top award of 3.00 Green Points with a minimum of 0.25.

Category 'C' only: a top award of 1.50 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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

Permitted Systems and Conventions

Level 4 agreements are permitted in all of the main congress events. You are required to have a pair of identical completed system cards (EBU 20B) and you should exchange them with your opponents at the start of each round.

If you do not have two completed system cards, you will be provided with blank system cards to fill out before play may continue, receiving a score of average minus for any boards unplayed due to the time lost in doing this.

Competitions in this event are at most Level 4, so you may only use EBU system cards; not WBF system cards, which are **only** permitted in Level 5 events.

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. 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.

Special circumstances

General EBU regulations apply in relation to any matter not detailed in these conditions (e.g. 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 Tournament Director in charge in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstance and in order to facilitate the smooth running of this Congress.

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 (i.e. is contemplating lodging an appeal), is encouraged to consult a neutral adviser on the subject before proceeding with the appeal. Paul Hackett is the Appeals Advisors for this event: ask a tournament director to introduce you.

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.

Appeals Committees have been instructed to keep deposits and issue scoring penalties should they determine that an appeal is without merit.

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!

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".

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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