



# Northern Midweek Congress



**Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate**  
**20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019**



# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to EBU Northern Midweek Congress, this year at the Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate.

This hotel has been arranged for us by Bridge Overseas. Although we do not have a host appointed for the event, our tournament directors will be happy to receive your feedback and offer help where possible, in matters not related to the bridge.

## TIMES OF PLAY

<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30pm - 11:00pm	<b>Championship Pairs</b> , session 1
<b>Wednesday</b>	2:00am - 5:30pm	<b>Championship Pairs</b> , session 2
	7:30pm - 11:00pm	<b>Championship Pairs</b> , session 3
<b>Thursday</b>	11:00am - 2:00pm	<b>Swiss Teams 1</b> : 3 x 7-boards
	2:30pm - 6:30pm	<b>Swiss Teams 2</b> : 4 x 7-boards

Dinner for hotel residents on half board terms will be served from 6.00pm on both Tuesday and Wednesday

## BRIDGEMATES

North (or South) is responsible for entering the contract and result into the Bridgemate, and East (or West) verify the entry 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.

Results should be entered before the next board is played, East or West must be allowed to accept the result, and both sides should have the opportunity to review other scores.

**It is an offence to attempt to access the TD screen or change a score in the Bridgemate without calling the TD.**

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

## CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS

A three-session pairs event scored across the field.

### ***Starting instructions***

Starting positions for the Championship Pairs have been prepared in advance and will be displayed on the main notice-board. Please do not concern yourselves about any spelling errors at this stage, but enter the correct EBU number into the Bridgemate and/or mark your name slip clearly at the start of the event.

### ***Starting positions for subsequent sessions***

A poster will be displayed describing the movement of lines from one session to the next.

### ***Stratification***

- 'A': at least one member of the partnership is a Premier Life Master or above, or is in the Gold Point top 60, or has the NGS grade of 'Ace'.
- '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.

There are some exceptions, see [www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/stratifications](http://www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/stratifications) and [www.ebu.co.uk/documents/official-documents/Stratification-2019.pdf](http://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/official-documents/Stratification-2019.pdf)

### ***Master Points***

Main ranking list (categories A, B and C combined): a top award of 4.00 green points, with a minimum award of 2.00.

Categories 'B' and 'C' combined: a top award of 2.00 green points with a minimum award of 1.00

Category 'C' only ranking: a top bonus award of 1.00 green point, with a minimum award of 0.50.

Awards for subsequent places on each stratified list will be in accordance with the standard EBU congress formula. Awards will extend to the top half of the field on each list.

It follows that category 'A' pairs can only win awards by coming in the top one-half of the overall field.

Category 'B' pairs can win awards by coming either in the top one-half of the overall field, or by coming in the top one-half of the combined 'B' and 'C' category.

If both those factors apply, then they receive the higher of the two awards.

Category 'C' pairs can win awards by coming in the top half of the overall field or by coming in the top half of the combined 'B' and 'C' field or by coming in the top half of their own category only. If two or three of these factors apply, then they receive the higher of the two or three awards.

## **SWISS TEAMS**

A two-session Swiss Teams event, consisting of 3 x 7-board matches in session one, and 4 x 7-board matches in session two.

### ***Stratification***

- 'A': at least two members of the team are Premier Life Masters or above; 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 Masters or above and no more than one member is a Premier Life Master or above. Alternatively, any team which contains precisely one Premier Life Master or above regardless of the rank of the other players.
- 'C': no more than one player of the rank of Regional Master or above and in any case no single player of the rank of Life Master or above.

There are some further exceptions for teams, see

[www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/stratifications](http://www.ebu.co.uk/competitions/stratifications) and

[www.ebu.co.uk/documents/official-documents/Stratification-2019.pdf](http://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/official-documents/Stratification-2019.pdf)

## ***Starting instructions***

Team captains should draw for a starting position from just outside the main playing area from ¾ hour before the scheduled starting time of the event.

## ***Master Points***

0.25 green point per match won (0.13 for a draw), with bonus ranking awards as follows:

Main ranking list (categories 'A' and 'B' combined) a top award of 3.00 green points, with a minimum of 0.50.

Category 'B' and 'C' combined: a top award of 1.50 green points with a minimum award of 0.25.

Category 'C' only ranking list: a top award of 0.75 green points with a minimum award of 0.13.

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

## **GENERAL**

### ***Systems/conventions***

You are required to have a pair of identical completed convention 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.**

Since all competitions in this event are Level 4 you may only use EBU system cards and may not use WBF convention cards.

### ***Pairs requiring teammates***

Pairs requiring teammates for the Swiss Teams should enter their names on the list provide 6:00pm on Wednesday. Please remember to delete your names if you subsequently manage to make your own arrangements (again, by 6:00pm on

Wednesday). Otherwise, please report to EBU reception at 10:45am on Thursday in order to be introduced to your teammates.

Please note that we can make no guarantees whatsoever regarding our ability to find teammates on your behalf.

### ***Prizes***

Please note that in line with feedback from players at this event, once again there are no prizes but entry fees have been correspondingly reduced.

### ***Master Points***

All Master Points will be awarded by direct credit but may take some weeks to show up on your account. Ranking lists are available from our web site at [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk).

### ***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!

### ***Telephones***

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 communication devices, or electronic cigarettes, in the playing room.

### ***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 Director in charge in order to accommodate any unforeseen circumstance and in order to facilitate the smooth running of this Congress.

### ***Appeals Advisors***

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

**FORTHCOMING  
EBU EVENTS**

**Guernsey Bridge Congress  
6<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
Les Cotils, St. Peter Port, Guernsey**



**Autumn Congress  
18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
The Mercure Hotel, Daventry**



**Seniors Congress  
1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019  
The Mercure Hotel, Daventry**



***English Bridge Union***

Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury HP19 8AZ

telephone: 01296 317200

email: [postmaster@ebu.co.uk](mailto:postmaster@ebu.co.uk)

website: [www.ebu.co.uk](http://www.ebu.co.uk)

To contact EBU staff at an event, please call: 07780 673522